

Beckingham Bugle

February 2011



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- Community Led Planning Questionnaire on it's way
- Council Elections

Mikki



Community Led Planning Questionnaire - time to decide what you want the future of the village to be

The questionnaire will be delivered around the village on Monday 21st February and volunteers will be coming round to collect the completed forms on Sunday 27th February.

Please take this chance to influence what the future will hold for Beckingham.

Congratulations to the Black Swan Restaurant

They have won a gold citation from the Lincolnshire Life Cuisine Awards Taste of Excellence.



Did you know they are celebrating 12 years in Beckingham next month? Check out their special meals including one for St Georges Day on April 23!

Dates for your diary.....

February

20 Holy Communion, The Willows, Hillside 11.15am (coffee from 10.30)

March

6 Pancake Service, The Willows 11.15am

20 Holy Communion, All Saints 11.15am

26 Italian Night - have fun and fight the Wind Farm!



Kesteven: NO Turbines!

Pre-planning meeting and what's next

There was an excellent turnout from the village at the pre-planning meeting in Sleaford. Reports from those attending agree that the presentation by Wind Direct was poor and that they had problems answering many of the questions that councillors were asking. We have to take that as a positive sign but must not let up the pressure.

What next? As at the time of writing the actual application had not gone in and until it does we can't get into full letter writing mode. The good news is that when the application does go in KNOT are going to arrange some letter writing surgeries at the village hall. There will be details of the application, a selection of reasons why people may want to object, computers and printers (and even people to help type if you want) so you can get your letters done and posted. To make it a fun social event there will be teas, coffees and cakes available to help the composition process.

Here are some of the reasons that people have already given for objecting:

- It is very close to the whole village
- At least one house sale has fallen through because the buyer found out about the possibility of the wind farm
- We have a number of listed buildings in the village and this will detract from them - from the oldest cottage in Lincolnshire to All Saints Church and the Old Rectory
- Wildlife - Barn Owls, Bats and other red and amber listed creatures could be adversely effected by the turbines
- A17 - Going to dominate the view and possibly distract drivers especially with the flicker effect of the sun through the blades

There are many more and they will get more detailed when we know what the plans actually entail.

Help needed

The Bank Account for KNOT has now been opened so if you are willing to contribute to costs please give now. If funds are not used they will either be returned or used for the village - your choice. Cash donations to Graham Else at the Sheridan (next to the Pack Horse)



Big Italian Night

Saturday 26 March

3 Course Meal and
Wine



Why not have some fun while raising money for the KNOT campaign? 15 people have already volunteered to cook a 3 course meal and others have offered wine. There will also be a raffle and other fun.

Tickets only cost £10 per head including wine which is great value and it should certainly be a fun evening. Tickets available from Graham and Carol Else (626709) or you may be approached direct by one of the many helpers!

If you can help with some wine or raffle prizes or would like to help decorate the hall it would be most welcome. Graham and Carol are happy to co-ordinate and take in any offerings.

Tall tales and travel stories welcome on the night - the more entertaining the better. Come and join in the fun!



Countryside Photography competition

Let's illustrate how wonderful the countryside flora and fauna is around Beckingham. Just take a portfolio of 5 pictures saying where and when they were taken (must be in a 2k radius of where the Wind Turbines are planned i.e. Lodge Farm). There will be prizes for the portfolio that best demonstrates the great wealth and diversity of our countryside. There may also be age related prizes as well if we get lots of youngsters taking part. **Judging will take place on St Georges Day - 23 April.**

Not sure how badly your view will be effected? Paul Dunne has taken pictures from some peoples houses and added the Wind Turbines to give them an idea. Would that help you?

Elections in May

On 5 May we have elections for North Kesteven District Council and for our own Parish Council.



At the last Parish Council meeting a majority of the councillors voted to increase the precept which means an increase for all council tax payers in the village. They felt this was the right thing to do to cover the costs that were in the budget. It may sound a lot in percentage terms but the parish precept is only a small part of the total council tax so the overall bill should not rise by much.

We may not always agree with what the Parish Council does but I think we should thank the individuals who have been willing to take on the task of being Parish Councillors. They don't get any pay and not much thanks but they do try and do what is best for the village. Some of them may not stand again at these Elections but I hope that we will have a lot of villagers willing to step forward and do their bit and take on this challenging role.

I would be more than happy to do an election special Bugle with statements from the candidates and I sincerely hope we have enough people standing to make it a genuine election and give electors a real choice.

Contacts

Village Hall Graham Else 626709

Parish Council Clerk - Judith Lyon 01400 272268

Litter picker James Keane 07787 355932

All Saints - Rector: The Revd Dr Alan Megahey 01400 273987
Church Warden Gill Green 626635

Community Led Planning Julia Wallace 629151

Police 0300 111 0300 or 999 in an emergency:

PC Pete Hanson 07939894024, PCSO Sarah Lingard - 07944776791,
PCSO Pete Thomas - 07825100370, PCSO Andy Hayes - 07939981872

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