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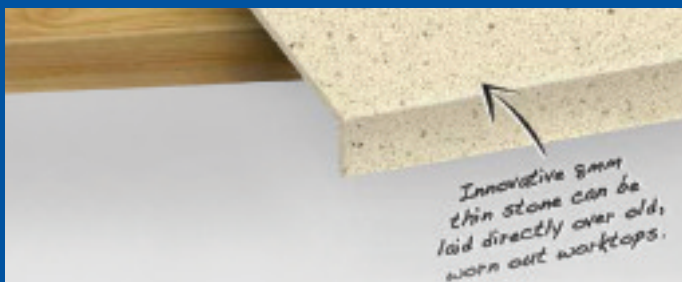


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Still no date for power line decision

A DECISION on which route a massive power line should take through North Somerset is still to be announced, with National Grid unable to say when the decision will eventually be made.

The energy giant plans to install the 400,000 volt, 37-mile line, complete with 150ft pylons, to link a planned new power station at Hinkley C, near Bridgwater, with a substation in Avonmouth.

Consultation on the plans began in October 2009 and National Grid has said it is still analysing the responses given by interested parties as well as the best route for the line.

An announcement on the path the line will take was due to be announced in autumn 2010 before the date was put back until early this year.

A National Grid spokesman has now said

they still do not know when a decision will be announced.

The plans for the power line caused uproar when they were announced in 2009, with residents, campaign groups, councillors and politicians calling for cables to be placed underground rather than installing huge pylons across the countryside.

National Grid proposed a choice of two route corridors for the line, travelling to either the east of Nailsea, near Backwell, or to the west near Tickham.

Once the energy company has announced its decision, the final say on whether the proposals can go ahead will be made by the Government's Infrastructure Planning Commission.

Enterprising help for the redundant

Report by **SAMANTHA POPE**

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ENTREPRENEURS can receive support from a new club set up in Clevedon to help people who have been made redundant.

Clevedon Enterprise Club, the first of its kind in the UK, has been created as part of an initiative by Job Centre Plus and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) to give people the help they need to set up their own firms.

Now, the club is looking for those who have started their own business to visit and share their knowledge.

FSB member of Clevedon-based Dart Digital, Steve Sharp, said: "Due to the current economic climate, a lot of people, but particularly those in their 40s and 50s, are finding themselves being made redundant from careers they have been following all their lives.

"They are then faced with the daunting task of getting back into work where, on average, 35 people are chasing each new role.

"That's where the enterprise club comes in. It shows people that there is another alternative - working for yourself."

The Clevedon Enterprise Club is free to attend and meets twice a month, welcoming speakers on a range of topics including business plans, basic accounting, bookkeeping, funding, website use, marketing and networking.

One person who has already benefited from the club is 53-year-old Gary Wooten, a management accountant from Clevedon, who was made redundant three months ago.

After struggling to find a job, he found out about the club and eventually set up as a freelance bookkeeper.

Gary said: "The club gave me the con-



▲ Members of the new Clevedon Enterprise Club.

fidence I needed to set up on my own and by talking to others I soon found a niche."

Clevedon Enterprise Club meets on the second and third Friday of each month from 9.30am-12.30pm at Dart

Services, 12a Hill Road. For more details contact Steve Sharp at steve@dart-digital.co.uk or on 01275 799777, or Chris Long at chris.long1@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk or on 01275 515513.



Students' showcase

PARENTS and visitors were treated to an impressive display of art at Backwell School.

The school held an art exhibition and open evening to showcase the work of the school's A-level students.

Art, photography and graphics students showed off their work and explained the motivation behind their creations.

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