

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held at the Oval Office, St Peters Business Park, Westfield on Monday 14th July 2014 commencing at 7pm

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

Absent: Cllrs Appleyard, Butcher, Wilkinson.

Attending: 3 members of the public
Mrs L Welch (Parish Clerk)

Comments from the public

Planning Application 14/02947/TPO 1 ash- fell and 3 ash prune, 29 Nightingale Way
– The Committee was asked to support this application due to the fact that two of the trees were diseased and the other three were overhanging property.

38. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Butcher who was unwell.

39. Declarations of Interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

40. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

41. Neighbourhood Plan / Community Plan for Westfield

The Chairman welcome Mr Ron Bevin and Rev Andrew Pottage of the Westfield Questers for a discussion on the Parish Council's aspirations for the Community Plan and the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. As a small group, the Questers were re-thinking the approach to the Community Plan and narrowing down the questions. They offered to help with the Neighbourhood Plan and they asked if the Council itself had any aspirations which they would like to see within the plan.

The Committee outlined the importance of the Community Plan which will give the Parish Council a remit within which to work and will be a strong document with which to discuss the needs of the Parish with BANES. However the Council had held back from putting in specific items because it wanted the document to be fully community led.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

42. Placemaking Plan Review of Housing Development Boundaries

The Committee received the update on the Placemaking Plan and invitation to extend involvement.

Resolved: (1) to submit an expression of interest to work with BANES on the Housing Development Boundaries, with a request for all plans in order to progress the works.
(2) to ask Cllr Butcher if he would kindly give the completion of the Placemaking Plan high priority and to offer the help of the Committee members and the Clerk in this process.

43. Mendip Core Strategy and Housing Plans

The consultation on the Main Modifications, along with Simon de Beer's information about the current status of applications on the boundary of Westfield and Mendip, was noted.

44. Planning Applications for Consideration

44.1 The Committee had no objection to the following application but asked for an assessment of the potential noise pollution to be taken into account before the final decision:

14/02582/FUL	Installation of external condensing unit to rear of building	Whitstones Fish and Chips, 36 Fosseyway
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44.2 There were no objections to the following applications:

14/02059/FUL	Erection of garage following demolition of existing garage	18 Inner Elm Terrace
14/02702/FUL	Erection of single storey rear extension	1 Elm Terrace
14/02947/TPO	1 x ash fell; 3 x ash pruning as detailed in application	29 Nightingale Way
14/02709/FUL	Erection of first floor extension	26 Woodpecker Ave

45. Planning Decisions

The list of planning decisions was noted.

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Signed **Dated**

46. Electronic Working with planning applications

Resolved: (1) To trial the electronic display of planning applications and, if successful, to dispense with paper copies.
(2) to purchase a laser pointer for the purpose.

47. Allotments

It was noted that a live junction box on the allotment boundary with 16 Redwood Close had been found. The residents had confirmed they will move it.

48. Front Gardens Competition

It was noted that the judging would take place on 17th July. Norton Green Nurseries had kindly provided vouchers in the amount of £25 and £10.

Resolved: (1) to award certificates this year to the runners up;
(2) to purchase a Front Gardens Competition cup, to be engraved each year, together with a miniature for the winner to keep.

49. Road lines at St Peter's Rd

Resolved: To remove this item from the agenda.

50. Parking at Larch Court

It was noted that both the square of green land and the area of green within Larch Court were now probably owned by the Crown.

Resolved: To contact BANES to ask that they now take steps to adopt the land.

51. Norton Hill Recreation Ground

51.1 Vandalism and anti social behaviour – the Committee was deeply concerned about the reports of anti social behaviour outlined in the agenda. The Police were aware of the difficulties.

Resolved: (1) To walk the grounds with the Police to discuss solutions, including the possibility of CCTV.
(2) Cllr Fuller to contact Ms Swift to discuss possible solutions

51.2 Litter at both Trust Grounds – The Committee considered a third litterpick each week during the summer.

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Signed **Dated**

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Resolved: To agree a third litter pick until the end of September, to cover the entire grounds.

52. Radstock Library

Plans to move the Library to Radco were noted.

52. Woodland Trust

Grant funding opportunities via the Woodland Trust were discussed.

Resolved: that all Councillors be asked to give some thought to the type and location of the trees and contact the Clerk, to whom delegated authority was given to place an order as appropriate.

53. Westhill Fun Day

This had been a brilliant day, a huge success and many thanks to the Wilkinson family who had pulled out all the stops and their neighbour. £435 had been banked, and only £100 of the £400 allocated to them had been spent. Therefore £735 would be set aside in the budget to help fund next year's event.

54. Items for the next agenda

Hazel Terrace – Cllr Cooper outlined serious concerns about speeding, combined with cars parked on the pavement, which forced vulnerable people to walk out on the road.

Cobblers Way parking – Feedback from the Police had been circulated and they asked about progress from BANES relating to white lines.

Fosseway School – Feedback from the Head Teacher indicated that marshalling of taxis at the entrance to the school was still a difficulty and residents had asked if BANES could help make this route to school safer.

It was agreed to exclude the press and public on the grounds that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

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Signed **Dated**