

## Davidstow Parish Council Minutes

**Date of Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020. Videoconference  
**Attendees:** Andrew McKersie, Julie Dowton, Mark Wakefield, Phil Potter  
**Apologies:** None received  
**Lightsourcebp / Saputo** Nicola Jones, Simon Chamberlyne, Richard Jones, Kurt Foy

Item	Action	With who	Target completion	Status
1.	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b> – None declared			
2.	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>PA20/02612 – Land South West of Saputo Dairy UK, Davidstow. Installation of a Solar Farm and associated infrastructure, including a battery storage facility and underground electricity connection to Saputo Dairy UK.</b></p> <p>Mr Simon Chamberlyne, on behalf of Lightsourcebp, provided a summary of the proposed development.</p> <p>It was noted that the location was relatively well suited for a development of this type as the topography generally prevented views of the solar panels from more distant locations. Mr Hunt of Tremain stated that, in his professional view, the scheme reflected a good technical application of solar power.</p> <p>However, councillors expressed concern about the effect on residents adjacent to the development. Lightsourcebp advised that they had written to all affected neighbours offering discussions but no communication had been received back.</p> <p>Plans for planting hedges on the western and southern edges of the site were designed to provide screening for properties. Councillors pointed out that properties to the North of the site would not benefit from the screening and it was proposed that a condition should be added to any approval requiring additional screening to be planted.</p>			

<p>Councillors also noted that previous screening schemes had failed because of a lack of maintenance and concluded a condition should be included to require maintenance of the planting and replacement of any dead trees to ensure that the planting had its desired effect.</p> <p>Councillors enquired if further development was planned in adjacent fields. Mr Jones for Saputo responded that nothing was planned.</p> <p>Councillors expressed concern that there had been damage to archaeological sites during previous ground works. Lightsourcebp were asked to explain how they would manage the development in a sympathetic way to minimise impact. Councillors noted that the Cornwall Council archaeologist had requested conditions be attached to any approval to address the same issue. Lightsourcebp explained their approach and also referred Councillors to the geophysical survey that had been undertaken.</p> <p>Councillors advised Lightsourcebp that they should review their proposed grazing regime and replace the current lowland scheme with a more appropriate upland one.</p> <p>In response to a point raised by Mr Gettings of Inny Vale, councillors again discussed the level of local engagement. It was noted that many residents had not received a mailshot sent to all residents within a 5km radius of the site (NB: post meeting Lightsourcebp advised that the mailshot had gone to residents within 2km of the site). The view was expressed that Lightsoucebp should not be relying on the public consultation event which took place 18 months previously and for a different proposal. Councillors agreed that it would be appropriate to ask Cornwall Council to assure themselves that satisfactory levels of consultation had been undertaken prior to granting any approval of the scheme.</p> <p>After discussion, Councillors voted to approve the development, subject to conditions on extra screening, maintenance of the screening and asking Cornwall Council to review the adequacy of public and local resident consultation.</p>			
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