



## NOTICE OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This virtual 'Zoom' meeting is on Monday March 8th 2021 at 7pm

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81380991771?pwd=L1RmOW9HMnBZaXFwOTQvZUt4bjFoUT09>  
Meeting ID: 813 8099 1771 Passcode: 926935

**Members of the public wishing to join the meeting should join, activate their video camera and remain 'on mute' unless they have made prior arrangements with the Parish Clerk to speak.**

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

## AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011
4. Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the Parish  
**See Appendix 2**
5. Pre-arranged items from members of Public  
Joe Hughes – Great Western Air Ambulance Charity
6. Parish Councillor Reports – written submissions, taken as read with questions taken as necessary  
Report from Cllr McCullough & Cllr Goddard from Yate Improvement Masterplan workshops  
(See Appendix 1)
7. Council to Approve Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2021
8. Council to note receipt of E & L Minutes of February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 and Matters Arising
9. Council to note receipt of monthly finance documents for February 2021
10. Council to receive update to expected S106/CIL income for 2021/2022
11. Council to consider Planning Applications (other than those dealt with under COVID-19 Standing orders)  
Applications & comments are listed on: <http://www.westerleighparishcouncil.org.uk/parishioners-planning/>  
**Consideration of two mobile phone Base Station upgrades**  
(a) **PROPOSED BASE STATION UPGRADE AT VF 86936 – PARK GATE FARM, WESTERLEIGH ROAD, COALPIT HEATH, BRISTOL, BS36 2UN**  
(b) **PROPOSED BASE STATION UPGRADE AT VF 86931 – HEATH FARM, RAM HILL, COALPIT HEATH, BRISTOL, BS36 2TX**  
Go to our Parish Council website News page [HERE](#) for links to both of these proposals
12. Council to receive Clerk report regarding ongoing matters and approvals where required
13. Correspondence/Communication with Westerleigh Parish Council  
From SGC  
Traffic orders and road closures  
**North Road Yate** from a point 66 metres south of its junction with Armstrong Way in a southerly direction for a distance of 250 metres. For BT pole replacement works (not before 16 March 2021) for approx 1 day's duration, between the hours of 9.30am and 3.30pm when signs or traffic lights in place.  
  
**Henfield Road** from its junction with Ram Hill to its junction with Station Road in connection with the likelihood of danger to the public consequent upon bridge inspection works. From 9 March 2021 when traffic signs are in position and anticipated to be of 2 nights duration, 10pm and 4.30am.  
  
**Westerleigh Road, Emersons Green / Coalpit Heath & Westerleigh Hill, Westerleigh - Temporary Road Closure** these works have been postponed to 15/03/21 – 26/03/21. These works will be carried out

during the day and the road closure will be operative weekdays 7:30am – 5:00pm.

WECA – Mass Transit Project pre-consultation letter and webinar Thursday 11 March at 1:30 – 2:30pm.

Other

Avon Pension Fund 2021/22 Employee contributions table (unchanged for WPC staff)

CEF COVID Vaccination Information events

14. Council to consider responses to Consultations

NALC – PC21 RIGHT TO REGENERATE

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have recently launched a consultation seeking views on proposals to reform of Strand 2 (land owned by a local authority or certain other public bodies) of the Right to Contest under the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 operated by the MHCLG. The main consultation document can be downloaded [here](#) .

15. Council to consider RESOLUTION to continue with COVID-19 Delegated Powers to the Clerk and to continue dealing with Grant Applications & Planning Applications by email

16. Items considered urgent or exempt by the Chairman

17. Dates of future Parish Council meetings/Committee meetings

Full Parish Council meeting Monday April 12th 7pm Zoom

## **Report from Cllr Goddard & Cllr McCullough on Yate Town Improvement Masterplan Engagement Team Workshop. 23/02/2021**

The presentation was given by Jason Butler from ARUP. This is based on the Public consultations that took place October/November 2020. The plan was described as a series of Themes. It is seen as having Regeneration Opportunities, giving Yate a new and dynamic identity over the next 20 years. A new 12 week public consultation is planned for end of May/June 2021.

### **Area around River Frome.**

Described as Access to Nature. They envisage making a wetland/nature area, with walking paths, tree lined walkways and cycle paths reducing the need for cars.

