

## Wass Helen

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**From:** Cave Dawn  
**Sent:** 08 October 2018 11:55  
**To:** Fitch Emma; Wass Helen; Edwards Hannah  
**Subject:** FW: Minutes of planning committee 6th September

For info

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**From:** Brian Lake [mailto:brianlake99r@yahoo.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 08 October 2018 11:51  
**To:** Democratic Services <democraticservices@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Minutes of planning committee 6th September

### For the Attention of Gillian Beasley CEO CCC

The attached letter is self explanatory. The minutes need to be changed. The letter has also been sent to David Connor, the chairman of the committee and to Emma Fitch.

### Re 6th September minutes of planning committee meeting for Warboys CHP and waste water evaporators H/5002/18/CW.

I have just seen the minutes of the meeting and I hope that they were not signed as a correct record, because there is a potential libel issue and a number of inaccuracies and untruths which will have had the effect of misleading the planning committee..

**Firstly** in regard to the potential libel, it was the operator, not the applicant who is in financial difficulty. I have documentary evidence to this effect (Companies House accounts for Silvertree, the operator). The minutes state I said:-

*The applicant was using untried and untested technologies; moreover, the company appeared to be in financial difficulties.*

The statement regarding financial difficulty of the applicant is, according to my legal advisor, potentially libellous and I must insist that this is corrected. Your failure to do so in the event of a libel case will result in the blame resting on Cambridgeshire County Council.

My statement to the committee was as follows: –

*The applicants have chosen instead an **untried untested** system, to be run by a company with no experience and **which appears to be in financial difficulties**.*

**Secondly**, in relation to Paul McLaughlin's statement, which was recorded as:-

*Daventry had received an environmental permit ... and Meriden had received a draft permit.*

The minutes may be correct but these statements are false. No permit has been issued and the EA never issues a draft permit. The false statement also appears on p18 of the minutes:-.

*It was confirmed that the applicants had said they had a permit for a similar development in Daventry.*

The EA has confirmed to me in a letter from Carolyn Fowler, Customers & Engagement Officer of the West Midlands Area, that no permit has been issued for the Daventry site, and that draft permits are not issued.

*With regards to your question “Does the EA ever issue a draft permit to allow a process to begin before the actual permit is issued?” the answer is, under normal circumstances “No”.*

*However in the case of Pedigree Power and Henley Biomass Limited, both of whom intend to operate plants at a site on Browns Road in Daventry, due to the delay in assessing their permit applications by the Environment Agency, a local enforcement position was granted at their request to both these operators allowing them to commence hot commissioning (see attached documents) before final permit issue.*

The committee was not told the truth and thus was misled to thinking the EA had approved the process and all would be safe in Warboys.

**Thirdly** The committee were misled by the officer presenting the report. It was stated that there would be 1200 litres per hour evaporated (a figure in the application) but this refers only to one evaporator. There are six evaporators, meaning that there would be 7200 litres per hour, a sixfold increase on what was stated resulting in a 600% potential increase in pollution.

*See 4.16 of the officer’s report on p21 of the Agenda Item No 3*

**Fourthly** There are other inaccuracies, in particular concerning my presentation where the minutes are not correct. For example the source of the statement on waste water from the food and plastics industry is on the website of EW Cap, the financial backers of the project, and has never been on the applicant’s website. The minutes state I said that :-

*The amount of leachate produced within a 30 mile radius did not meet the volumes required, which suggested other waste water e.g. from the foods and plastic industries, as suggested on the applicant’s website, could be processed at the site.*

My statement said :-

*Compost leachate has been mentioned, but their backers, EW Cap announce they will be taking waste water from the food and plastics industries, something else the applicants failed to mention.*

These are some of the errors which I have found, which need to be corrected before the minutes can be regarded as a correct record.

I await your response.

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Sincerely

Professor Brian Lake

8 Padgetts Close, Warboys, PE28 2SZ