

Development Control Committee – 18 October 2023

Update Sheet

Item 5 - Planning Application LCC/2022/0065 – Fylde Borough: application number LCC/2022/0065 Proposed Anaerobic Digestion plant fuelled by imported feedstock including digester/gas holder and associated equipment, relocated flare, new earth banking/perimeter landscaping and underground gas

Email received from County Councillor John Singleton on 17 October 2023: Draws attention to his view that the highway needs widening or at the very least several passing places created to avoid the issue of verge erosion, these works to be funded by the applicant.

CC Singleton notes the issues being raised by one resident regarding the extent of consultation and considers that these views may have merit although notes that it would delay determination of the application.

Representations: Two additional letters have been received from local residents raising concerns/objection to the application.

The first resident is concerned that the current road structure will not support the additional heavy goods vehicle (HGV) traffic. Attention is drawn to the current condition of Back Lane and Greenhalgh Lane and that these are single lane roads not designed for heavy goods vehicle (HGV) traffic and where there are conflicts between heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and pedestrians. Concern is also raised regarding odour and general environmental impacts resulting from the chicken manure that is used as a feedstock. The resident also comments that whilst these plants are labelled as 'green energy', they are not quite so green when the feedstock is being imported using diesel powered heavy goods vehicles (HGVs).

The second resident is concerned that the consultation process undertaken on the planning application is flawed as it did not include residents on Greenhalgh Lane near to where the digestate is spread.

Advice: The issues raised by the first resident are addressed in the report. With regard to the second resident, the County Council wrote to approximately 25 residents near to the site as well as advertising the application by site and press notice which exceeds the legal requirements. The application is for the anaerobic digestion plant and not for the spreading of digestate and therefore the residents that were consulted were the ones closest to the actual application site and to the route used by the majority of traffic to the site.