

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held in the boardroom at the Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield on 14th October 2024 commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Diana Cooper (Chair), Geoff Fuller, Eleanor Jackson, Paul Millard, Phil Wilkinson and Pat Willilams.

Also attending: Lesley Close, Parish Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Deputy Clerk

Absent: Cllrs Kit Biggs and Ron Hopkins

58. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received from Cllrs Biggs and Hopkins and accepted.

59. Declarations of interest and dispensation

There were no declarations of interest.

60. Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the last meeting held on 9th September 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

61. Neighbourhood Plan Review working group

There was nothing to report on this item.

62. Planning applications for consideration

There were no objections to the following application:

24/03515/FUL	15, St Peter's Glade	Erection of first floor extension over garage and internal works
24/03800/AR	Rear of 1 Elm Terrace	Display of 1 no. fascia sign on funeral directors premises and 1 no. double sided entrance sign

24/03521/TCA 60 Wells Road, Erection of single storey and two storey rear extensions – There were no objections to the application, however the Parish Council is concerned at the rapid level of expansion on the site and requests a caveat on the planning permission that no further development is allowed on site.

63. Planning Decisions

The planning decisions were noted.

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

Westfield Parish Council

The email from Mendip advising that Inspector Kate McDonald MSc, MRTPI had been appointed to carry out the independent examination of the Limited Update was noted.

64. Recreation Grounds Norton Hill

Boules court – Cllr Cooper reported that the edging around the boules court is rotting all the way around and needs replacing.

Resolved: to get a quote for replacing the edging around the boules court

Pavilion – it was noted that the second testing of legionella had come back positive. Advice had been given by Glacier Environmental Ltd about the storage of water in the pavilion, which was being followed up with a plumber.

65. Recreation Grounds Westhill

Changing rooms – It was noted that planning permission would be needed to convert the skittle alley to changing rooms.

It was advised that the bid for funding to the Big Local needed to state that the Parish Council would find the balance for the work to the changing rooms and that, if the project didn't go ahead, the money would be refunded.

Resolved: to add to the funding bid to the Big Local that the balance of the funding for the changing rooms would be found by the Parish Council and that, should the work not go ahead, the grant would be refunded.

Quotes for the structural survey had been received.

Resolved: (1) to accept the quote for £915 from M2 for the structural survey
(2) to accept the quote for £715 from M2 for a drainage assessment

66. Waterside Valley

Overgrown hedge close to houses nearby – the advice from CPRE to trim the hedge close to the neighbour was noted

Resolved: to ask advice from SVR about whether it would be work that could be done by volunteers, possibly via TCV.

It was noted that the grass cutting schedule had been hindered by the weather.

67. Highways

Bleed kits

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Resolved: to purchase 3 x stand alone bleed kits to be positioned by the defibrillators at the shops at Elm Tree Avenue, Westhill Club and Norton Hill Pavilion at a cost of £189 from Heartsafe

Tree at Holly Walk – A resident had asked for a tree at Holly Walk to be trimmed as it was dropping sap onto cars parked underneath. A quote from B&NES had been requested. To be brought back to the next meeting.

Tree report for May Tree Close – the report was noted.

Resolved: to get quotes for the work that was indicated as desirable

An email was received from Paul Garrod at B&NES indicating that there were no further actions that would be possible to take regarding a resident that was driving over the grass to access their property.

Resolved: to write to the Journal with comments about all similar issues relating to parking/ driving over verges in Westfield that are awaiting action from B&NES to indicate the Parish Council's dissatisfaction with the actions from BANES on these issues.

68. Events

Christmas lights – a quote had been received for an extra power socket at the Christmas tree, enabling all users of the electricity to have easier access.

Resolved: to accept the quote from AIB Electrical for £730 to add an extra power point at the Christmas tree.

An update was given on the progress of planning the event.

Resolved: to not have Christmas lights on the lampposts that now had speed signs attached.

Remembrance Sunday – Cllr Jackson reported that a service will be held in the Methodist Church, starting at 10:30am on Remembrance Sunday. The congregation will then move to the memorial stone for the minute silence. The service is to be led by Revd Ian Rousell. Westfield Parish Council wreaths will be laid by Cllr Wilkinson in Westfield, Cllr Cooper in Midsomer Norton and Cllr Williams in Radstock.

Christmas home decorations – Cllr Cooper and Cllr Wilkinson will judge the Christmas home decorations on Thursday 11th December.

To resolve that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

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Signed **Dated**

69. Quotes

- **Noticeboard at Nightingale Way**

Resolved – to accept the quote for £350 from Sanelli Solutions for installation of the notice board at Nightingale Way

- **Chain link fencing at Norton Hill Recreation Ground** – a revised quote had been received from C&R Fencing for £11,469, with reservations about using the existing concrete posts.

Resolved – **(1)** not to replace the fence along the length of Norton Hill Recreation Ground due to lack of funding.

(2) to add the item to the Action Plan in order to revisit at a later date.

Meeting closed at 8:20pm. Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 12th November because of the Carnival.

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Signed Dated