

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 8th February 2016 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), D Cooper, K Docherty, R Hopkins, E Jackson, P Williams and G Fuller.

Also attending: Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Admin Asst, 3 members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs A Seaman-Moss and R Moss

Absent: Cllr A Butcher

Comments from the Public:

- (1) One member of the public raised concerns about the roundabout at Glebelands, which has been planted up with daffodil bulbs to create some colour in the Spring. These plants have all been damaged by vehicles cutting across the roundabout instead of using the road properly and by vehicles parking on the roundabout.
He also wanted to bring to Council's attention a property on Glebelands that has a build up of waste material in the garden – front and back. Cllr Jackson took the details and will investigate
- (2) The Secretary of Meadow Rangers FC was concerned about the new ramp at Norton Hill Recreation Ground. The concern was that it is too close to the pitch and could cause a serious injury if a player were to collide with it. It was explained to her that Council will provide mats to cover the ramp during matches, which the teams have to be responsible for putting in place and then putting back in the changing rooms. Also, the pitch may well be moved slightly next season, creating more space for players. She took the comments away and said she would advise players and officers from the league.

167. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Seaman-Moss who was unwell and Cllr Moss.

168. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 4 Youth Provision as Secretary of Radstock Youth Partnership and in item 5 Planning Applications as member of Development Management Committee in BaNES.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

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169. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

170. Youth Provision

A letter was received from Sam Plummer. Cllr Wallbridge proposed acceptance of the idea to recruit a new Senior Support Worker to lead work in Westfield and an Assistant Youth Support Worker to work beside them. That was seconded by Cllr Hopkins and the vote was unanimous.

Cllr Wallbridge also proposed that a small committee of Councillors, the new Youth Support Workers and members of the public be set up in order to look at the possibility of extending the Youth provision in Westfield. This was seconded by Cllr Cooper and the vote was unanimous.

Resolved: (1) to accept Sam's suggestions for starting Youth work in Westfield
(2) to create a committee to investigate extending Youth provision in Westfield

171. Planning Applications for consideration

There were no objections to the Planning Application below:

16/00413/TCA	Fosseway Cottages, Wells Rd	04F7 04F8 04FB 04FE 04FH 04FJ (G1)- Cherries - reduce all by up to 4m (approx 20%) They have been pruned back hard from power lines so have some eccentric growth towards the houses, we are hoping to neaten them up and prevent complaints from tenants. 04F9 - (T1) Cherry - Crown lift to 3m max and reshape 04FL - Clear the Bt line. 04FG - (T2) Cherry - Tree is in decline with large amounts of decay and dieback on main limbs - fell to ground level - leave logs on habitat pile next to woodland, neatly stacked.
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There were no objections to the Planning Application below and the previous objections to the previous planning application no longer applied. Councillors felt that the dwelling will improve the area in accordance with policies D2 and D4 and bungalows are welcome in the area.

16/00230/FUL	40 Bryant Avenue	Erection of two bedroom bungalow
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The meeting was suspended to allow a resident of Upper Court to comment on the planning application below. He advised that when he moved in there was a natural screen of trees sheltering them from the trading estate. Around the end of 2014 these trees were cut down and Fourth Avenue Motors began erecting steel girders. They also have been filling the space behind their property with tyres. Planning Enforcement have been in touch with them and the application below has been submitted retrospectively. He wished to convey

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thanks to Mrs Emily Merko for her assistance in contacting BaNES and getting the issue to be looked at by Planning Enforcement.

The Committee objected strongly to the application on the grounds that:

- a. It is contrary to policy S1 and S3 in the Local Plan 2007 causing a loss of amenity to residents
- b. It is endangering the watercourse of the adjacent stream.
- c. It has created an unstable mass

15/05116/FUL	Fourth Avenue Autos	Unit 33, Fourth Avenue, Westfield Industrial Estate	Removal of old metal link fence and replace fence metal work and erection of new galvanized fencing (retrospective)
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The Committee received correspondence from Point Cloud consultants. The Committee objected to the application below on the grounds that it contravenes SE14 of the Local Plan – Elm Tree Avenue has traditional miner’s gardens and this is part of the urban design, the development would spoil the urban landscape. There will also be overcrowding in a very narrow street and loss of car parking.

15/05814/FUL	Dave Fishlock Properties Ltd	Perry Close	Erection of 2 no. dwellings with associated works
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172. Planning Decisions

The planning decisions were noted.

173. West of England Joint Spatial Plan Consultation

Cllrs noted that Cllr Hopkins will represent the Parish Council in this process.

174. Plans to convert offices above Mardons to residences

Cllr Jackson gave an update on the application from Linden Homes to convert the space above Mardons. A pre-application has been done and Cllrs Jackson and Moss have objected.

175. Recreation Grounds

The Committee received the results of the consultation with residents on lighting at the basketball quote. The Committee also received information about the fence at Norwest Bowling Club and confirmed that the fencing required to stop people going behind the changing rooms was on land leased to Norwest Bowling Club and was therefore the Club’s responsibility.

Resolved: (1) To go ahead with the security light at the basketball court;
(2) To straighten the fence at Norwest Bowls club car park and put a metal strap across the top of the section closest to the

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gate, as was done by the play area, and to check that the posts are not rotten.

(3) To provide mats to cover the new ramp at Norton Hill during football matches and to move the pitch once the football season has finished.

176. Flowers in Public Places

The hanging basket tub and the new beds around the trees at Jubilee Green are to be planted by Fosse Way School. The businesses around Jubilee Green have been contacted with regard to maintenance of the beds there. The planting of the miners' tubs has yet to be confirmed. Cllr Jackson advised that she is to attend the meeting of the Potting Shed next week but that the Potting Shed can only water once a week. An article to appeal for volunteers to maintain the beds has been placed in the Westfield Warbler.

Resolved: (1) Cllr Cooper to take on responsibility of purchasing plants for displays and organising help to maintain the beds.
(2) Cllr Hopkins to contact the college to establish if they have enough plants for a co-ordinated display

177. Chairman's Badge of Office

Resolved: To order the chain of office from Radstock Trophies with WESTFIELD on the front.

178. Remembrance Day Memorial

Resolved: To put on next agenda as Co-op Funeral Care hadn't responded with a quote

179. Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations

It was agreed that there should be some celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday.

Resolved: Councillors to look into options and circulate to the Clerk for consideration before the next meeting.

180. Forthcoming tenders for supported bus services

Resolved: to respond to the consultation stating the Parish Council's wish to see the No. 42 bus service continue and strengthen since it is vital to local people.

181. Funfair in Westfield

Resolved: To contact funfair organisers and advise that we would like the funfair to be in place for one week only. The preferred week was

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the second week offered as there is a chance the football season could run over due to the wet weather recently.

182. Items for the next agenda

- Remembrance Day memorial
- St Hugh's Church
- Progress with Youth Work in Westfield
- The Queen's 90th birthday

The meeting closed at 8:55pm

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