

**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> December 2015 commencing at 7pm**

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

**Also attending:** Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant, Sam Plummer, Integrated Youth Team Leader for Somer Valley, Rosalie Lee, Hall Manager for St Hugh's.

**Absent:** Cllrs A Seaman-Moss and R Moss

Mrs Rosalie Lee gave a talk on the current situation regarding St Hugh's Church building and land and invited the Councillors to consider any ideas for its use. It was agreed that Cllr Jackson would get more information about the value of the site, and any ideas for community use for discussion at a later meeting.

**133. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs A Seaman-Moss and R Moss who were unavailable.

**134. Declarations of Interest and dispensations**

Cllr Hopkins declared an interest in item 4 Youth Provision Sub Committee, due to his being a member of the steering group of the Big Local.

**135. Minutes of the last meetings**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**136. Youth Provision Sub Committee**

Sam Plummer outlined his thoughts on providing youth services in Westfield and surrounding areas, taking in Radstock and Midsomer Norton. He gave an overview on the current provision provided by Youth Connect, which is predominantly based in Radstock. There is only funding from BaNES for one youth worker for 16 hours a week in Radstock. A lot of parish/town councils are now having to fund their own youth work.

Cllr Butcher arrived at 7:15pm

Mr Plummer said he has £24k available from 106 money in the area to spend on youth provision and would like to spend some time in the area talking to the young people to establish what it is they would like to see. His point was that there is a need to create sustainability, and that to provide a service without knowing what is required is not the best way to go about it. It was thought that

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

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a strategic group would need to be set up as a joined up approach from Westfield and Radstock.

**Resolved:** Mr Plummer to put together some recommendations of work he would like to see done in the area to put to next E&D meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January.

**137. Planning Applications for consideration**

There were no objections to the planning application below:

15/05321/FUL	70 Waterside Road	Erection of 2 storey side extension with new front porch and alterations to existing garage
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***15/04700/SNCOU Prior approval request for the change of use of the top floor and one office in the basement of Units 3H and 3J at St Peter's Business Park from use Class B1 to a state funded school (Class D1)***

The Committee felt unable to make a comment without more information about what activities are planned for the pupils using this building. It was also noted that it is an industrial unit and using it for education stops it being used as a commercial venue.

**138. Planning Decisions**

There were no planning decisions to note.

**139. West Hill Recreation Ground**

An update was given on the new play equipment in the park, the safety surfacing had been checked and an email circulated from Wicksteed Leisure.

**Resolved:** (1) In addition to the agreed play equipment, Wicksteed to install a thermoplastic hopscotch in place of the youth shelter when it is removed at a cost of £450;  
(2) Greensward to be commissioned to move the Youth Shelter at a cost of £1450;  
(3) Signefex to be contacted for vandal resistant signs for the gates at Norton Hill and Westhill Play Areas stating Play Area for 12 years and under.

**140. Norton Hill Recreation Ground**

**Resolved:** (1) To agree the quote from Lazy Days for the ramp at the pedestrian gate from car park to field at a cost of £480;  
(2) To agree the quote from Greensward for the moss/algae treatment at the tennis court and play area at a total cost of £535;

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**(3)** To undertake a poll of residents adjacent to the basketball area about whether they would object to having a security light triggered by movement at the site.

**141. Quote for play area inspections for information only**

The quote from BaNES was noted.

**142. Christmas Events**

- Feedback was given on the Christmas Lights Switch on event. Cllrs have had favourable comments from the people of Westfield. The event is growing each year and ideas to be considered when planning next year's event are (1) the need for barriers along the Wells Road and (2) the possibility of closing Elm Tree Avenue;
- There was no feedback available regarding the Christmas Fayre and this would go on the next agenda.

**143. Flowers in Public Places**

The Committee noted the e mail from WAGS showing that the bowser was not an ideal solution for the watering of the coal truck planters and the raised herb bed.

**Resolved:** The 2016 planting and maintenance of the coal truck planters and raised beds be carried forward to the next meeting.

**144. Chairman's Badge of Office**

The Committee discussed the companies contacted to date and agreed that the best value appeared to be from Radstock Trophies.

**Resolved:** A design and quote to be sought from Radstock Trophies and, if possible, taken to the next Council meeting.

**145. Entry to Westfield Signs**

The Committee noted that it was unlikely a quote would come from the British Legion Manufacturing.

**Resolved:** To put the quote from Glasdon and to ask Councillors for ideas about what statement could be written on the base of the sign.

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**146. Grass cutting**

**Resolved:** to remove this item from the agenda any further information is received.

**147. Twitter**

The progress of the Twitter account was noted.

**148. Request for a replacement public litter bin**

The response from BaNES was noted.

**149. Remembrance Day memorial**

**Resolved:** To get quotes for a plaque to put on the existing memorial stone at Jubilee Green.

**150. Clean for the Queen**

**Resolved:** To not take part in this event.

**151. Items for the next agenda**

- St Hugh's Church – discussion on use of building and land
- Youth provision sub committee – to discuss the recommendations from Sam Plummer
- Norton Hill Recreation Ground – To consider the poll results about the lights at the basketball court.
- Flowers in Public places
- Remembrance Day memorial - to receive quotes for plaque
- Christmas Fayre feedback

The meeting closed at 8:42pm

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