

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held in the boardroom at the Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield on 8th April 2024 commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Diana Cooper (Chair), Kit Biggs, Geoff Fuller, Ron Hopkins (Vice Chair), Eleanor Jackson, Paul Millard and Pat Williams

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

Absent: Cllrs James Cradock, James Honess and Phil Wilkinson

153. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cradock, Honess and Wilkinson.

154. Declarations of interest and dispensation

- Cllr Millard declared an interest in item 13 WAGS Cultivation Standards and Review Process - as a member of the WAGS committee
- Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 5 – Planning applications for consideration - as a member of the B&NES Planning Committee

155. Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the last meeting held on 11th March were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

156. Neighbourhood Plan Review working group

Cllr Hopkins reported on a meeting with George Blanchard and Alice Barnes of B&NES. The final Housing Needs report had been received. The Clerk had prepared a draft response to the B&NES Local Plan, for which the Committee thanked her.

Resolved: to agree the response to the B&NES Local Plan with emphasis on the Westfield Housing Needs survey.

157. Planning applications for consideration

There were no objections to the following application:

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|---|
| 24/00877/FUL | Lilliput House, Fosseway | Erection of garage/workshop for domestic use only |
|--------------|--------------------------|---|

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

Westfield Parish Council

158. Planning Decisions

The planning decisions were noted.

159. Recreation Ground – Norton Hill

There were no items to discuss.

160. Recreation Ground – Westhill

Changing Rooms – An email from the architect was discussed.

Resolved: to accept any items on the plan needed to comply with Building Regulations.

Suggestions for fencing around the football pitch – an email from Westfield FC offering to help with the cost of fencing at the pitch was discussed.

Resolved: not to put a fence around the football pitch as the Recreation Ground is for use by everyone.

161. Waterside Valley

It was noted that there are still a lot of scrambler motorbikes using the valley as a racetrack.

Resolved: (1) to discuss this with Somer Valley Rediscovered at a meeting scheduled later in April.
(2) to investigate a way of installing a barrier at the entrance near St Nicholas Church

162. Highways

Speed indicator devices – verbal update

Committee were advised that the speed indicators had now been ordered as B&NES had confirmed they would do the amendment to the electrics at the Highfields side of the road at a cost to B&NES.

163. Hanging basket and flag/Christmas tree poles weight testing -

Committee were advised that there was work needed doing to some of the hanging basket trees and flagpoles and that RHC Lifting had been contracted to do the work.

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Signed **Dated**

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164. Events

D-Day – 6th June: The Risk assessment was noted.

Resolved: to discuss with a contractor the anchoring of the soldier silhouette as a permanent installation.

Easter Egg Hunt, March /April – It was reported that there had been some entries from the Easter Egg Hunt carried out at Westhill.

30 Days Wild – there was no further information on this item.

Love Parks Week – there was no further information on this item.

165. Creating a Town or Parish Nature Action Plan

Resolved: to agree the Parish Nature Action Plan.

WAGS had circulated an appendix to the Tenancy Agreement relating to cultivation standards and review process.

Resolved: to agree the appendix.

To resolve that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

166. Quotes

- It was noted that the noticeboard at Elm Tree Avenue is deteriorating at the base of the legs.

Resolved: to get quotes for:

- a. a way of fixing the current noticeboard with a ground fixing kit
- b. a new noticeboard

- Some information had been received about the coal mining disaster of 1908 at Norton Hill Pit.

Resolved: to get a quote for a plaque for the Norton Hill coal truck planter to match the one on the Wellsway planter.

The meeting closed at 8:16pm

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Signed **Dated**