**Presentation to NALC 24th May 2023**

1. Draughton Village: 200 residents; 75 dwellings. £10,000 annual budget.
2. Most houses stone built, oil-fired CH, + coal + wood. Very poor insulation. Typical Yorkshire rural dwellings.
3. DPC: recognised and declared Climate Emergency in 2021 and 2022. Voted to explore actions to help in the decarbonisation of the Grid.
4. Parish Clerk sought and obtained a grant from National Lottery for help in exploring options. £8,000 obtained, so consultants fully funded.
5. Locogen successful bidders.
6. Reported end Oct 2022, identifying 12 potential opportunities for regen: 6 solar and 6 wind.
7. DAZ Committee formed: voted for 3 solar and 3 wind for financial evaluation.
8. Identified 2 potential customers for power, 1 wind and 1 solar, to take 200,000kWh/year and 400,000kWh/year respectively.
9. Applied for local DNO Surgery appointment in Jan 2023 to establish local grid capacity.
10. Pursued negotiations with potential customers.
11. DPC voted continuing unanimous support for the DAZ project.
12. Councillor asked the question Why is DPC doing this. Drop in the ocean?
13. Answer via Locogen: Govt need to upgrade Grid and instate Green Generation = Eye-wateringly expensive → Government inaction.
14. But Grid **does** have additional capacity now, albeit in many thousands of small local pockets. There is no serious, co-ordinated attempt to fill these opportunities.
15. DPC rationale → YLCA → NALC → NALC representation on a Govt working group → UK Government (Grant Shapps). Given rise to NALC’s “Place-based initiative”.
16. → Recent announcement of Government support for small local green generation schemes.
17. Finally achieved DNO mtg 19th April 2023. They said OK to either 2 x 0.5MW or 1 x 1.0MW local input to Grid, subject to full formal enquiry to them (chargeable).
18. Currently DAZ Committee working on improved estimates and demand pattern from both potential customers, based on ½ hour meter readings over a 12-month period, to enable accurate financial projections for both projects. Also looking at suitable sites for generation.
19. Currently we are seeking grant support for these estimates, calculations and related assumptions to be checked independently by experts.
20. We have noted that pressure is seemingly building elsewhere for local energy systems and “smart grid” networks.
21. We also are seeking alternate uses for the surplus power from either or both projects (other the Grid) to see whether we can improve the financial performance of projects (DPC is risk averse).
22. We have also been asked to identify any benefits to village residents which might be got from either or both projects. Ideas being pursued.

**Richard Neale**

**Councillor, DPC**

**17th May 2023.**