

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Boardroom, The Oval Office,
Cobblers Way, Westfield on
Monday 3rd July 2017 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr G Fuller

Cllrs: A Butcher, D Cooper, K Docherty, J Honess, R Hopkins,
E Jackson, L Mansell, B Wallbridge, P Wilkinson and P Williams

Attending: Lesley Welch, Clerk, Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant
3 members of the public

One member of the public alerted Council to the inconsiderate use of taxis and buses in and out of Fosse Way School. They are using the road from Wesley Avenue and due to the amount of parking along that stretch of road he feels this is dangerous. There have been two incidents where a child has been struck by a vehicle. Cars are often parked on the corner of Wesley Avenue, which causes problems. He also wanted to mention the footpaths in Westfield – the back of Mardons, the cycle path and Wesley Avenue to Shelley Road are particularly severely overgrown. Cllr Jackson responded that we have been promised a cutting schedule, but it doesn't appear to have been carried out. Cllr Hopkins responded that we are in contact with BaNES on a regular basis about these issues.

Another member of the public lives on St Peters Road and wanted to ask for double yellow lines on more of the road. There have been several incidents where lorries couldn't get through due to parked cars. Cllr Hopkins responded that the BANES Councillor could take this on board, but that it was a long process and it could well be a couple of years before we can get a resolution.

58. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

60. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 2nd May 2017

Resolved: the minutes of 5th June 2017 were agreed and signed as a correct record, with the amendment in item 52 to 'The area around Elm Tree Avenue is to be entered into Britain in Bloom'.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

61. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 12th June 2017

At minute 33, Cllr Cooper noted that she had not agreed to take photographs of the maple trees behind Eagle Drive. This would be amended at the Committee meeting.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 12th June 2017 be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 21st June 2017

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 21st June 2017 be noted.

62. APPROVAL OF ANY ITEMS OF £5,000 AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY VIREMENT

There were no items over £5,000 for approval.

63. WESTFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation is underway and that the response has been quite strong so far. Each councillor was given some copies of the consultation to ask residents of Westfield to complete and return.

64. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

The meeting with Victor de Cunha has been delayed until 10th July. Feedback to be given at the next meeting.

Cllr Fuller reported on a meeting with Louise Fradd and Lisa Bartlett from BaNES regarding access to CIL funding.

65. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

It was agreed that the first bullet point – we ask all users to follow these guidelines, read as follows:

- To be considerate and respectful of others – vulgarity, threats or abusive and discriminatory language will not be tolerated.

It was agreed that the third bullet point should be amended to read:

- Extreme religious propaganda will not be permitted.

It was agreed that the eighth sentence from the end should read:

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Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Westfield Parish Council is not responsible for, or liable for and does not endorse the privacy practices of any social media or linked services.

It was agreed that the third sentence from the end should read:

Comments must not advertise commercial products or services.

Cllr Mansell proposed a list of types of views that should not be tolerated: Obscene or racist, sexist, disablist, homophobic, biphobic, transphobic, agism and religious discrimination.

The inclusion of this list was seconded by Cllr Jackson. The proposal was not carried with 2 votes for, 6 against and 3 abstentions.

Resolved: to contact ALCA to ask for advice on any wording that could encompass all these terms and to report to Environment and Development.

66. PARISH CHARTER CONSULTATION

It was reported that the intention of the Charter was to improve communication between Towns and Parishes and BaNES. The Parish Council made the following comments:

Page 11 'We need to think of all parties as customers' – the Parish Council did not feel this was an accurate description of the relationship.

Is there an incentive to compliance with the Charter? There was concern that in the past BaNES officers had ignored the Charter – what incentive is there this time for it to be a useful document?

The Planning items do not fully reflect the Parish Council's rights under the Localism Act. Cllr Jackson would be pleased to advise BANES further on this.

Resolved: to convey these comments to BaNES and ask for clarification on devolution of services (page 5 of the Charter) and how it would affect this parish.

67. FOOTPATH BETWEEN LYNTON ROAD AND WOODPECKER AVENUE

The use of motorcycles using the footpath was reported.

Resolved: to complete a formal request to have a prohibition of motor vehicles restriction order.

68. WESTHILL RECREATION GROUND

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Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

It was reported that one of the operators of a bouncy castle at the Fun Day had asked if he could set up one Sunday in September at Westhill Recreation Ground.

Resolved: To allow the setting up of the inflatable bouncy castle one weekend in September, providing health and safety and insurance requirements were met. Donations from which would start a Defibrillator fund. Cllr Wilkinson to arrange.

69. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORT

There were no outside bodies reports

70. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Fuller reported on a meeting that had taken place with Cllr Jackson and Parker Transport on the Westfield Industrial Estate in response to their request for help with parking restrictions on the estate, due to the difficulty in manoeuvring their large vehicles. Cllr Jackson has been discussing this with BaNES.

He also reported on the meeting with Louise Fradd and Lisa Bartlett regarding the allocation of CIL money for projects in Westfield.

Everyone was invited to look at the noticeboard signs for the Heritage Walk. A few changes were suggested.

Resolved: to report the changes to Sarah Westell and put the final artwork to E&D the following week.

71. B&NES COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jackson advised that the budget process at BaNES starts in October.

4 members of the BaNES cabinet have resigned.

Parliamentary boundaries are changing, meaning that there will now be 59 ward councillors in BaNES, a reduction of 6.

The planning application 17/01453/FUL, Fosseyway South for 20 houses has been permitted. It was suggested that Westfield Parish Council makes a claim for some of the CIL money to pay to improve the pedestrian crossings on the A367, as there will be significant effect.

Her final surgery before the summer will take place at the Trinity Methodist church hall on 7th July at 10am. She noted that it was minuted at the previous meeting that Cllr Fuller had asked all Councillors to attend if they were able and said that all Councillors are welcome.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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Signed Dated