

**Minutes of a meeting of the Westfield Green and Open Spaces Group held on
Monday 4th March 2019 at 6pm at Westfield Parish Council**

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

Attending: Lesley Close, Parish Clerk

Apologies: Cllr Bryan Wallbridge

- 1. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Bryan Wallbridge.
- 2. Declarations of interest and dispensations** – there were none.
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting** held on 4th February 2019 were agreed as a true record.

4. Draft bid for funding for feasibility studies

The draft bid was **agreed** and it would be submitted once Sustrans has come back with a quote for an Engineering Feasibility Study for the Roman Road footpath and (2) the stand alone pavilion feasibility tender at Westhill Recreation Ground has been agreed by Parish Council.

With regard to the Stand alone Pavilion at Westhill, it was **agreed** that there should be a conversation with planners before funds are spent on the feasibility study. It was noted that it should be designed with no dark areas such as alleys at the side or behind the facility. It was suggested that a solid wall at the back of the Pavilion might replace the trees, with a tree replanting scheme to balance the loss. CCTV should be incorporated into the design.

5. Links to websites about inclusive play

The links were discussed and there was a discussion on how some of the concepts might be introduced in Westfield. The multi functionality of green spaces was considered – how they might have different uses at different times of day by different people. For example a 1.5m track around the perimeter of Westhill Recreation Ground would make the field accessible to those in wheelchairs and mobility scooters, it might be used by dog walkers, running groups, the elderly, families and children on scooters. Introducing activities or exercise points for people of different abilities and ages at points along the track would support the multi functionality of the grounds.

6. Items for the next agenda

The following list of opportunities for enhancing green and open space was drawn up at the meeting. Action points would followed up by all members of the Working Group outside the meeting and brought back for a progress report.

- 7. The next meeting** would be held on Monday 29th April at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm

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	Item	Action
1	Land north of Highfields	
1a	Enhancing the Roman Road footpath to highlight its history and encourage its use	Engineering Feasibility quote awaited from Sustrans, to include archaeological advice
1b	Creating a nature trail joining Westfield to the Midsomer Norton Town Park	
2	Waterside Valley	
2a	The Haydon to Westfield right of way	Cllr Fuller attending a meeting with Radstock TC regarding their purchase of the batch.
	Cycle route through the Waterside Valley from Radstock to the Industrial Estate	Engineering feasibility study requested from Sustrans.
3	Shakespeare Road area	
3a	Green Space at Shakespeare Road	Look at making this large green space accessible for all ages and abilities
3b	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.
4	Westhill Recreation Ground	
4a	Stand alone pavilion	A conversation with BANES planners to highlight any planning issues. To apply for for funding for a feasibility study.
4b	Running Track	
4c	Equipment next to the running track	
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.
5b	Community Picnic area – benches/ tables for families and people of all ages and abilities. Barbecues?	Look at vandal proof, accessible benches and tables, considering also the ground underfoot. Consider the liabilities of a barbecue.
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
6	Allotments	
6a	Larch Court Allotment	Land transfer almost complete. Work ready to start to create the allotment

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6b	Consideration of the fact that there remains a lengthy waiting list for allotments.	To consider any other sites for new allotments.
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