

REGULATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Regulation Committee held in the Wyndham Room -
County Hall, Taunton, on Thursday, 2 February 2017 at 2.00 pm

Present: Cllr A Bown, Cllr Coles, Cllr D Loveridge, Cllr T Lock, Cllr D Ruddle, Cllr
T Venner, Cllr N Woolcombe-Adams (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr D Yeomans (Chairman)

Other Members present: None

Apologies for absence: Cllr D Hill

215 **Declarations of Interest** - Agenda Item 2

Cllr A Bown	Member of Sedgemoor District Council
Cllr S Coles	Member of Taunton Deane Borough Council
Cllr T Lock	Member of South Somerset District Council Member of Yeovil Town Council
Cllr D Loveridge	Member of Sedgemoor District Council Member of Bridgwater Town Council
Cllr D Ruddle	Member of South Somerset District Council Member of Somerton Town Council
Cllr T Venner	Member of West Somerset District Council
Cllr N Nigel Woolcombe-Adams	Member of Mendip District Council
Cllr D Yeomans	Member of South Somerset District Council Member of Curry Rivel Parish Council

216 **Accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2016** - Agenda Item 3

The Chairman signed the Minutes of the Regulation Committee held on 8
December 2016 as a correct record.

217 **Public Question Time** - Agenda Item 4

There were no public questions on matters falling within the remit of the
Committee that were not on the agenda. Questions or statements received
about matters on the agenda were taken at the time the relevant item was
considered during the meeting.

218 **Installation of Generator and Gas Compressor, Williton Landfill Site** - Agenda Item 5

(1) The Case Officer with reference to the report, supporting papers, and the use of maps, plans and photographs outlined the application for the installation of a generator and gas compressor at Williton Landfill site.

The Case officer informed the Committee that: the application site was in a valley, alongside a workshop; that the landfill had been used to deposit non-hazardous waste until since 2007; that landfill gas would be used to generate electricity for both use at the site and for any surplus to be exported; and that the gas is currently burned using the sites flare, meaning that if today's application were granted permission, no significant difference to air quality was expected.

The Case Officer also highlighted that the site had been granted permission for the installation of a generator in August 2002, but this was not implemented. The Committee were further informed: of the application sites proximity to the Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; that the Quantock Hills ANOB Service had highlighted that the proposed development must not be detrimental to the ANOB's special qualities; that the National Planning Policy Framework included protection for ANOB's; that the site was to the east of Williton; was 560m from the nearest residential property; and was screened by the landform and hedgerows.

(2) The Committee heard from Mr Andrews, a local resident, who referenced the Late Paper (Quantock Hills AONB team's consultation response) and spoke against the recommendations, and raised a number of points including: that he had been a local resident since 2008; that he was an enthusiastic walker; that the Coleridge Way and South West Coastal Path would be affected by the development; that the generator would produce greenhouse gasses; and that the development offered no benefit to local residents.

(3) The Committee heard from Cllr Hugh Davies, local Member, who raised a number of points including: that Williton is a village, not a town as included in the report; that the local Parish Council had not objected to the application; but that he felt sympathy for Mr Richards, and the points he raised.

(4) The Committee proceeded to debate during which a number questions were asked by Members to which the Case Officer replied. This included: why landfill operations have stopped at the site; the potential amount of electricity which could be generated; the duration for which electricity could be generated; the removal of trees planted to screen the landfill when operational; and responsibility for noise monitoring.

(5) The Service Manager – Planning Control, Enforcement and Compliance informed the Committee that additional monitoring could take place should any concerns regarding noise be raised.

(6) Cllr Tony Lock proposed the recommendations detailed in the officer report, and this was seconded by Cllr Nigel Woollcombe-Adams.

(7) The Committee resolved in respect of planning application no. 3/39/16/022

that planning permission be GRANTED subject to the conditions set out in section 8 of this report and that authority to undertake any minor non-material editing which may be necessary to the wording of those conditions be delegated to the Service Manager, Planning Control Enforcement & Compliance.

219 **Any Other Business of Urgency** - Agenda Item 6

(The meeting ended at 2.28 pm)

CHAIRMAN