

**Westfield Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), A Butcher, D Cooper, K Docherty, R Hopkins, E Jackson, R Moss and A Seaman-Moss.

**Also attending:** Kaoru Jacques, Bath and North East Somerset Council  
Margaret Rogers, Westfield Allotments and Garden Society (WAGS)  
Dan Corbett and Richard Hambleton, local residents  
Mrs L Welch, Parish Clerk

**Absent:** Cllr G Fuller

Comments from the public

On behalf of WAGS, Margaret Rogers asked for permission to cut into the water pipe at the allotment site, put in a tap and in the summer months run a hose down along the fenceline to the lower area of the allotments where they would put in a riser. The hose would be removed in the cold weather.

Margaret also raised the need for a water supply in Jubilee Green to water the raised beds. In the summer members of WAGS filled watering cans from behind the shops and the task took 45 minutes of strenuous work each time. Access to the water supply at the hanging basket tree was not possible and so the coal truck planters took an hour each.

The Chairman thanked Margaret Rogers for raising these issues which would be taken into account when they arose on the agenda.

Richard Hambleton raised the impact on Longfellow Road following the accident at the traffic lights the previous Wednesday. Police directed traffic down Longfellow Road to Wesley Avenue, including lorries which, due to the parked cars meant that there was no free passage of traffic. At their request the Police stopped sending lorries down Longfellow Road. The Police also asked residents to move their cars to improve traffic flow, when it became apparent that the cars belonged to the school they asked the school to move the cars, which took an hour because it had to be done in stages.

Dan Corbett supported the facts outlined by Richard Hambleton and referred back to the statement of problems which they had outlined many months ago. Since then the school has more staff and more pupils and the situation has become worse.

The Chairman thanked Richard Hambleton and Dan Corbett for raising this issue, which would be taken up by the BANES Councillors who have greater influence in this area.

**Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.**

**Signed .....** **Dated .....**

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**57. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr G Fuller who was unwell.

**58. Declarations of Interest and dispensations**

- Cllr Butcher declared an interest in item 11 Sun Chemical Access Road because it is at the back of his house.
- Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 17 A Club for People who live alone, as a Committee member of Trinity Methodist Church.

**59. Minutes of the last meetings**

The minutes of the meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015 were agreed as true records and signed by the Chairman.

**60. Placemaking Plan Options Document**

The Chairman welcomed Kaoru Jacques. Kaoru outlined two sites in Westfield for the Placemaking Plan. The first related to Bath College where they planned to allocate a mixed use site, this being education with some employment (but not residential). The other site related to Cobblers Way which had recently received planning approval. No other sites were allocated for housing in Westfield. The Management Policy would outline design principles, highway standards etc and Kaoru would send a draft for comments. The Committee noted that the representations received on the Placemaking Plan Options Document were available to view and were being considered by BANES in the preparation of the Draft Plan which was to go to Cabinet in November 2015.

Kaoru went on to discuss the two proposed sites on the border with Westfield and the consultation from Mendip about whether it was right to allocate these sites to meet Mendip's housing needs. BANES would be responding to the effect that it was clear that, if it went ahead, the residents of these areas would be part of the Westfield, Midsomer Norton and Radstock community. Kaoru would draft an objection which she would share with the Parish Council.

Finally there was a discussion on the Community Infrastructure Levy and S.106 in relation to Cobblers Way. 15% of this funding would be transferred to the Parish Council in the total amount of approximately £90,000. This is capped at £100 per household per year. It is received by BANES in three stages: 33% received 60 days after commencement, the next 33% at 12 months and the final amount at 18 months. The Parish Council's share is transferred twice a year on 28<sup>th</sup> April and 28<sup>th</sup> October.

The Chairman thanked Kaoru for attending and for the very useful information.

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**61. Planning Applications for consideration**

There were no objections to the planning applications below:

15/03617/FUL	MCM Garage Ltd, Second Ave	Single storey side extension
15/03525/FUL	11 Milton Rd	Vehicle access and lowering of kerb
15/04006/SOL PA	Integrity Print, First Ave	Prior approval request for the installation of solar PV panels on the roof of unit 1-3 First Ave

The following comments were made regarding the planning application below:

***15/03804/FUL, 42 Longfellow Rd, Erection of single storey rear extension and part two storey and part single storey side extension following the demolition and removal of existing detached garage:*** The Committee objected to the application on the grounds of over development and lack of parking.

**62. Planning Decisions**

The Planning Decisions were noted.

**63. Planning Appeal Ref APP/F0114/W/15/3132747 The Shambles, Wells Road**

The Committee noted the above appeal. Cllr Jackson outlined the reasons why she as a BANES Councillor had put forward objections. Members of the Committee who had considered the application when it was originally put forward discussed their response. The proposal to put forward objections at this stage was put to the vote with 2 for, 4 against and 2 abstentions. Therefore no objection from the Parish Council would be made.

**64. Implications of the potential new planning strategies**

The Committee noted the newspaper cuttings.

**65. Planning Training**

The Committee noted the opportunities for Planning Training and would contact the Clerk if they wished to attend.

**66. Local Plan Part II**

The Committee received correspondence from Mendip Council.

**Resolved** To respond to the consultation on MQ2 which states Do you consider that development allocations adjoining the towns of Radstock and Midsomer Norton to the south (in Mendip) would

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be an appropriate and suitable way of meeting part of the future housing needs in Mendip? Please give reasons.

