

WESTERLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE  
19<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
HELD AT MANORHALL, COALPIT HEATH

**Present:** Councillors: B Taylor, J Butler, D Boulton, S Blackmore, A Gibbs, G Jancey, M Crumpton, C Nicholls, A Fay  
Officer – F Thornton Clerk/RFO

1. **Apologies for absence**

None

2. **Declarations of Interest under The Localism Act 2011**

None

3. **Cllr C Young to update council following SGC Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October with regard to PSP Plan and JSP for West of England**

Cllr Young reported:-

2 important consultations are commencing in November.

As background information, South Gloucestershire Council published its proposed submission PSP Plan, accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), a document setting out the changes to the Policies Map and a Main Issues Statement, for formal public consultation in summer 2015.

At that time, the intention had been to submit the plan and supporting documents, to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent Inspector, in October 2015.

However, following the outcome of a planning appeal relating to a residential scheme in Charfield, where the Inspector concluded that the Council cannot demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land, additional work is required on the Plan.

This additional work is necessary in order to address the shortfall in supply of land for residential development, which needs to be made good in order for the plan to proceed through an Examination in Public.

This work is being carried out to ensure development in South Gloucestershire remains plan-led. Work on identifying additional housing allocations and designating Local Green Spaces need to be considered together, as some sites have been proposed for both.

Following the informal consultation that took place over summer 2015 on nominated Local Green Spaces, newly identified landowners affected by nominated spaces will be contacted.

It is hoped that Council approval will take place in 2016.

JSP is the second consultation which sets out the plan until 2037 for the whole of the south west of England. This consultation commences on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

In relation to this parish, the work done so far will not be wasted. However, until such plans are approved and adopted, it means that as a parish we are vulnerable to speculative planning applications.

Cllr M Crumpton advised council that if the core strategy is to be revisited then it would give a possible opportunity to review the gypsy and traveller sites.

A point to note was that Local Green spaces cannot be approved until such times as this land supply issue is satisfied.

4. **To approve minutes of the meetings held 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**Decision:** Proposed by Cllr B Taylor and seconded by Cllr A Fay to approve the minutes. Agreed by all.

5. **Matters Arising**

Track at pansy vale – clerk updated position on outstanding quotes. Cllr A Gibbs questioned whether the residents should be making a contribution towards this cost. It was agreed that once quotes are finalised then council can discuss the matter of asking for a financial contribution.

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**6. Grounds Maintenance – committee to discuss/agree quotations for grounds maintenance services as current three year contract ends in March 16**

Quotations were provided:-

The Head Groundsman Ltd £10,303.44 pa  
Greenslade Lawn & Garden Services £12,708 pa  
CPS Grounds Ltd £13,690 pa

**Decision: proposed by Cllr M Crumpton and seconded by Cllr G Jancey that Council award a five year contract to The Head Groundsman Ltd. Agreed by all.**

**7. Bitterwell Lake**

**a) Committee to discuss quotations as per works agreed at Finance & GP Committee 21<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2015**

Following a site visit last week, Cllr J Butler advised that the consensus of opinion of Councillors was the amount of work quoted upon does not seem in keeping with the current condition of the paths. The bank from the gate to the proposed disabled platform is the weakest bank.

With regard to the access from Newman Field car park to the gate, Cllr G Jancey thought it was not appropriate to put loose stone in this area.

Cllr B Taylor advised that Mr Smith expressed concerns regarding security of the gate in relation to his work with vulnerable children and adults.

Various scenarios were discussed as to management of the possible gates.

**Decision: Following a lengthy debate, Cllr M Crumpton made the proposal for Council to**

- a) close gate at the top of the car park linking the Lake with Newman Field and fence it off,**
- b) replace the existing wooden gates to Newman Field with a galvanised gate, fitted on site with the fish logo**
- c) create a tarmaced/concrete disabled access ramp from Newman Field to the new gate**
- d) plant bushes at the top of the grassed bank to prevent any cars driving down**

**Committee to agree in principle to the works and a total price be available for a budget discussion at the Finance & GP Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November.**

**This was seconded by Cllr G Jancey**

**Vote: 7 in favour 1 against 1 abstention. Motion passed.**

**b) Committee to discuss fishing numbers and accounts supplied as per license**

Noted.

**c) Committee to agree repositioning of fencing bordering Chalet with Lake**

**Decision: Cllr G Jancey proposed making the existing bamboo fence the chalet curtilage and the extra open garden area form part of the Lake curtilage which would allow Mr Smith to use of the shed within the activities of the Lake. Seconded by Cllr S Blackmore All in favour.**

Cllr D Boulton stated that if any electrical works are carried Mr Smith would require council's permission and we would wish sight of necessary certificates.

**d) Any other items applicable to the Lake**

None

**8. Committee to discuss play areas within parish**

**a) Newman Field**

**i) Committee to consider replacement of damaged railway sleeper steps**

The cost to replace the top three steps is £560.

**Decision: Proposed by Cllr J Butler seconded by Cllr G Jancey, agreed by all.**

**ii) Committee to discuss recent 'vandalism' on site**

Noted and police have been informed.

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**b) Westerleigh Playing Field**

Following a site visit it was agreed to keep patching the safety surface and Cllr B Taylor to monitor site. Current split in surface to be patched.

It was noted the ditch is not this council's responsibility. A letter to the owners of the ditch be written if water is not flowing when it rains.

**9. Committee to discuss youth provision – Cllr M Crumpton (as representative on Frampton Cotterell Parish Council Youth Services Working Group) to update**

Cllr M Crumpton reported:-

CM reported from meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 15 Notes from the meeting were circulated to committee.

Consensus would be for an outside body to provide the service rather than in house provision.

11<sup>th</sup> Nov is next meeting whereby tenders /spec documents will be finalised and ready to go out.

Cllr M Crumpton outlined the suitability of use of local buildings in the area as possible venues for use for this service, also advising that consideration of outside venues is also a possibility.

Council will receive a detailed proposal prior to any financial commitment.

**10. Members to raise any items for future agendas following tour of parish**

None. It was agreed that Councillors should look at the parish every six to twelve months as a group.

**11. Items to report**

(Items can be discussed but members can make no decisions – a council cannot lawfully decide any matter which is not specified in the summons.)

1. ALC Councillor Training – dates currently available are 30th November and 7th December. It is a 2 1/2 hour course and is half price to member councils i.e. £200 for everyone on your council and yourself and at your venue, you provide light refreshments etc., **Agreed:** 7<sup>th</sup> December and full council to be delayed by one week. 7pm start.
2. Ruffett Road by golf club - there is a fridge freezer. This has already been reported.
3. Parishioner requested an update to speeding in the local area. He questioned the use of speed limits and what is the objective to reducing these limits. What is accident history over recent years, can enforcement be achieved, can benefits be justified by increase in pollution, and inconsiderate parking in this area should be addressed. Wished to see money spent more wisely.

**12. Date of Next E&L Committee Meeting – any items to be included in FC meeting 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Signed .....

Date: