

**Byers Gill Solar
EN010139**

8.4.12 Statement of Common Ground with Stillington and Whitton Parish Council

Planning Act 2008

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms
and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Volume 8

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Revision 1



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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared to support the Examination of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Byers Gill Solar (the Proposed Development).
- 1.1.2. This SOCG has been prepared jointly by **RWE (the Applicant)** and the **Stillington and Whitton Parish Council (SWPC)** in order to clearly identify the current position of the respective parties on specific matters that are, or have been, under discussion. It seeks to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where there are points of agreement between the parties and where agreement has not been reached to date. It therefore aids the ExA in identifying any specific issues that may need to be addressed during the Examination and provides a structure to any further discussions for the parties engaged in the SoCG.
- 1.1.3. This document has been prepared in response to a specific request from the ExA as per the Rule 6 Letter [PD-003] issued on 25 June 2024.

1.2. Terminology

- 1.2.1. Section 2 of this document sets out the relevant matters raised through discussion between the parties. It provides a summary of the position of each party and identifies the status of discussions on each matter:
- “Agreed” means that a matter has been resolved between the parties and is not anticipated to be subject to further discussion;
 - “Under discussion” means that a matter remains in active dialogue between the parties and a final position has not been reached;
 - “Not agreed” means that the parties have established a final position that they cannot resolve the matter and will remain a point of difference.
- 1.2.2. In accordance with the request from the ExA in the Rule 6 Letter [PD-003], a **Low**, **Medium** and **High** ‘traffic light’ system is applied to each matter to indicate the likelihood of their resolution during the Examination period.

1.3. Status of this document

- 1.3.1. This document is currently in draft form and is unsigned.
- 1.3.2. When a final position has been reached on all matters, the respective parties shall sign the SoCG and submit it into the Examination as final and signed.

2. Current position

- 2.1.1. The table below provides a summary of the current position of the Applicant and SWPC in relation to specific matters that have been under discussion to date.
- 2.1.2. Where a matter is not represented in the table, it should be assumed that it is either: (i) agreed between the parties and has never required detailed discussion; or, (ii) not relevant to the discussion between the parties.
- 2.1.3. Appendix A of this document provides a record of engagement undertaken between the parties in relation to the Proposed Development. This is limited to engagement which is materially relevant to the contents of this SoCG and does not seek to include every correspondence between the parties (e.g. that which was primarily administrative).

Table 1 Current position of matters relevant to the parties' discussions

Row ID	Topic	SWPC Position	Applicant Position	Status
SW1	Traffic and transport	The members of Stillington and Whitton Parish Council are concerned that the Byers Gill development will bring a significant number of additional heavy goods vehicles to the area which will add pressure to an already poor highway infrastructure. The roads in and around Stillington and Whitton and the surrounding area are not in very good condition at the moment and this additional traffic will make the existing problems of ruts and potholes worse. The roads are relatively narrow in places and there are serious safety issues caused by the quantity of HGV's that currently pass through the area and the size of these vehicles. There is concern that a development of this scale will make all of these problems worse and this will have a direct negative impact on the quality of life of our residents.	ES Figure 12.1 [APP-099] shows the routing and access points during construction for each panel area. It is not proposed to use roads through Stillington and Whitton for access during construction, with routing for all panel areas to come from the west of the Proposed Development. The assessment reported in ES Chapter 12 Traffic and Transport [APP-035] concludes that there would be no significant effects arising from the Proposed Development in relation to traffic and transport. ES Appendix 12.1 Transport Statement (Document Reference 6.4.12.1) identifies that staff trips will be mainly made by minibuses, while deliveries of construction materials and plant will mainly be made by HGVs. During the construction phase, it is expected that there would be approximately 45 staff trips per day made by minibuses and an average of 6 HGV deliveries per Panel Area (12 movements).	Under discussion

			<p>RWE understands that SWPC would like to discuss the points above further, with the following two queries provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What sanctions are proposed if access is not via the designated routes?• What times of day will the 45 staff trips be made, will effort be made to avoid the main access and egress times from Stillington Industrial Estate? <p>RWE will liaise with SWPC to discuss this matter in further detail and the parties will together provide an update on these discussions at a future deadline of the Examination.</p>	
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A.1 Record of Engagement

Date	Method of engagement	Purpose / Description
02/11/2022 - 04/11/2022	Co-design workshops	Some SWPC members attended co-design workshops
06/04/2023	Project newsletter	Newsletter issued to co-design workshop invitees to provide update on application.
05/2023 – 06/2023	Statutory consultation	SWPC notified of statutory consultation
03/11/2023	Letter	Letter to outline changes to the design of the Proposed Development and proposed changes to the community benefit fund. Invitation to meet with the Applicant to discuss further