



Pylons in Newton ?

Travellers into Newton from Colchester, cannot fail to notice the large “No Pylons” banner at the A1071 / A134 junction. National Grid (NG) are plugging a gap in their grid network in Suffolk, which requires a new high-voltage 400Kva line to be built between Bramford and Twinstead. No doubt you have all seen the existing line of tall pylons that run south of the A1071 and past Assington. It is another of those which is being built. NG are now consulting about where it goes.

NG has identified four possible “corridors” as options. Two run south of A1071; corridor 1 runs alongside the existing cables, corridor 2 is much the same, only this proposal includes removing the EDF line of smaller pylons which currently runs next to the big NG line and build a new 400Kva line in its place. Corridors 3 and 4 run north of the A1071; either would put a line of pylons across the beautiful Brett and Box valleys and cut close to Newton church before crossing the A134 at the junction of the A1071.

Newton Parish Council has been in full consultation with both NG and the other villages to the north of the A1071 who have come together as the Groton Pylon Alliance (GPA). At our November council meeting we agreed our view. The power lines have to go somewhere. Corridors 1, 3, and 4 all result in a third line of pylons across South Suffolk. Corridor 2 actually reduces the number of pylons and gives an opportunity to underground both the new and existing cables as they cross the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Those people already living near two rows of pylons will still only have two rows of pylons – at least the visual damage is not inflicted elsewhere too. It is, in our opinion, the “least worst” option. And these are the only 4 options - NG is not consulting on alternatives. Whilst undergrounding the lot is a popular mantra, it is hugely more expensive and in any case, that topic comes after the route is chosen, not before.

How can you get involved? Attend the NG exhibition at Newton Village Hall on 20th January or any of the other public exhibitions in the area as outlined overleaf. Representatives of National Grid will be there to answer your questions. Then you can submit your views. We would urge you to say the same thing as us. There is no external arbiter of which route is chosen; it is down to National Grid and they say it is weight of thoughtful argument that will influence them most. They already know you don't want pylons near your house – nobody does – so any letter you write has to be a bit more than that. We anticipate the GPA and others will fall in line with us and also support corridor 2 as the least worst option.

There is a lot more information on our website

In Brief

Power of Well-Being

NPC has become a Power of Well-Being council. The power of well-being will enable NPC to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the area.

Village of Year prize money

NPC would welcome ideas from residents on how the £1,500 prize money for winning the Suffolk Village of the Year competition should be spent. Please contact Colin Poole on 376448.

Parish Plan volunteers required

Following the meeting in October we are still looking for a further 2 to 3 volunteers to set up the working group to revisit Newton's Parish Plan.

Please contact the Clerk Dave Crimmin on 375085 if you are interested or would like further information.

Christmas Trees

Please leave your old Christmas tree by the recycling containers in Church Road by Sunday 10th January 2010 if you want it recycled by Babergh.

Newton Parish Council

The Parish Council holds its meetings on Wednesdays in Newton Village Hall starting at 7.30pm on the following dates:

13th January 2010

10th March 2010

12th May 2010

The Public and Press are invited to attend with the Public Forum being held at the start of each meeting. All Newton residents are encouraged to attend.

For further information on Newton Parish Council please look at the Parish Council page on www.newton.suffolk.gov.

National Grid Public Exhibition venues and dates

Boxford, Friday 8 January 2010 (12 noon - 9pm)
Boxford Village Hall, Stone Street Road, Boxford, Sudbury, CO10 5NP

Assington, Friday 15 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Assington Village Hall, The Street, Assington, CO10 5LW

Leavenheath, Saturday 16 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Leavenheath Village Hall, Wrights Way, Leavenheath, Colchester, CO6 4NR

Great Waldingfield, Tuesday 19 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Great Waldingfield Village Hall, Lavenham Road, Great Waldingfield, Sudbury, CO10 0SE

NEWTON, WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY (12 noon - 9pm)
Newton Village Hall, The Green, Newton, CO10 0QR

Bildeston, Thursday 21 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Chamberlin Hall, Chamberlin Close, Bildeston, Ipswich, IP7 7ES

Monks Eleigh, Monday 25 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Monks Eleigh Coronation Hall, Church Field, Monks Eleigh, Ipswich, IP7 7JH

Kersey, Tuesday 26 January (12 noon - 9pm)
Kersey Village Hall, The Green, Kersey, Ipswich, IP7 6EB

Polstead, Friday 5 February (12 noon - 9pm)
Polstead Village Hall, The Green, Polstead, CO6 5AL

Newton Parish Council

Colin Poole	(Chairman)	376448
Roy Gardner	(Vice Chair)	312346
Gary Flowers		374561
Peter Haylock		374574
Rita Schwenk		210838
Alan Vince		373963
Rebecca Wade		372868
Clerk Dave Crimmin		375085

dave.crimmin@btinternet.com

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Newton is policed by the West Babergh Safer Neighbourhood Team and our PCSO is 3193 Siobhan Hemmett. You can contact the team via telephone on 01473 613500 or email

siobhan.hemmett@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

baberghwest.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

The Safer Neighbourhood Team's website also contains some useful information and links for problem reporting.

www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk/westbabergh