



# **STOP HEYDON GRANGE WIND FARM**

**Newsletter January/February 2011**

## **Welcome to your newsletter from the Stop Heydon Grange Wind Farm Action Group**

You may have heard that a company called Volkswind is proposing to build a large wind power plant consisting of between 6 and 11 large wind turbines just outside Heydon, which will be visible for miles around. Volkswind recently sent a communication about the proposals to all residents in Heydon.

The Stop Heydon Wind Farm Action Group will be mounting a campaign against Volkswind's proposal, and you can find out more in this newsletter. We believe that Volkswind are not being clear about the real impact these turbines will have on our community. We also believe that residents in other villages will be affected and we invite them to join our campaign. The affected villages are:

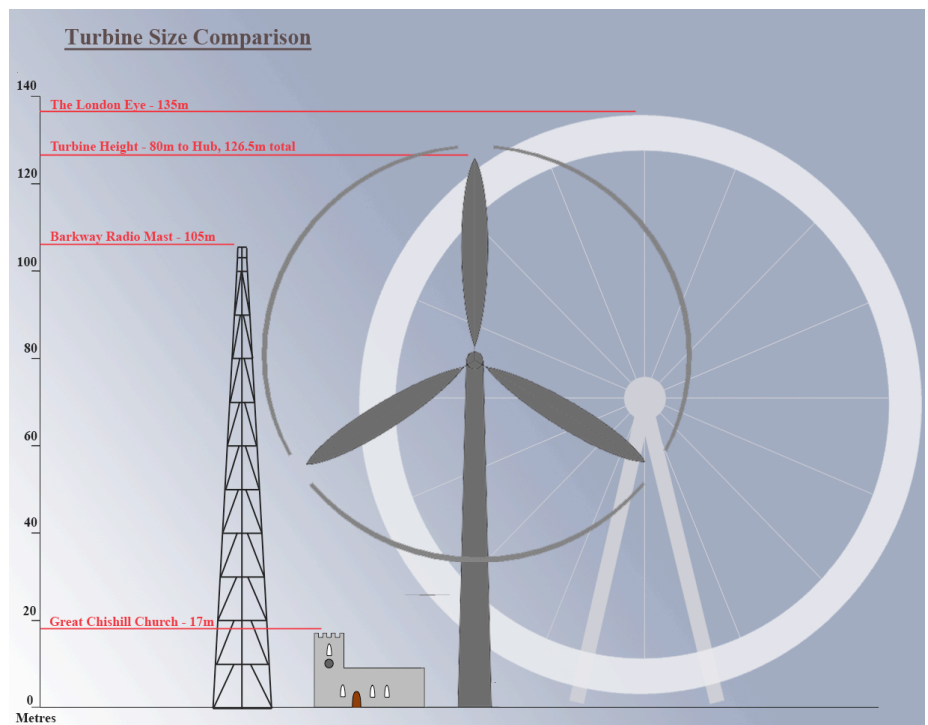
**Great Chishill - Little Chishill - Chrishall - Chrishall Grange - Elmdon - Duxford - Heathfield - Thriplow - Fowlmere - Melbourn - Barley**

## **WHAT IS VOLKSWIND PROPOSING?**

The proposed turbines will be some of the largest in the country at 126.5 metres (415ft) high; that is almost as tall as the London Eye, 25 per cent taller than the radio mast at Barkway and twice the height of Ely Cathedral's tower.

Opinions on the economics and role of wind energy are divided, but Cambridgeshire has already met its quota for wind farms set by Central Government, and to site a number of wind turbines in the middle of one of Cambridgeshire's most outstanding views is particularly inappropriate.

These turbines may not affect your own view or amenity now, but if the proposal does go ahead, experience elsewhere shows other developers may follow suit and more wind farms and other development could arrive in our area.



**“The dream of renewable energy has become the nightmare of the destruction of our countryside.”**

*Der Spiegel, 2004*

(German news magazine on the 19,000 wind turbines now scattered across Germany)

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Go to [www.stopheydonwindfarm.com](http://www.stopheydonwindfarm.com) and register your interest. If you do not have access to the internet, please call 07563 756631 to ask for a printed copy of the information on the website.

## WHAT CAN YOU FIND ON THE WEBSITE?

**The proposal:** showing the huge holes and thousands of tonnes of concrete required.

**The economics:** how this project could devalue house prices in the local area.

**Our objections:** find out what the proposals will really mean to residents, and why we are opposed to them.

**Proposal status:** currently reduced to between six and eight turbines from the 11 that were originally proposed. The date the Planning Application could be submitted is still unknown, but it could be in early 2011. A decision by local planners on the proposal could take place six months later.

**Campaign costs:** to fight the wind power plant proposals could cost between £9,000 and £18,000 to take it to the planning decision date. The community have no right of appeal against an adverse local planning decision but a further £20,000-£60,000 would be required if Volkswind appeal against any local planning decision which goes against them.

**Expenditure control:** rules for bank signatories of the group's finances, expenditure approval and accounts.

**Constitution:** membership of the action group, appointment of the committee and return of any surplus funds at the end of the campaign.

**Fundraising:** We estimate that it could take up to £78,000 to fight these proposals, so we need your help. Please donate as much as you can. You can donate using the following methods:

### By post:

The Treasurer  
Stop Heydon Grange Wind Farm Action Group  
Bridgefoot Farmhouse, Heydon, Royston, SG8 7PU

### Through your bank:

Santander  
Sort code: 09 01 27 Account number: 7533 6994  
*Please remember to give your name as a reference.*

## ACTION WE ARE TAKING

Thanks to the generosity of residents, the Stop Heydon Wind Farm Action Group has raised £11,000 to date and is in a position to campaign in earnest. The action group committee is being advised by the former chairman of the successful community campaign against a similar wind farm proposal at Boxworth.

As a first step, the committee has commissioned a report from a landscape architect on the impact of the proposal on the surrounding villages and countryside. This report will be developed in stages as Volkswind's plans develop, and it will form the Action Group's main response to the formal Planning Application. In the run-up to the planning decision the committee will be coordinating a public campaign comprising letters, petitions, media coverage, posters and banners.

## ACTION YOU CAN TAKE NOW

- **Register** through the website to receive interim email updates.
- **Become a member** by donating.
- **Let the committee know** if you have useful skills or contacts, ideas for fundraising or publicity, or if you just wish to offer general help. Register by calling 07563 756631 or by going to [www.stopheydonwindfarm.com](http://www.stopheydonwindfarm.com)

## ACTION YOU CAN TAKE LATER

We will be circulating further updates as the plans develop, but if you are against the proposals, it is vital that you get involved by attending the meetings organised in your local area. Further details of the next meeting will be circulated soon, but in the meantime, remember to check [www.stopheydonwindfarm.com](http://www.stopheydonwindfarm.com) for updates.

### Volkswind exhibition

Volkswind have recently announced two public exhibitions will take place at Heydon Grange Golf and Country Club on:

- Tues, 15 Feb; 4pm to 8pm
- Wed, 16 Feb; 10am to 2pm

Please do visit these exhibitions to make sure your views are heard. If you are against the scheme, please ensure you say so in any questionnaires you may fill out at the exhibitions.

**Cause a storm. Say NO to the wind farm.**

[www.stopheydonwindfarm.com](http://www.stopheydonwindfarm.com)  
07563 756631