

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Westfield Green and Open Spaces Group held on
Monday 29th April 2019 at 6pm at Westfield Parish Council**

Present: Cllr Ron Hopkins (Chair), Cindy Carter, PCSO Steph Bishop, Cllr Geoff Fuller,
PC Mark Graham.

Attending: Cllr Eleanor Jackson. Lesley Close, Parish Clerk

Apologies: Cllr Bryan Wallbridge

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Bryan Wallbridge.
2. **Declarations of interest and dispensations** – Cllr Hopkins declared an interest due to his proximity to the open space at the Co op.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 4th March 2019 were agreed as a true record.
4. **Opportunities to enhance green and open space in Westfield**
The Working Group discussed and progressed each of the items in the attached table, Appendix 1.

As a result, the following items are highlighted for recommendation to the Parish Council, as outlined in detail in Appendix 2.

Short term

It is proposed to apply for s.106 funding for vandal resistant seating, benches and picnic tables to enhance Norton Hill Recreation Ground and replace those which are vandalised. A site meeting planned for 11th June at 10am.

Medium term

- (1) Lights on the path down to MSN – relocation of lights from Pit Path
 - a. Cost estimate
 - b. Consider placement of lights
 - c. What approvals are required
 - d. Opportunities for funding other than S106, particularly with focus on modal shift, connectivity etc.
- (2) Making the gateway path between MSN and Westfield accessible for all highlighting to B&NES requirements of the Equality Act 2010 (public sector equality duty) and opportunities for modal shift.

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- (3) Design in line with requirements of BS8300:2018 (Obtain free of charge copy through WPC status)

Long term

- Opportunity to provide link (open space) between Westfield and MSN Town Park
 - Understand design and timescales for the development of MSN Town Park
<http://www.midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Midsomer-Norton-Town-Park-Masterplan-v5-18.07.18-ilovepdf-compressed-1.pdf>
 - Based on this consider GI link from Westfield to the MSN Town Park
 - Research land ownership
 - Research topography and potential constraints to delivery of link
 - Consider viability and develop plan to take this forward if suitable and viable

Cindy Carter was invited to the 13th May Parish Council meeting to outline the medium and long term proposals further.

5. **The next meeting** would be held on Tuesday 11th June at 10am on site at Norton Hill Recreation Ground for the purpose of agreeing the location of seating and benches.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Item		Action
1	Land north of Highfields	
1a	Enhancing the Roman Road footpath to highlight its history and encourage its use	Engineering Feasibility quote received from Sustrans 9/4/19. The Working Group has concern about preserving the Roman heritage of the path. Agreed (1) that the Clerk contacts Sustrans for an indication of what the envisage the final path to be and an offer to meet Cllr Hopkins on site; (2) Cllr Hopkins contacts Roman Bath for more information of how they might help preserve and enhance the footpath.
2	Waterside Valley	
2a	The Haydon to Westfield right of way	Cllr Fuller attended a meeting in March 2019 with Radstock TC regarding their purchase of the batch. Radstock TC is enhancing and funding the path with a biodegradable dog bin.
2b	Cycle route through the Waterside Valley from Radstock to the Industrial Estate	Engineering feasibility study quote received from Sustrans 9/4/19. Agreed not to pursue this on the advice of the Rights of Way Officer who raised concern about land slides and natural springs.
2c	Enhancement of Snails Brook	Agreed that Cllr Hopkins pursues this via Big Local.
3	Shakespeare Road area	
3a	Green Space at Shakespeare Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at making this large green space accessible for all ages and abilities. Cllr Fuller and Cindy Carter met on site. Cindy circulated a project plan. Agreed to recommend the proposals to Parish Council as outlined in the report at Appendix 2. • Input in the BANES Green Infrastructure strategy highlighted as important for the long term benefit of the area in attracting CIL funding.
3b	Creating a nature trail joining Westfield to the Midsomer Norton Town Park	As above. The importance of managing the land to make it accessible but to stop moped access. B58300:2018 outlines how this might be arranged.
3c	Pit Path at Shakespeare Road to Midsomer Norton	Look at the costing scheme drawn up by BANES for fully lighting this path. The cost of the work is approximately £28k plus a commuted sum (amount to be considered) to cover future maintenance. Design

