

“They will ruin the headland!” – Protesters “We’re being green!” – Supporters

‘A monstrous invasion!’

“Shameful decision!” - one of the protesters on site

Over 50 wind turbines will be installed on Flamborough Head by the end of 2007. Flamborough Parish Council and The British Wind Energy Association are planning to cover the heritage coast on the headland with England’s biggest wind farm. At a meeting of the council last week, permission was granted so the BWEA can go ahead with the project. And Flamborough Head will be changed for ever. “We’d rather have the b**y caravans!” said one local.

A spokesman for the Association said that Flamborough Head was the ideal situation for a wind farm. “The headland is exposed to the full force of the wind from the North Sea.

“This is one of the best sites in the county to fulfil our aims to fill all the wind-swept areas with turbines.

“All this talk of noise is rubbish. They make no more noise than an RAF helicopter flying overhead. No-one ever complains about them. We are rubbing our hands with glee at the prospect.”

PROTEST

Local protesters are already planning a huge public march through the streets on the headland,

starting off at the famous lighthouse.

The protest will pass through the village along North Marine Drive to North Landing. The procession will then return to the village centre before heading to Sewerby and Bridlington. The procession will pass down Flamborough Road, Promenade, Cross Street and down the slope by McDonalds to the harbour.

It will then wind its way across the harbour, then go on to South Marine Drive. It will then pass by the Spa Royal Hall, turn back up South Marine Drive before marching to the Town Hall where a petition will be handed in to any-

one who is prepared to collect it.

Everyone wishing to take part in the protest should ring the Post Office at Flamborough, where a list of protesters is being collected.

IN FAVOUR

Farmer Edwin G. Strave said he was appalled at the village’s lack of wisdom. He was totally in favour of using some of his land for the turbines. “Wind turbines are the future of energy creation and I’m honoured that my farm will pave the way to this huge endeavour on the headland.”

Mr Strave refused

to comment on the revenue he will earn from the government for rent of his land.

Several protesters haranged Mr Strave as he left the joint meeting, accusing him of spoiling the whole headland for the sake of a few hundred thousand pounds.

“I have no comment,” he said. “The money really doesn’t mean anything to me,” he added as he climbed into his Rolls Royce before flying off on his annual three-month holiday in the Maldives.

No-one from the council could be contacted yesterday.

TV banned in Brid

Bridlington has been chosen by the government to lead a scheme where television viewing will be severely restricted.

“The aim is to revive the art of conversation,” said a government official.

For three months from next August, television reception will not be available in town Mondays to Fridays between the hours of 7pm and midnight.

The ban covers the town in an area bounded by the Ebor Flats, Hilderthorpe School, the Hospital, the Waterworks, Headlands School and Trinity Church..

Aerials which repel TV broadcasts have been erected on the highest points of these buildings, their signals overlapping to create a pool of non-TV reception in the centre.

Most of the town’s population will be without their favourite programmes for that time, said the spokesman.

“But it is for the best in the end. They’ll be fitter and have recovered the art of conversation.”

The government has had to pay the owners of the buildings for their erections.

A Messenger reporter spoke to several people who will be covered by the ban.

Alf Sprout, who lives on the edge of West Hill, was asked if his conversation would improve during the ban: “Er, er, er, dunno mate.”

A young lady leaving a night club said: “Good idea? Yeh, but. No, but. Well, yeh, but. No but.”

For once, a councillor was speechless.

Police cars multi-task

Government initiatives to make better use of police facilities are making their presence felt in Bridlington.

As from 1st July all new road traffic saloons have to be available for multi-tasking by officers.

As well as spending time patrolling the local roads to make them safer, the cars will be available to driver learning schools, taxi companies, and pizza delivery concerns.

A local police inspector said: “The car will be used on a strict time-table so that it is not being

used for two tasks simultaneously.

