

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office,  
St Peters Business Park, Westfield on  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 commencing at 7.00 pm

- Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller (Chair)  
Cllrs A Butcher, B Wallbridge and P Wilkinson.
- Absent:** Cllrs R Appleyard, A Clarke, D Cooper, S Hamilton, R Moss, E Newman, S Russell.
- Attending:** One member of the public  
Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk

### Comments from the public

One member of the public raised a serious concern about the Placemaking Plan consultation event on 15<sup>th</sup> January by BANES. The BANES publicity had not been good, with the only indication of the event being a press release in the Journal from the Parish Council. BANES had been one and quarter hours late in setting up. It was displeasing to see that many minor parishes took priority in this the Westfield consultation and it looked as if Westfield had been tacked on as an after-thought. More information about aspects of the plan had been requested and at the time he was assured that this would be e mailed to him. This information has still not been received.

He was appalled at the sites in question: 33 dwellings had been shown on the St Peters Park site, whereas the current application shows 91 dwellings. 48 dwellings were shown allocated on the College site. In summary, housing was still being stuffed into Westfield with no plans to change any of the infrastructure. All houses were low cost/low rent, with no substantial properties to bring wealth into the parish. Traffic particularly between 6am and 10am and 4-7pm would be horrendous and businesses would not relocate here with this sort of problem. A mixture of different price ranges of houses was required to help create employment at all levels.

### **105. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Newman and Russell who were unwell, Cllr Clarke who was unavailable and Cllrs Cooper, Hamilton and Moss who had other engagements.

### **106. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed ..... Dated .....

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**107. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

**108. Committee Reports**

**(a) Environment and Development Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015, be noted.

**(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015**

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 be noted.

**109. Approval of items over £5,000 and consideration of any virement**

There were no items over £5,000 requiring the approval of the Council.

**110. Precept Report 2015**

The Council considered the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee and the staff were congratulated on their work in maintaining the same Band D equivalent for a fourth year.

**Resolved:** that the Precept be set at £171,810, with a cost per Band D property of £96.79.

**111. Precept Leaflet 2015**

The Council considered the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee.

**Resolved:** that the precept leaflet be agreed.

**112. Fixed Assets**

The Council considered the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee and discussed the Fixed Asset list.

**Resolved:** that the Fixed Asset list be agreed.

**113. Neighbourhood Plan**

The Council received the recommendation of the Environment and Development Committee that this Council embarks on a Neighbourhood

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Signed ..... Dated .....

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Plan. This is a multi person task, beyond the reaches of the Parish Council alone and all Councilors were needed to take part, along with recruitment from the community.

**Resolved:** That the Neighbourhood Plan be undertaken and that the application circulated be submitted to BANES, with a further application for funding being submitted at the appropriate time. Proposed by Cllr Wilkinson, seconded by Cllr Wallbridge, voted unanimously.

### 114. Placemaking Plan

The discussion on the BANES Consultation on 15<sup>th</sup> January took place during the comments from the public session, detailed above. The Clerk was asked to investigate the rules on designating community playing fields.

**Resolved:** that a press release expressing disappointment about the publicity for the event and extreme concern about the plans and lack of provision for the infrastructure, despite the major industrial estate in Westfield.

### 115. Signs at the entrance to the Parish

The Council received the recommendation of the Environment and Development Committee relating to the signs, one of which was to be located on the area of green space next to the lay by at the roundabout near the Centurion, where planting might take place around it; and the other to be located on Wells Hill.

**Resolved:** that the signs be agreed as circulated with funding to be confirmed by BANES later that month.

### 116. Fun Fair in Westfield

The Council received the report of the Clerk and discussed the possibility of a Fun Fair this year. It was felt that Westhill Recreation Ground was not suitable due to the proximity of the houses. It was noted that their proposed length of stay was much longer than the 4-5 days of the fun fair operating last year.

**Resolved:** (1) to agree the Fun Fair in principle at Norton Hill Recreation Ground with details such as the length of stay and the end time (8.30pm, 9pm, 9.30pm or 10pm) to be opened to consultation; (2) to hold a public consultation, open to all residents, with the residents of Upper Court, St Peters Road, and the houses on Fosseyway close to the site as far as Hazel Terrace being leafleted, and with notices in the Journal and on the noticeboard about the consultation. (3) the results of the consultation to be brought back to the next meeting so that a decision might be made on these details so

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that they may be included in an agreement, deviation from which could result in the Fun Fair being shut down.

**117. Grant Funding**

The Council received the recommendation of the Environment and Development Committee.

**Resolved:** that unspent grant funds are left unspent for now and if still unspent at the year end are carried over as earmarked reserves into next year's grant funding budget.

**118. Outside Bodies Reports**

**Snow Warden Scheme:** Cllr Butcher reported that he had received the key to the garage and was ready to start gritting the pavements when the need arises.

**Development Agency:** Cllr Butcher reported that he had not received a date for the next meeting.

**119. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that the noticeboard at the local shops was now up. The door was sticking and water seeped in and they were looking to put a ridge along the top of the noticeboard to prevent water damage. He had collected some cork boards last week and fitted them within the structure in order to pin the notices. Signwriting would be done this week. The Council congratulated Cllr Fuller on all his work in setting this up.

A gentleman from Westfield Football Club had volunteered to check each week if the pitches were playable and contact the Clubs accordingly. This offer was received with thanks providing that if Saturday matches were cancelled then the Sunday matches should be cancelled also, and providing also that the agreement remains with the Clubs that they are liable if they play on a pitch which is unfit for play.

**120. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' report**

There were no BANES Councillors at the meeting.

It was agreed to exclude the press and public on the grounds that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

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Signed ..... Dated .....