

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF P-A-IN**  
**HELD AT POTTERS SNOOKER HALL RAINWORTH ON 21.2.2008**

The meeting opened at 7 p.m.

**Apologies:** G. Anderson, P. Kirby, B. Thompson

**Minutes:** The record of the last meeting was requested for approval. Proposed, L. Tift, Seconded, P. Cullen.

**Treasurer's Report:** Recent donations have funded the workshop which took place on 19<sup>th</sup> February and will also cover the costs of the public meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March when Dr. Van Steenis visits. A further £800 has been donated for research purposes and another £70 anonymously. Our thanks are extended to all concerned and those who we know where the funds originated have been offered honorary life membership of the group.

Mr. A. Watson has been paid and a number of minor bills are due for payment. The current balance of the group is £2285.50. The workshop tombola raised £22 and new memberships and renewals have amounted to £33. Again, if anyone has any ideas for fundraising, PLEASE let us know them.

**Membership:** Currently stands at 167, with a further 47 on the mailing list. Annual renewal fees are requested to be paid. Please supply an e-mail address if you have one since this makes life so much simpler for correspondence purposes.

Between 100 and 150 people signed the protest sheet at the workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> February. The day was a huge success, so much so that a further day may be held because of the number of people who registered to speak with the Environment Agency.

MDC have changed course and have now voted in favour of the incinerator proposals. We are, however, considering making an official complaint, following suggestions that the voting process may not have been totally accurate.

Thanks were extended to all members who took the time to attend the Rainworth Parish Council meeting, when the sole item on the agenda was the incinerator proposals. As a result of information provided, a number of councillors have now changed their opinion in our favour.

It is understood that the County Council Planning Committee have been overwhelmed by the opposition shown recently regarding the proposals for the Eakring wind turbines. It is vital that we continue to show the same strength of feeling in our own campaign, as it does make a difference.

**Distribution:** J. Kitts thanked everyone for their efforts in delivering the last batch of leaflets. Over 3000 were delivered in a week. More volunteers would make a huge difference.

**Publicity:** New leaflets have been created for the event on 12<sup>th</sup> March, when Dr. R. Van Steenis will speak. In addition, we are proposing to invite representatives from Radio, TV, newspapers and also councillors.

We need to renew our poster presence around the village, since the majority of ours have disappeared recently.

**Legal & Research:** The workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> February was very successful. We need to bear in mind that there are two applications in progress, one for the building and one for the operating licence. It is our intention to win the campaign on both applications.

The Environment Agency have been surprised by our interest in the application and by our resistance. They will be researching the local knowledge that has been supplied for consideration alongside the application.

The briefing sheets on subjects of concern that were prepared for the workshop are available if anyone wishes to take one or more for the purpose of creating letters to send to the County Council.

Legal & Research team are willing to help and advise if anyone requires this before sending a letter off. The more comments that are sent in will naturally generate more consideration with the planning application. Additionally, we are making up information packs to keep people up to date with proceedings. These need to be requested.

Health issues have been underplayed. We need more information to enable our arguments to be successful on this subject. The Van Steenis event will help us to prepare for this part of our argument. Complications will arise where incinerator emissions coincide with other emissions in the same vicinity.

There are a number of flaws in the Veolia application. One argument that we can fight is the need to protect the land of the proposed development and restore it back to land which will then form part of Sherwood Forest. This was in the original plan.

Members were encouraged to promote the Van Steenis event as much as possible and to invite sceptics in particular to attend and listen to the information.

We need to focus on forcing a public enquiry, which will take the decision making out of the hands of Notts. C. C. At the same time, this will be a delaying process, as the enquiry could last for a long time.

Clipstone P.C. has voted against the plan. Coal blending activities ceased in October 2007. An outline plan for the land was prepared on the proposals from R. J. Budge following the purchase of the site by UK Coal. Veolia have stated in their application that the site was still active when their application was submitted in November 2007.

The meeting was informed that David Bellamy has agreed to add his name to any correspondence that we may send in relation to the application.

**Question & Answer Session:**

**Q** – When do questions need to be submitted to the Environment Agency?

**A** - All enquiries up to 1<sup>st</sup> May will be accepted. Then a further 28 days will be allowed following the production of the report on the questions.

**Q** – Can non Rainworth residents write and be acknowledged?

**A** - Anyone can make a planning objection.

**Q** – Can a person send the same letter to more than 1 agency?

**A** - Yes, and letters containing more than 1 signature are also effective. Additionally, if anyone wishes to write, they can bring their letters to the PAIN meetings and they will be forwarded to the relevant person/place.

**Any Other Business:** We were pleased to be made aware of the presence at our meeting of a representative of a new group being formed to fight proposals by Stoke on Trent City Council and Staffordshire County Council for an incinerator to be sited near to a rural community. He had seen our website, and, encouraged by the information, had made the journey to gain some information for his own group.

There was no other business and the meeting closed with the arrangement for the next meeting to be held at Potters Snooker Hall on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7 p.m.