

# HAVE YOUR SAY

It's important everyone on the island has a voice. Please take a minute to tell us what you think, no later than **28 August**.

Fill in your comments below and hand in this sheet to: Caldwell's, Cumbrae Forum Shop, The Hub, The Library, The Premier or Webbs. If you need more forms in your household, spares will be held at each location. We won't keep your details, we will count positive/negative responses and pass on your comments to the Planning Team at North Ayrshire Council.

Alternatively, post this page to: Planning Services, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE.

Or email North Ayrshire Council at: [epanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:epanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk) (Quote Ref 22/00385/PP).

## Are you in favour of the solar farm on Cumbrae?

Yes

No

## What are your reasons?

Your name, *please print* \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

House/flat number \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_



# PLEASE TELL US YOUR VIEW SOLAR FARM APPLICATION



An application has been submitted to construct a solar farm at the top of Cumbrae, just below the Highest Point or Glaid Stone (Planning Application Ref 22/00385/PP). Although the application is basically a repeat of the one submitted in 2016, North Ayrshire Council will treat it as a new submission.

The Community Council is consulting you about this because it is our role to represent the community's opinion in planning applications.

## Why are we concerned?

While we support the move to a carbon neutral island and we are in favour of solar power, we have serious concerns about this particular application. We do not feel it would be in the right location for such a significant installation, and we feel it would have a negative impact on the island.

## What do we need from you?

Please give us just 5 minutes to read this summary and give us your view no later than **28 August**.

## What if I support this application?

Tell us. We are keen to have a genuinely representative view from the island community as well as those who would look onto the solar farm.

## Who can answer?

Anyone. We ask for your postcode so the planners know how much support/opposition there is from different places, on and off the island.

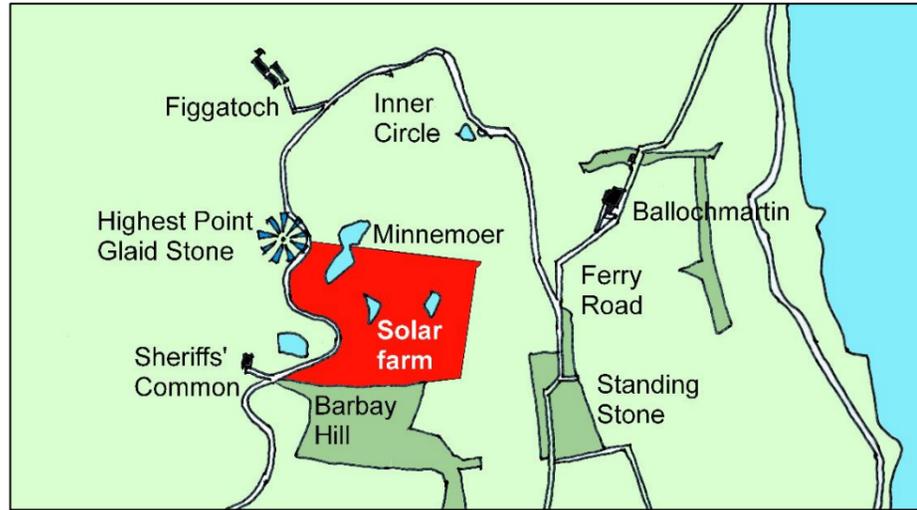


If you'd like to look at the planning application yourself, it is published on North Ayrshire's website.

Scan this QR code with a smart phone.

There is also a link on our website – [www.cumbrae.org](http://www.cumbrae.org)

# LOCATION



# KEY FACTS



Location

The site is by the Glaid Stone at the Highest Point of Cumbrae, a **local beauty spot** also visible to Largs and Fairlie.



22 x

The 37.8 acre solar farm would take up 1.3% of Cumbrae's land area. That is the same as **22 football pitches**.



Size

Each panel would be up to **3m high**. There would be **19,000 panels**.



Aspect

The land faces east and south-east, with some facing north.



25 years

Timescale

The 'temporary' solar farm would have the right to remain for **25 years**. Its construction would take up to eight months.



Economic benefit

An estimated 5MW would go direct into the national grid with **no benefit to the community**.

# MISSING INFORMATION

The application is for 'detailed' planning permission, but crucial information is missing which makes it impossible to fully understand proposals:



- How would it be built?** There are no elevations or sections through the solar farm itself showing the solar panel arrays and their supporting structure. This is a fundamental omission.
- What would happen to the power?** There is no detail as to how the power would get to the national grid. The options would be above ground pylons, or buried cables but what would this look like? What route would it take?
- What studies have been done?** How would rainfall run off from the panels affect the boggy moor? Would it cause run off down the hill to the road? The Environmental Report states hydrological and ecological surveys and assessments may be required, but gives no indication that these will be undertaken.

- What impact would its construction have on the island?** The proposed road 'improvements' and passing places which would need to be made to the Inner Circle are not detailed and are described as 'potential'. Are these intended? They would be a significant changes to the road. The application states construction would take up to eight months. This has the potential to cause disruption to ferry traffic.

- Many other details are missing:**
  - There is no information about the 2m-high perimeter fence.
  - There are no details about the design of the CCTV poles or cameras - which way they would they be pointing? What would their range be?
  - There are no details about the size/design of the communications mast.
  - There are no details about the design of the power converting units.
  - There are no details about the design of BESS transformer units.
  - The colours, materials and sizes of the buildings associated with the solar farm are described as 'indicative', making it unclear whether these are the intended designs.

**We will ask the planners to delay this application until these significant omissions have been rectified.**