



**South Somerset
District Council**

Informal Discussion by Members of Area South Committee

Wednesday 8th April 2020

2.00 pm

**A virtual consultative meeting via
Zoom meeting software**

The following members are requested to attend this virtual consultation meeting:

John Clark
Nicola Clark
Karl Gill
David Gubbins
Peter Gubbins
Kaysar Hussain
Andy Kendall

Mike Lock
Pauline Lock
Tony Lock
Graham Oakes
Wes Read
David Recardo
Gina Seaton

Peter Seib
Alan Smith
Jeny Snell
Andy Soughton
Rob Stickland

There are no planning applications to consider this month.

Any members of the public wishing to address the virtual consultative meeting during Public Question Time, need to email democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk by 9.00am on Tuesday 7 April.

For further information on the items to be discussed, please contact:
democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk

This Agenda was issued on Tuesday 31 March 2020.

Alex Parmley, Chief Executive Officer

**This information is also available on our website
www.southsomerset.gov.uk and via the mod.gov app**

Information for the Public

In light of the Coronavirus (COVID – 19), and the Government’s announcement to avoid social contact to help prevent the spread of the virus, a number of SSDC decision making meetings have been postponed and may continue to be postponed in the future.

At the meeting of Full Council on Thursday 19th March 2020 it was agreed to extend the delegation of all Executive and Quasi Judicial decisions listed in the Constitution to the Chief Executive and to the relevant Director in the Chief Executive’s absence where not already delegated, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (or Deputy) and the relevant Portfolio Holder, Ward Member and Committee Member if practicable to ensure that the Council can continue to operate, if meetings of the relevant committee are unable to be held.

This was the full decision taken:

1. That Council agreed the following changes be made to the Council’s Constitution:
 - a) To amend Part 3, Responsibility for Functions, Sections 3 and 4 of the Council’s Constitution to allow delegated authority to the Chief Executive, and to the relevant Director in the Chief Executive’s absence where not already delegated, to take Executive and Quasi-Judicial decisions in consultation with the Leader of the Council (or Deputy) and the relevant Portfolio Holder, Ward Member and Committee Member if practicable, if meetings of the relevant committee are unable to be held;
 - b) If legislation and technology allows, then enable Councillors to make decisions by remote, virtual meetings using available technology.
 - c) That delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer and Chief Executive to amend the Constitution to reflect any further changes that are required as a direct result of Government Legislation /Guidance resulting from the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.
 - d) These changes in procedure will cease when the Government announces that the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis is over and when normal meetings can resume.
 - e) That these changes in procedure be reviewed in 3 months time.

To enable the decision making process to continue, it is proposed that Councillors continue to receive decision-making reports and meet using virtual meeting teleconferencing technology and debate the reports. They will form a view which will be communicated to the Chief Executive. The decision will be formally made by the Chief Executive (or relevant Director). This is because current legislation states that Councillors must be ‘present and voting’ to cast their vote on an Executive or Quasi-Judicial decision.

Area South Committee

Meetings of the Area South Committee are usually held monthly, usually at 2.00pm, on the first Wednesday of the month. However during the coronavirus pandemic these meetings will be held remotely via Zoom.

Agendas and minutes of meetings are published on the council's website
www.southsomerset.gov.uk/councillors-and-democracy/meetings-and-decisions

Agendas and minutes can also be viewed via the mod.gov app (free) available for iPads and Android devices. Search for 'mod.gov' in the app store for your device, install, and select 'South Somerset' from the list of publishers, then select the committees of interest. A wi-fi signal will be required for a very short time to download an agenda but once downloaded, documents will be viewable offline.

Public participation at meetings (held via Zoom)

Public question time

We recognise that these are challenging times but we still value the public's contribution to our virtual consultative meetings. If you would like to participate and contribute in the meeting, please join on-line through Zoom at: <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 775 475 691

Meeting Password: 016384

You will need an internet connection to do this.

The period allowed for participation in Public Question Time shall not exceed 15 minutes except with the consent of the Chairman and members of the Committee. Each individual speaker shall be restricted to a total of three minutes.

If you would like to address the virtual consultative meeting during either Public Question Time or regarding a Planning Application, please email democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk by 9.00am on **Tuesday 7 April 2020**. When you have registered, the Chairman will invite you to speak at the appropriate time during the virtual meeting.

Virtual meeting etiquette:

- Consider joining the meeting early to ensure your technology is working correctly.
- Please note that we will mute all public attendees to minimise background noise. If you have registered to speak during the virtual meeting, the Chairman will un-mute your microphone at the appropriate time.
- Each individual speaker shall be restricted to a total of three minutes.
- When speaking, keep your points clear and concise.
- Please speak clearly – the Councillors are interested in your comments.

Recording and photography at council meetings

Recording of council meetings is permitted, however anyone wishing to do so should let the Chairperson of the meeting know prior to the start of the meeting. The recording should be overt and clearly visible to anyone at the meeting, but non-disruptive. If someone is recording the meeting, the Chairman will make an announcement at the beginning of the meeting.

Any member of the public has the right not to be recorded. If anyone making public representation does not wish to be recorded they must let the Chairperson know.

The full 'Policy on Audio/Visual Recording and Photography at Council Meetings' can be viewed online at:

<http://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/documents/s3327/Policy%20on%20the%20recording%20of%20council%20meetings.pdf>

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Agenda

Preliminary Items

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's current Code of Conduct (as amended 26 February 2015), which includes all the provisions relating to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), personal and prejudicial interests, Members are asked to declare any DPI and also any personal interests (and whether or not such personal interests are also "prejudicial") in relation to any matter on the Agenda for this meeting.

Members are reminded that they need to declare the fact that they are also a member of a County, Town or Parish Council as a Personal Interest. Where you are also a member of Somerset County Council and/or a Town or Parish Council within South Somerset you must declare a prejudicial interest in any business on the agenda where there is a financial benefit or gain or advantage to Somerset County Council and/or a Town or Parish Council which would be at the cost or to the financial disadvantage of South Somerset District Council.

Planning Applications Referred to the District Council's Regulation Committee

The following members of this Committee are also members of the Council's Regulation Committee:

Councillors Peter Gubbins, Tony Lock, David Recardo and Andy Soughton.

Where planning applications are referred by this Committee to the Regulation Committee for determination, Members of the Regulation Committee can participate and vote on these items at the Area Committee and at Regulation Committee. In these cases the Council's decision-making process is not complete until the application is determined by the Regulation Committee. Members of the Regulation Committee retain an open mind and will not finalise their position until the Regulation Committee. They will also consider the matter at Regulation Committee as Members of that Committee and not as representatives of the Area Committee.

- 3. Public Question Time**
- 4. Chairman's Announcements**

Items for discussion

- 5. Keyford Sustainable Urban Extension s106 Agreement, Application 15/01000/OUT (Pages 7 - 13)**
- 6. iAero Centre Update Report (Pages 14 - 15)**

7. **Area South Forward Plan** (Pages 16 - 17)
8. **Planning Appeals (For Information)** (Page 18)

Please note that members of the Area Committee will make a recommendation on the above reports. The decision will be taken by the Chief Executive.