

WESTERLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING
6th FEBRUARY 2017
WESTERLEIGH VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT:

Councillors: B Taylor (Chair), A Gibbs, A Fay, S Blackmore, J Butler, M Crumpton
Officer: Locum Clerk - V Anderson

2081. Apologies for Absence

None.

2082. Declarations of Interest under The Localism Act 2011

Cllr J Butler declared a personal interest in all matters relating to Manor Hall being a trustee.

2083. Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the parish

**Cllr C Young reported:-
Planning issues**

New Local Plan and the PSP

By the end of 2018, South Glos has to publish a new Local Plan for 2018-2036. It will review and eventually replace existing local planning documents, including the Core Strategy and the Policies, Sites and Places Plan (PSP).

The Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) for the West of England, which was consulted on before Christmas, will set out the overall amount of residential and employment development and where it should be located in the West of England, as well as the infrastructure to support it. One of the things that the new South Gloucestershire Local Plan will do is to allocate specific sites for development - strategic sites at the locations identified in the JSP and smaller, non-strategic ones. So if the JSP ends up saying there should be 1,500 homes at Coalpit Heath, the Local Plan will say more precisely where those homes should go. The Local Plan will also set out the planning policies that will be used when the Council determines planning applications.

Work on the new Local Plan is just starting and there is a consultation running until 23 February on the prospectus, a document setting out the programme for preparing the plan and the proposed scope. The Council is also asking for your priorities for the area. The questions on the vision and priorities (Q2 and Q3) are probably the ones that give you most scope to say how you want our area to develop over the next 20 years.

This week the hearing gets underway for the PSP, with sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, and it will be continued on 22 and 23 February.

Woodlands Farm

The application for up to 215 homes has now been submitted and the VALID campaign group has been publicising it around the site. The previous proposal that the south west field be handed over to the community has been dropped in favour of it staying in agricultural use.

288 Badminton Road

The committee unanimously approved the application.

Winterbourne and Yate International Academies

Peter Smart, Head Teacher of The Castle School, Thornbury, has now been seconded to the post of Interim Principal at Winterbourne International Academy until 31st August 2017. The Parliamentary Under Secretary for Schools announced in January that Yate International Academy will be re-brokered into the Greenshaw Learning Trust. Winterbourne International Academy will remain the responsibility of The Ridings' Federation Academy Trust with the support of The Olympus Academy Trust and Castle School Education Trust.

South Glos budget

In the papers published for the Policy and Resources committee to be held on Monday 6th February, the administration are proposing to go with the option of having a 3% social care precept this year and next, with 0% in

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the third year, on top of the maximum allowed rise of 1.99% that is allowed without a referendum. If this is what goes ahead, that means the South Glos portion of the Council tax will go up 4.99% this year. The Policy and Resources committee recommends on to full Council, which is being held on Wednesday 15th February.

M4 J18a briefing

I attended a briefing for Councillors on the feasibility study being done into the proposed new junction on the M4. I asked that when the public consultation is carried out in August/September information should be provided about the impact on the local road network, including the roads through Westerleigh and Coalpit Heath.

20mp limit error in order

I was surprised to be notified of a further consultation on the 20mph limit in Coalpit Heath and queried it with the relevant officer. He told me that after the Order was sealed and signs were erected, an error in the Order was identified, this consultation is to correct that order. I raised concerns about the delays in dealing with Traffic Regulation Orders at the Policy and Resources meeting.

Metro Mayor briefing

On Monday 6 February, I attended a briefing on the Metro Mayor, which explained the structures and the relationship with the LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) and North Somerset Council, which is not part of the devolution deal.

82 bus service

I have continued to receive complaints about the reliability of the 82 bus service and the recent loss of the last service of the day. Last Monday I raised these with Council officers and First Bus at the Public Transport Forum.

First Bus said that they had changed the timetable to improve reliability. By reducing the frequency and not having drivers changing mid-route, they said it gave more time to recoup delays, especially at peak times. They admitted that due to roadworks, including the temporary traffic lights in Winterbourne, there had been problems in the first couple of weeks of the new timetable, but they claimed that reliability had improved since, though there was still work to do.

Bromley Heath Viaduct work to go ahead

Bromley Heath Viaduct will undergo a £5.9 million maintenance programme to strengthen the 1960s structure and provide improvements for cyclists and pedestrians.

The improvement works will be carried out west bound, between the Bromley Heath roundabout and the Hambrook / Bristol Road junction. They will begin in June/July this year for a maximum duration of one year, but with an aim to try to secure additional funding to accelerate the work programme and reduce the timescale. Both the essential maintenance of the viaduct structure and the improvements to widen the shared footpath for cyclists and pedestrians will be combined, which means that the total maximum time required on site would be one year rather than two.

