Cusop Traffic Management Plan/S106 monies - January 2024

After the 1 November 2023 meeting, Councillor Whittall wrote to Yvonne Coleman to confirm the outcome ie Councillor Price confirmed that he would meet with YC the following day to relay the PC's disappointment that things had not progressed any further. The PC having confirmed to HC via two separate meetings that they wished to re-allocate the S106 monies from Playing Fields and Sports to the Cusop Traffic Management Plan, it was felt that hurdles were still being put in the way and no progress had been made.

YC confirmed that HC had received a representation from a constituent with regards to the spend of the S106 monies and she needed to seek legal advice within the council as to the risk in the approach being taken even though Bruce Evans had already sought and gained the approval of the developer for this approach.

Having chased Yvonne Coleman on 10 November 2023 for an update, JW received an e-mail from Councillor Price on 13 November confirming that the matter had been discussed several times over the past week by several directorates and that the fact that HC had received a representation from a constituent meant that if the re-allocation of the S106 monies route was followed, then 'actions may follow if not resolved'.

It was felt by both Councillor Blayney and Councillor Whittall that a face to face meeting with Councillor Price was required to fully and openly discuss this critical situation. The meeting was arranged by Councillor Blayney and took place at Councillor Price's home on 24 November 2023 at the end of which Councillor Price confirmed that he would speak to Yvonne Coleman to seek a meeting for further discussion. A Zoom meeting was convened for 15 December 2023 and attended by Councillor Blayney, Councillor Whittall, Councillor Price and Yvonne Coleman when the original allocation of the S106 monies to Playing Fields was challenged as being an incorrect allocation of monies failing 'to mitigate the impact of the development on the surrounding community', the most important factor being the road on which the development was being built.

It was then that there was the stunning revelation that the monies for Playing Fields could indeed be used to cover maintenance of the Playing Fields as well as for the purchasing of any identified new equipment. This came as a complete shock as all previous discussions within the PC about the S106 monies had determined that these monies could only be spent on new equipment.

At the end of the meeting, Yvonne Coleman confirmed that she would provide notes for circulation - these were received on 22 December 2023 and are attached for all councillors to read and agree the way forward with regard to the Actions as summarised in Yvonne Coleman's words.

Councillor Blayney and Councillor Whittall have not discussed any of the content since receipt.

JW/NB - 7 January 2024