

**Exeter City Council  
Scrutiny Committee - Resources  
24 March 2010 6pm**

**Question from WM Sharpe, 8 Well Oak Park, Exeter, EX2 5BB**

**Issue:**

**Accuracy of Costings of Proposed Well Oak Park Footpath and  
Consideration of Alternative Options**

Councillor Prowse raised specific concerns at the meeting on 27 January as to the accuracy of the costings of the proposed footpath through Well Oak Park and asked whether the £80,000 figure budgeted was an exact figure or an estimate. Some members of the public are concerned as to whether due diligence has been done and question whether the true capital and revenue consequences of the proposed footpath have been properly costed. There is concern that decisions appear to have been made in the absence of full disclosure of facts which could be reasonably expected to have been researched in advance and made available to decision makers.

With this in mind and further to Member (PP's) comments above, local residents and Councillors have identified what appears to be a more cost effective, logical and deliverable route for the footpath that offers much greater public benefit than the current proposal. Despite investigations, there appears to be no clear reason why this potentially more attractive option has not been pursued. Given this, it is suggested that the concerns expressed at the meeting of 27 Jan 10 should be formally recorded and follow up action taken before any further decisions about the footpath are made.

**Question:**

**Has the proposed footpath through Well Oak Park been properly and fully costed (capital and revenue) compared against other possible options and if so are the details and reasons for the selection of this option recorded and accessible to Councillors and members of the public?**