

WESTERLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING  
6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016  
MANOR HALL

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: B Taylor (Chair) J Butler, A Gibbs, A Fay, D Boulton, S Blackmore, G Jancey, M Crumpton,  
Officer: Clerk F Thornton  
District Councillor C Young (joined during the meeting due to attendance at a prior meeting)

**Cllr D Boulton asked if Cllr M Crumpton is recording the meeting as the standing orders state permission should be sought. Cllr D Boulton proposed that Cllr M Crumpton is not allowed to record the meeting. This motion failed as there was no seconder.**

**Cllr M Crumpton stated she would record the meeting as she thought the law over rides our standing orders Cllr J Butler proposed that she follows the standing orders and formally asks for permission. Cllr B Taylor seconded this motion. Vote: 6 in favour, motion passed. Council gave permission for Cllr M Crumpton to record the meeting**

**1976. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr C Nicholls

**1977. Declarations of Interest under The Localism Act 2011**

**Cllr J Butler declared a personal interest in agenda items 3 10 and 11**

**Cllr B Taylor declared a personal interest in agenda item 12**

**Cllr G Jancey declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 14**

**1978. Cllr J Butler – request for Dispensation**

Cllr J Butler requested the following dispensation;

As everyone is aware, I have a personal interest in the Manor Hall Trust.

However, I believe this is clearly not a pecuniary interest, and as a trustee and the treasurer I feel that I am in the best position to answer any questions relating to the Hall.

I therefore feel that when the Hall is on the agenda it would be beneficial to Council if I am allowed to remain and contribute to the discussion.

I will of course continue to abstain from voting on matters relating to the Hall, and request that you grant me a dispensation for the remainder of this term, on that basis.

**Decision:**

**Proposed by Cllr J Butler and seconded by Cllr D Boulton to grant this dispensation.**

**Cllr M Crumpton proposed an amendment that when the voting takes place that Cllr J Butler leaves the room.**

**Seconded by Cllr G Jancey**

**Vote: 2 in favour, 2 against, 4 abstentions. Chair used his casting vote and voted against this amendment.**

**The amendment failed.**

**Vote on original motion 5 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions. Motion carried.**

**1979. Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the parish**

**Cllr C Young reported:-**

**Planning issues**

*Policies, Sites and Places (PSP) DPD and Joint Spatial Plan (JSP)*

We are still expecting the Policies, Sites and Places (PSP) Plan to be considered by full council on 29<sup>th</sup> June, after first going to a special joint meeting of the new Environment & Community Services committee and the Development Control committees on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

*Site opposite the New Inn, Mayshill*

The appeal against the refusal to issue a Certificate of Lawfulness for the storage of two lorries at the site will be heard at a Public Inquiry on 13<sup>th</sup> September.

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*Top Yard*

I attended the appeal hearing and spoke on behalf of concerned residents who were unable to attend. There were two appeals – one against the refusal and one against the time limit given for compliance with the enforcement notice.

*Mafeking Hall*

South Gloucestershire Council is satisfied that the conditions regarding the visibility splay and the travel plan have been implemented within the one month allowed.

Devolution

When I wrote my report for April's meeting, I was expecting there to be a full public consultation on the devolution deal for the West of England ahead of the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June when South Gloucestershire Council will decide whether or not to go ahead. However, when information was published on the council's website in May, under "How can I have my say?" it said, "It is your local councillors that will be making the decision on the proposed deal in June." and went on to say that if the deal goes forward, there will be consultation with the public during the summer.

Following an urgent written question to the Leader of the Council from my group leader ahead of the May council meeting, the website was changed to include a link to a simple form for submitting your views, although this is still not a formal "compact-compliant" consultation. I contacted the Parish Clerk to make her aware of this and would encourage parishioners to make their views known.

Network Rail

After Cllr Fay raised the delay to the Ha'penny Bridge work at the last full Parish Council meeting, I contacted Network Rail for an update. They are now ready to start again and have applied for a footpath closure mid-July to mid-August. As originally planned, they will only be working on Saturday nights, so the bridge will be open to pedestrians at other times.

