

Winds of opposition heading to Parliament

A LAST ditch bid is being made to get a turnaround on wind turbines for Tetney.

by Peter Craig

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ASC Renewables announced it will press ahead with building eight more turbines at Bishopthorpe Farm, Tetney, after getting planning permission on appeal earlier this year.

No details have yet been released about how and when the firm intends to transport the 115-metre high turbines to the village.

The turbines are the largest in East Lindsey and will dominate the coastal skyline when they are built.

The firm has until April 2017 to build the turbines after permission was granted in April this year.

But more than 1,650 campaigners have signed a petition calling on Greg Clark, the Government minister responsible for the planning inspectorate, to review its decision to give the development the go-ahead.

The petition is also being sent to the chief executive officer of the

ASC is committed to ensuring that the local community receive real economic benefit from the Bishopthorpe wind farm

ASC chairman Stephen Critchlow

Planning Inspectorate to try to overturn the decision.

The inspector had been persuaded to grant permission on the grounds that there would be minimal impact on the area.

But Melvin Grosvenor, chairman of the Marsh Windfarm Action Group (MWAG), said the inspector did not have the full information when he made the decision in April.

Louth and Horncastle MP Victoria Atkins and Cleethorpes MP Martin Vickers have supported the campaign involving hundreds of residents and parish councils in their respective constituencies.

Mrs Atkins visited the wind turbine site at Gayton-le-Marsh, near Louth, to see the impact the colossal turbines have on the landscape.

She was presented with the petition and agreed to take it to the Secretary of State.

She said: "I said before I was elected MP that I felt Lincolnshire had more than its fair share of turbine developments and enough is enough."

The turbines near Louth were transported on large lorries.

The A16 roundabout at Tollbar, New Waltham, had to be partially removed to make way for the long vehicles, after they were carried through Grimsby from the A180.

The transportation under police escort caused temporary disruption to traffic.



VOCAL: Louth and Horncastle MP Victoria Atkins received a petition from Melvin Grosvenor, of the Marsh Windfarm Action Group, against the Tetney wind farm park.

Tetney residents have voiced concerns about the level of disruption that will be caused with eight more huge turbines to be carried through their village to the Bishopthorpe farm site.

Cleethorpes MP Martin Vickers showed his support for the campaign by representing the concerns of residents on Humberston

Fitties and the Thorpe Park holiday centre, who will be overlooking the series of turbines at Tetney.

Mr Vickers said: "I know that the owners of Thorpe Park, in Cleethorpes, owned by Bourne Leisure, are very concerned about the Bishopthorpe Farm wind farm at Tetney Lock."

He said the visual impact was far-reaching. He added: "In our corner of Lincolnshire, we are greatly dependent on the renewable sector for economic renaissance of the area, but the focus is very much offshore and that's always been my argument."

The MP said: "We've got to recognise that these are very unpopular with local residents onshore, but offshore wind farms are already employing hundreds of people in my constituency and have the potential to employ thousands over the next decade; that is something that we have got to work towards and attempt to mitigate, where possible, the environmental impact."

Mr Grosvenor said ASC Renewables development was an "inappropriate large-scale, overbearing wind turbine development".

He said: "The wind turbine developer is seeking to impose on the local communities and the local planning authority their relentless industrialisation of the sensitive flat landscape which is widely appreciated."

He said MWAG was a registered opposition party to the Bishopthorpe appeal and supported East Lindsey District Council's and

Bourne Leisure's stance for refusing the application. Mr Grosvenor said it was "a tragedy" that Lincolnshire's landscape was being blighted in the same way as much of Yorkshire with onshore wind farms.

He said in the UK there are 4,853 onshore compared to 1,184 offshore.

A Tetney resident said: "There is a lot of concern about how they are

going to get these things on to the farm. We have seen what happened on the A16 when they were taking them to Gayton-le-Marsh.

"The tailback on the A16 were horrendous and the roundabout at New Waltham had to be cut back and then reinstated again."

He added: "There are a lot of people who want to see this stopped before they go ahead with it."



DEVELOPMENT: Anglian Water's two 105-metre high turbines at Tetney, prepare to start turning.

ASC Renewables chairman Stephen Critchlow said a community fund for the residents of Tetney area would benefit by up to £2.5 million over the lifetime of the turbines.

He said they would be built as quickly as possible.

ON THE WEB: Have your say by logging on to www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk



OPPOSITION: The chairman of Marsh Windfarm Action Group, Melvin Grosvenor, with the campaigners, who are aiming to turn around the decision for eight more turbines at Tetney.