**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF IDE PARISH COUNCIL**

TUESDAY 5TH APRIL 2016

 at 7.30 pm in Ide Memorial Hall

**Present**: Barry Hookins (BH) (Chair), Nick Bradley (NB), Peter Pattison, Chris Bishop, John Smart, Louise Watson (LW), Sarah Tiley, Peter Bishop (PB).

**In attendance**: Rose Saunders (Clerk), John Goodey (TDC), Alan Connett (DCC)

There were 22 members of the public present.

Prior to the commencement of the time allocated for public participation, Councillor Barry Hookins announced that he was standing down as Chairman of Ide Parish Council with immediate effect, after six years in the role. He will continue as a Parish Councillor.

Vice Chairman Nick Bradley agreed to chair the meeting.

Nick offered his personal thanks, and those on behalf of the Parish Council, for Barry’s diligence, loyalty and commitment to the village during his time as Chairman.

The ten minutes’ allocation for public participation would be extended only at the chairman’s discretion. The meeting would conclude at 9 p.m.

**Introduction**: The extraordinary meeting of Ide Parish Council had been called specifically to consider and agree the Parish Council’s submission to Devon County Council (DCC) in regard to the plans for a Park and Ride at Round Field.

There has been significant criticism of the level of consultation regarding the plans, with the detailed plans being published on 1st March 2016.

Following from this, on 9th March 2016, there was a Parish Meeting called by resident Peter Hayes, at which ten electors demanded a Parish Poll with the agreed question “Are you in favour of the proposed Park & Ride scheme at Round Field near Ide?”

The Poll took place on 31st March 2016 with the result of 41 in favour, 172 against, with a turnout of 49.07% of the electorate.

There has been considerable debate, before and after the poll, around the village, on social media, in the press and on TV.

**1 Apologies** – Cllr Andy Swain

**2 Declaration of interest** – none

**Public participation**:

*A member of the public queried the outcome of the meeting held with DCC on 31st March 2016.*

*Response (NB)* - Jamie Hulland agreed to go back and look into revising the traffic arrangement at the A30 roundabout; to remove the proposed bus lane up to and around the roundabout; to reduce the speed limit along the C50 to 30mph; to provide more cycle lockers; to consider the lighting of the Crabb Lane proposed cycle route; to consider placing the cycle route along the Green Route; safe access to the Alphington side of Old Ide Lane for cyclists to access Marsh Barton and beyond.

Nothing has yet been received in writing from Jamie Hulland. The consultation period is being extended – we are waiting to hear the details.

A member of the public asked if any formal or informal discussions had taken place with Dave Black – is the Park & Ride a “fait accomplit”?

*Responses (PB)* – had held a brief conversation with him about reducing the speed limit.

*(BH)* – had spoken with him informally and was told that Jamie Hulland was leading the project. No information was forthcoming.

A member of the publicclaimed that it was astounding that changes to the bus lane could be considered “at the last minute” and wonders if DCC are just going through the motions! Questioned their competency and finds their actions suspicious. Asked what is now the closing date for comments.

*Response (N Bradley)* – DCC have not identified funding to pay for this scheme and they are in no hurry. We didn’t know until 1st March what the application would look like.

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their efforts to date and thanked Barry for everything he has done for Ide during his time as Chairman. He asked if the Parish Council will guarantee that the result of the Parish Poll would be taken into account.

*Response (NB)* – confirmed that the result will be taken into account.

Alan Connett, Devon County Councillor for Ide, responded to the above comments by explaining about the period of consultation: that DCC will accept all comments until the end of May and these would be given the same weight as any received within the original timescale of 21st March. The planning committee meet on 15th June but Cllr Connett will seek to extend this to the July meeting.

He stressed that the Parish Council had never extended a view about the Park & Ride and had always advanced the case for Ide, especially the reduction to the speed limit and a safer entrance to the village.

Policy is to increase the Park & Ride numbers. The plans for an extra 2,500 houses in Alphington are being pushed forward – extra houses mean extra traffic. Exeter is an expanding city!

A member of the public voiced hisconcern that emails between the Parish Council and Jamie Hulland about the proposals had been referred to as positive.

*Response (P Bishop)* – Surprised that DCC felt positive considering the heated exchanges that had taken place.

