

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 18th May 2015 commencing at 7pm

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

Absent: Cllrs E Jackson, R Moss

Attending: Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk), Mrs T Stephens (Admin Asst)

1. Election of Chair

Cllr Cooper nominated Cllr Bryan Wallbridge, Cllr Docherty seconded the nomination.

Resolved: That Cllr Wallbridge be elected Chair of the Committee.

Cllr Wallbridge took the opportunity to welcome the two new Councillors to the Environment and Development Committee.

2. Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Wallbridge nominated Cllr Cooper, Cllr Hopkins seconded the nomination.

Resolved: That Cllr Cooper be elected Vice Chair of the Committee.

Cllr Butcher arrived at 7:04pm

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Jackson and Cllr Moss.

4. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Cllr Butcher declared an interest in Item 7, planning application 15/01714/FUL 21 St Peters Road, due to the fact that he lives in this road.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Fuller arrived at 7:07pm

6. Neighbourhood Plan

The Committee noted the official designation of Westfield as a Neighbourhood Planning Area. Planning Officer, Julie O'Rourke was to attend a meeting to discuss the next steps in June. Tenders for the Neighbourhood Planning Consultant were to be opened in Part 2.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

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- Resolved:** (1) that the Clerk makes preliminary contact with the South West Foundation for availability and costs of their facilitating a consultation event.
(2) That contact be made with the Questers to determine whether they are still working on the Community Plan.

7. Planning Applications for consideration

7.1 There were no objections to the planning applications below:

15/01745/FUL	Mrs Katrina Penny	28 Fosseyway Gardens	Erection of a two storey rear extension following the demolition of an existing garage conversion
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 existing porch
15/01907/FUL	Mr William Young	45 Waterford Park	Erection of a single storey front porch

7.2 The following comments were made regarding the planning applications below:

15/01714/FUL 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, 21 St Peters Rd - The Committee objected to this application on the grounds that the size of build was overdevelopment and out of keeping with the character of the area.

15/01965/RES Approval of reserved matters with regard to outline application 13/02436/EOUT for access, appearance, layout, scale and a landscaping for area 3 (phase 2) of the development - The Committee reiterated its objection with continued concern over the road infrastructure and its impact on Westfield.

15/02031/FUL Erection of a new dwelling attached to no.70 Waterside Rd, with associated parking, and replacement of existing single garage with a new double garage to serve no. 70 Waterside Rd – The Committee objects to this application on the grounds of over population of an already saturated area and lack of parking.

15/01560/AR Display of 4no. internally laminated fascia signs, The Co-op Store A, Wells Road – The Committee objected to this application on the grounds that the signs are out of keeping in a Conservation Area.

8. Planning Decisions

The Planning Decisions were noted.

9. Locality Our Place Grants Programme

The Committee received information about a funding source for community grants.

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10. Events

- 10.1 Boules Open Session on 28th April 2015. Cllr Cooper reported on a successful opening night for the Boules evenings. The hope is that that will continue. Another bench had been vandalised, the Clerk was asked to check the CCTV.
- 10.2 Fun Fair at Norton Hill 11th-17th May 2015. Three items of feedback were circulated to the Committee. Cllr Fuller reported on the Fun Fair, where around 2,500 to 3,000 people attended. The event went well and peacefully. The timekeeping of the fairground operators was very good and they cleared up the litter at the end of each evening. Those attending left peacefully and it was noted that there was no excessive noise as they left. It was noted that there was extensive parking on St Peter's Road and Longfellow Road. The operator will remove all the posters.
- 10.3 Fun Day on 7th June 2015. Cllr Wilkinson attended the meeting to report on the Fun Day preparations. Public mention would be made of Archers, who are supplying the marquee, tables and chairs free of charge. Preparations are restricted due to the lack of funds.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Committee recommends to the Finance and Personnel Committee that the Council should fund the Fun Day in the region of £1,500, to be allocated from the income the Parish Council receives as the LTO of the Big Local.
- (2) That the Silver Band be funded in the amount of £200.
- (3) That a 'Lost children/First aid' banner be funded, and a new Fun Day banner if the old one can't be used.
- (4) That, if time allows, to fund a flyer to be distributed with the Warbler. Cllr Wilkinson to send a proof of a flyer and Clerk to investigate possibility of printing in time to distribute with Warbler.
- (5) That the Clerk contacts Halsall to make sure all is removed from the car park in time for the Fun Day.

11. Bath College, Somer Valley Campus

The Committee received a query from a local resident regarding the ceasing of a course on English as an additional language at the Somer Valley Campus, and the impact this would have on the students in traveling into Bath.

12. Item arising from the Annual Parish Meeting – lighting on the paths from Nightingale Way to the Pit Path

Cllr Fuller reported that he had been in conversation with Midsomer Norton Town Council who agreed to combine to request BANES for lighting as it crosses boundaries. This is still under discussion.

13. Public seats in Westfield

The Committee discussed a request for extra public seating in Westfield, particularly since the bench at the Charlton Road roundabout had been

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removed. Another location at the grass area off Old Pit Road had also been suggested.

Resolved: That the Committee recognises the matter and would consider it further at a later date.

14. Westhill Recreation Ground – mud at the entrances

The Committee discussed arrangements to mitigate the mud at the entrances to the field.

Resolved: That the Committee agrees with the assessment given by Greensward to lay ground protection mesh at the entrances, and to undertake this work at a total cost of £320.

15. Norton Hill Recreation Ground – Swings at the Play Area

The Committee received the report of the Clerk outlining the need to renew the swings since the bushes and shackles were no longer available.

Resolved: To renew the swings while the risk is low at a total cost of £1,355.

16. Annual Tree Report

The Committee received the Annual Tree Report.

Resolved: to note the report and bring it back to the next meeting with quotes for the essential and desirable works.

17. Chairman's badge of office

Resolved: Committee discussed the principal of a chain of office and asked the Clerk to investigate further prices.

18. Items for the next agenda

1. Feedback from the Fun Day
2. Roads (Cllr Hopkins to invite a Banerjee official to explain the road layout in Radstock and its impact in Westfield and to propose an environmental survey outside the college 8:30am – 9:30am)

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.

19. Quotes to tarmac the bmx track at Westhill Recreation Ground

Quotes were received from Taylor Plant - £4,900.00, SC Surfacing and Plant Ltd - £3210.00 and Oakus - £2034.00

Resolved: To accept the quote from Oakus for £2034.00.

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20. Consultant for the Neighbourhood Plan

The Committee received three quotes for Consultants for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved: Given that the quotes which came in were not on a like for like basis, the Clerk to record the quotes and email to Councillors, to enable a discussion with Julie O'Rourke at the next meeting.

21. Westhill Club

It was noted that the Solicitor was progressing in terms of identifying the descendents of the Trustees of the Westfield Sports and Community Centre, to enable a lease to be put in place with the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 8.47pm

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