

## Going Green in East Bridgford - Before the Facts Are Read

Having lived in the village 42 years, I was pleased to support the aims of the East Bridgford Community Energy Group in their Hydro Electric Generation Project as it was non-confrontational, practical and a beneficial contribution to reducing our carbon emissions from the use of fossil fuels.

When the hydro project was abandoned and the wind turbine proposed, I could not give support to the new project as I did not see wind turbines as 'graceful structures', rather 'mechanical eyesores' that would desecrate our environment and our lovely Trent Valley environment. The Public Meeting in April showed the divisiveness of this project on our community in a way I had not seen before. The facts learned since that time, further support my opposition to a wind turbine in our village and to wind turbines in general.

- The **East Bridgford** turbine proposal, at more than **82 metres**, is higher than the Nottingham Council House (61m), the **Victoria Centre** (72m) and **more than five times the height of St. Peter's tower**.
- **The green credentials of wind energy** are brought into question if local authorities and government grant planning consents for **large scale industrial developments on green belt land**.
- As electricity **cannot be stored** and **no reliance** can be placed on wind generation at times of **high demand**, we cannot delay the building of **even one** conventional power station.
- The generation of electricity using a wind turbine is **not cost effective** and the public subsidies given of **many times the cost of electricity** are a waste of tax payer's money.
- Wind generated **electricity** is connected to the national grid and because supply may be at times when it is **not required**, we are now paying **subsidies to suppliers for non-generation**.
- Annual mean wind speed records in the East Midlands at **5 - 7 metres per second** are considered to be **insufficient** to make a wind turbine **project commercially viable**.
- The **generation yield** from on-shore wind turbines in England is quoted by the Industry at **30%** capacity. In reality an average of **21% capacity** was achieved with the worst being **7% capacity**.
- The proposed Gunthorpe Turbine is a '**monster**' at **122m high** that will be similar in form and height **to the London Eye**. It will visually **desecrate the much loved local recreation area by the lock**.
- With the two wind turbines proposed being **within 750 metres** of some homes in East Bridgford, it is **inevitable** that, if built, there will be a **significant reduction in local house prices**.
- **ALL properties / residences** in East Bridgford will be **within 1,500 metres** of a very large wind turbine and will be subjected **to the visual and noise pollution** generated.
- The **Wind Turbines** (Minimum Distances from Residential Premises) **Bill**, if enacted by Parliament, **will prevent** a large turbine within **2,000 metres of a residence**. (as in Scotland)

Based on these and other emerging facts, it would be wise for all potential investors in the EB Community Energy IPS Ltd. to seek financial guidance and assurances before making an investment in the current project.

Both projects do not have the 'green credentials' claimed by the developers and will not provide benefits to the communities that they are meant to serve. Is it possible that Solar could provide a more environmental friendly and cost effective solution? I wonder how much carbon is produced in the manufacture, installation and maintenance of an 85 ton monster wind turbine set in a concrete base larger than an olympic pool?

If you feel that wind generation is not the solution and wish to preserve our green and pleasant land, please make your views known to our Parish Council and the planners at both Rushcliffe and Newark & Sherwood.

Chris Brownson