

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 8th July 2013 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs A Butcher (Vice Chair, in the Chair), A Clarke, D Cooper, G Fuller and B Wallbridge.

In Attendance: Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk)

Comments from the public

There were no public comments.

34. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Appleyard who was on holiday and Cllr Newman who was unwell.

35. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

36. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

37. Planning Applications for Consideration

37.1 There were no objections to the following application:

13/02274/FUL	Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.	1 Larch Court
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37.2 The Committee had no objections to the following application as it stands, but requested that B&ANES Planning Officers consider it within the context of the possible development of the CFH site.

13/02435/FUL	Erection of 7 dwellings with associated works	St Peter's Park, Cobblers Way
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37.3 The Committee raised serious objections to the following applications due to (1) at the proposed roundabout at the bottom of Wells Hill there will be constant traffic from the right, creating long tail backs regularly up Wells Hill; (2) new housing developments in Westfield mean that traffic from Westfield

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Signed **Dated**

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down Wells Hill is increasing and will continue to do so over the next years. This should be considered fully when determining the road layout now; (3) experience has shown that if a fully loaded HGV tries to turn right at the bottom of Wells Hill then due to the camber and space restrictions of the road it will either get stuck or be in serious danger of falling.

13/02436/EOUT	Demolition and redevelopment of former railway lands to provide mixed use development including up to 210 residential units of varying sizes, up to 695 sq m of retail space; up to 325 sq m of floor space for community uses, conversion of Brunel rail shed for use class B1 or D1; car parking and new bus stops; works to various existing roads within the town and establishment of new roads to service the development including new bridge structures; new public realm works, ground remediation, alterations to ground levels, works to trees and existing habitat areas; upgrading of below ground utilities; new children's play areas; establishment of new sustrans route and diversion of existing public right of way.	GWR Railway Line Frome Rd, Radstock.
13/02534/CA	Demolition of bridges/underpass, former forge/wagon works, railway platforms and wall in connection with the development of the former GWR railway land.	GWR Railway Line Frome Rd, Radstock.

38. Planning Decisions

The Committee noted the recent planning decisions in the Parish and clarification on planning application no. 13/01914/FUL relating to proposed housing on the site of the former Elm Tree Pub, Wells Road.

39. Neighbourhood Planning (Cllrs Butcher and Wallbridge)

This item would be brought back to the next meeting.

40. Feedback on the Westfield Fun Day – 16th June 2013

The consensus of opinion was that the Fun Day was not a success, due in part to the weather, but also to flaws in its organisation. If the Parish Council is to back this event, then it must be better than this.

RESOLVED that organisation issues need to be discussed with Luckington Carnival Club before this event happens again.

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41. Westfield Walkers

Cllr Fuller reported on a meeting with Public Rights of Way Officer, Sheila Petherbridge, Cllr Moss, Mr Craggs and himself on 13th June. The public footpath is to revert back to the its original path as shown on the plans.

42. Westhill Sports and Social Club

Communication is awaited from Westhill Sports and Social Club to set up a working group to explore the possibility of a community facility at the site.

43. Christmas Lights Switch On Event

It was noted that portable lighting has been arranged, as has a portable manual switch for the turning on of the lights at the event. Also the lights around the local shops are now controlled from one switch instead of individual light switches for each shop, which created anomalies in turning on and off times last year. It was further noted that, as agreed by F&P earlier in the year, a lighting point has been added to the roof of the Pharmacy, where a tree can be located this year

RESOLVED (1) that Thursday 28th November 2013 is the date for the Westfield Christmas Lights Switch on event; (2) that the event be combined with the grant funding awards again this year; (3) that the Clerk makes arrangements to book the Church hall, the Silver Band, the Ladies Choir and the Carnival Association for the stewarding; (4) that the two schools be invited again to nominate a pupil each to turn on the lights; (5) that a Temporary Events Notice be obtained and appropriate liaison with the Police; (6) that Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts be invited.

44. Norton Hill Play Area

The Committee discussed the meeting with Jeremy Dymond, B&NES Play Officer at Norton Hill Play Area.

RESOLVED (1) that the Clerk seeks quotes for the improvement of the existing play equipment at Norton Hill; (2) a leaflet is drafted highlighting the plans for the new table tennis, petanque court and basketball area and pointing the way towards the new play equipment for older children/teenagers; (3) at the appropriate time play companies be invited to visit the site and produce presentation boards for replacing the junior multi play equipment and installing at least two pieces of play equipment for older children/teenagers at a total cost of £25,000; (4) next year a consultation event is held at the site.

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45. Sign at the skate park/bmx track at Westhill Recreation Ground

The Committee noted the progress of the WPA in working with young people at Westhill Recreation Ground to draft a new sign for the skate park / bmx track.

46. Claimed path on the Kilmersdon estate

The Committee discussed correspondence from Savills regarding the path on land adjoining Westfield Industrial Estate.

RESOLVED to acknowledge the letter, stating that the Parish Council does not intend to stop acting as the applicant for the Modification Order.

47. Proposed creation of a new public footpath in Westfield

The Committee discussed correspondence from Graeme Stark, Senior Rights of Way Officer at B&NES.

RESOLVED to express the Committee's support of the proposed public footpath from the existing public footpath to Chaucer Road.

48. Westfield Questers

The Committee received the results of the initial public consultation on 19th June and expressed its continued support of the Questers' work.

49. Request for a Fun Fair at Norton Hill Recreation Ground in September

The Committee discussed a request for a Fun Fair at Norton Hill Recreation Ground. In principle Norton Hill is a much better venue for a fun fair than Westhill Recreation Ground because the houses are not so near.

RESOLVED to invite Mr Rogers to meet Cllr Fuller and any other interested Councillors on site to discuss (1) whether the gates were too narrow to allow in the fun fair vehicles; (2) the risk to the football ground so close to the start of the football season and whether this event could be booked in for May/June 2014; (3) stewarding needs; (4) details of the guarantee bond on the ground.

50. Correspondence from Mr P Greenwood

The Committee received correspondence from Mr Greenwood and his request that the Parish Council considers liaising with Westfield Primary School to allow children to enter and exit the school at the beginning and end of the school day via the double gates opposite the traffic lights on Cobblers Way in order to avoid the danger of children walking on narrow footpaths with heavy

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traffic at Westfield Primary School.

The Committee discussed the imminent permanent smiley face speed indicator device and the speed camera points to be positioned further down the road. Opening the double gates to the children would take the pressure off the foot traffic at the corner, but would create the need for a footpath across the grass into the school and a person from the school to open and close the gates.

RESOLVED to raise with the Head Teacher Mr Greenwood's suggestion and to discuss any other ideas to help improve the safety for children such as more railings.

51. Items for the next agenda

There were no items raised for the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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