

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held in the boardroom at the Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield on 11th July 2022 commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Bryan Wallbridge (Chair), Diana Cooper, Geoff Fuller, James Honess, Eleanor Jackson and Pat Williams

Absent: Cllr Ron Hopkins,

Also attending: Lesley Close, Parish Clerk, Tracey Stephens, Deputy Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed Richard Holden, Operations Manager, B&NES who gave a presentation on the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone.

31. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received from Cllr Hopkins and accepted.

32. Declarations of interest and dispensation

There were no declarations of interest.

33. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13th June 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

34. Planning applications for consideration

22/02438/FUL – 20 Elm Terrace, Erection of a new detached house on a plot to the rear of no. 19

Committee objected to this proposal on the basis of the Westfield Neighbourhood Plan, Policy 1:

Proposals should reflect the character of the surrounding area and protect the amenity of neighbours. It should reinforce the uniformity of the street by reflecting the scale, height and form of its neighbours.
Proposals that would lead to over-development of a site will be resisted.

Councillors also raised concerns regarding the access to the property, which is very narrow and increasingly busy.

35. Planning Decisions

The planning decisions were noted.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

36. Planning Appeals

22/00045/RF - Erection of a dwelling, The Vicarage, St Peter's Road

22/00043/RF - Installation of hard standing driveway with drop kerb access

The Planning Appeals were noted.

37. Recreation Ground – Norton Hill

Rugbytots – to allow a banner advertising the classes.

Resolved: If Rugbytots is a commercial enterprise to advise the owner of the business that the Parish Council does not allow advertising on the Recreation Ground for advertising.

Proposed office space

The draft plan was noted.

Resolved: To highlight the need for more storage space if possible along the back of the pavilion and to request an estimate of the costs.

38. Recreation Ground - Westhill

- **Mobile CCTV update**

The Clerk advised that she is now in receipt of the information required by B&NES in order to install the camera, and has passed this information on to B&NES but that she is still waiting for confirmation from B&NES Street Lighting. The total cost of moving the mobile CCTV and re-installing it is £1,527.

Resolved: To continue to chase B&NES for permission to install the mobile CCTV and to ensure the camera is in place for at least one year once it is installed

- **Play inspections**

The medium risk item on the play inspection, regarding the fence damage, was noted. It was felt that the fence repair would not last as when it was repaired recently it was almost immediately damaged again.

Resolved: to contact the Inspectors to query the level of risk as access to the car park through the regular gate has the same impact.

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Signed **Dated**

Westfield Parish Council

- **Westhill Club update**

The update was given by the Clerk and noted.

39. Planter at Wesley Avenue

Resolved: to accept the quote from Foundations Up for a brick construction of £6,822 plus VAT.

39. Tree planting on Lincombe Road

Resolved: (1) to advise the resident that permission needs to be sought from B&NES to plant fruit trees on the land and to express support for this project.

(2) Cllr Jackson to contact B&NES to offer support.

40. Request to put up a silhouette of a miner

Resolved: (1) to accept the offer from the Somerset Miners' Welfare Trust to erect a silhouette of a miner close to the coal truck at Elm Tree Avenue with a noticeboard with information on coal mines in the local area.

(2) to advise they need permission from CURO, the owners of the land

41. Waterside Valley

- **Request for letter of support for funding**

Resolved: to send a letter of support for Somer Valley Rediscovered

42. Climate emergency

Climate and Biodiversity Festival

The information on the festival was noted.

43. Clean and Green Radstock and Westfield

Contact has been made from B&NES advising of extra cleaning operatives in Westfield during the week of 8-12th August and asking if there were any areas in Westfield that they should concentrate on.

Resolved: to respond advising of areas that Councillors felt would benefit from this initiative.

44. Pharmaceutical needs assessment

Resolved: to respond to the consultation with strong support for Westfield Pharmacy.

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Signed **Dated**

45. Traffic lights at Cobblers Way

Complaints had been made to Westfield Parish Council and to B&NES regarding problems with the timings on the lights, making it dangerous for pedestrians crossing. B&NES Highways had responded with a report after time observing the traffic lights and mitigation offered, which was noted and accepted.

46. Events

Cllr Jackson reported on the judging day for Westfield in Bloom, which she said was very successful. Thanks were offered to Cllrs Jackson and Hopkins for assisting.

Cllr Jackson advised on Christians Together plans for Remembrance Sunday – November 13th.

Resolved: to add Remembrance Sunday to the next agenda

The meeting closed at 8:24pm

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Signed **Dated**