

Westerleigh Parish Council ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING
Manor Hall Jubilee Room – Thursday October 21st 2021 7pm

Present: Cllr C Goddard (Chair) Cllr R McCullough Cllr Lean Cllr Taylor Cllr Kelliher
Clerk: S Simmons
7 members of the public attended for the planning item and then left the meeting

Councillor Goddard welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the public speaking rules and housekeeping arrangements

175. Apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr A Di-Duca and Cllr T Clark

176. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

Cllr Lean declared he would not involve himself in decisions regarding Swift Sports Coaching

177. Council to review & consider any necessary Planning Applications

P21/06177/PIP Permission in principle for the erection of up to 6 no. self-build dwellings Land South West Of Bella Vista Westerleigh Road Westerleigh South Gloucestershire BS37 8QH

All councillors present gave reasons for strongly objecting to this application at Bella Vista. Several of the public in attendance also gave their reasons which have been submitted to the SGC portal. The Clerk will submit a PC STRONG OBJECTION response to the portal. It will also be shown on the Parish Council website at <https://www.westerleighparishcouncil.org.uk/parishioners-planning/>

178. Pre-arranged items from members of public

The public comments were all heard in relation to the previous item

179. To approve Minutes of E & L Committee meeting August 2nd 2021

Unanimously approved and signed by the Chair

180. Committee to receive figures on relevant community benefit budgets

The Clerk gave a report on the current situations of funding pots which showed the following unspent sums: CIL/S106 fund ~ £42000; Says Court Community benefit fund ~£60000; S137 grant fund £12,700;

NB Please note that the original report figures included VAT (gross figures rather than net) so in some cases there is slightly more left. See F & GP Minutes of 1.11.2021.

181. Committee to discuss LOCAL AREA NATURE PLAN ideas and any future projects needing approval

Cllr Taylor gave an overview of the LNAP sub group (Cllr Taylor, Cllr Goddard, Cllr Lean) so far:

A Google map has been created showing the boundaries, current land use/status (SGC/Parish/private) and possible areas of opportunity;

Matt Lipton who is heading the SGC has been told this Parish is keen to participate on LNAP issues.

The first priority should be actions on Parish owned land.

Public engagement should be sought in the Spring to identify other ideas and help and support.

Actions to take forward are tree planting – hawthorns at Newman Field (Clerk to contact Landcare who planted the copse there a few years ago), possible other native trees as part of Jubilee year, and to chase SGC to be more supportive of planting verges as some other authorities have been.

Another sub-group meeting will be held in the New Year to plan public engagement in Westerleigh but ideas are welcomed in the meantime.

182. Committee to discuss LITTER & SGC possible joint project

Cllr Taylor and Cllr Goddard along with the Clerk had a meeting with Alison Richards and Rich Withy of SGC to follow up on the Litter Report conducted during May June & August. Whilst SGC graded the litter as acceptable, to residents it is not. WPC want to see if they can work and fund some actions to tackle the litter problem areas. AR is about to attend a meeting giving an insight into Maidstone Councils experience with LitterCam. She also will look at the offerings that Keep Britain Tidy are suggesting now that SGC are working with KBT again. This may be some signage options.

183. Committee to discuss/approve progress with ongoing projects including:

Emergency Plan/Defibs

Committed spend £7500 from CIL; Defibs (3) £3767.48

Three defibrillators are being installed on Monday October 25th at Westerleigh Village Hall, Coalpit Heath Village Hall (Miners Club) and Henfield Hall in Ram Hill.

Emergency Service/999 call handler registration by AED Donate before leaving each site.

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SIGNAGE needs organising as installation should be next week – Cllr McCullough to organise this.

Training tba by AED Donate and others. It was suggested to hold at least one 'live' training event at each venue and the Clerk has been given a possible contact on this.

Publicity of the defibrillator installations should be as wide as possible – including an article in Frome Valley Voice, Gazette, our website, our facebook page etc etc. Publishing details of training should also be done.

Play scheme

Committed spend £800 Autumn half term (2 days) £800 for Feb half term (2 days)

Comes from says Court Farm fund. Autumn half term is fully booked both days.

The committee agreed to fund 4 days in the Easter holidays. (4 x £400=£1600) from the Says Court benefit fund.

Tree works outstanding

Mayhill Committed spend £1600

Work will take place at the start of December supported by Western Power with cable isolation.

That will complete our ash die-back recommendations for 2021.

Large (phase2) Fishing platform

Quote £3500 - approved at last PC meeting. Since the last meeting the BDAA have offered to fund this in its entirety subject to it meeting their design criteria. The contractor is aware of the requirements.

Installation of No Parking on the Grass signs

Our contractor is framing the signs already purchased ready for installation the cost of which is tba.

They are for Westerleigh village green (War Memorial triangle) and opposite Manor Hall. This area continues to be cleared by residents after forming an agreement.

Cllr McCullough highlighted **very severe issues** with poor and at times illegal parking at this location and Cllr Lean suggested contacting Rob Wiltshire at SGC.

Westerleigh Bus Stop – quote for external £820

The quote covers clearance of brambles, laying turf and slabs on which to stand a supplied bench. The quote was approved.

Bin for Manor Hall footpath

£290 PLUS Installation and move existing dog bin across the road. The new bin is due for delivery on 26th October so should be installed within two weeks.

Avon Wildlife Trust

George Cook is our new contact for Says Court activities. Bat/Owl prowl during half term is booked.

184. Committee to discuss/approve future projects including:

Outdoor gym equipment – early research shows outdoor gym is expensive to install and to regularly maintain. As Charfield has recently had some it was suggested their experience is watched for 12 months. Public engagement might show if this would be used if available.

Benches: Pansy Vale/Mill Crescent - The Parish Council will consider benches at these locations but public feedback is wanted first. Clerk to draft a note for Cllr Goddard to go door-to-door.

Church path: - An informal request has been made for the possibility of funding a new path inside the churchyard walls of St James in Westerleigh. A formal grant application would need to be made for the Parish Council to consider but it should be noted that funding is very limited by legislation for Parish Councils to make awards to churches.

185. Committee to consider/approve any other items considered necessary by Clerk

Boiler service & Landlord Gas Safety checks at Chalet has been booked with Pass & Totterdell in first week of November 2021. No other works identified at annual rental inspection so fund will continue to build

186. Items considered urgent or exempt by the Chair

AOB – Signs at Bitterwell Lake have been removed – Clerk to discuss replacements with Lake manager

Football at Westerleigh playing field – no team put together for this season (Saturdays) but hopefully will be ready for next season in August 2022

187. Dates of future meetings

Finance Committee meeting November 1st 7pm Manor Hall red brick annex

Full Parish council meetings

November 8th 2021 7pm Westerleigh Village Hall

December 13th 2021 7pm Manor Hall

The meeting closed at 8.25pm