

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 12th January 2015 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), A Butcher, D Cooper, and G Fuller.

Absent: Cllrs Appleyard, Clarke and Wilkinson.

Attending: Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk).

Comments from the public

There were no comments from the public but the Committee noted an e mail from a local resident requesting a zebra crossing or pedestrian right of way at the entrance to Fosse Way School on Longfellow Road. On a daily basis during school times children are at risk from serious accidents due to the disregard of the minibuses which pull into the school. A photo showing a minibus parked on the zig zag lines due to congestion at the school had been circulated. The Clerk was asked to raise this matter with Stefan Chiffers of BANES.

133. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Appleyard who had another engagement, Cllr Clarke who was unavailable and Cllr Wilkinson who was unwell.

134. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Item 4, 14/05403/FUL Erection of a workshop to the side of existing workshop – Cllr Cooper declared an interest as this property was close to hers on the industrial estate.

Item 11 Grant Funding – Cllr Butcher declared an interest in that a neighbour was a Church Warden of St Peters Church.

135. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

136. Planning Applications for consideration

136.1 There were no objections to the planning application below, providing adjacent residents were satisfied.

14/05372/FUL	Single storey extension to rear and two storey	19 Waterside Way
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Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

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	extension to side	
14/05465/FUL	Erection of second storey extension to provide additional office area	Unit G5, Second Ave
14/05403/FUL	Erection of a workshop to the side of existing workshop	Etavoni Ltd, Wellsway Works

14/04003/OUT 91 residential dwellings and associated works on Cobbler's Way – The Committee had no objections but requested clarification on the route of the cycle path and given the large number of dwellings strongly stressed the need for a community centre in Westfield which is greatly lacking and asked whether such a facility might be accommodated on site or appropriate funding be allocated from s.106 / CIL.

14/051698/VAR Fosse Way School – The Committee noted that this application was to be determined by BANES Development Control Committee on 14th January 2015.

The Committee discussed the merits of considering the planning applications electronically at the meeting.

Resolved to move entirely to electronic display of planning applications, and to stop receiving paper copies.

137. Planning Decisions

The Planning Decisions were noted. The Committee expressed deep disappointment that 14/03849/OUT Erection of 2 semi detached houses at Hazeldene, Hazel Terrace had been approved despite the Parish Council's objections.

138. Placemaking Plan

The consultation by BANES on 15th January at Norton Radstock College on the Placemaking Plan for this area was noted. The Committee was disappointed that BANES had not gone further in publicising this event in Westfield and asked the Clerk to try to put up posters in the local shops and get a press release in the Journal the following day.

The Committee discussed the meeting on 5th January relating to the Neighbourhood Plan. A draft application was circulated for consideration. Whilst a Neighbourhood Plan was a daunting task, it was vital for the future of Westfield.

Resolved (1) that a recommendation be made to the full Parish Council that the application to designate a Neighbourhood Area be agreed, that the Parish Council works with BANES to achieve a

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Neighbourhood Plan and that an application for funding for this Plan be made accordingly; and

(2) if agreed, that the facilitators who worked with the Questers were particularly good and that they be approached to facilitate the first consultation for Westfield.

139. Noticeboards

The Committee received the report of the Clerk.

Resolved: (1) to purchase a noticeboard board for the allotment site at a cost of £922 using Ward Councillors Initiative Funding, with installation to be undertaken by WAGS;
(2) to purchase a noticeboard for Nightingale Way in the amount of £1,138 from Ward Councillors Initiative Funding with installation being met by the Parish Council, the costs of which would be agreed under delegated authority to the Chair of the Council and the Chair of the Committee.
(3) to continue with the finishing and installation of the noticeboard made by Norton Radstock College and to discuss any payment with them when the board is complete.

140. Signs at the entrance to the Parish

The Committee received draft signs for the entrance to the parish.

Resolved to recommend to the full Parish Council that these signs be progressed, with funding from s.106 to be confirmed in February by Stefan Chiffers

141. Westfield Guide

It was noted that unfortunately there was not enough advertising secured by Local Authority Publishing to allow them to publish the Westfield Guide again this year.

Resolved: to contact the Business Connectors Programme for help in finding the final £2,500 in sponsorship to allow the publication to go ahead.

142. Items for the next agenda

Norton Hill Football Pitch – to consider stripping back, levelling and re-turfing the goal mouths instead of re-seeding at the end of the season at a cost of £465.

The Consultation of 15th January 2015 on the Placemaking Plan to be put on the full Parish Council agenda.

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143. Grant Funding

Following the withdrawal of grant funding to the Carnival, the Finance and Personnel Committee considered suggestions for the re-allocation of the funding. These included (1) going out for a second tranche of funding this year with expressions of interest already received from St Peters Church and Westfield Sports and Community Centre; (2) building up the fund into reserves for a war memorial for Westfield; and (3) carrying over the funding into next year's grant budget.

Resolved: to recommend to the Parish Council that the funds are left unspent for now and if unspent at the year end to carry them over as earmarked reserves into next year's grant funding budget.

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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