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Press Release from South Holderness GDF action

We are delighted that our local councillors and Graham Stuart have realised the strength of feeling in this area about the proposals for a geological disposal facility in this wonderful corner of the world, South Holderness, and the harm that it would do to this community, both economically & socially, both during the speculative phase while they explored it, and then afterwards if it was constructed.

Lynn Massey-Davis said:

“ I’m really proud that we started this group and website and that other people joined in and worked so very hard over such a short period of time to turn the tide of opinion towards considering removing this threat to us all. This is an unprecedented level of community action in such a small place and shows why we are unique and special”

“ initially politicians told us we had to wait while they sat on the fence, fortunately they changed their mind”

“The first time I went into the village centre and someone came up to me with tears in their eyes. I hugged her and I knew we had to work hard to end this uncertainty for everyone”

“ we asked awkward questions about where the political mandate came from at Council, and when we found out that there hadn’t been one, but officers had bypassed elected members, it became easy to then, for us to force these cracks open. I have faith that our local elected representatives will put aside party divisions, and vote on the 21st to end this misery once and for all”

“ the referendum, that Graham was asking for, seemed to me a little strange since as minister for net zero energy security, he would’ve known the legislation, which limited the power to seek a withdrawal to the interested party and the NWS (nuclear waste services). Even if it had gone forward, it wouldn’t have made any difference whatsoever. I guess he realised that and he’s big enough to join us and we’re really grateful.”

“We’re really grateful to the Nuclear Free Local Authority Network and the GOTEK (Guardians of the East Coast) at Theddlethorpe, especially in the shape of Ken Smith who have unselfishly led us through our baptism of fire.”

South Holderness is a small corner, effectively, a triangle of land beyond Hull, and sloping down to the North Sea towards the Humber The land rolls gently and is prone to flooding and full of wonderful animal and plant life. we are a coastal community at the margins, but there is so much beauty here and peacefulness. Each year, the North-South migrations, touch our coast and hundreds if not thousands of bird watchers come to see the spectacle and the rare birds which occasionally end up in this place. Spurn Heritage Coast is after all on our doorstep.

We are independent minded a little old-fashioned because we look after each other, but we are community and it’s quite clear that when we are threatened we will act. 1300 people joined the group, more than 100 of those as active volunteers leafleting, attending drop ins to give “ our side “ of the story. People also became busy writing emails and letters and being guided by the excellent research of our analyst come web guru, Mike Davis whose work in the background kept us in message and informed in our arguing. Yes emotion drove us but being informed and knowledgeable helped us change minds as well as hearts

We are remote and lack the facilities to accommodate a geological disposal of facility. It would've seen a massive change, making our rural quiet landscape become a busy industrial one and killing our tourism industry dead and harming, if not ending the myriad of small businesses which depend on it. 76 large earth moving trucks, on our tiny road, a 24x7 lit-up compound, a 250 M spoil tip the size of Aberfan on our doorstep and eventually, trainloads of nuclear waste snaking its way through Hull, would change everything .

The group will be attending county hall for the full council meeting on the 21st of February when the council will vote hopefully for a notice to withdraw the scheme. There will be a lot of us, we will be peaceful but we will let them know very clearly what we want to happen - take this awful burden away from us please. Many of us expected this to be a long fight and that we would not see the end of it but we were planting trees and hope for the future.

For further information Contact Lynn Massey-Davis, chairperson and spokesperson for South Holderness GDF action on 07594 624805

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