

WIND-TURBINES between GAYDON, KNIGHTCOTE & BISHOPS ITCHINGTON

14th May Report : It's all gone a bit quiet ... so does that mean it's gone away ?

No, not at all ! This is the calm before the storm. Since the rejection of the Met Mast by Stratford-on-Avon District Council on 25th November and the subsequent Appeal by Broadview Energy (the result of which, we are still waiting) there has been quite a lot of activity by the developer, albeit low-key.

A 10 metre tall weather-mast was erected (without planning permission) at the site on 11th February and not removed until 29th April.

Within this period, noise monitoring boxes were also installed in the gardens of six known local residents (there may be others of whom we are unaware) by TNEI working on behalf of Broadview Energy and over-seen by Mr.Ellison, Environment Officer of Stratford-on-Avon District Council. Data gained from the boxes will be used to compare local levels of noise in relation to policy ETSU-R-97 and the environmental impact of noise from wind-turbines, if they are installed.

It is now believed that Broadview Energy have gained permission from a local farmer, to build an access road to their proposed Starbold wind-turbine site, off the B4451 Gaydon Road, which will accommodate the heavy construction vehicles required for installation.

Stephenson Halliday (environment & landscape consultants) have been checking this week on visual impacts at various points around the Starbold site and their impact pictures are expected to be used by Broadview Energy in Village "consultations" later in the summer.

As part of the Met Mast Appeal process, Public Inspector Mr.J.Woodcock is due to visit the proposed Starbold site on Thursday 3rd June at 3pm.

Therefore our conclusion is that this development is far from moribund and is proceeding at an accelerating rate behind the scenes. This period of phoney war will change shortly to a war starting in earnest, beginning with Village "consultations" being announced by Broadview Energy and their full application for the wind-turbine development being submitted.

So, as one local resident said "prepare for battle ... and sharpen your spears !"

www.frawt.org.uk