

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 28th November 2011 commencing at 7pm

Present: Chair of the Committee: Cllr R Baber
Chair of the Council: Cllr R Appleyard (Vice Chair of the Committee)
Councillors: G Fuller, E Newman, S Russell and P Wilkinson.

In Attendance: Mrs L J Welch (Parish Clerk)

Public Session

The Chairman welcomed Craig Barnes of Greensky Developments and Edward Drew of Cave Associates, who outlined the forthcoming planning application at the site of the former Norton Hill Garage on Fosseyway. This has been boarded up for two years and the Committee was informed of the proposed development consisting of a fish and chip shop and two retail shops. The former planning application had been altered in a number of ways, one of which was the removal of flats above the buildings. There was a query about whether two disabled parking spaces was sufficient.

25. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

26. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Appleyard declared a personal interest in Planning Application 11/24518/FUL Replacement of two windows on front elevation, Radstock Baptist Church, since it was funded from the Ward Councillors initiative fund.

27. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2011 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

28. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

29. Planning Applications for Consideration

Resolved: (1) That no objections be made to the following planning applications:

11/24518/FUL	Replacement of two windows on front elevation	Radstock Baptist Church, Wells Road
11/01772/FUL	Residential-led mixed use redevelopment comprising of 176 no. dwellings, community facilities, offices, town centre link, formal green space and associated works	Site of Alcan Factory, Nightingale Way.
367726 154113	Stopping up of highway at land adjacent to 2 Waterside Way	2 Waterside Way

(2) It was further agreed that in respect of application no 11/01772/FUL at the site of the Alcan Factory that the point should be made to the Planning Case Officer that the Parish Council welcomes the development and, arising from this, a contribution towards the employment facilities proposed and supplied by Westfield Parish Council that would have a significant impact on the Parish, would help address the change of use of this land from employment to residential.

30. Planning Decisions

There were no Planning Decisions received from BANES this month.

31. Community Plan for Westfield

Resolved: To commence the process for a Community Plan for Westfield with an awareness campaign through the local press, the website and the BANES website if possible. Furthermore, encouraging volunteers by word of mouth was an important means of getting a Steering Group together. Any volunteers should be directed to the office in the first instance. The Committee would then convene a meeting of volunteers, with a mandate to progress this area of work.

32. Development of the Parish Council's website

The Committee received the report of the Clerk and agreed that tenders be sought for a website to meet the needs of the Parish Council, with capacity for

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it to develop. A launch around April 2012 once the new Parish Council logo is confirmed was established as the target.

33. Maintenance of the Pit Path

The Committee received the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee that it researches the issue of the Pit Path in respect of ownership because of any possible financial implication to Westfield Parish Council.

Cllr Appleyard confirmed that the lower Pit Path is owned and maintained by BANES and that the upper Pit Path was constructed by Coates as a benefit to local people, but that Coates did not undertake to maintain the path. An officer of BANES is currently talking to the landowners with a view to having it adopted by BANES as a cycle path.

Resolved: (1) that the Community Pay Back Service should be held back until the ownership issue is resolved so as not to give a false impression that the Parish Council own or maintain the land.

(2) That the two flowerbeds at the end of Longfellow Road be cleared of weeds by the Outside Staff in order to allow the local residents to replant and maintain if they wished.

34. South West in Bloom

The Committee was delighted with the response from Fosseyway School to grow some of the flowers for the hanging baskets. Cllr Appleyard agreed to provide details of the person at BANES who would advise on plants and colour schemes.

35. Time Capsule

Noted: That St Hugh's Catholic Church was to provide a Benedictine Medal, with information about its history in the area.

36. Living Christmas Tree

Noted: That donations from businesses totalling £250 towards the living Christmas Tree had been received so far.

37. Allotments

Resolved: (1) That the draft lease is not signed at this time due to the anomaly which does not allow Westfield Allotment and Garden Society to fully manage the allotment site. Cllr Appleyard to contact the contractor who prepared the site, for payment of his invoice via BANES.

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38. Re-signage at the Recreation Grounds

The Committee discussed the updating of the signs at Westhill Recreation Ground.

Resolved: (1) That the sign be amended to read:

Westhill Recreation Area
Please be respectful to all users and equipment.
Dog owners – Please keep your dogs under control at all times and dispose of any
mess in bins provided, or take home.
Please dispose of all litter in bins provided.
To report items please call 01761 410669.
Westfield Parish Council

(2) That an equivalent sign be made for Norton Hill Recreation Area.

39. Free Cycle Parking for your organisation and the community

The Committee considered an invitation from Life Cycle UK for free cycle parking stands for the community.

Resolved: To request one or two stands for the area outside Norton Hill Pavilion.

40. Calendar of Meetings

Resolved: To meet on either the 2nd or 4th Monday of the month, the dates to be confirmed by the Clerk.

Congratulations and thanks were expressed to Cllr Sheena Russell on producing the first newsletter.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm.

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Signed Dated