

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Winsford Parish Council Held on Monday 14 November 2022, at 18.30pm in Winsford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Wilkins (CW) – Chair, Kevin Connell (KC), Mel Mileham (MM), Mike Hillier (MH), Ian Brooks (IB), Bryany Neal (BN), Sarah Little and Clerk Jennifer Yates (JY).

CW opened the meeting at 18.35pm.

57.1 Apologies for non-attendance - None

57.2 Declaration of Interests - None

57.3 To consider planning matters:

a. Planning Application 6/40/22/112 Location: MIDDLE GLEBE, WINSFORD, MINEHEAD, TA24 7JF

Proposal: Proposed installation of sewage treatment plant.

Following discussion and viewing of the plans the council agreed to support this application as it is viewed as an environmental improvement. It was noted that there did not appear to be provision made for the disposal of the 60 – 80 tonnes of evacuated material.

57.4 Village Swings – To consider tenders received towards the cost of the new swings for the Village, and associated arrangements re installation.

- IB reported back on the work he has carried out in gathering of information, requests for tenders and meeting with potential contractors. Eight firms were contacted and asked to submit tenders. Following site visits (also attended by Sue Hayes and Mike Hillier) and final submissions, two were brought forward to this meeting for discussion and agreement.
- Discussion took place with regard to the offers made by the respective companies, including differing arrangements for the installation/surfacing and the needs of the contractors with regard to site security, storage of materials etc. There were different lengths of guarantee offered, and these varied as to whether wood or metal was chosen. The projected lifespan of tubular metal frames was twice that of wooden, and the metal can be coloured to be more fitting/natural looking. The matting may need patching and will need to be extended.
- IB has made enquiries and established that planning permission is not required for the swing replacement.
- IB has been in discussion with the play equipment inspection company. Once the new swings have been installed they will need to carry out an inspection before the swings are used. MM pointed out that they had previously mentioned a rhododendron that is close by to the swings. Although the new swings will be

positioned slightly further away note has been taken that this shrub may need to be cut back or removed.

- The chains and seats are not included in the 30 year guarantee and will need replacing from time to time, the estimated life span would be 5 years.
- IB proposed that savings could be made by the council arranging for the removal of the old swings and preparation of the ground (eg the old post holes to be filled with topsoil). Mr Brooks and Mr Hillier have volunteered to help with this.

Following scrutiny of both tenders it was agreed that while they were similar in offer and price, but that Russell Play would best meet the needs of this project and therefore CW proposed, and KC seconded using this company – and this was unanimously agreed to. The additional matting required is included in their quote of £9092.50 excluding VAT and they are able to provide frames in British Racing Green.

CW thanked IB and MH for all of the hard work that has gone into this. Sue Hayes was also thanked and praised in her absence for the outstanding work she has put into raising the majority of funds (£7,400 so far) for this project in a relatively short time. This includes a recent donation from the George Joyce Trust of £1,000.

- Arrangements for finance were discussed. There is an outstanding amount from the reconnecting communities fund in the Parish Council account and CW proposed that this could be used to make up the slight shortfall in funds. He has been in communication with SALC and that money is not going to be reclaimed, and it would be appropriate to use it for a further community purpose. It was agreed that this will be taken to the Council meeting on 28th November for final approval, however it was agreed in principle with BN proposing and IB seconding.
- A further £1000 (approx.) will be needed to complete the required funds, but following discussion re upcoming events the councillors feel confident that Mrs Hayes will be able to raise this by the time the second installment is due for payment. It was agreed that it would be beneficial for the Council to have a copy of the fundraising record to create an audit trail of the donations, for the Council accounts audit.
- It was agreed that the funds will be paid into the Parish Council account and ringfenced for payment.
- It was agreed to put this on the agenda for 28th November to agree the spend of the remaining reconnecting communities grant and discuss plans for addressing the shortfall.

57.4 Date of Next meeting – Monday 28th November 2022 at 7.30 in Winsford Village Hall

There being no further business CW closed the meeting at 19.55pm.