Because of the extent of the work, the southern viaduct will be completely closed to all traffic for the duration of the project. This is because the removal of the worn out parts of the structure will mean it is too weak to safely carry any traffic until the maintenance is complete. During the closure, all traffic will be diverted on to the northern viaduct as other options would require a significant one to two mile diversion on to narrow roads. Unfortunately this will cause significant delays, as this is one of the busiest sections of the A4174, and the impact will be felt on other local roads too. Ultimately if the work wasn't done, the southern viaduct would become too unsafe to use.

You can find more information at www.southglos.gov.uk/bhviaduct and a dedicated email address has been set up for people to raise queries bhviaduct@southglos.gov.uk

For 8 weeks from Monday 6 February, there will be overnight single lane closures on the A4174 ring road at Bromley Heath Roundabout, taking place Monday to Friday. These closures will allow preparatory work to be carried out for the maintenance and widening work that will be starting in the summer.

Temporary swimming pool at Yate for 6 months

Because of essential maintenance work at Yate Leisure Centre, both swimming pools will be closed from the end of March until the autumn. Public swimming will still be available using a temporary swimming pool.

According to Circadian: "It will be 18m in length X 10m in width X 1m deep. The frame will be constructed mainly of wood, then lined with a sand based and a pool liner. The whole structure will be secured in a marquee in the rear of

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the Kennedy Way car park. Customers will access the pool from the corridor of the main building (customers will not be outside, there will be an enclosed walk-way). The admission costs and opening times will be the same as normal and a specific pool timetable will be created for this period. All swimming lessons will continue and lesson days and times will remain unchanged."

Trial of Library Open Access system

The new Open Access system, which allows people to use the libraries outside the staffed hours by using a swipe card and PIN, is currently being piloted at Bradley Stoke Library. You will need to upgrade your membership and have an induction to show you how the system works. You will then be able to enter the library from 8am to 9.30pm Monday to Friday, with staff on site 9.30am to 6pm every weekday apart from Wednesday. On weekends, Open Access is between 8am and 6pm and staff will be available 9.30am - 5pm on Saturdays and 11am - 3pm on Sundays. The intention is that this system will be rolled out in all the libraries.

Mangotsfield Sort It Centre closure

The transfer station and recycling yard attached to the Mangotsfield Sort It recycling centre is undergoing improvement works. These will prepare the site for the weekly recycling collections starting in June and improve traffic flow in and around the site. This means the centre is now closed to the public until 31 May. The three other Sort It recycling centres, at Yate, Thornbury and Little Stoke, will be open as usual.

2084. Councillor Reports – written submissions taken as read with questions taken as necessary

Cllr B Taylor reported on progress regarding a proposal for the provision of an artificial cricket pitch and reported on the Joint Cycleway Group meeting recently held. More detailed reports had been circulated earlier for members' information.

It was noted that if the cricket proposal was to go ahead there could be cost implications as parish cricket clubs do not pay a fee for use of the playing field but it is unlikely this can be extended to cricket clubs outside of the parish as the Council pays for some of the grounds maintenance works.

Cllr A Fay reported that she had recently attended a briefing regarding developing J18a of the M4 by South Gloucestershire County Council but there was very little else to report at this stage.

Cllr M Crumpton reported that she had recently attended the Joint Parish Youth Forum Steering Group meeting which centred on progressing a youth committee and developing a community youth plan which will be used to help identify community needs for young people. This would help provide a projection of cost for each of the Parishes which will be dependent on demographics.

2085. Confirm the minutes of the meeting held 9th January 2017

Proposed by Cllr J Butler, seconded by Cllr M Crumpton and agreed that the minutes be approved and signed.

2086. Correspondence/Communication with Council

1. Invitation for nominations of Councillors to attend the Royal Garden Party to represent members of ALCA – Deborah White
2. Notification of consultation on the **new South Gloucestershire Council Local Plan 2018 – 2036 prospectus. Open** from Thursday 12 January to Thursday 23 February 2017.– **South Gloucestershire Council (SGC)**
3. Temporary closure notice of Mangotsfield Sort It Centre due to refurbishments works which run from 2nd February to mid May – An SGC briefing note
4. Calling notice for the next Environmental Forum meeting 16th March 2017, 10am at the Tortworth Estate Office – Judy Law
5. Invitation to the South Gloucestershire Heritage Partnership meeting 3rd March 2017, 9:30am Emersons Green Village Hall – Jane Marley, Museums and Heritage Officer SGC.

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6. Invitation to Western Power Distribution (WPD) annual stakeholder workshop. 26th January Bristol Pavilion. WPD via Deborah White ALCA.
7. Notice of urgent Joint Parishes Youth Forum Steering Group. Cllr Michaela Crumpton attending 1st or 2nd February. – Lucy Shilcock, Estates Support Officer, Yate Town Council.
8. Minutes of the Youth Services Management Group dated 18th January 2017. – Frampton Cotterell Parish Clerk
9. Notice & poster of a Valentine walking event at Says Court, 14th February 2017. – Avon Wildlife Trust.
10. Briefing note M4, Junction 18a, link study for the meeting on 2nd February 2017. Cllr Ann Fay attending. – SGC.
11. PowerPoint presentation on the New Local Plan, reference briefing for Town & Parish Councils held on 20th January – SGC
12. South Gloucestershire in the First World War Project 2014 – 2018; quarterly update report January 2017 – Jane Marley, Museum and Heritage Officer, SGC.
13. Road Traffic Order - Notice of Intent ref 20mph limit on various roads in Coalpit Heath – Highways, SGC

2087. Payment of Accounts

PAYEE	DETAILS	NET £	GROSS£	VAT£
STAFFING	COSTS FEBRUARY 2017	2236.35	2236.35	0.00
MRS F THORNTON	OFFICE EXPENSES – ALLOW/PHONE	57.81	57.81	0.00
ANDERSON PARTNERSHIP	LOCUM CLERK SERVICES	1713.80	1713.80	0.00
ALCA	TRAINING COURSE A FAY 26.09.16	95.00	95.00	0.00
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Proposed by Cllr J Butler and seconded by Cllr S Blackmore, all in favour, the above payments were approved.

2088. Council to consider the Finance and General Purposes (FGP) Committee recommendation to set the budget for 2017 – 2018.

At the meeting of the FGP committee held recently they considered the 2017 – 2018 budget and although they agreed to recommend their presented budget to Council there are amendments to consider which is relating to the night bus service.

The FGP committee considered increasing the night bus service budget however given that Council decided at its December meeting not to support any night bus increase (along with all other partnering Councils) the budgeted figure will now remain the same for current year subject to any outcome regarding the future of the 47A service.

Also, the Pansy Vale track had an allocated budget of £2,000 for the current year. Given that recent repairs have now been completed and invoiced the indicative budget for 2017 – 2018 has been reduced to nil.

Proposed by Cllr B Taylor, seconded by Cllr M Crumpton and unanimously agreed that Westerleigh Parish Council set the 2017/2018 budget as presented.

2089. Council to consider the Finance & General Purposes Committee recommendation for the transfer of WPC's Lease of the Manor Hall from the existing trust arrangement to the new CIO.

At the meeting of FGP committee held on the 23rd January 2017 it was agreed to recommend that the addendum presented to them be accepted by Council and that Council set a date for the formal signing of the document so that the new CIO can set their date of incorporation.

Some discussion took place on the appropriate date of commencement but it should be noted that the Manor Hall trustees prefer to have the document take effect from 1st May 2017.

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It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk and Chairman sign the document on behalf of the Council and that it will be signed prior to the start of the March (6th) Council meeting. Cllr Claire Young and Mr Bracey have agreed to witness the signing of the document. Manor Hall trustees are to nominate their signatories.

2090. Council to approve changes to the schedule of Committee meetings for April and May 2017.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee identified that the next meeting of their committee is scheduled for a bank holiday Monday and that it would be advantageous to move this meeting to May to facilitate year-end matters. This would occupy the date scheduled for the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting which could be rescheduled for Monday 24th April or dropped from the schedule for that month to prevent too many Environment & Leisure Committee meetings being scheduled close together.

It was unanimously agreed that the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee be scheduled for the 22nd May 2017 and the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting be scheduled for 24th April 2017.

2091. Consultation – Council to consider a renewal licence application for Street Trading Consent for a current trader operating in the layby on Badminton Road, Winterbourne.

Ali Baba's Kebab Van located in the layby on Badminton Road, Winterbourne has applied to renew their Street Trading Licence with South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) and WPC has been asked to comment.

It was unanimously agreed that no objection be minuted.

2092. Consultation – New South Gloucestershire Local Plan Prospectus.

The new South Gloucestershire Local Plan prospectus has been published for consultation which will steer development in the district over the next 20 years.

The first stage of this work is to invite comments on the new Local Plan prospectus, and what stakeholders think the new Local Plan ought to contain. The prospectus sets out the proposed scope, and programme for preparing the new Local Plan.

The South Gloucestershire Core Strategy was adopted in December 2013 and includes a commitment by the Council to an early review. In addition, the Council is working with the three other West of England unitary authorities to prepare the Joint Spatial Plan (JSP). The JSP will set out the overall amount of residential and employment development and where it should be located across the West of England sub-region, as well as the infrastructure required to support that growth.

Part of the Local Plan's purpose will be to allocate strategic sites at locations identified in the JSP, as well as to allocate sites for non-strategic development. The Local Plan will also set out the suite of planning policies that will be used to deliver sustainable development in South Gloucestershire.

