

## **Tansterne Biomass-Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Good evening, everybody and thank you for attending today.**

**Let me firstly start by saying I don't have a problem with the principle of burning waste in order to avoid land fill issues and if you can generate a usable commodity in electricity then that is a good idea.**

**My problem is I think the whole plant has not been planned properly from the start and as such we could end up paying a heavy price for these mistakes in terms of lives (with Heavy goods vehicles up to 44 tons passing through our village at an alarming regular rate), the environment, (the stench, the sight and the effect on our health and way of life) and the decimation of villages in this area. (we will become a highway and dumping ground for industrial waste)**

**And it's not just because I live on the road where these lorries will be travelling.....**

**The following are a few of the issues I have;**

**-The original planning application and subsequent build was initially to burn surplus straw from surrounding farms withing a 30 mile radius.**

**- The local farmers were asked if they would sign a guarantee to accept a fixed price for a set amount of straw .....they said NO.**

- Farmers are paid to plough the straw back in under government policy in some instances, and this not only is good for the future soil production, in addition they get a sum of money dictated by the prevailing price at the time.
- Some farmers were offered £55 per ton when the prevailing price was £100 per ton..... no wonder they wouldn't sign a legally binding contract to supply.

However:

-The Irish registered company Solar21 had already raised an amount of money from investors and proceeded to plan and build a biomass plant that was originally set to cost £35 million.

Now, I would have thought that when this proposal got to planning, they would have asked;

“where is the feed stuff for this biomass plant coming from ....long term?

Do you have contracts to supply??

And if they didn't have contracts in place, should they have said “when you can guarantee the feeding of the plant we will then look at granting planning permission”..... that makes sense....

NOT THE CASE..... permission was granted to build it.....

**IMPORTANT POINTS**

**-The directors of Solar21 are also the directors of GB Bio the Hull based company who own the biomass plant..**

**-Another company was set up HRS Ltd (Heat Recovery Solutions Ltd) to build, maintain and run the plant.**

**- The directors of this company also held directorships in other companies that built the site and apparently the contract they (HRS Ltd) had was set to finish in September 2019 ????**

**- The plant won some industry awards from 2017 onwards despite not even being commissioned until 2018 ???**

**- In 2018 following it being commissioned it nearly burnt down when it was first started , this gives cause for concern as to the stability of the plant in my opinion....**

**- in 2019 HRS Ltd went into administration with a balance of nearly £4.5 million owing to Creditors ????**

**- Some of that balance was owed to other companies who where also owned by the directors of HRS Ltd ?**

**- The intellectual property rights of the “award winning” biomass plant was sold for around £200k despite being valued at nearly £6 million in the balance sheet and a better offer being made by another company but su the offer was subject to stage payments.**

**This pretty much covered the costs of administration and would mean that all the companies who are owed money would lose that money including the companies whose directors were also directors at HRS Ltd ???**

**A strange financial situation for the owners of the plant to put the company (HRS Ltd) who built the plant into administration and for them and other companies to avoid paying invoices owed to creditors when the company who own the plant are awash with investors money...???**

**- GB Bio Ltd show the actual cost of the Biomass plant being over £65 million in the balance sheet, that is twice the original cost over just three years.**

**- Solar 21 have raised over £250 million from private investors, at one point the original investors got their money back plus a healthy dividend? (30+ %) !!!!!**

**That is despite the plant costing twice the amount it should have and it not ever being in operation in the last five years since it was signed off and supposedly ready to start feeding to the national grid.!!!!!!**

**- Solar 21 recently announced and this was reported in the Irish Press, that no dividends would be payable to investors because of temporary local unrest with the proposed expansion of the plant.**

**The PROPOSAL - from a company who built a plant for twice the original ANTICIPATED AND PLANNED cost, AND won awards before it had generated a single amp of electricity, AND who failed to secure the necessary sources of material required to sustain this plant from the start.**

**And then had the contract finish of the company who built and should have been the operator of the plant and who subsequently went bust immediately owing significant sums to LOCAL companies.**

**NOW - they want to extend the plant and build a 70 acre concrete yard with 168 - 14m x 14m bays at 3m high open to the elements and designed to house the tons of waste “wood” that would be required to feed the plant.**

**The plant requires 16 ton of wood per hour to maintain its 820 degree heat required to burn of all the toxic stuff from the waste material.**

**This would be needed for 24 hours per day 365 days per year.**

**A minimum 150,000 thousand tons per year.....**

**This would mean at least one very large lorry passing every 20 minutes IF they use the largest capacity transport, if the transport carried less this would mean more lorries per hour and it could be up to one every eight minutes.**

**IN ADDITION:**

**This does not allow for all the other extra traffic from employees and service vehicles and all manner of other supplies needed.**

**And this waste “wood” would be transported from the ships bringing it in from Canada etc and then transporting it**

**in massive trucks up Marfleet Lane, along Holderness Road, through Bilton, turning at the new junction to travel through Wyton, then through Sproatley and Flinton and eventually arriving and being stored outside at Tansterne.**

**AND REMEMBER;**

**That this is after a three year build project that will mean many, many, more vehicles and plant required to extend this project.....**

**And lastly if you can bear any more, if this project fails, and the investors lose their money and the companies go into administration what are we left with.....**

**70 ACRES OF CONCRETE- WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THAT:**

**-A POSSIBLE 70 ACRE INDUSTRIAL PARK ON OUR DOORSTEP !!!!!!!**

**OR JUST A WASTE LAND WITH NOBODY TAKING RESPONSIBILITY TO CLEAN IT UP.**

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**What we can do.....**

**Don't just send a letter saying I object because of the lorries write and ask questions or better write to your councillors and MP and even the PM ask him to ask questions before any permission is granted, stress how the original plant was not fit for purpose, it was not financially secure before why**

**should it be now, what if the investors pull out who will clean it up, it impacts our villages, it could result in road deaths one child killed crossing from school is one child too many..!!!**

**The carbon footprint of this proposal is not justified in what it will produce when you take into account the travel costs of the waste wood.**

**Don't let them sneak this in and we end up trying to stop something that has already started.....**

**Thank You**