

## Email from LT at 12.07 on 18 September 2023

Hi Adrian

Please can this be added to the bundle, I forgot to add this, these are my notes from the meeting held on December 3rd at 1.00pm RE: Mumbles Skatepark. There is verbatim included, and I managed to collate most of the areas discussed. This also has not been seen in public, I gave my copy to Steve Heydon for his records, as I knew at the time he was very busy, and was happy to help him, by taking notes at the meeting.

MCC Meeting 3rd of December, commencing 1.00pm via teams

In attendance:-

Cllr Carrie Townsend-Jones

Cllr Pam Erasmus

Cllr Sara Keaton

Cllr Ian Scott

Cllr Philip Reason

Cllr Rebecca Fogarty

Cllr Tim Bull

Cllr Rob Marshall

Myself

Meeting started with Cllr Ian Scott stating that he was concerned with the moving around of figures. The documents were only provided last the night before meeting, which was held at 1.00pm. The annual maintenance was discussed as it has gone up. The sinking fund was also discussed and its now risen in cost. Ian Scott stated the "costs have spiralled!" The RFO stated there would be an increase in the precept, these would be for ancillary fees and the cost of a project manager. Cllr Erasmus criticised the Judicial Review and said it was down to these people that this is now an issue, calling them the Judicial Review 7. At this point they had not been able to put in the application as the judicial Review had scuppered the plans. She said the know have to "jump through hoops" to get funding, and thats why "MCC are in a pickle!" I then said my concern is that is a lot of money and we have to go ahead at tell Maverick what is decided today, however the fact that MCC dont have the lease, so that means that we are financially committing to this company at this time which is a risk. Cllr Reason said that he had the same concerns, and they had spoke to Maverick in the week, his concern was how much would MCC be financially committed to Maverick if MCC signed now. The commitment was £68,000 which is what we need to pay, £30, 000 is design and £16,000 steelwork. These were unavoidable costs if MCC committed to Maverick. Maverick would put a clause in the contract, that MCC wouldnt be held to any further costs, if the judicial review was elongated, however it was an issue. He said the "risk is minimal, but there is a small risk", and this is the £68k. "Contractually we would be off the hook if things went pear shaped". "So the vote today is we go phase one and sign for the 31st of December and then apply for lottery funding". "The risk we have is £68km!" "and... there is a slight risk but we need to vote today thats if MCC signs before the 31st of December". MCC then discussed maintenance costs. Cllr Fogarty stated that is was extremely unlikely MCC had no build? we want to minimise delay. Cllr Bull then spoke about his concerns of not having the lottery funding, as the wording states if

you are successful, he was "surprised that he had been involved before with obtaining lottery funding", he said the lottery would not commit to this, at this stage and claimed it was unusual, and asked if Cllr Townend Jones is correct and would it not be better to wait. Cllr Fogarty then said that there had been dialogue with the lottery and that the dialogue said they seem really keen to fund MCC, they are bending over backwards to help. "The Lottery said they cannot say 100% until this is properly assessed". Cllr TJ said they have waited even with the judicial review back in July, she said that the lottery would put in on hold, and she said that they would make sure it gets in, there is a slot in the January board meeting she said she has had conversations with an highly experienced officer and this was the advice and that they are very keen. MCC said that "they would not be able to sign the contract before MCC knew about the lottery funding". SH then said that the reason this meeting is held today is that the deadline for the lottery is today., this is not an ideal time frame unfortunately. Cllr Jarvis said that he "appreciates its not perfect, and I appreciate a very rich businessman is against it".and maybe people in this council are against it. But we also know that many people are in favour of the skatepark. It would be nice if we had everything perfectly in place, and everything is perfect, but if we wait until we get everything in perfect place you will never get anything done. Worst case scenario, we know what could happen, we have a plan in place, if you dont do anything in case of a worst schenario then we would never do anything, you need to know about the worst case scenario and the rest if it. Any "successful business man has taken risks", which you have to do in business, "you have to take risks in life, if you werent prepared to take risks you would get nothing done". Cllr Rob Marshall then said this is why we are having this meeting without the press and public, I am sure you aware aware two ff my friends live near the skatepark. I spoke to Mr Sullivan when all that "Beeping of the Bell End" was going on, he said this was all Mark Bailey we dont like the site there is better options. they were not against the skatepark, they said the 7 was stirred up by Mark Bailey, who is funding the whole thing and he doesnt care. Cllr Marshall said he would talk to his friends, Cllr Fogarty then said that "MMC need to be careful as the judicial review is a legal process, its their right". You dont want to be seen to influence your friend, Cllr Marshal then said if we spend this money now "its not us thats going to look bad its Mark Bailey", "because he is the one who has tried to stop this". "MCC dont need to be worried about come back from the public Mark Bailey should be worried". I then ask if MCC have a business plan? discussions on proposals, prices have risen, so option 2 allows application to the lotter grant, option 3 wait for a judicial review, but costs will rise. and build would be put back to late 22 or 23. MCC discussed the price of steel has gone up. vote for option 2, which is sign phase 1 now, pay Maverick from MCC money, apply for funding from lottery and this means start work now and minimalise delay. Ian scott abstained. Voted for oprion 2 Cllr Fogarty "The outcome of the lottery is still in the balance". Meeting concluded. Majority voted for paying Mavericks now.