



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday the 17th of August 2023 @ 7.30pm at Mortimer Methodist Church Hall, West End Road, Mortimer

Present

Councillors:

Cllr. D. Morsley (Chairman), Cllr. G. Bridgman, Cllr. D. Butler, Cllr. M. Dennett, Cllr. S. Hill, Cllr. D. Kilshaw, Cllr. M. Lock, Cllr. A. Richardson, Cllr. J. Wells.

Clerk:

Mrs. L. Hannawin.

Public/Press:

There were two members of the public present and no members of the press.

Part I

23/049 Public Questions (for agenda items only)

Not needed

23/050 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. N. Carter, H. Geary, and A. Noonan. Cllrs. A. Marsden and M. Shaw did not attend, and no apologies were received.

23/051 To receive any declarations of interest

To receive from Members at this point or at any point during the meeting, in respect of any items included on the agenda, disclosure of any interests in line with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and gifts and hospitality in line with Government legislation.

None.

23/052 Minutes of Last Meeting

To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council of the 13th of July 2023.

Resolved unanimously that these minutes be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

23/053 Items to be taken into private session

To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

Not needed.

23/054 Items for Consideration and Resolution

Mortimer to Burghfield Cycleway and Footpath

To discuss the costings received and resolve to continue with the project and the applications to various funding bodies.

Cllr. Morsley confirmed the recent cost estimate received of £955,655 was produced based on the detailed design and CAD/CAM drawings. In 2022, the cost of the project had been estimated as being in the order of £450,000 but this was given prior to the drawings being available. The detailed costings are needed for funding applications, including to Greenham Common Trust and for the recent application to the Good Exchange (GE) match funding platform. The GTC board are meeting to discuss the next round of funding in September. GTC have been informed of the change in predicted costs and the trustees will consider this new information accordingly.

Cllr. Butler presented the breakdown of costs and confirmed their accuracy due to them being based on a bill of quantities. However, the costs do include some allowance for unknown factors, such as the type of bridge wanted, and contingencies for work which may be needed as the project progresses. He estimated there is a potential saving to be made of 5%. In addition, Cllr. Bridgman confirmed that West Berkshire Council (WBC) have indicated that they may undertake the aspects of the project relating to highways and this could be up to £90,000.

Other options for a less formal footpath were discussed. This would be considered if necessary.

Cllr. Morsley reported that although the planning application for the project has been submitted and validated, to date no case officer has been appointed. A planning decision is not, therefore, expected until the end of October.

Cllr. Morsley proposed the resolution as above.

Seconded by Cllr. Kilshaw.

Resolved unanimously.

Cllr. Bridgman thanked Cllr. Morsley for her work to date on this project.

Cllr. Morsley congratulated Cllr. Bridgman on becoming an alderman and congratulated the Council on having two aldermen.

23/055 Exclusion of Press and Public

To pass a resolution under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting at Part II, items identified at 23/053 on the Agenda, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Not needed.

Close

The meeting closed at 20:40

Next meeting: September the 14th 2023.