

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 13th July 2015 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), A Butcher, D Cooper, G Fuller, R Hopkins,

Also attending: Mrs E Merko (Finance Officer)
Mrs T Stephens (Admin Assistant)

Absent: Cllrs K Docherty, E Jackson, R Moss, A Seaman-Moss

38. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs R Moss, A Seaman-Moss, K Docherty and E Jackson.

39. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Cllr Butcher declared an interest in the planning application in St Peter's Road as it was close to his home.

40. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

41. Planning Applications for consideration

There were no objections to the planning applications below

15/02572/FUL	Mrs Sian Gunton	14 Welton Road	Construction of rear raised decking area
15/02667/FUL	Mr Pugh	3 Poets Corner	Erection of Conservatory to front elevation

The following comments were made regarding the planning application below:

15/02972/FUL: Erection of single storey detached annexe, single storey rear and front extension and loft conversion. Alterations to garage roof and construction of new vehicular access, (Resubmission)

The committee reiterated it's objection to the previous planning application for this development on the grounds that the size of build would create overdevelopment and was out of keeping with the area.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

42. Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were noted:

15/01714/FUL	Mr Stephen Maggs	21 St Peter's Road	Erection of single storey rear extension, single storey side extension to form annexe and loft conversion. Erection of detached double garage and construction of vehicular access following demolition of existing single garage and shed	WITHDRAWN
15/01540/FUL	Mr Mark Denning	The Cottage, Wells Road	Erection of a single storey entrance lobby to the front of the house following demolition of an existing porch	PERMIT
15/02192/TCA	Mr Chris Griffiths	Khandalla, Welton Rd	1 x Sycamore, reduce crown by up to 3 metres	NO OBJECTION
15/01907/FUL	Mr William Young	45 Waterford Park	Erection of single storey front porch	PERMIT
14/04120/FUL	Flower and Hayes Ltd	Hazeldene, Hazel Terrace	Erection of 1 no four bedroom dwelling	REFUSE

A resident of Hazel Terrace who had spoken to the Committee on application 14/04120/FUL had sent thanks to the Committee ifor its comments which had contributed to the refusal of the application. It was noted that a second application for two smaller houses at the same site had been permitted.

43. Fun Day

Cllr Cooper reported on the Fun Day in June. The net cost to the Parish Council had been £200.37. Expenditure was £1112.43 and income was £912.06. Cllr Fuller gave thanks to Cllrs Cooper and Wilkinson for all their work on the Fun Day which had been a great success. It was hoped that more volunteers would help out next year to increase the potential income from the event.

The Somerset & Dorset Railway Trust exhibition had been booked in for next year. There would be a Fun Day meeting in September to decide which SDRT exhibits would be ordered.

44. Annual Tree Report

The further comments of the Trees Supervisor regarding the recommended felling of a healthy tree were considered along with the essential and recommended actions from the trees report.

Resolved: a) to request that tree Sgl/012902 is not felled;
b) to request that the other essential and recommended works be completed.

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Signed **Dated**

Westfield Parish Council

45. BMX Track at Westhill

The suggestion that a RoSPA Inspection of the track could be arranged was considered but was not thought to be necessary. It was noted that the area was already inspected weekly by the groundsman and quarterly by BANES. It suggested that the current signage advising that the track was used at a person's own risk was small and inconspicuous.

Resolved: a) to ask the advice of BaNES Parks Manager about the size and wording of the signs at the track;
b) to order new, larger signage for the track.

46. Flowers in Public Places

Disappointment was expressed over the current flower displays. The hanging baskets in particular were very disappointing and the planters needed larger, show flowers and more height.

Resolved: a) to write to Norton Green Nursery expressing concern at the quality of hanging baskets;
b) to buy some larger plants for the square planter under the hanging basket tree;
c) to talk to WAGS about getting some taller plants for the coal planters.

47. Anti-social behaviour on Westfield Industrial Estate

The report and suggestions from PC Mark Graham were noted. Cllrs felt that putting a gate on Third Avenue was not feasible as it limited accessibility for local businesses. It was felt that a greater Police presence in the area and the enforcement of ASB legislation would be a strong deterrent.

Resolved: a) to write back to PC Graham stating that Westfield Parish Council supported the Police in the need to tackle anti-social behaviour, but that increased police activity on the site would be preferable to a gate;
b) to further suggest to PC Graham that CCTV linked to BANES' network might be another avenue to tackle to the problem.

48. Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth

Resolved: Cllr Hopkins would look into Commonwealth Day and bring information to the next meeting.

49. Front Garden competition

A report was given on this year's competition, which had an increase in entries on last year. Cllrs noted the comment from the judges that Cllrs and staff should nominate gardens for next year's competition.

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Signed **Dated**

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50. Chairman's Badge of Office

There was discussion of the expense of purchasing this item balanced with the importance of representing the Westfield residents with pride at formal events.

- Resolved:** a) Cllrs and office to investigate local craftsmen that could design and produce a badge of office and to bring back to next meeting;
b) to refer the project to Council to ratify the decision to go ahead with the purchase a badge of office.

51. Community Vehicle

It was suggested that Council could purchase a community 4 wheel drive vehicle for community use, eg. carrying salt in winter, transporting people to doctor's appointments, clearing rubbish. It was agreed that the costs and maintenance involved in such a purchase were not justifiable at the current time.

52. Westfield Warbler

Designs for the masthead of the new-look Westfield Warbler were considered. It was agreed that the miner as an image was more associated with Radstock than Westfield.

Resolved: To ask Ignyte to produce the masthead with an elm tree instead of a miner, in line with the Westfield Parish Council corporate image.

53. Westhill Sports FC

The email from Westhill Sports was noted. It was noted that the issues with the changing rooms should be raised with Westfield Sports & Social Club as the hire of Westhill pitch from Westhill Trust did not include hire of the changing rooms. Councillors sympathised with the players regarding the amount of dog mess and litter. The enforcement of dog fouling legislation is an ongoing problem and it was therefore suggested that a press release be written highlighting the effect of dog mess on other users of the Recreation grounds.

Resolved: to write a press release asking dog owners to be more vigilant.

Items for the next agenda

- the implications of the potential new planning strategies (Cllr Hopkins)
- Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth (Cllr Hopkins)
- Grass cutting
- Banners on railings at Jubilee Green and St Peter's Church

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

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Signed **Dated**