

DUMGAL AGAINST PYLONS

November 2015 - Update

The campaign against Scottish Power Energy Networks' plans for pylons and substations continues...

Community Council Support

We are delighted that 50 Dumfries and Galloway Community Councils have agreed a common letter of objection to SPEN's plans.

There are still a few left in the region that have not agreed. If you live in an area where your Community Council is yet to commit, please ask them to do so.

You can read the text of the objection and see which Community Councils have added their names at:

www.dumgalagainstpylons.org/community-council

Targeted Campaign Takes a Break

You may have taken part in our Targeted Campaign where we asked everyone on our email list (nearly 300 people) to write to organisations that should have an interest in the campaign.

As SPEN'S first round consultation has closed, we have decided to halt this part of the campaign but it will re-start as we approach the second round of consultation.

Join Us

Still looking for that special Christmas present? Need a stocking-filler? Why not buy that special someone membership of DGAP?

Seriously, we are very keen to increase the membership of DGAP. For a one-off fee of just £5 (for the life of the campaign) you can join and this entitles you to attend and vote at all General Meetings.

To join, please send £5:00 per person to Penny Coles, East Manse, Auldgirth, Dumfries, DG2 0RY. Please make cheques payable to "Dumgal Against Pylons". Your membership and receipt of payment will be acknowledged so please include your name, address and email address.

Stakeholder Liaison Meetings

There are occasional meetings of a "Stakeholder Liaison Group" for organisations with a significant interest in SPEN's proposal. The organisations include: SEPA, SNH, D & G Council, the Scottish Government and, of course, SPEN.

We have obtained minutes of these meetings (using freedom of information requests). You can read the minutes on the news page of the website as we receive them. It was interesting to note in the October minutes that there was mention that "corridor amendments were currently being considered in some locations".

Competition Time

We need a Dumgal Against Pylons logo and letterhead. Please create a design that can be used for this newsletter, letterheads and email signatures to reflect our aim: "To protect the region from SPEN's attempt to blight previously unspoilt areas of Dumfries & Galloway with pylons, overhead lines and substations". There will be a small prize for any design that we use. Send entries (no later than 31 December) to no2pylons@gmail.com.

Fancy a Summer Stroll?

If you want a wee saunter in the sun next summer then join in the "Route March" from one end of SPEN'S corridor to the other. We are thinking of one person (or group) starting at each end and, a few days later, meeting in the middle. There are lots of ways you can get involved. You could do the whole walk or join for a mile or two; offer food or accommodation to walkers or help with organisation. If you can help at all, please call Yda: 01576300232 or yda@morganbellows.co.uk

Councillors' Timely Reminder

We handed over Dumfries and Galloway – Unspoilt calendars for all the D & G Councillors at the council offices in Dumfries. You may have read about this in the local press or seen it on ITV! We also sent calendars to every MSP and MP.

Although we printed 800 calendars, we have nearly sold out. Email Barbara if you would like one on webb473@btinternet.com. You might still be in luck.



Barbara Webb handing a calendar to Councillor Graham Bell supported by other councillors and campaigners

D & G Council Update

You may be aware that Dumfries and Galloway Council have been considering how to respond to SPEN's plans. Their original intention was not to consider the proposal or take any view until the second round consultation. We felt that this would send the wrong message to SPEN and could be seen to be an indication of tacit approval.

Having raised these matters with planning officials, we are pleased that the Council will now respond to the first round consultation. They are sending very a clear signal to SPEN that they are not prepared to accept a low-cost solution that will blight the region but expect them to consider alternatives.

We do hope that you found this update interesting and useful. We aim to keep these newsletters short but there is more on most of these stories on the website news page:

www.dumgalagainstpylons.org/news

Spread the Word!

Why not forward this newsletter to a friend? Please ask them to like our [Facebook page](#), follow us on Twitter [@DGagainstpylons](#) and to visit www.dumgalagainstpylons.org. Encourage your friends to be added to the email list by writing to: no2pylons@gmail.com. Ask them to sign the Kirkmahoe [Petition](#)