



**South Somerset  
District Council**

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# **Informal Discussion by Members of Regulation Committee**

**Tuesday 17th August 2021**

**11.00 am (please note change of start time)**

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

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

Jason Baker  
Neil Bloomfield  
Malcolm Cavill  
Adam Dance  
Peter Gubbins

Sarah Dyke  
Tony Lock  
Sue Osborne  
Crispin Raikes  
Andy Soughton

David Recardo  
Paul Rowsell  
Linda Vjeh  
William Wallace

Any members of the public wishing to view the meeting, or address the virtual consultative meeting during either Public Question Time or regarding a Planning Application, must email [democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk) by 9.00am on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

For further information on the items to be discussed, please contact: [democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk)

This meeting will be streamed and viewable online at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSDst3IHGj9WoGnwJGF\\_soA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSDst3IHGj9WoGnwJGF_soA)

This Agenda was issued on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

**Nicola Hix,**  
*Director (Support Services & Strategy)*

**This information is also available on our website  
[www.southsomerset.gov.uk](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk) or via the mod.gov app**

## Information for the Public

In light of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), Regulation Committee will meet virtually via video-conferencing to consider reports. As of 7 May 2021 some interim arrangements are in place for committee meetings.

At the meeting of Full Council on 15 April 2021 it was agreed to make the following changes to the Council's Constitution:

- a) To continue to enable members to hold remote, virtual meetings using available technology;
- b) To amend Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council's Constitution to allow those remote meetings to function as consultative bodies and delegate decisions, including Executive and Quasi-Judicial decisions, that would have been taken by those meetings if the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 had continued in force to the Chief Executive (or the relevant Director in the Chief Executive's absence) in consultation with those meetings and those members to whom the decision would otherwise have been delegated under Part 3 of the Constitution;
- c) The delegated authority given under (b) will expire on 31 July 2021 unless continued by a future decision of this Council;

For full details and to view the report please see -

<https://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&MId=2981&Ver=4>

Further to the above, at the meeting of Full Council on 8 July 2021, it was agreed to extend the arrangements for a further 6 months to 8 January 2022.

For full details and to view the report please see -

<https://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&MId=3033&Ver=4>

## Regulation Committee

Meetings of the Regulation Committee are usually held monthly, at 10.00am, on the third Tuesday of the month (unless advised otherwise). 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](http://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> You will need an internet connection to do this.

Please email [democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk) for the details to join the meeting

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](mailto:democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk) by 9.00am on 16th August 2021. 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.

### **Planning Applications**

***It is important that you register your request to speak at the virtual meeting by emailing [democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@southsomerset.gov.uk) by 9.00am 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021. When you have registered, the Chairman will invite you to speak at the appropriate time during the virtual meeting.***

Comments about planning applications will be dealt with at the time those applications are considered, rather than during the Public Question Time session.

Comments should be confined to additional information or issues, which have not been fully covered in the officer's report. Members of the public are asked to submit any additional documents to the planning officer at least 72 hours in advance and not to present them to the Committee on the day of the meeting. This will give the planning officer the opportunity to respond appropriately. Information from the public cannot be tabled at the meeting. It should also be noted that, in the interests of fairness, the use of presentational aids (e.g. PowerPoint) by the applicant/agent or those making representations will not be permitted. However, the applicant/agent or those making representations are able to ask the Planning Officer to include photographs/images within the officer's presentation subject to them being received by the officer at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. No more than 5 photographs/images either supporting or against the application to be submitted. The Planning Officer will also need to be satisfied that the photographs are appropriate in terms of planning grounds.

At the committee chairman's discretion, members of the public are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each and where there are a number of persons wishing to speak they should be encouraged to choose one spokesperson to speak either for the applicant or on behalf of

any supporters or objectors to the application. The total period allowed for such participation on each application shall not normally exceed 15 minutes.

The order of speaking on planning items will be:

- County Council, Town or Parish Council Representative
- Objectors
- Supporters
- Applicant and/or Agent

Ward members, if not members of the Regulation Committee, will speak after the town/parish representative.

In exceptional circumstances, the Chairman of the Committee shall have discretion to vary the procedure set out to ensure fairness to all sides.

### **If a Councillor has declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) or a personal and prejudicial interest**

In relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, a Councillor is prohibited by law from participating in the discussion about the business on the agenda that relates to this interest and is also required to leave the room whilst the relevant agenda item is being discussed.

Under the new Code of Conduct adopted by this Council in July 2012, a Councillor with a personal and prejudicial interest (which is not also a DPI) will be afforded the same right as a member of the public to speak in relation to the relevant business and may also answer any questions, except that once the Councillor has addressed the Committee the Councillor will leave the room and not return until after the decision has been made.

### **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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# Regulation (Informal)

**Tuesday 17 August 2021**

## Agenda

### *Preliminary Items*

**1. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of previous meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (Informal Meeting).

**2. Apologies for Absence**

**3. 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.

**4. Public Question Time**

**5. Planning Application 21/01785/S73A Clapton Farm Solar Park Land At Clapton Farm House Tinkers Lane (Pages 6 - 14)**

**6. Date of next meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Regulation Committee (Informal) will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 at 10.00am. However this meeting will only take place if there is business to conduct.