

Ellisfield Parish Council

SPECIAL PLANNING BULLETIN

February 2012

PROPOSED ANAEROBIC DIGESTION PLANT

Many of you will be aware of the proposed 13 acre, anaerobic digestion plant, lagoon and flaring tower to be operated by Barfoot Energy Projects Ltd, situated on Herriard Estates land off Bushywarren Lane between the Veolia composting site and the solar panels. The purpose of this newsletter is to alert you to the consultation programme that Ellisfield Parish Council (EPC) is organising designed to inform you as to the implications of this development.

- **Background information** – please see the DEFRA strategy document at [Anaerobic Digestion Strategy and Action Plan](http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/anaerobic-digestion-strat-action-plan.pdf) (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/anaerobic-digestion-strat-action-plan.pdf>)
- **Frequently asked questions** – a detailed list of questions has been sent to Barfoots Energy. We intend to circulate their response in advance of the open evening (see below)
- **Open Evening** – Barfoots are holding an open evening on March 5th (see accompanying flyer)
- **Site Visit** – we have requested a site visit for Ellisfield representatives to see an existing anaerobic digester plant sometime during the second half of March. Places will be limited, contact parish clerk if interested.
- **Parish Meeting** – EPC will be arranging a meeting for residents to discuss their views on the proposed development
- **Understanding Ellisfield's View** – as the final component of the consultation programme EPC will issue a questionnaire seeking the views of the Ellisfield community on a formal basis, to be used to inform the EPC response to the formal planning application when it is made.

The DEFRA Anaerobic Digestion Strategy and Action Plan spells out the importance of the Government-incentivised programme to build new anaerobic digesters, equally the document notes on page 32 under key issues that “To date, relatively few projects have been commissioned in rural areas. Encouraging the uptake of AD in rural areas poses special challenges”. It is these challenges, particularly in relation to the Ellisfield conservation area, that EPC wish to explore with you over the coming weeks.

FASTER BROADBAND SPEEDS:

Broadband Users are reminded to respond to parish clerk's recent email requesting individual current broadband speeds and to register their interest in faster broadband with Hampshire County Council.

To check your broadband speed, you can use any of the speed checkers that can be found through Google or other search engines such as www.broadbandspeedchecker.co.uk

New Parish Councillor Co-opted

Welcome to Julian Wright who was co-opted to join the parish council in December as there was no request for an election. Julian came to Ellisfield in 1998 and lives with his wife Debbie; they run a small consulting business from Ivy Cottage.

Parish Council Contact Details

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Julian Wright, Ivy Cottage, Bell Lane	381757

Parish clerk Jacqui Matthews (Mayfield, Green Lane, Ellisfield RG25 2QL) and she can be contacted on 381149 or at clerk@ellisfield.gov.uk.