

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Wednesday 12th November 2014 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), A Butcher, D Cooper, and P Wilkinson.

Absent: Cllrs Appleyard, Clarke and Fuller.

Attending: Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk).

Comments from the public

Before the start of the meeting e mail correspondence from Sarah Reid regarding dog fouling at the Recreation Grounds was noted. Whilst the Committee shared the concerns, a ban on dog walkers would be contrary to the remit of the Trust. Other measures such as highlighting the importance of clearing up after dogs, liaison with the Dog Warden and possibly CCTV at the site were ongoing.

101. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Clarke who was not available and Cllr Fuller who had a family commitment.

102. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

103. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

104. Planning Applications for consideration

Cllr Butcher arrived at 7.05pm.

104.1 There were no objections to the four planning applications below, providing adjacent residents were satisfied.

14/04426/FUL	Erection of a detached garage	1 Glebelands
14/04585/FUL	Provision of a dropped kerb to create a driveway at the front of the house	2 Jubilee Road
14/04779/FUL	Erection of single and two storey extension	10 Wesley Ave

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Signed **Dated**

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- 104.2** Correspondence from Mr and Mrs Lanning regarding the parcel of land no. 6748 at Cobblers Way was noted. It was agreed to write to BANES with this letter, stating the Parish Council's support of the comments therein and sending a copy to Mr and Mrs Lanning.
- 104.3** Correspondence regarding development sites in Mendip DC on the boundary of Westfield was noted.
- 104.4** The suggestion from a local resident that the 10 acre shortfall in the quota of green space for Westfield should be addressed in the Placemaking Plan was supported and Cllr Butcher stated that it was his intention to include this item.
- 104.5** The Planning Application no 14/03702/FUL Erection of a detached three bedroom two storey dwelling at 40 Bryant Avenue was to go to the Development Control Committee at BANES on 19th November 2014.

105. Planning Decisions

The Planning Decisions were noted

106. Wildlife area / Park at land north of Fosseway Gardens

The Committee noted that a valuation was underway and this would be brought to Council for consideration before any further action was taken.

107. It's Your Neighbourhood

It was noted that the Westfield Allotments and Gardening Society, St Peters Church and Fosse Way School were all interested in entering the Its Your Neighbourhood scheme next year. The Committee was very pleased with this support.

Resolved: that, in response to their question, it be suggested to Fosse Way School that they undertake some community gardening at the small triangle of land at the entrance to Fosseway Gardens and possibly around the road sign. BANES had already indicated that it would be happy for local people to plant on this land, but further contact with BANES should be made before work commences.

108. Specification for the Flowers in Public Places Contract

The Clerk reported on a meeting with the Flowers Contractor, Chair of the Council and herself. Feedback from the Contractor revealed that due to the burden of watering the hanging basket trees by hand, the labour involved took him below the minimum wage. He suggested that it was worthwhile installing taps and an automatic watering system at both hanging basket trees at an estimated cost of £2,740. The Committee recognised the high standard of the flower display this year and the good impact it had on Westfield. It was keen

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to find a solution to the watering difficulties in order to avoid a situation where the flowers contractor changes every year because the specification is not feasible.

Resolved: (1) To obtain full costings on installing water taps and an automatic watering system at the two hanging basket locations.
(2) For now, to remove the troughs above the Pharmacy from the specification due to the difficulties in watering automatically.

109. Norton Hill Recreation Ground

The Committee discussed the meeting on 23rd October with Chris Hill and Daniel Noad of BANES regarding the possibility of CCTV linked to the Control Room in Bath. The quote from Greensward to pollard the Cherry Tree in order to create a line of sight for the camera was received, as was the quote from BANES for the CCTV and monitoring.

There was a wide ranging discussion on the need for CCTV at the Recreation Ground, and as a result it was felt that this should go to the full Parish Council for a decision.

Resolved: (1) that this item be put on the Parish Council agenda for a full discussion.
(2) that in the meantime, the Clerk puts in applications for funding for CCTV at Norton Hill Recreation Ground as follows: £5,000 to the Police Commissioners Community Action Fund; £2,000 to the Quartet Express Fund; £1,500 to the North Somerset Youth and Childrens Fund; £3,000 from Norton Hill Recreation Trust. The remainder coming from the Parish Council's funds.

110. Snow Wardens

It was noted that three Snow Wardens were not continuing this year and that a plea to local people for more volunteers had not yielded any support yet. Local resident and existing Snow Warden, Mike Chun had agreed to be the Snow Warden contact at BANES this year. Cllr Andrew Butcher offered to be added to the list of Snow Wardens.

111. Noticeboards

The Committee noted Cllr Appleyards proposal that the Ward Councillors' Initiative Funding in the amount of £2,441 be used for a double noticeboard at the allotment site (each half holding 4 sides of A4) with the remainder being used for noticeboards as the Parish Council wishes.

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It was further noted that the Norton Radstock College noticeboard for Westfield local shops was nearing completion. This cost £400 plus glazing and installation.

Resolved: that in addition to the Norton Radstock College noticeboard for the local shops, to purchase a double noticeboard for the allotment site and a further noticeboard for Nightingale Way. Costs to be brought to the next meeting.

112. Hard standing at the time capsule

The Committee noted that it is holding £1,100 in Ward Councillors Initiative Funding for a hard standing at the time capsule / Christmas Tree. The priority for hard standing at this location was discussed in detail.

Resolved: to request from Cllr Appleyard that the £1,100 be spent on two new benches for the area of green space around the Christmas Tree.

113. Fun Fair in Westfield

The Committee received correspondence from Mr J Stokes requesting a fun fair in Westfield.

Resolved: that the request is declined.

114. 2015 16 Budget

The Committee discussed the draft budget for Environment and Development.

Resolved: that the draft budget is agreed.

115. Raising the Profile of Westfield

The Committee discussed how to raise the profile of Westfield given that many organisations still refer to Westfield businesses and homes as being in either Midsomer Norton or Radstock. The possibility of a page in the Westfield Warbler showing the boundary map was discussed.

Resolved: that the next issue of the Westfield Warbler includes a double page showing the boundary of Westfield.

116. Westfield Warbler March 2015

Resolved: that in order to avoid circulating the Westfield Warbler close to the election, that the March Warbler be published in February.

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117. Items for the next agenda

20mph speed limit in Westfield (Cllr Butcher)

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.

118. Land at Westhill Club

Resolved: that correspondence from the Solicitor be noted and that work on the registration of the land proceeds as recommended by the Solicitor.

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