Concerns have been raised with me regarding the appearance of the works carried out so far on the bridge. Network Rail say that they have had to use solid steel sheeting due to the proximity to the Overhead Line Equipment as they need to be able to ensure that nothing can be pushed through any holes or gaps that could make contact with the conductor wires. They have "Permitted Development" rights so just had to make a Prior Notification application, not a full planning application.

On 26<sup>th</sup> May a South Gloucestershire Council officer and I met a Network Rail representative to discuss the visual impact of the electrification works on the viaducts and the landscape of the Frome Valley. I will update you when I have more information.

Accident on Badminton Road near Park Lane junction

Sadly a pedestrian was fatally injured in a collision with a car on Badminton Road near the Park Lane junction just after midnight on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The police are still investigating. In view of this incident, South Glos highways officers reviewed the accident record and found there had been 3 accidents involving slight injury since January 2013. There is an existing yellow backed 'junction to the left' warning sign for northbound vehicles on Badminton Road. However this was observed to be obscured by vegetation and partially faded. Streetcare have now cut back the vegetation and the sign will be replaced and supplemented by a 'SLOW' road marking to highlight the junction.

Kendleshire Crossroads

At a previous Parish Council meeting, I reported that officers were meeting to discuss the accident record at Kendleshire Crossroads. £25,000 was subsequently allocated in the Local Transport Capital Programme to investigate the accidents.

Mill Crescent, Westerleigh

I have had some queries following the resurfacing of part of Mill Crescent. The council hopes to replace the road markings by the end of June but it is weather-dependent. They are also going to empty a gully in the road this month that became blocked during the resurfacing. I am still awaiting a response to a query regarding the part of the road that was not resurfaced.

Badminton Road resurfacing

The section of Badminton Road between the railway viaduct and the junction with Bell Road, Coalpit Heath is going to be resurfaced. While good news for all those concerned about the state of the road, unfortunately this does mean the

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road will have to be closed at nights, with diversions in place. The works will involve removing the existing surface and laying a new one and will be carried out between 8pm and 6am from 29th June to 7th July. There will be a significant amount of noise. Access to properties and amenities will be maintained, but it is essential that the road is kept clear of vehicles, so the council is asking residents to park them elsewhere. The road will be open to all traffic in the daytime.

Consultations on carers, dementia and falls prevention

South Glos is currently consulting on three draft strategies - about carers, dementia and falls prevention. All of the consultation documents can be viewed on the South Glos consultations page and details of any consultation events in your area will also be published shortly. The deadline for comments is Monday 22 August.

Aerospace Bristol

In May I was pleased to attend the Ground Breaking Ceremony for Aerospace Bristol, the new home for Concorde. It is hoped that this visitor attraction will inspire young people locally to get involved in the industry.

**Cllr M Crumpton** reported the local MP has set up care and dementia friends and training meetings in the area, which she had attended and recommended members to attend as they were very informative.

She also reported a recent accident at Kendleshire Crossroads. This is an area which has previously been highlighted in relation to accidents.

**Cllr G Jancey** advised that previous requests had been made to cut back the vegetation, but this had not been done as streetcare did not think this was impeding visibility. Following up on this matter, the vegetation will be cut back this week. He advised on average three accidents are taking place a year.

**1980. Councillor Reports – written submissions taken as read with questions taken as necessary**

**Cllr B Taylor**

REPORT FROM CYCLE FORUM (26 May 2016)

The Cycling Strategy was approved by SGC Planning, Transportation and Strategic Environment Committee in May. It contains an updated cycleway map, including aspirational routes, and will be posted on the SGC website shortly.

SGC Officers gave a comprehensive update on the Yate Spur cycleway:

1. A new gate has been ordered for the level crossing by Network Rail training building (near the oil terminal).
2. If the landowner cannot prove title to the farm land from Westerleigh Road to Broad Lane, SGC will consider a Memorandum of Understanding. This section is still scheduled to be completed in financial year 2016/7.
3. Broad Lane has been resurfaced in preparation for its use as part of the cycleway.
4. The section running from Dodmoor Crossing to Gibbs' Corner requires detailed planning and land acquisition, and is scheduled for 2017/8.
5. There will be a consultation on a proposal for the crossing of Nibley Lane shortly.
6. The section in front of Beech Hill Farm to the railway bridge will be tarmaced in early June.
7. The cycleway will then run through the left-hand archway, and in front of the houses in Shire Way to Rodford roundabout and the "road to nowhere". This section is due for completion in 2016/7.

