

CPRE FIGHTS WINDFARMS

At the previous year's AGM, CPRE passed a unanimous motion supporting Renewable Energy, but opposing wind turbines which blight Dorset landscapes. CPRE joined DART in forcing withdrawal of the proposal to build 24 massive turbines, nearly as tall as Salisbury Cathedral, in the centre of Dorset, but most of our effort has been on opposing the proposed Windfarm in the Winterbourne Valley.

Luckily Purbeck, East and West Dorset District Councils and finally the County Council opposed the ugly proposal. North Dorset District Council commissioned a number of consultant's reports and, after fifteen months deliberation, the officers recommended rejection. The Planning Committee rejected the application on October 26 following a presentation by David Gargrave, our then Director.

However, the developer, 'Your Energy', has up to six months to decide on an appeal. CPRE is now waiting on tenterhooks to see if they take this course of action which will be very expensive.

This campaign gained good publicity for CPRE with three TV and six radio interviews and strong exposure in stand displays at the County Shows, leading to record membership recruitment. All members are encouraged to report any news on wind turbine proposals in Dorset to their Group Chairmen or the County office

Terry Stewart, Vice Chairman



*Above Scale of wind turbine in relation to people!
(Photo by kind permission of Colin Falconer, DART)*