

**Westfield Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014 commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), R Appleyard, A Butcher (Vice Chair) , A Clarke, D Cooper, G Fuller, and P Wilkinson.

**Attending:** 3 members of the public  
Mr Simon de Beer, Bath and North East Somerset Council  
Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk)

Comments from the public

Fun Fair at Norton Hill Recreation Ground: Three members of the public attended to give feedback on the Fun Fair at Norton Hill. They had been pleasantly surprised with the event, it appeared to have been run professionally. Traffic was not huge, although more advertising would have made it busier. Opening times on the fly posters did differ slightly with those agreed with the Council, however they were pleased to see that the fair did not extend significantly beyond the agreed hours. The Chairman thanked the residents for their feedback which was extremely helpful. He was glad their peace was not disturbed beyond what you would expect from a fair and assured residents that if the Parish Council invites the fair to return to Norton Hill Recreation Ground, it would attend not more than once a year and the Council would strive to give more notice in the future.

**20. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**21. Declarations of Interest and dispensations**

Cllrs Wallbridge and Fuller declared prejudicial interests in item 5 Dropped Kerbs, by virtue of the fact that they lived in homes which would benefit from dropped kerbs. They did not take part in discussion, nor did they vote.

**22. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**23. Community Infrastructure Levy**

The Chairman welcomed Simon de Beer, Policy and Environment Manager, BANES to discuss the introduction of the CIL and whether, through it, the Parish Council may obtain funds towards a new Community Centre.

Mr de Beer gave an overview of the s.106 system, which was being scaled back so that in future it would only apply to affordable housing. The new CIL

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system would tax all development on non negotiable rates per square metre. 15% of this income would go directly to the Parish Council to be spent on infrastructure, rising to 25% for those local councils with a neighbourhood plan. There would be a cap on such income in any one year. Decision on how the remaining 75% should be spent would rest with BANES.

With regard to Westfield, Mr de Beer agreed to pass on information about how many key housing sites might come forward in Westfield. However, income from this source was not likely to be significant. There was a discussion on the sizeable developments in the neighbouring areas. Mr de Beer agreed to provide some clarity on whether the Mendip developments were likely to go ahead, as it was his understanding that they were not included in the Mendip local plan.

The Chairman thanked Mr de Beer for attending, it had been extremely helpful and assisted in the understanding of this issue.

### **24. Dropped kerbs at the Waterside Park Estate**

The Committee received feedback from Cllr Appleyard regarding the possibility of providing assistance to residents in those houses with drives but no dropped kerbs. Cllr Appleyard was thanked for his advice and it was regretfully noted that there was no financial assistance which could be given.

### **25. Junction at Waterside Way / Waterside Road**

The Committee discussed the request for the change of traffic priority at this junction, and, failing that, a renewal of the white lines which were now faded.

**Resolved:** That this definitely needs to be looked at and Cllr Appleyard arranges for the Traffic Engineer at BANES to conduct an assessment.

### **26. Parking at Cobblers Way**

The Committee received correspondence from a local resident at Upper Court and Cllr Cooper outlined various conversations with local people regarding the hazardous parking by people dropping off children at the nursery. In particular, parking on the corner of Cobblers Way / Upper Court which restricted visibility for those residents turning out of Upper Court.

**Resolved:** (1) That the Clerk asks if a PCSO might be present at dropping off time, and as appropriate ask the nursery to request that people be more careful.  
(2) Accepting that the lines are advisory only, that Cllr Appleyard requests that this corner be considered for white lines. This would not necessarily resolve the situation but would improve visibility.

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**27. Larch Court**

Steve Baker of Taylor Wimpey had received the residents' petition, however despite chasing was still in the process of confirming ownership of the land. The Committee discussed the fact that this would be a low priority for them.

**28. Update on the BANES Local Transport Improvement Scheme**

The Committee noted that the Silver Street crossing is included in the 2014/15 programme funded by developer contributions. The scheme to upgrade the crossing at Wells Road to Puffin is on the task register, awaiting funding from development in the area.

**29. Policing Policy**

The Policing Policy was noted. Cllr Appleyard reported that there was to be a meeting, open to the public at the Guildhall on 16<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm where the Policing Plan and changes to police stations in this area were to be discussed.

**30. Street Trading Policy**

The consultation from BANES was noted.

**31. Planning Applications for Consideration**

There were no planning applications this month.

**32. Planning Decisions**

The list of Planning Decisions was noted. In addition it was noted that the Planning Appeal at 1 The Leaze had been allowed.

**32. Feedback on events**

(1) The Fun Fair at Norton Hill 14-18 May 2014: The Committee discussed all aspects of the Fun Fair, including the feedback from local residents, people using the fun fair and the Police.

**Resolved:** (a) to put an article in the next Westfield Warbler to include a quote from the Police and local residents.

(2) The Open Day at Norton Hill 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014: This had been a brilliant day and Cllr Cooper thanked all Councillors who attended for their support. The flowers were being watered and cared for by a local resident and another local resident was allowing access to their electricity to enable the benches to be installed this week. The emergence of a Westfield boules team was encouraging and had been welcomed via Twitter as far afield as New Zealand. The Chairman thanked Cllr Cooper for all her work.

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**33. Westfield Fun Day**

Cllr Wilkinson gave a full overview of arrangements for the Fun Day and it was noted that a briefing meeting was to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> June. He raised the issue of funding. The Parish Council had stepped in to organise the Fun Day when Luckington Carnival Club stepped down, and in the process the main funding opportunity had been missed. The Parish Council's funding of the sound system was much appreciated. However, further funding would allow this event to really grow.

**Resolved:** that a recommendation be made to the Finance and Personnel for further funding.

**34. Items for the next agenda**

- Road paint at St Peters Road (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.

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