

# BECKSIDE LADIES' SUPPER CLUB

6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## NORTH WEST COAST CONNECTIONS

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Members of the Beckside Ladies' Supper Club have asked me to write to you in response to the above project.

The Club was founded in 1967 by a group of women for the provision of education and entertainment for those in the Parish of Kirkby Ireleth. The fiftieth anniversary is to be celebrated in May of this year. The numbers of members has varied over the years but has averaged out at about 30 per year. These members are and have been wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of a wide spectrum of the parish population. They have a wealth of knowledge and wisdom of the area and its people.

They are appalled that a firm such as National Grid could even think of countenancing a project such as this that will destroy the very thing that they hold dear to their hearts – the beautiful and ever changing views and tranquillity of the Duddon Estuary.

They are opposed for the following reasons:

- The length of time for the consultation has been far too short. Busy wives and mothers find that this is the most trying time of the year with Christmas and New Year being at the heart of family life. To even sit down with all of the information and trying to make sense of it has proved very difficult indeed. Some I know have just not had the time.
- At the Burlington School consultation meeting many of the questions asked were not answered. We were told to read the documentation and send in our response.
- The proposed pylons will adversely affect our meetings which are held on a monthly basis in Beckside Village Hall. Parking and access to the hall is already very limited due to the narrow lane. To have construction vehicles and associated workers' transport added to the problems will indeed be very worrying.
- The magnificent views from the parish of the estuary will be destroyed for as long as these pylons are in place. Kirkby and the Estuary are certainly within the setting of the Lake District National Park and should be treated with care and respect. To turn it into an industrial area is too difficult to contemplate.
- The amount of traffic associated with any such construction will affect the daily lives of families. Getting children to school and the general day to day ordering of the family will become much more difficult.
- We were led to believe that the original pylons were to come down but now find we are getting two sets. One 132 kv the other 400kv. Why has this happened? What is the reasoning for it?

Surely there are other options available that would not entail spoiling this area for generations to come. Why not go under the Duddon as under Morecambe Bay? Or out to sea? Surely any extra cost would be worth it to save this area for our children and future generations.

**Our members urge National Grid to think again.**

P. A. McPherson  
Secretary Beckside Ladies' Supper Club