St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council

Report #08.3

Island Green Power (IGP) Consultation

- 1. Purpose of the report
- 1.1. To invite the council to discuss the quality and inclusiveness of IGP's consultation on their Lime Down Solar Park proposal.
- 2. Background
- 2.1. Island Green Power (IGP) plan to submit its application for the Lime Down Solar Park to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in late September 2025. There will then be a period of 28 days when PINS must decide whether or not to accept the application. The major consideration affecting PIN's decision will be the quality of both the statutory and 'targeted' consultations undertaken by IGP.
- 2.2. The Member of Parliament for the South Cotswolds, Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Councillors for the wards most directly affected by the proposal and many local councils have already expressed dissatisfaction with the perceived numerous deficiencies in IGP's consultation process. Of particular concern is the restriction of the 'targeted' consultation to just statutory consultees. The organisation coordinating opposition to the IGP proposal has requested that to address this shortcoming there should be a further period of consultation to include members of the public.
- 2.3. A report drawing attention to these perceived deficiencies has been drawn up by the organisation coordinating opposition to the IGP proposal and will be sent to the Planning Inspectorate during September. It is considered important that the report reflects the views of key organisations and individuals on the deficiencies in the consultation process. It will strengthen the case if local councils affected by the IGP proposal added their name to the list in 2.2 above.
- 3. Options
- 3.1. To decline to add the council's name to the report.
- 3.2. To agree to add the council's name to the report.
- 4. Financial Implications
- 4.1. None.
- 5. Recommendation
- 5.1. The council is recommended to support Option 3.2.

Cllr Roger Budgen 9th August 2025