

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 10th July 2017 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllrs B Wallbridge (Chair), D Cooper (Vice Chair), G Fuller, J Honess, R Hopkins, E Jackson, L Mansell and P Williams.

Also attending: Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk

Comments from the public

A representative from Fishlocks spoke about the Shambles, which is now a non designated heritage asset. The development includes 7 one bed , 3 two bed and 1 commercial unit. Original stone would remain on the front façade and the commercial unit can be converted to residential if need be. There are 7 new spaces for car parking and 6 from the Co op/Church land.

A representative from Aqua Sulis spoke about St Hughs Church which is intended for a mixture of commercial, community and residential use. There are five studio apartments, two on the back of the hall and three on the first floor with a caretakers flat. Toilets and kitchen would be included in the main hall. 10 parking spaces were allocated.

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

There were no apologies for absence.

39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

- Cllr Jackson declared a personal interest in item 4 Planning Applications as a member of the BANES Development Control Committee.
- Cllr Williams declared an interest in item 11 Allotments as her son lives in that area.

40. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were amended at minute 33 with the resolution to read: "Cllr Jackson to take this up with the tree officer at BANES". The following paragraph was also amended with the deletion of "this area is seriously overgrown" to "this area is accumulating weeds". With these amendments, the meeting held on 12th June 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

41. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Committee objected to the following application on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site, that it is out of character with the urban design

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Signed **Dated**

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and not in keeping with the street scene. There is insufficient parking and concern about fire access in what is a three storey building. It was also noted that the plans did not match the description in the weekly list.

17/02708/FUL	Erection of two storey detached dwelling following demolition of existing garage	16 May Tree Rd
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The Committee had no objections to the following application:

17/002887/FUL	Level front garden into hard standing and drop kerb to front of house	1 Ash Tree Ct
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42. PLANNING DECISIONS

The planning decisions were noted.

43. PLANNING APPEAL

The Planning Appeal at 9 Wells Square for the creation of access and parking to a classified highway (retrospective) was noted.

It was further noted that the Appeal at 8 Wells Square against the ceasing of the land to the front of the property for parking and reinstating the wall at the front, was dismissed.

44. ELECTRONIC PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee gave the following feedback to the system of looking at plans electronically. It was commented that the electronic planning application system limits availability to those who do not have access to electronic media and that it had concerns about how this might develop for the future and would like further information.

45. PUBLIC FOOTPATH CL/24107 COBBLERS WAY PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER

Resolved: That the Diversion Order be noted.

46. RECREATION GROUNDS – NORTON HILL

The Clerk had sought further quotes for remedial works at the play area, as suggested at the last meeting. There had been no responses.

A quote had been received for the resurfacing of the entire play area as requested at the last meeting.

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Resolved: To delegate to a Working Party led by Cllr Fuller the decision on whether to accept the original quote from TCL presented at the previous meeting, or to look at resurfacing the whole surface with the quote presented at this meeting.

The Committee received a quote for legionella testing at the Pavilion, which, whilst not mandatory, would be an additional check which might be combined with the existing legionella health and safety precautions.

Resolved: To agree the quote of £110.17 from Suez for legionella testing at the Pavilion.

47. RECREATION GROUNDS – WESTHILL

The Clerk had sought further quotes for remedial works at the play area as suggested at the last meeting. There had been no responses.

Resolved: To agree the quote from TCL presented at the last meeting in the amount of £3,742.05.

48. ALLOTMENTS

It was noted that the area at Larch Court was not owned by BANES and that therefore they would not visit the site or cut back as requested . The response from Westfield Allotment and Garden Society (WAGS) was received and their preference for allotments (up to 8 small plots) rather than a community garden was noted.

Resolved: That the Clerk contacts Persimmon Homes to find out whether they would be open to transferring the land to the Parish Council for allotment use.

49. HERITAGE TRAIL

The Committee received a quote for waymarker signs in a more robust material along with the final artwork for the information boards.

Resolved: (1) That the quote in the amount of £448.00 for the waymarker signs be agreed;
(2) That the artwork be agreed with the initial capitalising of 'South West' on the Roman Road board, the inclusion of 'Westfield' on the map on all boards and the changing of the colours on the waymarker signs and all the boards to red for Waterside Valley and green for Miners' Trail.

50. WELCOME TO WESTFIELD SIGN

The Committee discussed the location plan for the sign.

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Resolved: that the sign be installed at the entrance to Welton Road.

51. EVENTS

Westfield's 10th anniversary 2021: Although it is four years away, if a carnival or street parties are to be arranged then it would be good to make a start now. The Committee discussed the importance of the celebration being led by the community.

Resolved: To set up a community group for this purpose and to write an article for the Warbler to this effect.

52. FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

It was noted that judging was to take place that week.

53. DAMAGE TO THE PLANTING SCHEME

The Committee noted vandalism to the planting in the coal truck planter, with all the dahlias snapped off, four other plants ripped out and thrown on the floor.

In relation to green spaces in the public realm, it was also noted that there is a Community Empowerment Fund which, for Westfield, equated to £2,930, to be match funded.

Resolved: (1) That the damaged plants be reinstated with funds from the planting budget;
(2) That the resurfacing of the play areas be put forward as an item for Community Empowerment Funding.

54. HISTORY OF WESTFIELD EXHIBITION AT RADSTOCK MUSEUM

It was noted that work on the exhibition was moving forward and it was suggested that Michael Evis be invited to open the event.

55. FREDERICKS FOUNDATION

It was confirmed that the funds for helping businesses with economic development were now available to Westfield. Councillors were asked to think about a good way of using the money and bring to this meeting.

Resolved: That a meeting be requested with Radstock Town Council to put forward a joint plan to BANES.

56. FLY THE RED ENSIGN FOR MERCHANT NAVY DAY

The information was noted.

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Signed **Dated**

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57. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The information from Avon and Somerset Police was noted.

58. PLAQUE ON THE NEW BENCH AT THE TOP OF ELM TREE AVE

A plaque on the bench to the effect of 'In gratitude to the Bevin Boys of Westfield who were conscripted to the mines during the war' was discussed.

Resolved: That a plaque be put on the new bench at the bus stop at the top of Elm Tree Avenue be agreed, with the final wording to be confirmed by Cllr Jackson and paid for from her Ward Councillors Initiative funding.

59. ST HUGH'S CHURCH

This item had been discussed during public comments.

60. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Community Development Trusts (Cllr Mansell)
- Pre Feasibility Grant (Cllr Mansell)
- Grass Cutting (Cllr Hopkins)

The meeting closed at 9:05pm

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