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From: Mike Horlor
Sent: 19 January 2015 11:08
To: LDF
Subject: Comment on Selby Plan consultation

Climate Change/Location of Wind Turbines

Question 26

Whilst the debate about the extent and measures to mitigate climate change is global rather than local, the real effects of climate change and the measures to combat it are felt intensely at a local level. Thus, it is vital that Selby's residents have confidence in the planning system and its ability to protect residents from the recognised adverse effects of wind turbines in particular, be they noise, visual intrusion or 'flicker' as well as allowing appropriate development in support of wider climate change policies. Other European countries appear to have tackled the location issue for wind turbines successfully by imposing simple distance limits between wind turbines and domestic dwellings. In view of the varying heights of wind turbines and the consequent different visual, noise and 'flicker' effects applicable, it is likely that different separation measures would be required to make such a policy work. However, the adoption of separation limits would serve to clarify the present vague position for both residents and developers, giving all parties firm boundaries and at the same time reducing pressures on the planning system. Simple limits could work well for individual turbines but of necessity, the intrusion caused by wind farms of more than five turbines would be greater and therefore require either larger protective zones around dwellings or other mitigating factors such as working with the contours of the land to provide adequate protection.

Comment submitted by:

Michael Horlor