

# REPORT FOR DECISION

<b>DECISION OF:</b>	<b>PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2012</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>ARTICLE 16 CONSULTATION</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT MANAGER</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>MARK KILBY</b>
<b>TYPE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:</b>	This paper is within the public domain
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	A statutory consultation has been received from Bolton Council on a planning application for a wind turbine in Bolton.
<b>OPTIONS &amp; RECOMMENDED OPTION</b>	<p>The options are; -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That Bolton Council be informed that the Council have no objections</li> <li>b) That Bolton Council is advised that the Council have objections to the proposal on grounds to be specified.</li> </ul> <p>The recommended option is a) No objection.</p>
<b>IMPLICATIONS:</b>	
<b>Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:</b>	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework?      Yes
<b>Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</b>	Executive Director of Resources to advise regarding risk management N/A
<b>Statement by Executive Director of Resources:</b>	N/A
<b>Equality/Diversity implications:</b>	No (see paragraph below)
<b>Considered by Monitoring Officer:</b>	N/A

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All listed
<b>Scrutiny Interest:</b>	N/A

**TRACKING/PROCESS**

**DIRECTOR:**

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report is about a statutory consultation submitted to Bury Council as a neighbouring authority by Bolton Council under Article 16 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010.
- 1.2 As a statutory consultee Bury Council has no powers of direction in the determination of another authority's' planning application. Consultation is an invitation for advice or comment.
- 1.3 The proposal is for a single electricity generating wind turbine with a hub height of 49.92m with an added blade height of 16.7m giving a total height of 66.62m. It is approximately 380m south east of Birches Farm in the Bolton Council area. It is in Green Belt within the West Pennine Moors and Area of Special Landscape Value and is approximately 800m from the boundary with Bury Council wards of Tottington and North Manor.
- 1.4 The nearest Bury residents are approximately 800m from the application site at Ramsbottom Road and Watling Street. The elevation of the site is between 190m and 200m with the elevation of the nearest residential addresses in bury between 186m and 219m.
- 2.0 The site has extant consent for single wind turbine with a hub height of 30m giving a total height with blades of 45m. The proposed turbine would be 21.62m higher than the one with extant consent.
- 3.0 There are two existing wind turbines within 200m of the application site to the south of Birches Road and both have a total height of 31.5m.

4.0 The following Bury Ward Councillors were notified of this consultation:

- Cllr Gunther – No comment received.
- Cllr Hussain – No comment received.
- Cllr Taylor – No comment received.
- Cllr Brown – No comment received.
- Cllr Wright – Has requested the consultation be brought before the Planning Control Committee.
- Cllr Gartside – Has registered his comments with Bolton Council.

## 5.0 ISSUES

5.1 The main issue for Bury Council will be the visual impact on the landscape and the effect on the visual amenity of residents.

5.2 A material consideration is the extant consent for the turbine with a height of 45m.

5.3 Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy Developments in the South Pennines - Final Report 2010 provides a robust evidence based study with which to assess constraints and opportunities. The report introduction says - "This study was commissioned by six local planning authorities in the South Pennines, namely Burnley, Bury, Calderdale, Kirklees, Rochdale and Rossendale. The overall aim of the work was to provide a landscape capacity study for wind energy developments to inform and provide a sound evidence base for the production and monitoring of the Local Development Frameworks in the six districts. The brief for the study indicated that it should provide baseline information and assessments but not policy developments".

5.4 Although the application site is outside the study area its assessment criteria can still be applied as the classification of turbines is unaffected by the study area as is the landscape sensitivity assessment in this instance as the site is still part of the Special Landscape Area of the West Pennine Moors which is part of the study area.

5.5 The proposed wind turbine can be classified as medium height turbine in comparative terms - 130m high being currently one of the largest onshore wind turbines with a 25m high turbine being small. As a comparator the turbines on Scout Moor are 100m high.

5.6 The landscape character of the site defined by the study is rural fringe of overall moderate landscape sensitivity with an overall capacity for one medium wind farm, with turbines of medium or large height (medium wind farm = 6 to 10 turbines). In terms of cumulative impact, the nearest wind farm is Scout Moor at 9km and the addition of one extra turbine, together with the two existing turbines 200m away would not affect this capacity.

- 5.7 Section 10 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change is relevant to the proposed turbine.