**Cllr A Fay**

REPORT FROM MEETING WITH LUKE HALL MP RE: JUNCTION 18A

I introduced myself as representing Westerleigh PC and expressed our concerns about the effect a junction at Emersons Green would have on Westerleigh village and Westerleigh Road.

Luke hall had nothing to say except to reiterate his conviction that a new junction onto the M4 would relieve traffic congestion in our part of South Gloucestershire.

He pointed out, quite justifiably, that the communication infrastructure in South Gloucestershire is shockingly inadequate and stressed again that a new junction to the M4 would do wonders to relieve the congestion on the Ring Road and in local villages.

The Government have granted £500,000 for a feasibility study so they obviously think it is a good idea. Bath University has already done a preliminary study a copy of which Luke Hall promised to send me. It has not arrived yet.

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**Cllr M Crumpton**

**REPORT FROM JOINT PARISHES YOUTH FORUM**

I attended the first meeting of the group for nearly 2 years; the group was given a brief as to why the JPYF was set up. I asked why Westerleigh was considered in this, it was explained that quite a number of the Westerleigh young people had attended various Youth groups in the Yate area due to its proximity to Dodington. It was felt that trying to get the young people engaged again was the way forward. Previously the Young people had set up their own committee and had training in chairing, procedures etc. this was deemed a success and other Young people's groups now try to emulate what was started here. There is currently £5300 approx. left in the account and it has been agreed by the forum that this should be used to try and get a better understanding of what our Young people require. Youth Worker Dawn Young will now start to do the ground work and get into the local communities and talk to our Young People. We can request she comes to us if we feel we have a local need. She will go into schools and other groups including scouts and other uniformed groups and talk to them and get an opinion. The idea will be to train up a group of young people to take on the task of initiating their own ideas etc. our next meeting will be in October and we are hoping to have an engaged team of youngsters to move forward, a budget and set goals. This should then be able to be put to all the PCs in time for any budgets.

**1981. Confirm the minutes of the meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Proposed by Cllr D Boulton and seconded by Cllr S Blackmore the minutes were approved and signed

**1982. Correspondence/Communication with Council**

**MEETINGS FOR COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE**

MEETING DATE AND VENUE	COUNCILLOR/S ATTENDING
JPYFSG 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2016	Cllr M Crumpton

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR RESPONSE**

CORRESPONDENCE	COUNCIL RESPONSE
Says Court Solar Farm Visit with Avon Wildlife Trust Proposed dates:- 14 <sup>th</sup> June, 15 <sup>th</sup> June (pm), 23 <sup>rd</sup> June (pm) 24 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am 24 <sup>th</sup> June 16

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

1. Heritage Briefing for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 at Poole Court, Yate 10.00 – 13.00hrs.
2. SGC Temporary Traffic Order – various roads
3. Resurfacing works at Badminton Road, Coalpit Heath.
4. Resurfacing works at Westerleigh Road, Pucklechurch
5. St. Saviours Church, Coalpit Heath- report on activities

**SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS**

CONSULTATION:	COUNCIL RESPONSE
A Devolution deal has been proposed between the Government and the four local authorities in the West of England – Bristol City, North Somerset, Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils. Now that a deal has been negotiated with Government, the four authorities must decide whether or not they wish to accept it. These decisions will be taken by Councillors in each area at Council meetings in June. In South Gloucestershire, this meeting will take place on 29 June. Before those meetings, South Gloucestershire Council are providing an opportunity for the public to find out more about the deal and to have their	14 <sup>th</sup> June meeting – Clerk and chair attending  Council response:- Disappointed at lack of information and consultation

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say. More information is available online  
at [www.southglos.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/devolution).

