

FULL COUNCIL DECEMBER 2024 – ITEM 18 COMMUNITY MATCH APPRAISAL

The Finance Committee discussed this item at great length. The extract from the draft minutes is below:

TO REVIEW THE ESCC COMMUNITY MATCH APPRAISAL FOR THE LAY-BY SCHEME IN MAYNARDS GREEN

Members reviewed in detail the information received from ESCC regarding the council's application appraisal review for:

All weather surface for school-run drop-off/pick-up. Grass verge B2203 north of Maynards Green Primary School on west side of the road – north of Barn Cottage access.

ESCC had stated within their report:

The provisional estimate for the cost of the works was over £120,000. As a result, it would be near to, or exceed, the top end of the Community Match threshold. With the uncertainties in the design at this stage it would not be possible for ESCC to be more accurate but, realistically, a sum in excess of the threshold should be anticipated. This means that a scheme of this nature would not be deliverable through the Community Match initiative. If the parish wished to progress with a scheme, it was recommended that they make enquiries into delivering it through a Section 278 Agreement with ESCC.

The following was noted:

- The scheme would use a large proportion of the council's CIL funds
- Further CIL funds were not guaranteed in the future, and it would be likely that the council would not be receiving large payments for the next few years
- It would require a huge amount of money for the benefit of a small proportion of the parish
- A contingency had not been built into the proposal
- If the location of the primary school moved in the future the benefits of the lay-by would be redundant
- Members felt that the issue of the lack of parking should really fall into the remit of the school itself and ESCC
- The council would require a contribution from both of the above parties
- The parish council would have to run the whole project themselves – staff already had limited time and no experience in this field

- Members felt there was a lack of support for the scheme from ESCC
- The majority of CIL monies had originated from development within Horam itself and not Maynards Green – it would not be a fair proportionate spend
- The public consultation had not covered the views of the whole parish – mainly local residents and parents of the school who were directly affected

Members **AGREED** they would recommend to Full Council that the project did **not** go any further.