Paragraph 97 says - To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy, local planning authorities should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources.

Paragraph 98 says - When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should:  
not require applicants for energy development to demonstrate the overall need for renewable or low carbon energy and also recognise that even small-scale projects provide a valuable contribution to cutting greenhouse gas emissions; and approve the application if its impacts are (or can be made) acceptable.

- 5.8 Whilst it is acknowledged that the impact on the broader landscape is a subjective consideration, its location would have a background of upper moorland thereby reducing its visual impact in the overall landscape.
- 5.9 There have been concerns expressed about the cumulative impact on the landscape from the proposal in addition to the 2 existing turbines. It is possible for a group of turbines to have a greater impact on landscape quality however in this case the existing turbines are smaller and do not detract to any significant degree, from the wider landscape quality. The proposal will replace an existing consent and it is considered that there would not be any further significant loss of visual amenity from the revised proposal.
- 5.10 The proposed turbine would be 21.62m higher than the one that can be currently erected on the site but is considered to be sufficiently removed from the nearest Bury residents not to have any directly detrimental impact on their visual or residential amenity.

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATION

That no objection be raised.

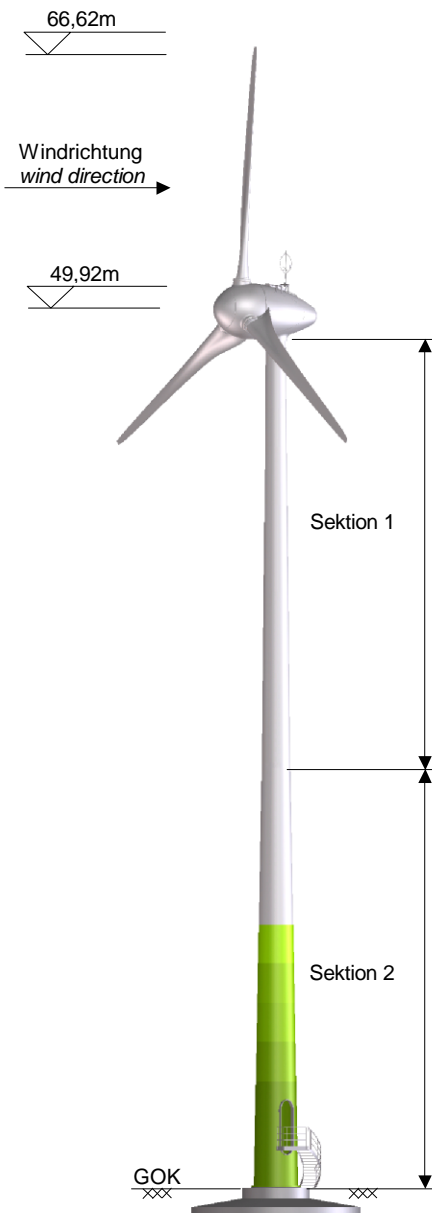
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List of Background Papers: -None

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Gesamthöhe ab Gelände <i>Total height from territory</i>	66,62 m
Nabenhöhe ab Gelände <i>Hub height above ground</i>	49,92 m
Turmlänge ab Fundamentoberkante <i>Tower height above upper foundation edge</i>	49,00 m
Bauart / <i>Design</i>	Stahlurm / <i>steel tower</i>
Windzone WZ (DIBt)	DIBt III <sup>2</sup>
WTGS Class (IEC 61400-1 / NVN 11400)	IEC / NVN IIA <sup>2</sup>
Anzahl der Sektionen / <i>Number of sections</i>	2 + Fundamentkorb / <i>2 + foundation basket</i>

	Länge <i>length</i>	D <sub>oben</sub> <i>diam<sub>top</sub></i>	D <sub>unten</sub> <i>diam<sub>bottom</sub></i>	Gewicht <i>weight</i>
	m	m	m	to
Sektion 1 / <i>section 1</i>	25,00	1,11 / 1,142 <sup>3</sup>	1,65	12,7
Sektion 2 / <i>section 2</i>	24,00	1,65	2,55 / 2,83 <sup>3</sup>	24
Fundamentkorb / <i>foundation basket</i>	1,50	2,23 / 2,83 <sup>3</sup>	2,23 / 2,83 <sup>3</sup>	2,0
Gesamtgewicht Turm / <i>total weight tower</i>				ca. 39

