

NEWS UPDATE

- **A big Thank-You to all who submitted objections**
- **Many thanks to all those who have supported our fundraising**

**Can You Help?**

Contact any committee member if you feel you can help the group. Any financial contribution or help with fundraising would be greatly appreciated.

**Our Account details are:**

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Midleton. Co. Cork.

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# Ardglass Wind Turbine Action Awareness Group

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## Massive local opposition to industrial Wind-farm 333 objections!

**Update:** The new wind-farm planning application at Ardglass received a total of 333 objections from members of the public, local groups, businesses and public representatives. This is an amazing number of submissions at an expensive and busy time of year. There can be no doubt that residents immensely value the rural nature of this area and do not want a massive industrial development to destroy it. Many thanks to all those who went to the trouble to make their views known.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, Cork County Council issued a 'Further Information Request' to the developer seeking significant additional information on the proposed development, which Cork County Council require before they can make a decision. This is not unusual for a development of this scale. The developer has 6 months from the date of this letter to either respond or to request a further 3 months to enable them to respond).

The application is therefore on hold until this information is submitted

### Irish citizens protest about the 'death' of rural Ireland outside recent Labour party conference



by the developer to Cork County Council. When this information has been submitted, Cork County Council will then make a decision to either grant or refuse permission.

There were 12 individual items requested. (see [www.ardglass.org](http://www.ardglass.org) for full details).

The most important relate to the visual impact of the proposal and to the noise assessment carried out by the developer. Cork County Council have clearly stated that in their view the development of 7 turbines of 140m tall is too large for the site and have asked the developer to explore a further reduction in the height of the turbines and/or the num-

ber of turbines proposed.

They have also asked for updated and corrected photomontages with a number of amendments to the location of the previous photomontages as well as in the detail they show.

On Noise, the Council have stated that the developer has failed to provide a proper assessment of the noise from the development and they have requested a significant amount of additional information on this. Other items requested include issues such as the treatment of waste and the impact of the proposed cable route. These issues are less likely to warrant a refusal by the Council.

## **What is next for Ardglass and East Cork?**

The further information request may take 6 to 9 months for the developer to address, however our group fully expects the developer to respond as quickly as possible, as they have already invested a significant amount of time and money in this site and this application. This area is clearly viewed by the developer as having good potential for industrial wind farms. Our group is however reassured that the Council have identified concerns with the proposal.

When the developer does respond to the request by the council, it is very likely that this response will be deemed 'significant' by Cork County Council and the applicant will then be requested to advertise that Significant Further Information has been submitted and erect new site notices. At this point, anyone who wishes, including those who did not make a submission before Christmas, will be given the opportunity to make a further submission to Cork County Council on the application. Cork County Council will then make a decision. It is our expectation that if the applicant fails to address the concerns adequately that Cork County Council will have no option but to refuse permission.

Either way, the development is likely to be referred to An Bord Pleanála. Residents of East Cork must ensure they are well represented at this stage and we must prepare for this. We must continue with fund-raising to enable us to pay for the further input of the experts that have assisted us to date. We must maintain the rural character of East Cork and ensure rejection of this industrial scale development.

Don't forget, when the canvassing teams come to your door over the next week — ask them what they are doing about the destruction of rural Ireland with these ineffective towers of metal?????

**Ask them why there are still no guidelines to protect Irish Citizens from wind turbine noise?!!**

**Will the next government consider the well-being of its citizens to be more important than private wind energy developers?**

The committee wish's to acknowledge the support of local representatives throughout this campaign, including Pat Buckley, Sandra McClellan, David Staunton, Noel Collins, Susan McCarthy, June Murphy and Kevin O'Keefe

## **Jockey Paul Carberry: Wind farms will put our lives in danger !**

Champion jockey Paul Carberry has warned how plans for a giant wind farm beside his stables will spell danger for riders. Grand National winner Paul, 41, is the main jockey for top trainer Noel Meade at TuVa stables in Castletown, Co Meath, an area which is set to be dominated by dozens of massive turbines. Carberry says that aside from ruining the beautiful countryside there are far graver consequences possible for those working with horses there. He says the gigantic 169 metre turbines will "spook" horses, frightening them and



leading them to bolt or throw their rider. "The plan to erect turbines here is a lot more serious for those of us in the horse racing industry that just destroying the beauty of the landscape. "The size of them – they are huge –

and the movement of the rotor blades, moving the whole time and causing shadows, it will spook the horses. "Horses have a natural radar for danger and are always on the lookout for predators. A sudden shadow in their vision will alarm them and if you're on the back of that horse – well, good luck. They can duck from it suddenly, or throw you, or bolt. "One horse reacting could trigger the rest of them doing the same thing and then you have a very dangerous situation".