

Our Ref: 13/00844/FUL

15 July 2014

Location: Land At Woodmancott, Grid Ref: 457347 143175 Popham Micheldever Hampshire
Proposal: Erection of 6 wind turbines with a maximum height of 130.5m and associated development for a period of 25 years, including meteorological mast, control building, electricity transformers, underground cabling, access tracks, crane hardstandings and vehicular access

I refer to the application submitted in respect of the above mentioned proposal and to the representations which you have made.

5

The applications and representations received have been considered and permission has been refused for the following reasons:

10

1. The proposed development would result in unacceptable harm to the purposes and special qualities of two national landscape designations, the South Downs National Park and the North Wessex Downs AONB. The proposed development would not conserve or enhance the particular qualities of these areas and would have a detrimental impact on the landscape setting of these areas and on the views out from these areas. The development is therefore contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 113 and 115, National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN-3 and Saved Policies E1, E6 and A6 of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2006-2011) ; 'Countryside Design Summary' (Appendix 14) of the Design and Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document (2008); Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance (2001). As the development has an impact on land outside the borough Policies CP19 & CP20 of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 2013 are also considered relevant.

15

20

25

30

2. Notwithstanding the recent refusal of planning permission for another proposed wind energy development at Bullington Cross, in the event that that development were to proceed and for the same reasons as set out in reason 1 above, the development would result in an unacceptable cumulative impact when taking into account that development. The development is therefore contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 113 and 115, National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN-3 and Saved Policies E1, E6 and A6 of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2006-2011) ; 'Countryside Design Summary' (Appendix 14) of the Design and Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document (2008); Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance (2001). As the development has an impact on land outside the borough Policies CP19 & CP20 of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 2013 are also considered relevant.

35

40

45

3. The proposed development would have an adverse impact on the landscape character of the area as due to the scale, location and movement of the turbines they would be incongruous to the acknowledged unspoilt, undeveloped, rural and remote landscape character of the borough in this location which also contributes positively to the setting of a number of designated and undesignated heritage assets. The proposed development would have an adverse impact on the visual amenity of the area as the turbines would create an extremely tall, incongruous and industrial presence that would cause significant harm to views from extensive sections of public rights of way, the local rural road network and local residential property as well as significant harm to views both to and from the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the South Downs National Park. Along with the tall height of the structures, the rotating blades would create visual disturbance into the unspoilt, tranquil and largely undeveloped countryside. Views of the turbines would not respect or improve the scenic quality of the countryside, or the unique sense of place. The development is

therefore contrary to Core Principles paragraph 17 and Chapters 11 and 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework; National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN-3 and Saved Policies E1, E2, E3, E6 and A6 of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2006 - 2011); Appendix 4, "The Historic Environment: Conservation Areas" and Appendix 14 'Countryside Design Summary' of the Design and Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document (2008); Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance (2001) the local Supplementary Planning Guidance note entitled, "The Historic Environment: Listed Buildings", and does not comply with S.66 and S.72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. As the development has an impact on land outside the borough Policies CP19 & CP20 of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 2013 are also considered relevant.

4. The proposed development would fail to preserve the historic landscape significance of The Avenue, as an undesignated but nevertheless high value heritage asset, and would also fail to preserve the positive contribution that The Avenue makes to the character, appearance and setting of the Chilton Candover Conservation Area. As such the proposals do not comply with S.72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, or with Policies E3 and E6 of the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Local Plan 1996-2011, and are contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (Section 12), and the guidance given by Appendix 4 of the Design and Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document, "The Historic Environment: Conservation Areas", and the Chilton Candover Conservation Area Appraisal.

5. The proposed development would fail to preserve the contribution of setting to the architectural and historic significance of the Church of St Peter, Brown Candover, as a high value designated heritage asset, and would also fail to preserve the positive contribution that the views of the Church from higher ground make to the setting of the Brown Candover Conservation Area. As such the proposals do not comply with S.66 and S.72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, or with Policies E2, E3 and E6 of the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Local Plan 1996-2011, and are contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (Section 12), the local Supplementary Planning Guidance note entitled, "The Historic Environment: Listed Buildings", and the guidance given by Appendix 4 of the Design and Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document, "The Historic Environment: Conservation Areas", and the Brown Candover Conservation Area Appraisal.

6. Insufficient survey and mitigation information has been provided to satisfactorily demonstrate that the development will not have unacceptable adverse impacts on protected species or their habitat. As a result of this lack of information, it cannot be concluded with confidence that the proposal would not cause harm to birds and their habitats which receive legal protection under UK and European law. As such the proposals are contrary to Chapter 11 (in particular paragraph 118) of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012); National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN -3 and Saved Policy E7 of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2006). As the development has an impact on land outside the borough Policy CP16 of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 2013 is also considered relevant.

7. Insufficient information has been provided to demonstrate that there will be an acceptable impact on the safety of operations at Lasham Airfield from the proposed development or that mitigation can result in an acceptable impact. As such the application is considered contrary to National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN-3.

8. The proposed development has failed to demonstrate that the proposed wind farm by reason of its location, number and height of turbines would not adversely impact the operations of the Chilbolton Observatory Advanced Meteorological Radar which supports national meteorological research, including in regard to climate change and extreme weather event prediction. The turbines would partially encroach into the radar scan view and be likely to lead to data corruption prejudicial

100 to the observatory's provision of data for national academic research. The development would
therefore be contrary to the objectives for the safeguarding of nationally important infrastructure in
National Policy Statements EN-1 and EN-3.

105 9. The development and in particular the proximity of the turbines will lead to the perception of a
significant loss of utility for the operators and users of Popham Airfield and would be likely to have a
harmful impact on the economic viability of the airfield which is a valued recreational and training
aviation facility. This would be contrary to Chapter 3 of the National Planning Policy Framework and
to the Civil Aviation Authority advice in CAP 764 and National Policy Statement EN-1.

110 If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact
Nicky M Spink on 01256 845441 or e-mail nicky.spink@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicky M Spink', with a stylized flourish above the first name.

115 Planning and Development Manager