<sup>1</sup> Typenprüfung vorhanden / *Certification Report available*

<sup>2</sup> Typenprüfung in Arbeit / *Certification report in process*

<sup>3</sup> Flanschaußendurchmesser / *outside flange diameter*

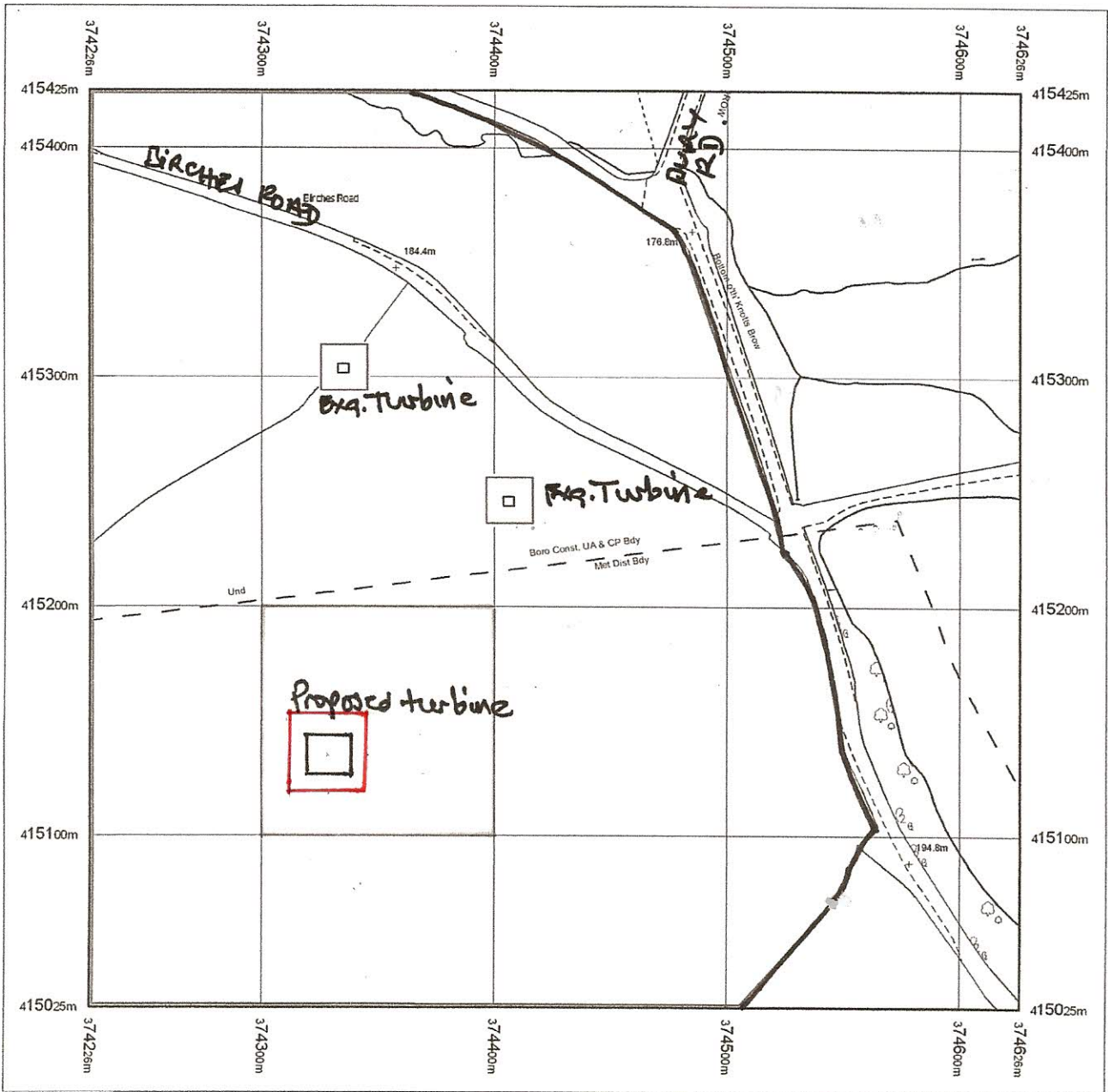


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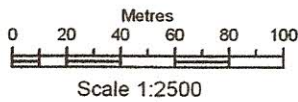
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