The Committee stated it was not appropriate to build residential housing on this border. The infrastructure can not cope with additional housing in terms of traffic, medical treatments, education and schools, the local roads and A367 can not cope with any more traffic to Westfield Primary School. In addition, Mendip should not build further housing without corresponding development in employment. If these housing developments went ahead the Parish Council would expect heavy investment both in the A367 and in the local infrastructure.

**67. Sun Chemical Access Road**

The Committee received definitive clarification from Sun Chemical relating to their access road.

**68. Feedback on a meeting with Stefan Chiffers of BANES' Traffic**

The feedback circulated with the agenda was noted.

**Resolved** As suggested by Stefan Chiffers, to draw up a list of priorities in terms of traffic needs in Westfield. This to be put on the next agenda.

**69. Entry to Westfield Signs**

The Committee noted the costings for the entry to Westfield signs.

**Resolved** To seek a further quote from the British Legion to the same specification as circulated with the agenda.

**70. Grass cutting**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**71. Community Pay Back Scheme**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**72. Request for a Clothing Bank**

The Committee received a request from the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity for a clothing bank scheme in Westfield. Whilst supportive of the scheme, there was difficulty in finding a suitable location.

**Resolved** That the Charity be invited to suggest a location and the Parish Council would be pleased to investigate.

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**Signed ..... Dated .....**

## Westfield Parish Council

### 73. A Club for people who live alone

The Committee received the e mail from Trinity Methodist Church and discussed the need for such a club in Westfield.

**Resolved** to respond with support for this idea and to suggest they approach the Dragons Den at the end of November for funding.

### 74. Improvements to Westhill Play Area

The Committee received the report of the Clerk and the proposed schemes to go out for consultation.

**Resolved** to omit the zip wire from the consultations due to the ongoing maintenance costs and to go out to consultation with children and young people via the local schools and electronic survey.

### 75. Chairman's Badge of Office

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

### 76. Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth

It was agreed not to progress this item.

### 77. Banners on Railings at Jubilee Gree and St Peters Church

The Committee discussed the banners on railings in the Parish and Cllr Moss highlighted some Ward Councillors initiative funding currently being held by the Parish Council for employment and training purposes.

**Resolved** to contact the companies which advertise permanently on the railings at Jubilee Green to offer help towards a more structured advertising route via Cllr Moss's Ward Councillors Initiative Funding, and to encourage them to take down the banners on the railings.

### 78. Request for a Fun Fair

The Committee discussed a request from Mr Stokes to hold a Fun Fair in Westfield.

**Resolved** that the arrangements with the current Fun Fair operator worked well and would not be changed this year.

### 79. Clearance at the back of the Pavilion at Norton Hill

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

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The Committee noted that Mr Moore intended to repair the wall next to the boundary. The use of the stone stored there was discussed.

**Resolved** to store the stone until required.

**80. Litter at Norton Hill**

The Committee noted the suggestion from Greensward for more bins. Cllr Moss agreed to chase the solar electronic compactors from BANES.

**81. Review of the Westfield Warbler in its new format and any feedback for future editions**

The Committee agreed that the new format was excellent, with just the one design comment about incorporating part of the logo in the wording of the 'Westfield Warbler' on the front page.

**82. Allotments**

The Committee noted the suggestion for a site visit.

**Resolved** to give permission for WAGS to install the tap as outlined in Margaret Rogers' e mail, providing it was at their cost and that BANES, who held the Head Lease, had no objections.

**83. BMX Track at Westhill**

The Committee noted the current signage which was 300 x 600 in size and the wording as circulated. This was accepted with no changes suggested.

**84. Christmas Lights Switch On Event**

The Committee noted that Trinity Methodist Hall Westfield was booked for 26<sup>th</sup> November and that the Big Local had offered to take part with a donation of £100 for mince pies and glow sticks.

**Resolved** that the event goes ahead as it did last year, with Cllr Cooper asking her husband to be Father Christmas and with the addition of the Big Local Gazebo.

**85. Carnival Royalty**

This item was no longer required on the agenda.

**86. Items for the next agenda**

- Bus Shelter at Nightingale Way – an e mail from a local resident was circulated. Cllr Jackson stated that she thought the bus shelter was being replaced, so this might not need to go on the agenda if clarification from BANES indicates this is the case.

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## Westfield Parish Council

- List of priorities in terms of traffic needs, as suggested by Stefan Chiffers
- Grass Cutting
- Community Pay back scheme
- Chairman's badge of office
- Flowers in public places

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.

### **87. Flowers in Public Places**

The Committee received three quotes for the provision of hanging baskets next year.

**Resolved** to accept the quote from Flowers by Nicola in the amount of £47.50 each to include supply, installation, watering system check, regular feed and inspection and removal at the end of the season.

Further discussion on flowers in public places including the WAGS request for a water source at Jubilee Green would be put on the next agenda.

### **88. Quotes for fencing and gate at Norton Hill Recreation Ground Car Park**

The Committee received three quotes for the fencing and gate at the car park of Norton Hill Recreation Ground. RSA Posts were highlighted as not being acceptable at the car park and were excluded from consideration.

**Resolved** that the quote from C&R Fencing for concrete posts in the amount of £4,029 be accepted, but that funding be sought first from (1) the Fun Fair Operators and (2) Norton Hill Recreation Ground Trust reserves.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

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