
Report to: The Planning Board **Date:** 7 March 2012

Report by: Head of Regeneration and Planning **Report No:** 10/0371/IC
Plan 03/12

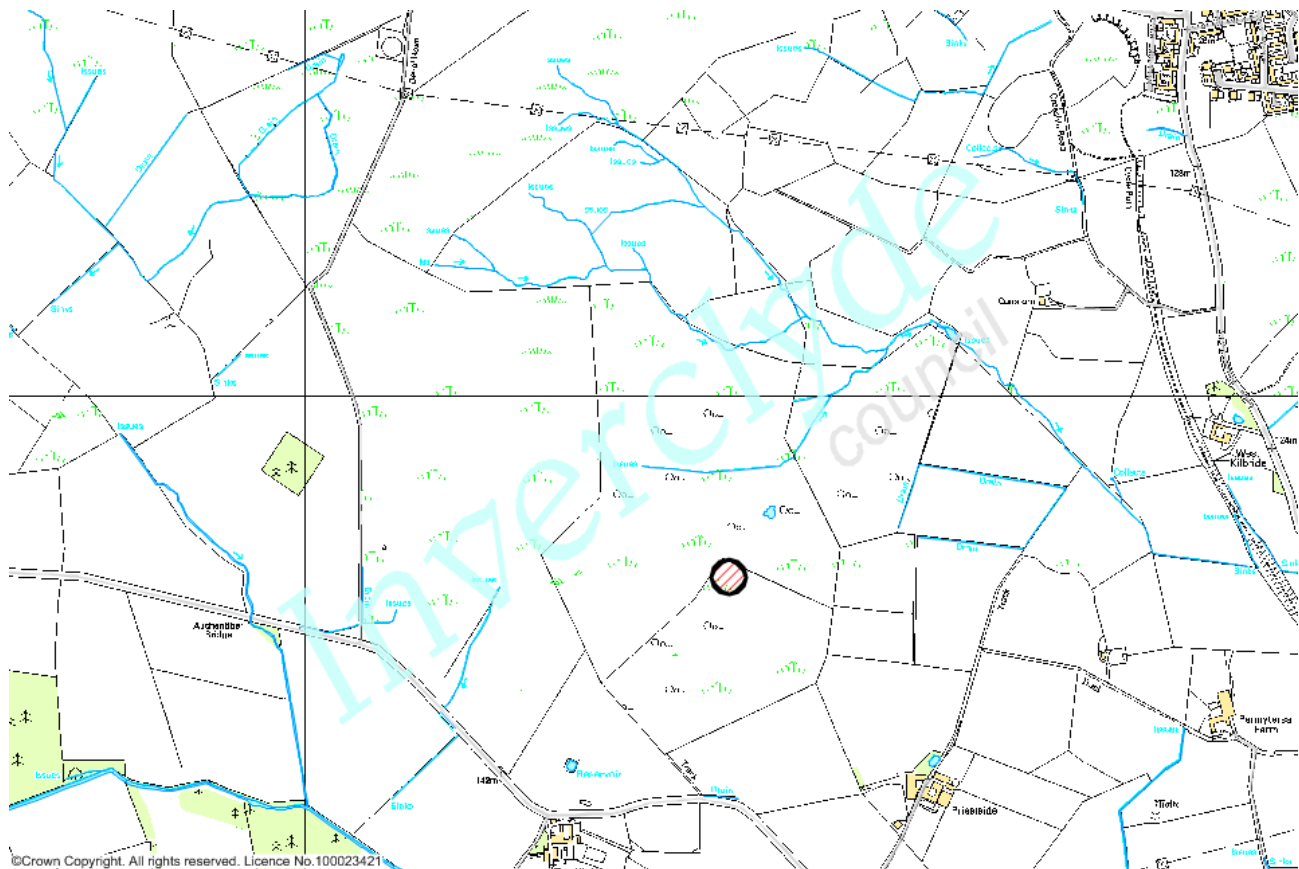
Contact Officer: Guy Phillips **Contact No:** 01475 712422

Subject: Notification of Planning Appeal Decision: Installation of temporary 50M anemometer mast at:
Priestside Farm, Auchentiber Road, Kilmacolm

INTRODUCTION

In September 2011 planning permission was refused for the installation of a temporary 50M anemometer mast at Priestside Farm, Auchentiber Road, Kilmacolm. Planning permission was refused as “associated groundworks to install the anchors for the mast will damage sphagnum and peat resources, thereby undermining the Dwarf Shrub Heath and Mire Habitats on site to the detriment of the Devol Road SINC and contrary to Inverclyde Local Plan Policy HR1.”

An appeal against the refusal of planning permission application was lodged with the Scottish Government. The appeal was considered by written submissions.



NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL DECISION

The Reporter considered the determining issue to be whether there would be an unacceptable impact on the shrub heath and mire habitats of the Devol Road upland site of importance for nature conservation. He found that any impact from the anemometer and associated ground anchors would not be significant and that this minor conflict with policy does not justify refusal of planning permission.

The Reporter also noted the concern of objectors, including the Kilmacolm Civic Trust; this proposal is connected to a proposed wind turbine at High Mathernock and may lead to a windfarm development. He found this to have no bearing on his decision, with each application being considered in its own right.

The appeal was sustained.



RECOMMENDATION

The Board notes the position.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Regeneration and Planning

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Planning application 10/0371/IC
Appeal decision letter dated 26 January 2012.



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