

CHIPPENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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CHIPPENHAM
ELY
CAMBS
CB7 5PR

PARISH CLERK: MRS SALLY HUGHES

12th July 2022

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol

Dear Sirs

Chippenham Parish Council - Sunnica Development Consent Order Application Timetable
Your Ref: EN010106
Unique ID: 20031117

I write on behalf of Chippenham Parish Council who are members of the Parish and Town Council Alliance and support the Say No To Sunnica Action Group Ltd. We are responding to the letter dated 28th June concerning the arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting and Proposed Examination Timetable. The Parish Council met on 11th July 2022 and agreed the following:
To support the letter submitted by Say No To Sunnica Action Group Ltd in relation to this matter and in addition to make the following requests:

Attendance at Meeting on 26th July – Nicholas Wright a member of Chippenham Parish Council would like to attend the meeting in person and speak on behalf of the council. He would wish to speak on the following issues:

Comments on Examination Procedure

Having reviewed the proposed examination timetable we would ask that the deadline for Written Representations (WR) be moved from 30th August to 20th September 2022 for the following reasons:

1. We do not hold a Parish Council meeting in August and we have already held our July meeting. Members of the Parish Council are away at different times during August and even if we were able to complete a Written Representation by 30th August, we would not be able to assemble a quorum of councillors to approve the submission due to prearranged commitments.
2. We are aware of the difficulties this tight timetable will cause the professional advisors working with the Action Group. This will unfairly hinder the presentation of their case.
3. The Applicant's completed DCO Application is not finalised. We should be granted time to consider this in detail when it is submitted so we can adequately deal with the material alterations in our Written Representation.

4. Our village survey in October 2019 showed that 92% of our community were in favour of solar, but 93% were against the Applicants proposal. We must be allowed adequate time to prepare and sign off our WR and cannot do this during the month of August.

In the interests of receiving the best quality representations to aid the inquiry we ask that the 20th September date is adopted.

We consider there are other timelines scheduled for 17th August and 30th August that will be difficult to comply with effectively. These should also be extended in line with the 20th September. They are listed below:

17th August

1. Comments on Relevant Representations (RR)
2. Summaries of RR's exceeding 1,500 words

30th August

1. Initial Statements of Common Ground
2. Statement of Commonality
3. Responses to ExA's written questions
4. Responses to comments on RR's
5. Comments on Applicants draft itinerary
6. Comments on additional submissions

Request to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meetings

Cllr Nicholas Wright, a member of Chippenham Parish Council, would like to attend the meeting in person and he would wish to speak on the proposed timetable of the examination.

Open Floor Hearings

We would like to register the right for Nicholas Wright of Chippenham Parish Council to speak at the Open Floor Hearing.

Issue Specific Hearings

We suggest the following issue specific hearings based on the appropriateness, proportionality, or efficacy of the proposals.

1. Agricultural Land Classification (ALC). We have concerns that the ALC report submitted on behalf of Sunnica does not reflect the land quality we know surrounds our village. This issue must be thoroughly examined.
2. The Carbon lifecycle of the Sunnica Proposal
3. The unsatisfactory consultation process carried out by the Applicant throughout.

We would like to reserve the right to speak at any specific hearing covering the above.

Suggested locations for Site Inspections

1. Moulton Manor reservoir.
2. Brookside Stud
3. Bassingbourn and Badlingham Farms Chippenham

4. Icknield Way between Elms Road and Worlington.
5. Access routes – including Elms Road, Chippenham High Street, and New Street
6. Agricultural land at Isleham
7. Elms Road Permanent Caravan and Mobile Home Park
8. Views to Chippenham Fen from Park Farm on Chippenham Snailwell Road
9. The Limekilns Gallops

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Yours faithfully

Sally Hughes

Parish Clerk

On behalf of Chippenham Parish Council

Sunnica Energy Farm Proposed Layout

