

# Radway Parish Council

[www.radwayparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.radwayparishcouncil.org.uk)

[clerk@radwayparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@radwayparishcouncil.org.uk)

## **Notes of a Public Meeting 10th November 2022, Radway Village Hall**

The meeting commenced at 19:00pm

Present:

Cllr T Smith-Vincent (Chair), Cllr. P Gardner, Cllr C Rankin, Cllr P Wilkins  
23 members of the Public

Cllr Smith-Vincent opened the meeting and invited members of the public to speak.

Question asked:

- When do we need to submit a response by?
  - 22nd November 2022
- What is Tysoe;s view?
  - Tysoe have submitted an holding objection. They are preparing the formal response which will be submitted shortly. - Policy, traffic, odours, visual impact, etc.
  - Cllr J Feilding (Stratford District Council (SDC)) has submitted an objection relating to conflict against SDC Core Strategies.
- How many responses have been received?
  - To date 300 objections and 5 supporting have been received - one of the support being the land owner.
- Is there available research to how Green this is?
  - There is are individuals working on how 'Green' credentials of the proposal:
    - Someone is working on traffic impact of bringing in crops,
    - Another working on the effect of methane production
- If they get permission & do not build is the site then a dedicated industrial site?
  - Not known at this time, however this would be useful to answer.
  - There has previously been a planning application refused for an intensive chicken farm on this site.
- What is impact to Wildlife?
  - There are Curlews nesting near the site & Great Crested Newts, which are both protected.
  - Acorn state they will improve bio diversity by planting trees.

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- Does SDC get any financial benefit from granting approval?
  - SDC have a target to reduce Co2 so this plant would aid them hitting this target.
- Who are other consultees?
  - There is a list on the SDC planning portal and all responses will be posted on the planning portal. Ward Member, Local Highway Agency, Environmental Health, Ecological Services, Flood Authority, WCC Fire, Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, Cotswolds Conservation Board, Ministry of Defence and Parish Council
- How much traffic will come through Radway?
  - Not known at this time. This is a concern. There will be recommended routes for farm traffic and HGV's, however this is advisory only.
- Do we have a weight limit in the village?
  - Yes 7 tonnes, however this does not include farm vehicles.
- Will there be an odour?
  - Acorn official stance is 'No'
  - There is evidence from other AD plants that odour builds over time and does become a problem.
  - One member of the public stated that they drove past a AD plant in Cambridge and it smelt really bad.
  - Radway are at risk of the odour due to prevailing winds.
- Will Radway be able to see the plant?
  - Yes certainly from the lower fields and Tysoe Road.
- Do the local MPs have a view?
  - Nadim Zahawi has been contacted and the response received was that he will be remaining neutral at this stage.
  - It is not known whether Jeremy Wright has been contacted.
- What is Acorn's track record of applying for planning applications?
  - Acorn have 15 applications for AD plants across the UK pending decision. The first to be decided is in Evenley.

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- Are they looking to build 15 plants?
  - the view is that they are.
- Do we registrar objections individually?
  - YES
  - If want to object this is time to do it. Each individuals in the household can submit a response, for example if 4 people live in the house they can each submit.
  - Individuals outside of the area can also submit a response.
- Can young people vote?
  - Yes if you have an email address and Post code.
- What is the boundary of AONB?
  - Bottom on Sunrising, however the view still classes as AONB because of the visual impact.
- If SDC refuses will it go to appeal and if so can we do anything at this stage?
  - Yes it will go to appeal and the more objections we can get the better.
- How Acorn they ensure security?
  - The plant will not be manned 24 hours, there will be cameras and lighting.
- Will the lights on at night?
  - Yes
- Who has put the application in?
  - Acorn Bioenergy
- Who are Acorn?
  - Acorn are part of a Spanish energy company and group of Spanish fund managers. Information can be found on the website.
- Who is Hardwick Energy?
  - Hardwick is the name of the site location. Holding company is Acorn - Spanish owned
- What is the position of Radway PC?
  - Radway PC will be objecting.

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- How does this impact Radway:
  - Odour - we are downwind of the plant. Fertiliser will be transported in open top vehicles.
  - Visually - we will see it from Tysoe Road there are 5 tanks at 17 metres high, these will stand higher than anything else around here.
  - Traffic - Official line is that traffic will not go through villages, however this can not be guaranteed.
- Have rivers authority been informed?
  - The potential run off from extreme weather conditions is being looked into.
- Outlying villages are being leafleted this weekend about traffic.
- Is it run by electricity?
  - The plant will be using 30% of the gas produced.
- What is the build program?
  - It will take 72 weeks to build and 100+ labourers will be needed.
- Is this technology being used in UK?
  - There are plants in existence in the UK. The food waste collected from Radway is processed at an AD plant in Coleshill which is run by the Council.
- Are AD plants viable?
  - Yes if it is used properly ie on a farm for farm energy.
- How much do they need to feed the plant?
  - This will be the largest plant in the UK. 90,000 tonnes is required. Maize is preferred crop. Acorn have stated that they will use grass & farm waste to digest in this area.
  - Estimate is 1 vehicle every 4 minutes.
- Is there are legal 'BAR' for what is Green?
  - Not that we are aware. Industrial AD plants are stated to be recognised as NOT green.
  - Germany are ceasing building AD plants.
- Can we get funding for a consultant?

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- The local villages effected have employed a consultant which Tysoe are using for their submission.
  
- Have Acorn received subsidies from UK Government?
  - Yes
  
- What are our strongest arguments against the plant?
  - Visual Impact.
  
  - Traffic - This is harder to prove, however concerns about safety on A422 and increased movement of heavy goods vehicles.
  
  - Taking land away form food.
  
  - Location - on a greenfield site.