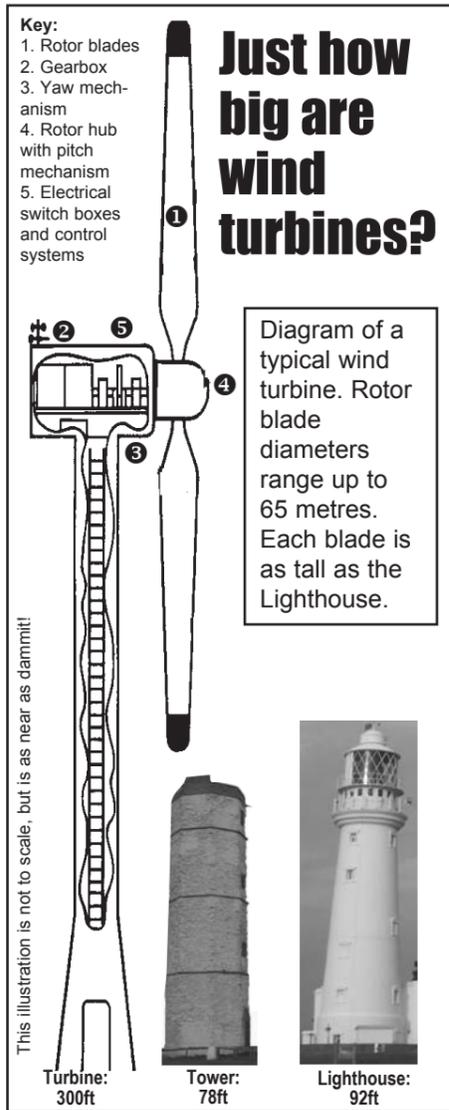
“Only officers with the relevant experience will take on primary tasks.

“It is obvious that we cannot have the situation of a highly trained police officer delivering pizzas, and neither do we wish to have pizza delivery staff apprehending local drug dealers and murderers. We’re supposed to do that!” he said.

One officer said he was worried about teaching youngsters how to drive fast and then having to arrest them for “speeding” while in the car.



A multi-tasking car from a south of England force on which the local car will be modelled.



Project Description:

NESW operated wind farm consisting of 57 turbines (each 660 kW) to provide renewable electricity at a total cost of £14.5 million.

Annual energy production: 23,000,000 kilowatt-hours annually – enough electricity for all the homes on Flamborough Head (assumes 98% availability and 23% capacity factor). NB: Find out if it’s enough to drive one electric train from London to Edinburgh.

Expected life of turbines: 30 years. Site acreage: 30.5 acres are leased within seven parcels totalling 603 acres. Of the 30.5 acres, 7.4 acres are used for the turbine foundations, transformers and access roads.

Average site wind speed: 13 to 14 mph (at 110 feet above ground).*

Wind direction: Predominantly from the north.

Turbine weight: 20 tons (complete nacelle without rotor).

Rotor design: Three 77ft blades (154ft rotor diameter) constructed of fibre-glass reinforced epoxy and other composite materials.

Rotor weight: 7 tons.

Rotor revs: 28.5 revolutions per minute.

Tubular steel tower assembled in three sections with internal safety ladder and nacelle access. Tower dimensions: Height is 213ft and diameter is 12ft at the base and 6.5ft at the top. Tower weight: 73.5 tons.

Foundation design: Concrete pier 15ft to 30ft deep with 14ft external diameter. Anchor bolts attach tower to the foundation.

Rated power output: 660 kW at 33 mph (optimal operating wind speed).*

Cut-in wind speed: 9 mph. Cut-out wind speed: 56 mph.

Noise level: 47 decibels at 800ft. downwind.

The future look of the Headland



An artist’s impression of how the Headland could look if the wind farm proposals get the final go-ahead from the Minister for Gas and Hot Air. The wind turbines will be

visible as far away as Scarborough in the north and Hornsea in the south. The blades of the turbines could decimate the bird populations on Bempton Cliffs.