

SAVE STRAITON FOR SCOTLAND

PROTECTING STRAITON, KIRKMICHAEL, CROSSHILL AND SURROUNDINGS

Save Straiton for Scotland



A word from our Chairman. As you know, we need consultants to help us overturn Straiton's wind farm applications. We now have a first class team on-board: Ian Kelly (planning advisor) and Mark Steele (landscape architect) will address landscape and visual impact. If needed, we will also call on Dick Bowdler for noise issues and John Campbell QC for legal advice. The team's first target is Linfairn. They will work within the limits of our funds. This is great news! Many thanks to all who have donated. *Bill.*

Very many thanks

Huge thanks to everyone who has supported the campaign in the past few weeks.

Sara for arranging the banners (and to each and every one of our "banner hosts"). Joanna for the detailed research. Charlie

for the impactful artwork. Caoimhe for her work in mobilising the young folks. Carol and Sarah for supporting Bea with the petition. Dorothy for the use of the Buck as 'campaign central'. Our valiant newsletter deliverers and to each of you who turned-out for our letter writing

event, please do keep the pressure on the politicians and decision makers, *it's working*, as you'll see over page.

And finally... to everyone who has donated to the fighting fund, as we go to print the "monumeter" stands at almost £14,000.

Kirkmichael, Crosshill and Patna face years of construction chaos

If you're reading this in Crosshill or Kirkmichael you may not think the proposals will affect you - they almost certainly will.

The Scienteuch site lies on the old road from Straiton to Patna on the forested Cloncaird and Scienteuch Moors through to Keirs Hill. The proposals outline 33 turbines with heights of up to 146m from base to blade tip. In order to service *this one site alone* many hundreds of tons of cement, construction equipment and components will be transported through Kirkmichael - on roads that are already in a

poor state of repair. Turbine blades are often moved overnight, that's 99 noisy nights! The Dersalloch development will take a similar route. The construction - and the disruption - will last for years.

The Linfairn, Dalmorton, Dersalloch and Scienteuch sites will be visible from Kirkmichael, Crosshill *and* Patna. Homes may be affected by shadow flicker and potentially noise, many properties will lose their value along with their views. Worst of all, the vista from Guiltreehill looking towards Straiton will be lost for generations. We would warmly welcome committee members from Kirkmichael, Crosshill and Patna, please let us know if you're interested.

Fundraising fun Huge thanks to Dorothy and her helpers who put £380 into campaign coffers through their efforts at The Buck on Easter Monday. The next fundraising event will be the "Soup and Sweet" on May 12th (details overleaf). If you have a fund-raising idea, why not put it into action and donate the proceeds to the campaign?

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Local representatives continue to pledge support

Councillors Brian Connolly and William Grant have each given their support to the campaign. They each saw for themselves the reality of the proposals and agreed that it would be inappropriate to site industrial turbines in the Girvan valley.

Having expressed doubts about our campaign in a radio interview, Chic Brodie visited the village, talked to residents, and subsequently went back on air to speak up in support of our cause - many thanks to those who took the time to debate the issues with Chic and helped him to understand our strength of feeling.

After his visit last month, Struan Stevenson has posted a new video on YouTube outlining his objection to what he characterises as “wind factory” development in Scotland - he makes special mention of the plans “destroying the beauty of this tranquil village”.



The rest of the UK, the ‘Twitterati’ and the world, hear about our plight

Both the Daily Mail and The Telegraph have published articles highlighting the threat we face. As a result, Twitter has been a-flutter on the subject, well-known journalist Mariella Frostrup slammed the plans as “a disgrace” in a message to her 30,000+ followers.

Bill and Whirly gave an in-depth interview to Wind Wise Radio, a global internet station dedicated to discussion about wind farm developments.

When BBC Radio 4’s Any Questions programme came to Ayr, Bea asked a question about turbines live on air and Lala was able to follow-up the next day on the companion Any Answers phone-in show.

Please come along to our **Soup and Sweet** lunch on **Sunday 12th May** from 1 o’clock at the **McCandlish Hall, Straiton** (£5 adults / £2.50 children). It will be a social get together, a fundraiser and a chance for an informal catch-up with the campaign. Helpers welcomed.

Keep in touch: There’s a dedicated Save Straiton for Scotland notice board situated outside The Buck on the Main St in Straiton and a mail box for you to use to share your thoughts or suggestions with the committee members. Call our chairman Bill Steven on (01655) 770 637.

Stay informed: You can visit the website at www.savestrationforscotland.com and sign-up for our news feed. There’s a Facebook page: Save Straiton for Scotland and you can follow us on Twitter: @savestraiton.

Spread the word: tweet and re-tweet about us, “like” us, and include a link to the website in all of your emails and blog postings.

Sign the petition: If you haven’t already done so, please sign the petition either in person (in The Buck) or via the web site, you can also download and print the petition, get your friends, family and colleagues to sign it and drop it in to any member of the committee when it’s full!

Donate: By cheque, payable to Save Straiton for Scotland (send to 18 Main St, Straiton, KA19 7NF or pop it into the drop box at The Buck) or by transfer / paypal (details on the web site).