



WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18th January 2022 at 7.00 pm at Williton Pavilion, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors Payne (Chairman), Hooper, Nye and Peeks
Public 34 Members of the Public
Clerk Michelle Francis

Apologies:

Councillors Aldridge, Cook, Denton, Howes, Johnson, Naylor, White,

Before the start of the meeting, the Chairman advised attendees the format of the meeting and confirmed that Williton Parish Council was a Statutory Consultee for Planning on an advisory basis only and the Somerset West and Taunton Council would make the final decision. Details were given out on how comments could be made to the Planning Authority

- 21/268 The Chairman advised that the meeting would be recorded**
- 21/269 Apologies were noted as above.**
- 21/270 Declarations of Interest.**
- There were none
- 21/271 Presentation from Cllr Peeks with an explanation of the outline Planning Application 3/39/21/028**
- Cllr Peeks gave a PowerPoint presentation on the above Planning Application.
- 21/272 The meeting was adjourned to hear comments from members of the public**
- 21/273 Public Participation**
- Members of the Public were invited to speak for three minutes giving their views on the application. Representations were made from 12 members of the public.
- 21/274 The meeting was reconvened**
- 21/275 To consider the following planning application**

Application No	Location	Details
3/39/21/028	Land north of Transmitting Station, Washford, Watchet, TA23 0JD	Installation of a ground mounted solar farm with battery storage and associated development

Comments:

A discussion took place where each Councillor gave their views on the application; the main points raised were:

- Effect on appearance of surrounding landscape
- Accumulative effect with Bye Farm
- Effect of users and enjoyment of Rights of Way
- Loss of grade 2 and 3a Agriculture land
- Loss of employment
- Adverse impact on tourism and potential loss of tourist spending in this area
- Adverse effects on local listed buildings, St Decumans Church, Kentsford Farm, Barns at Washford and Tropiquaria
- Lack of information – access visibility splays, no design of buildings
- No justification as to why this site had been chosen
- Close proximity to Hinkley Point
- Concern regarding ecology and environment

After a proposal from Cllr Hooper, seconded by Cllr Nye, it was unanimously **resolved** to object to the application based on the observations above. A response would be formulated to include legislation and forwarded to Somerset West and Taunton Council.

It was further resolved a copy of the objection would be displayed in the Parish office window and published on the Parish Council website.

Meeting closed at 8.43pm

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Payne Dated 7th February 2022