Consultation on the Local Plan prospectus runs from Thursday 12 January – Thursday 23 February 2017.

Council agreed to make the following responses to the questionnaire.

Q1. *Not applicable*

Q2. *Key priorities seem appropriate*

Q3. *These have been submitted with the Council's response to consultation on the JSP & JTP, these were:*

The Council considered the previous consultation and the broad topics.

- o Protection of the Green Belt*
- o Concentration at Bristol Urban Area*
- o Transport Focused*
- o A more even spread of development across the sub-region*
- o New Settlement or (a limited number of expanded settlements).*

And the support for one or a combination of both of the following options:

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- 1) Protection of the Green Belt.
- 2) Transport Focussed

The 15 broad questions in the new consultation were discussed and in particular the issues raised by the 5 year land supply situation. With regard to the latter the Council decided to concentrate its comments on issues relating to the proposed extended settlements in the local area.

The proposal for 1,500 homes in Coalpit Heath, the major issues raised are;

- that this development goes against the 2011 Core Strategy re protection of the Green Belt
- that the proposed distribution of new housing is not shared with the surrounding area / loss of coalescence of the village of Coalpit Heath
- the impact the proposed doubling of the population would have on the current settlement/ residents need for additional infrastructure, schools, health centre etc.,
- the lack of employment in the area, necessitating yet more commuting and also included;
- the challenges a new settlement would put on an area with very poor vehicular access – currently served mainly by single track roads, by a difficult road junction etc.,
- this is an area with a high water table and risk of flooding
- the risks posed by closed (unmapped) mines and underground earthworks
- the need for a greatly improved transport infrastructure – Coalpit Heath won't be served by the new metro bus service, the need to re-open the railway station to service increased employment in Yate, the need for cross country public transport services i.e.to Thornbury and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College – not all focused on going into Bristol as it is now

Q4. Subjective, no particular viewpoint

Q5 Subjective, no particular viewpoint

Q6. No particular viewpoint

Q7. No comment required

Q8. Deemed to be a too simplistic approach of using a pure radius.

Q9. The Sustainable Access profiles are inaccurate, for example, Westerleigh and Coalpit Heath do have high speed broadband and number of dwellings is very inaccurate.

At the Chairman's discretion the remaining agenda was re-arranged to facilitate public access prior to discussing confidential matters in exempt session

2093. Items considered urgent by the Chairman – Consultation on Crematorium road signage

Council was asked by Traffic Management, South Gloucestershire Council, to consider a request by a local resident of Westerleigh to locate a road sign to the Crematorium on a new post on Westerleigh Village Green (as outlined in the plan submitted).

After careful consideration a number of issues were identified, these being:

A considerable number of motorists now use satellite navigation aids and tend to ignore road signs. One of the issues being that the business postcode directs motorists to the wrong location regardless.

A sign positioned at traffic lights at the top of Westerleigh Hill would be appropriate.

Westerleigh Crematorium need to more proactive with their directions on the website although it is recognised they do provide an alternative postcode which does direct motorists to the correct location but this could be improved.

Council agreed to report the above observations and recommendations to Traffic Management.

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2094. Partially Exempt - Council to co-opt two Parish Councillors for the ward of Coalpit Heath.

The two Councillor vacancies that exist within the ward of Coalpit Heath can now be filled by co-option as no election has been called for either vacancy.

Initially three parishioners notified the Council that they wish to be considered for the two vacancies but since then one has withdrawn their intent.

Notices of intent were received from:

Mr Philip King
Mr Tristan Clark

Mr King was invited to make a short presentation of his suitability to Council which was warmly received.

Mr Clark was on vacation but had submitted a covering letter which was read out aloud by the Interim Clerk.

Council then moved to a private room to consider both applicants in exempt session before returning to vote on the co-options.

Proposed by Cllr M Crumpton, seconded by Cllr T Gibb that Mr Philip King be co-opted onto the Council.

Proposed by Cllr M Crumpton, seconded by Cllr J Butler that Mr Tristan Clark be co-opted onto the Council.

In accordance with the procedures for co-option both Mr King and Mr Clark were duly appointed to the office of Councillor for Westerleigh Parish Council, both representing the Ward of Coalpit Heath.

Cllr P King immediately took his place at the table after signing his declaration of office.

2095. Date of Next Meeting Full Council 6th March 2017 at Manor Hall, Coalpit Heath

2096. Exempt Session - Council to consider confidential matters relating to the Bitterwell Lake license agreement and Chalet letting and Items considered urgent by the Chairman.

Due to the sensitive nature (commercial and personal) of the items to be considered Council moved to consider further items Exempt Session

Signed:

Date: 6th March 2017