		scheme requested of Alison Sherwin 5/3/19. Agreed the Clerk arranges a meeting with the Highways Officer Stefan Chiffers and members of the working group including the PC Mark Graham for a police perspective.
3d	Play area at Shakespeare Road	BANES has approved £70k s.106 funding and produced the spec. Consultation being arranged with residents of Shakespeare Road and young people at the local schools.
4	Westhill Recreation Ground	
4a	Stand alone pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cindy had a conversation with BANES planners to highlight any planning issues in March 2019. • To apply for funding for a feasibility study • A quote for the feasibility study has not been agreed by PC. • Clerk has contacted LCC for further assistance April 2019. This was offered by LCC at £325 per day, the value of which was uncertain, and therefore not pursued. <p>Agreed that the Clerk goes back out to tender.</p>
4b	Running Track and equipment next to the running track	This has been highlighted as a possible area for funding via BANES Naturally Active Somer Valley Project which is in the Discovery phase of its bid as part of a National Childhood Obesity Trailblazers project. Agreed (1) Cindy Carter to find out more about the Odd Down running track and fitness equipment and take photos of the Peasedown track; (2) Cllr Hopkins to find out more about the Poole Harbour equipment; (3) that this is recommended as a priority to Parish Council.
5	Norton Hill Recreation Ground	
5a	Replacement of benches by the boules pitch	Due to the ongoing vandalism of the wooden benches, to look at replacing them with those similar to the new ones at Westhill. A brochure from Theme Bins was viewed for benches and picnic tables in the same style and range as the new ones at Westhill Recreation Ground. Agreed to meet on site with a map to plot the best location of the benches and seats for funding via the s.106 funds and to recommend to Parish Council that this is progressed.
5b	Community Picnic area – benches/ tables for families and people of all ages and abilities.	Look at vandal proof, accessible benches and tables, considering also the ground underfoot. As above.

5c	Closing off the cut through to the industrial estate	Check the planning requirements of a cycle path which might enter the site at this point: Entrance to Norton Hill Recreation Ground from the industrial estate - Under the terms of the section 106 agreement, no more than 46 properties can be occupied before the cycle path is built and brought into use. It is expected that it will convert into a date towards the end of next year by the time they get that far in terms of construction and sales. Map attached. (Page 13)
6	Allotments	
6a	Larch Court Allotment	Land transfer complete. Work started to create the allotment
6b	Consideration of the fact that there remains a lengthy waiting list for allotments.	To consider any other sites for new allotments. Prattens Committee is considering the potential of land on its site for allotments.

APPENDIX 2

Draft Shakespeare Road Area Green Infrastructure/Recreation Action Plan

Short term

- Clear fly tipping in the area **B&NES**
- Upkeep of the area and opportunities for community involvement (Is the Parish Council or B&NES responsible for the upkeep of this area?)
- Lights on the path down to MSN – relocation of lights from Pit Path **WPC**
 - Cost estimate
 - Consider placement of lights
 - What approvals are required
 - Opportunities for funding other than S106, particularly with focus on modal shift, connectivity etc.
- Play area consultation and revamping – inclusive design access for all **B&NES and WPC**
- Input into the B&NES GI Strategy

Medium term

- Making the gateway path between MSN and Westfield accessible for all highlighting to B&NES requirements of the Equality Act 2010 (public sector equality duty) and opportunities for modal shift. **B&NES**
 - Design in line with requirements of BS8300:2018 (Obtain free of charge copy through WPC status) **WPC**



- Support opportunities for local communities to use green spaces **WPC Westfield Warbler**

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Long term

- Opportunity to provide link (open space) between Westfield and MSN Town Park

All

- Understand design and timescales for the development of MSN Town Park
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- Based on this consider GI link from Westfield to the MSN Town Park
- Research land ownership
- Research topography and potential constraints to delivery of link
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Other opportunities within the Shakespeare Road GI area.