

Chief Executive Decision

Planning Application 20/02315/S73A - Solar Site, Land OS 0034, Bowden Lane, Henstridge

Executive Portfolio Holder Henry Hobhouse, Chairman of Area East Committee
Director: Netta Meadows, Director Service Delivery
Lead Officer: Trudy Gallagher, Specialist Principal Planner
Contact Details: Trudy.gallagher@southsomerset.gov.uk

Purpose of the Report

To confirm the recommendation of the Area East Committee Chairman relating to the Planning Application 20/02315/S73A Solar Site Land OS 0034 Bowden Lane, Henstridge

Public Interest

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 could continue to operate, if meetings of the relevant committee were unable to be held due to the ongoing coronavirus restrictions.

Decision Taken

The Chief Executive, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Area East Committee plus the ward members, made the following decision:

That planning Application 20/02315/S73A be APPROVED, in line with the officer recommendation and the conditions set out in the report. In line with Members wishes I ask that planning officers request the applicant agree **to restrict the field of vision of the CCTV cameras** to ensure they only point inwards into the site, for the reason set out below:

Further I request that for all future applications for solar energy sites that consideration be given to a standard condition relating to the field of vision of associated CCTV to ensure the privacy of neighbouring properties.

Reason:

The proposal to install additional CCTV camera system in association with the existing solar array development for the same temporary period as the solar park itself would respect the character of the area and would cause no demonstrable harm to landscape character and visual amenity, neighbour amenity, highway safety, flood risk or biodiversity. As such, the proposal is in accordance with the aims and objectives of the NPPF and Policies SD1, EQ1, EQ2, EQ4, EQ5, EQ7, TA5 and TA6 of the South Somerset Local Plan.

Background

To enable the decision making process to continue, it was agreed that Councillors continue to receive decision-making 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) during the current coronavirus restrictions.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications on the Council.

Background Papers

Officer Report: Planning Application 20/02315/S73A Solar Site, Land OS 0034, Bowden Lane, Henstridge.