



Wind turbine Digger Day – *by Derek Couldry*

Well, on digger day we arrived early and had to start by sweeping the wood chippings away from where we were to work. This was made easier for Susan & Alan as I pushed it into a pile with the digger.

Then I used the breaker to break out the ground. Below the tarmac was a lot of rubble we assume was from the old RAF buildings that once stood in the site. Then came the digger known as a 'Micro' made by JCB. The machine was not one of our best and was a bit erratic to control but it made short work of digging the hole and tipping the spoil straight into waiting teams of wheelbarrows. We were pleased to see the 'blue clay' that was essential for a firm foundation, without it we would have had to dig a much bigger hole.

Once the Engineer employed to inspect our work was satisfied with what we had done we started filling the hole with cement from a cement mixer I had provided. I could see we were an important piece of equipment missing so I quickly drove back to work and returned the breaker and collected a cement poker. This machine vibrates the cement removing the air bubbles and making it a much harder set. Susan was well away with this as you can see.

We soon found that we were running out of materials so Alan & I made a dash to a local builders merchant that was open on a Saturday afternoon for more supplies.

By mid afternoon the job was done and the 'landing pad' for the tower was cast into the base. By now the drizzle had returned so we erected our market stall over the site to protect it while it went off.

After this I still had some diesel in the digger so I dug out our old compost heap (one scoop of the bucket equals one wheelbarrow) so I can build a new wood shelter on our plot.

Susan & I were the last to leave as it was getting dark. Then on Sunday I had the job of cleaning the digger at home so we could hire it out on Monday morning

DATES for your DIARY

AGM: Tue 20th April 7.30 PM

Plant Swap: Sun 30th May 10.30 AM

Summer BBQ Sat 17th July

Committee meeting 27th March 2010 What was discussed?

Waiting list – currently 47 on waiting list

Keys – there is a non refundable charge of £5 to get a replacement key for the gate if you lose it. Please do not get replacement keys cut yourself, keys which have not been properly cut break the lock.

Water tanks – have been fixed by a plumber

