

Haslingfield Parish Council Minutes – EGM

5 January 2021 – via Zoom

Attendees: Parish Cllrs Jenny Jullien (JJ) – Chair, Tony Adcock (TA); Helen Brown (HB); Andrew Gillies (AG); Lucian Hatfield (LH); Ben Mavely (BM); Diana Offord (DO); David Revell (DR); Jacqui Cressey – Parish Clerk (JC) and 22 members of the public.

Members: 8 Quorum: 4 Meeting commenced 7.30pm

- 1 Cllr (DR) explained the impact on the village if EWR choose the southern route alignment in their Option E area. He explained that the law provides for Judicial Review to challenge government plans under certain circumstances and the window of opportunity to do this is very limited. The next EWR Co. consultation is expected early in the new year. Cambridge Approaches are in discussions with lawyers Leigh Day and current estimates indicate that preparatory work may cost £5,000. If we go on to fight a legal case then costs might range from £50-£100k but are assumed at the moment to be £80,000. This sum is being split between the public (£30,000) and local parish councils (£50,000) apportioning the £50,000 between the four other most severely affected parishes in relation to their population. Cambridge Approaches are requesting £14,000 from Haslingfield Parish Council as a contribution towards the legal fighting fund. £1,000 of this sum will be required immediately to pay the lawyers so they can assess whether there is a reasonable chance of success in proceeding with a Judicial Review.

Cllr Jullien asked the councillors to vote on the following requests.

- To contribute £1,000 to Cambridge Approaches immediately to pay the Lawyers using the S.137 power of expenditure from the budget year 2020/21:
Proposed (TA) Seconded (DR) Majority supported.
- To commit to a pledge of £13,000 to be spent only if a Judicial Review proceeding is instigated: Under the S.137 power of expenditure a pledge of £3,000 from the budget year 2020/21 and a pledge of £4,000 from the budget year 2021/22. Before the funding can be paid over Cambridge Approaches will be required to give evidence to the parish council that they have taken out some form of protection against costs being awarded against them if the judicial review case was lost.
- The parish council will also support Cambridge Approaches to raise the additional £6,000 required from Haslingfield through community donations.

Proposed (LH) Seconded (DR) Majority Supported

Meeting Closed: 8.05pm

Date of next HPC monthly meeting: Monday 8 February 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Issued by the Parish Clerk: Jacqui Cressey 20 January 2021