



CYFEILLION LLŶN

Cadeirydd: Elfed Gruffydd,
24, Min y Môr,
Pwllheli,
Gwynedd.

Ysgrifennydd: Gillian Walker,
Tan y Castell,
Sarn Mellteyrn,
Pwllheli,
LL53 8EY.

Dwyfor Area Committee.
16th Sept, 2012.

Dear Dwyfor Councillors,

Ref: Wind turbines - Pen Llŷn

We kindly ask you to discuss this issue as a matter of urgency.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 places a statutory obligation on each and every Councillor personally to safeguard or enhance the natural beauty of the Llŷn Peninsula. Cyfeillion Llŷn is a member of the Joint Committee of the AONB Llŷn and we are totally convinced that the magnificent beauty of the specially designated area of Pen Llŷn is seriously threatened by the development of wind energy. Wind turbines are industrial structures that are completely alien to the natural landscape of the peninsula. Therefore, we ask you kindly to discuss this matter as one of urgency in your meeting tonight. If no urgent steps are taken there will be significant further harm to the AONB Llŷn and the views of the landscape from within and from outside the AONB.

Gwynedd Council has robust policies in place that limit development to within village boundaries it is these policies that protect us from the negative effects of over development and major industries. The area has been designated as 'Landscape Conservation Area' and 'Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest' as well as AONB as well as several other designations which confirms that the area has very special qualities that need protection. There are also policies and laws in place that will ensure that we will do so. It is because of these laws and policies that planning permission for a dormer window has been refused in the past, because of the detrimental effect on the landscape and character of the area.

Nevertheless, it is now apparent that there are shortcomings in the current system because turbines of up to a height of 34 meters have been allowed, and there are about 50 applications for turbines in Arfon and Dwyfor at the moment, with several of them higher

than 70 meters. One of the biggest shortcomings is that the Council has failed to issue a Supplementary Planning Guidance, which would provide details on the specific policy for wind turbines, which is policy C26. There is no such definition on issues as basic as - what is the size of a small turbine, or what within several miles of the boundary of the designated area of a certain size turbine would have an impact on the setting of the designated area.

Therefore we ask you to support our request to the Officers and Councillors of Gwynedd Council:

- 1) from now on to act in accordance with the law and local and national policies that are already in place in order to safeguard the natural beauty and unique character of the area from the harmful effects of wind turbines;
- 2) to ensure that a Supplementary Planning Guidance will support policies B8, B10, B12 and C26 by having clear definitions that will secure that the natural beauty and unique character of the area is conserved and enhanced;
- 3) to act with Cyfeillion Llŷn and other similar bodies to ensure that every necessary step is taken to conserve the areas in the close proximity to Llŷn AONB that are of high landscape quality and which deserve to be included within the AONB according to the LANDMAP assessment, as referred to in Policy 3.3.5.

It is hoped that the Officers, Councillors of Gwynedd and Cyfeillion Llŷn are able to proceed together to safeguard our inheritance and its beauty for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Walker

(Sec.)