**1983. Payment of Account**

To Whom	Details	Net (£)	Gross (£)	VAT (£)
Hands Property Maintenance	Empty dog/litter bins May	435.00	435.00	0.00
Almonsbury Forge	Gates at Bitterwell Lake	1074.22	1381.06	306.84
Manor Hall	Room hire	27.00	27.00	0.00
	Room hire	58.50	58.50	0.00
British Gas	Gas safety certificate/boiler cover At Chalet	308.80	308.80	0.00
Zurich	Insurance premium	1748.51	1748.51	0.00
Head Groundsman	Grounds Maintenance May	865.00	865.00	0.00
Staffing Costs	Salary, HMRC, Pension mth 3	2283.99	2283.99	0.00
Westerleigh In Bloom c/o neighbourhood watch	Grant for planters in Westerleigh village	600.00	600.00	0.00

Proposed by Cllr G Jancey and seconded by Cllr M Crumpton, all in favour, the above payments were approved.

**1984. Council to discuss/agree/ratify a Social Media Policy**

A draft policy had been circulated by the Clerk for discussion. (See minute item 1971)

Cllr M Crumpton spoke against this policy and referred to dept. of communities and local government guidance.

She also made the requested we add a media clause

**Decision: Proposed by Cllr J Butler to adopt this policy now with the additional clause re: media to be added at a further meeting and seconded by Cllr D Boulton**

**Cllr M Crumpton proposed an amendment that the document to be ratified a completed document, which was seconded by Cllr G Jancey**

**Vote on amendment: 2 in favour, 3 against, 3 abstention amendment failed**

**Vote: 4 in favour, 2 against, 2 abstentions, original motion carried.**

**1985. Manor Hall**

- a) **Council to agree budget provision 2016/17 (deferred from Finance & GP Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> May 16 – draft budget figure shown as £7,500 no change from previous year)**

**Decision:** Proposed by Cllr A Fay and seconded by Cllr S Blackmore. Cllr J Butler abstained.

Vote: 7 in favour

- b) **Appointment of Manor Hall Trustee (deferred from Finance & GP Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> May 16)**

**Decision:** Cllr D Boulton was proposed by Cllr S Blackmore and seconded by Cllr M Crumpton.

Appointment agreed by all.

- c) **Notification of change of constitution**

**Decision: Noted.**

**1986. Council to agree attendance of Cllrs B Taylor and J Butler on a course at a cost of £35 per course**

Cllrs B Taylor and J Butler seek council approval to attend the following course:-

Chairing Skills, 14<sup>th</sup> June 16 at a cost of £35 each per course

**Decision:** proposed by Cllr G Jancey and seconded by Cllr M Crumpton. 6 in favour, 2 abstentions.

Cllr M Crumpton proposed that all chairs and vice chairs should attend. Seconded by Cllr G Jancey 7 in favour and 1 abstention. Motions carried.

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**1987. Council to consider grant application from Westerleigh Neighbourhood Watch Association for the sum of £100 towards the publication costs of the Westerleigh Village Newsletter [Deferred from Finance & GP Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016]**

Cllr B Taylor withdrew from the meeting and Cllr J Butler took the chair for this item.

**Decision:** Proposed by Cllr G Jancey and seconded by Cllr M Crumpton and agreed by all.

**1988. Clerks Duties**

Cllr G Jancey requested that the Full Council meeting 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016 confirm the status of the Clerk under our employment, and if proven that the SiLCA document is correct [with reference to legal advisor] make any necessary adjustment to ensure our clerk has the correct cover under our insurance.

The Clerk advised 'I am not a legal expert, but I am the officer responsible for obtaining and disseminating legal advice when necessary. At the meeting in question I believe I was asked was I a legal officer of which I am not, I am the proper officer of the council.'

**1989. Facilitation and reasonable adjustments for a disabled person, health and safety request**

Cllr G Jancey withdrew from the meeting and left the room at this point.

In accordance with Standing Order 3d Cllr M Crumpton proposed this item is of a private and confidential nature and requested the exclusion of the public. Seconded by Cllr A Gibbs, 4 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions

**1990. Items considered urgent by the Chairman (if any)**

None

**1991. Date of Next Meeting** 4<sup>th</sup> July Westerleigh Village Hall

Signed: .....

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016