

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Oval Office, St Peter's Business Park
Westfield, BA3 3BX
Phone: 01761 410669
Email: council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

Chairman: Cllr R Moss Parish Clerk: Mrs L J Welch FILCM



Established 2011

5th February 2016

Dear Resident of Westfield,

We're very proud that our own Westfield Parish Council has become the first parish council in B&NES to have been awarded the prestigious national Quality Award under the new Local Council Award Scheme, a clear indication of the very high standards that our community enjoys.

Continuing with this, our residents' group and Parish Council have started the drafting and formal endorsement of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans are a new and exciting process set up by central government to absolutely ensure that local interests and wishes form an integral part of decision making for the future planning of our local communities.

Our Neighbourhood Plan will be drafted after extensive consultation with all members of the community and that process will include open days and community meetings, where you can have your say on what you would like to see in Westfield.

For example that means what style and quantity of housing is to be built to meet local needs, the kind of shops we need, how we provide for our younger and older people, what and where we provide education, which areas we prefer to keep protected as green space, how we manage traffic and local services and so on....

The finished plan is then voted on by a local referendum of all residents of Westfield. Only then are the results submitted for formal endorsement by the Planning authorities.

After that endorsement with the Local Authority the desires, wishes and aspirations of Westfield residents for the future of our community are ensured and will be reflected in all future developments in the area.

The Neighbourhood Plan becomes a legal document which the Local Authority needs to consider in its decisions for our Parish, so it is a very useful and effective way to express our desires on how Westfield goes forward.



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Another real plus for the preparation and endorsement of a Neighbourhood Plan is that it will enable Westfield Parish Council to access a higher percentage of the Community Infrastructure Levy, which is the payment all builders and developers are required to pay to fund infrastructure improvements in the locality of their development.

We'll be starting the process with a Household Survey, which you will be receiving very soon.

Please be absolutely assured that the information you provide in this survey is completely anonymous. No data will be used for any purpose other than in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan for Westfield.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in the survey and if you are interested in being part of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ron Hopkins'.

Cllr Ron Hopkins
Chairman Westfield Neighbourhood Plan Group