

# Icklesham Parish Council

Minutes of the additional meeting held via video conference on

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7:15pm

**Present:** Councillors: Mrs Austen, Mrs Bradley, I Mcconnochie, Mrs Merricks, Mrs Lyward, T Moore, D Smedley, Mrs Stanford, H Sutton, S Tollett, P Turner (Chairman), N Warren

**In attendance:** Miss C Dyer (Clerk), Mrs J Cannings (Deputy Clerk), Cllr Norton (Rother) Members of the public were present

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**21/34 Item 1. The Chairman opened the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. He invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council.**

Mr Clarke discussed that he had stated at the start of the project that traffic calming was a Parish wide issue and that cost was always going to be a consideration. He noted that the new quotes being obtained may be lower but this detail was as yet unknown. He stated that a lot of work had been undertaken on the project to date and there had been a high number of residents in favour of the project. He went on to offer his help on this project if Council would like to request it.

Ms Taylor noted that she had been undertaking observations of the current traffic flow through Winchelsea over the preceding 3 months at various times of the day and noted that a high proportion of vehicles appeared to be travelling in excess of the speed limit. She went on to reference some costings which have been published by County Councils in relation to speed calming projects already undertaken. She went on to ask the Chairman if it was possible to have site of the brief which had been provided to the Contractors being approached for the most recent quotes. Cllr Turner advised that the quotations were being sought based on the brief which had been provided by ESCC and that this would be made available to the public. Ms Taylor concluded by offering her help on the project.

Ms Murphy spoke to note that she lives in Winchelsea and was speaking on behalf of Mothers and children from the school. She advised that she felt that it was not possible for her children to safely travel to school and that her child had almost been involved in a vehicle collision. She stated that she felt it was important that the Parish Council do something to address this.

Mr Justice noted his concerns regarding the escalating costs involved in the project and the design stage of the works especially in relation to the conservation status of the Ward. He stated that he felt that the Council need to be better informed in order to make a decision as current costs are only for the design stage of the project and do not include the construction phase. He also noted that he felt that the residents had not been properly informed on the project to date.

**21/35 Item 2. Apologies for absence.**

- a. To receive and record apologies for absence. *There were none.*
- b. To consider any requests for approval of reasons for absence, if any.  
Members are also asked to complete and sign the circulated sheet (circulated electronically.) *There were none.*

**21/36 Item 3. Disclosure of Interests – there were none.**

**21/37 Item 4. To consider and approve the signing by the Chairman of the attached minutes of the Council meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021. It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the full council meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

**Matters Requiring a Decision by the Council**

**21/38 Item 5. Winchelsea Speed Calming.**

Cllr Stanford discussed the need to factor in the cost of the Deputy Clerk's time in relation to the project. She went on to note that the Council needs to be mindful of what it is being spent on behalf of residents and that if the Council were proposing spending funds on speed calming works in Winchelsea then they could expect residents to request money towards resolving the problems with sewage and flooding in Winchelsea Beach and the pothole problems in Rye Harbour. She noted that she felt that costs should be known up front as if the costs of the works are too high that the money cannot be raised this could be wasted. She requested that a further opportunity to vote on the project should be put to the public before any further decisions are made.

***Following discussion Council resolved to reconfirm the resolution (Minute ref 19/124) made at the Full Council meeting of 11th November 2019, amended at the 9th March 2020 Full Council meeting (Minute ref 20/33) outlined below.***

"It was resolved to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £36,000 over the borrowing term of 25 years for phase 1 of a traffic calming scheme in Winchelsea to commission the preliminary design. The annual loan repayment (at the time of the meeting) will come to around £2,039.02. It is also intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments by 1.83 % which is the equivalent of an additional £2,039.02 a year (£1.66 for a band D council tax.) This will be/has been subject to precept consultation".

***Cllr Mrs Lyward objected. Cllrs Sutton, Lyward and Tollett abstained.***

- b) **Question 2.** *It was resolved by the Council to respond that it should be possible to complete the first phase of the scheme in the next 12 months and that the Council currently foresee no reasons that would change the current plans. It was however noted that these are subject to the Government continuing with their current timetable in relation to the relaxation of current Covid-19 restrictions.*

**Question 12.** *It was resolved to respond that Council were reasonably confident that the first phase of the scheme could be completed within the 12 months of the loan extension period.*

c) *It was resolved to form a working group in relation to the Winchelsea Speed Calming project.*  
It was agreed that this item be included on the full council agenda for 8<sup>th</sup> March for discussion.

**21/39 Item 6. Date and venue for next meeting.** The next full council meeting is confirmed as Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 via Zoom.

**Meeting closed at 20:07pm.**