**The period for public participation ended at 7.55 pm.**

**3 Consideration of comments for inclusion in Ide Parish Council’s submission to Devon County Council**

Councillors gave their views as summarised below. These will be taken into consideration, along with the result of the Parish Poll and the Councillors’ vote at this meeting, in formulating the submission to DCC. The chairman undertook to submit the decision to DCC within seven working days.

1. Traffic flow along the C50 road.

Andy Swain had undertaken an in-depth analysis of the traffic flow and DCC have accepted his results and will use them in their future calculations. Nick thanked Andy for his contributions.

2. Traffic flow into and on the Alphington Junction Roundabout.

DCC calculations were seen to be in some doubt. Possible inaccuracies.

3. Changes overall in the amount of traffic.

The Park & Ride is not seen as a way to ease congestion but to get more people into the city.

4. Bus lanes.

Difficult to see how the bus lanes as proposed could possibly work. Will cause even more congestion

5. Arrangements for lorries.

Unclear what the provision for lorries using the bus lane would achieve – could cause more problems for cars.

6. Impact of the car park itself.

Seen to be the site of least visual impact. Many residents were unaware that the Round Field existed!

7. Choice of site of the car park.

Too close to the city centre to be effective.

8. Lighting in car park.

It would be lit from 6.30 am to 7.30 pm with light monitoring systems in place.

9. Lighting at new roundabout serving car park.

The roundabout at the entrance to the Park & Ride would be lit 24/7. Cyclists would welcome any additional lighting in this currently dangerous area of road.

10. Potential for flooding.

The site is in Flood zone 1, on the same contour as Coronation Gardens. Tanking systems would be in place to ensure flooding was not a risk from run-off. There would also be controls in place for the removal of contaminants’ run-off.

11. Provision of new cycle routes.

The suggested Crabb Lane route would need so much work, at huge expense, to make it useable, & would need lighting to make it safe. No lone female would use it.

Access for cyclists to Old Ide Lane from the A30 roundabout is totally unsafe. DCC say they will look at other options but councillors have doubts that anything will improve as the cycle route is not within the planners’ remit.

“We shouldn’t need a Park & Ride to improve the cycle route”

12. Cycle cages in car park.

Lockers for just 8 cycles were insufficient. Should be encouraging cyclists.

13. Bus services for Ide residents.

This was an issue whereby a benefit to the village could be identified. It would provide a regular bus service for students and non-motorists able to walk to the site. Would this lead to a further reduction to the 360 service through Ide?

14. Use of car park by Ide residents.

Couldn’t envisage significant usage by Ide residents.

15. Proposed new roundabout at entrance to Ide village.

Could be safer and easier for cars to access the C50 but more dangerous for cyclists. Not part of the planning application so there are fears that if costs increase this could be dropped. This would affect the speed limit.

16. Proposed speed limits on C50.

Ide Parish Council has been trying for 10-15 years to get the speed limit reduced along the C50. Only by placing a roundabout at the entrance to the village could this happen.

17. Pocombe Bridge road junction.

Already a dangerous junction. The Park & Ride would attract more traffic from the west to turn onto the C50.

18. Altruistic view: potential for benefits to residents of Exeter, drivers who will use the P&R or others outside Ide.

No comment

19. Noise, light and air quality.

Fears of more pollution from extra cars backed up from A30. May be benefit from lower speed limit.

20. Urbanization along the Ide gap.

Will the A30 remain as a barrier or will the Park & Ride contribute to the threat of development? The development of the Springwell site is cause for concern.

21. Effects on wildlife, in particular dormice, bats and slow-worms.

The threat to wildlife needs further assessment. It is not enough to just plant more hedges!

Members took account of their discussions of these issues when deciding how to vote.

Other information:

There have been problems with the DCC web page whereby comments sent in by residents had not appeared. The IT department need to remedy this. Anyone wishing to ensure their comments are taken into account should either email planning@devon.gov.uk (you should receive an email to confirm receipt) or send a hard copy to the planning office. Reference number to quote is 3846/2016 – Round Field.

**Councillors voted by a show of hands:**

“Are you for or against the Park & Ride at Round Field?”

**Result – 7 votes against, 1 vote for**.

(Pete Bishop explained that personally he is against the scheme, but voted in favour in recognition of those residents for whom the benefits of the regular bus service outweigh the objections listed above.)

The meeting concluded at 9pm.

Minutes signed……………………………………………………………………. Date ………………………………………………….