Planning application – animal farms



| Preparation \implies | Time will be tight once it becomes | \rightarrow | In advance collect: |
|---------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| | Get information on applications asap | | Press contacts and people who might speak to the press (scientists / Drs/ climate change experts etc) Local Council protocols – re objecting / attending / speaking at the meeting/ dates of meetings / how they announce plans Names and email addresses of Councillors on the planning committee. Check if they have any vested interests Local residents / Environmental / vegan local / National groups who may help publicise / object Templates – objections / relevant arguments and press releases – remember the process is tipped in favour of proposals being accepted so the case against needs to be very strong Up-to-date information on local / environmental/ health issues (remember animal welfare will not be a key factor in a planning decision – good to mention but you need to include wider issues) |
| | | | Ask local people to advise you if they see any notices re planning applications Check Council website |
| When meeting announced | | | Book meeting date in diary to attend and check deadline for submissions Notify council you plan to attend (if required by their protocol) and wish to speak Read through the documents submitted as part of application on Council website Write and submit objection - individually and or as part of a group (<i>nb</i> group objections may only count as one objection). Make your case clear, scientifically evidenced and powerful. Use science and local knowledge to counter arguments being put forward by the developer Mobilise others to do the same – post out and share, share, share Contact the press – engage their interest Prepare short summary of notes for your presentation at the meeting Mobilise others to protest outside on day of meeting |
| At the meeting | | | Check that any Councillors with vested interests have declared them Note carefully the key points discussed / how objections were dealt with Speak powerfully |
| Afterwards | | → | If passed, you have no right of appeal (the developer does if rejected!) but you can engage the press / write to the Council if protocol wasn't followed Learn from the experience for next time |

Hints and tips :

- You do NOT need to put your address on. It is likely to be published.
- If you comment in an email that may be included as well
- Make sure you check the submission date for objections and if there is any leeway after that
- Check any restrictions like a word limit
- Don't waste time challenging existing approvals by Highways etc as they are just abiding by the rules.
- Try and get Local Parish and Ward Councillors involved as they represent the people being affected and will hopefully speak at the planning meeting to raise their concerns.
- Try and find a local resident who can advise and spread the word.
- Many villages have Facebook groups that could be contacted, but be careful about wording as they may be
 protective of farming
- Focus on things not already covered or ones that directly affect <u>people</u> (animal suffering is not taken into consideration):
 - Local issues access/ noise /impact /job creation (most farms only employ 1 or 2 people)
 - Pandemics
 - Antibiotic Resistance
 - Climate Change / Environmental problems
 - Economic benefit

