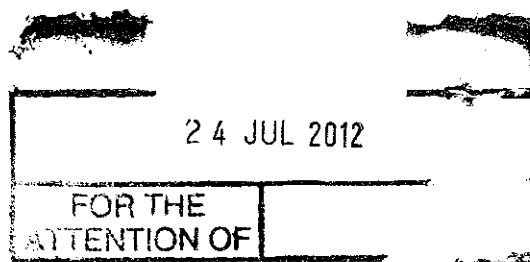


BILLINGTON AND LANGHO PARISH COUNCIL
25, Washbrook Close, Barrow, Clitheroe, BB7 9BP.
Tel: - 01254 824782
Email: - tracey@mccarney407.orangehome.co.uk

Ribble Valley Borough Council,
Planning Department,
Church Walk,
Clitheroe,
BB7 2RA

21st July 2012

Dear Sirs,



The parish council wish to comment on the following application as follows,

3/2012/0539 – Proposed installation of three endurance 50kw wind turbines 46m in overall height at Carr Hall Garden Centre, Whalley Road, Wilpshire

The parish council wish to **STRONGLY OBJECT** to this application for the following reasons,

1. The erection of these turbines will damage the landscape and have a devastating visual impact on the surrounding area. They will be visible from many vantage points across the Ribble Valley. The area surrounding the proposed development is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty from which these turbines will be clearly visible. Ribble Valley Borough Councils Policy ENV3 protects the character of the landscape in areas outside the AONB and the approval of this application would totally go against this policy. No amount of tree planting or landscaping would lessen the massive visual impact of these turbines. They are completely out of proportion to any existing natural feature or development in the area.
2. The turbines could have a detrimental effect on tourism in the area which in turn could threaten local employment and future investment.
3. If the application is approved it could set a precedent for other similar developments in the area.
4. The proposed development is in an area of green belt. If planning permission is granted this will result in a loss of green belt land which is in a key position between Blackburn and the Ribble Valley. Wilpshire and Langho are separated by this green belt which helps them preserve their individual character, this would be lost if this application is approved.
5. The application states that the turbines will generate electricity for Carr Hall and some surrounding properties. There are only minor if any gains for the community and massive financial gains for Carr Hall. The cost of the damage to the landscape is far greater than any benefit the community would gain.
6. The application states that the turbines are unlikely to appear obtrusive or dominant and would not cause significant harm to the overall quality and character of the landscape – this is the opinion of the applicant and NOT the view of the local community.
7. The proposed development would have a detrimental impact on a nearby equine business.
8. The application states that the nearest footpath is over 200m away when in fact there is a footpath only 75metres away.

The parish council has been inundated with objections from local residents and urge you to refuse planning permission on the above grounds.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey McCarney
Parish Clerk

PP Howard (Parish Councillor)