There are approximately 4.5 miles of continuous parkland around Yate. There will be no development within the Common.

Pavements will be permeable, large trees will be used for shading, creating boulevards. A rain garden will be created.

### **Station Road.**

Local shops for local people seems to be the theme here. A mixture of retail and housing. It was noted from the Consultation that there is a strong sense of Community along Station Road. The plan is to link Station Road with the rest of Yate as presently it seems detached from it. Major junctions will have housing developments around them.

### **Yate Station.**

The current platforms will stay. Multi storey parking and a new Plaza/Square with Cafes and retail units. Ease of access for pedestrians and cyclists. There are two options being looked at, depending upon the impacts and changes at the Industrial Estate. Both look at focussing and enhancing the listed Passenger Shed on the site.

### **Industrial Estate.**

Will be enhanced, trees etc better access for Cyclists. There is a desire to create a new circular route through the estate, providing better access and encouraging new growth.

### **Yate Town Centre.**

There will be no wholesale redevelopment. A large civic centre, almost a one stop shop for Medical facilities, utilities, libraries, open air markets. Retail shops and cluster housing for younger people. There is no time line or priority for when any of the works will start at this time.

A new Leisure Centre is to be built next to the Ridgewood Centre (a listed building) this will be a glass fronted modern building.

With the focus on Greener Cities, and this plan certainly does that, there are going to be 38 Charging Points for Electric vehicles at the Park and Ride and apparently there will soon be one in Yate Car Park. No details were given as to location. Having said that it was recognised that the Car will always be with us and must be catered for.

**Question from Cllr Goddard.** Are there any plans to enhance the Bus Service from Westerleigh Village into Yate as not everybody drives, it is impossible to walk from the Village into Yate and the narrow road make it dangerous in places for Cyclists?

Response from Becky from Jacobs who are dealing with the Transport part of the plan.

No, running an upgraded Bus Service is not commercially feasible.

The plans for the development of Yate, expected to be over the next 20 years can be found on website [Yatefuture.com](http://Yatefuture.com).

**Comments from Cllr McCullough.** I reiterated Dodington PC comment that their population has an older demographic and whilst all of the plans and ambitions sound good, for our parishes the key is the transport links.

Park & Ride projects will help, there's an established bus corridor (which will be reinforced over the coming years) from Coalpit Heath, but there will still be the need for some to drive into Yate. The intention at the main shopping centre is to redevelop onto the car parks and provide a multi storey car park near Tesco.

Also, during the initial Yate Masterplan workshop it was mentioned about the disconnect between the train station and the shopping centre. It's obviously problematic rerouting the railway line, but maybe something like a tram connecting the two along Station Road would be beneficial.

This was agreed by the Transport experts on the workshop, but is equally hard to put into place. Increased bus services along Station Road could be the cheaper alternative, and it is very much a recognised issue.

**This is an indicative sketch showing the types of change that they will look at encouraging in and around the town centre...**



This sketch provides for several public square areas, introduces green space and structure, and adds in much more residential than currently exists. There was concern from this of splitting the Leisure Centre provision across two sites.

## **Appendix 2**

### **Westerleigh Parish Council – Frampton Cotterell Ward Councillors’ Report**

#### **New Covid-19 Testing Sites in Yate**

A new Covid-19 testing site, for residents who are symptomatic, has opened in the car park of Courtside Surgery on Kennedy Way in Yate. This new site replaces a Mobile Testing Unit previously sited at Culvert Avenue which closed on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February. This new site will be a walk-through testing facility. Testing at the new site will operate on a strictly appointment-only basis. Current Government guidance is that only those with symptoms should book a test. This can be done through <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. Residents must not turn up at the site if they have not booked an appointment beforehand. Anybody who turns up without an appointment will be turned away.

In addition to this a new site offering Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) for Covid-19 has opened at Yate Parish Hall on Station Road. These tests are for anyone who is asymptomatic, cannot work from home and has to be in contact with colleagues and the public in order to do their jobs. Many of these individuals are providing vital services to the community during lockdown such as health and social care workers. South Gloucestershire Council is urging such workers to frequently book and take a test (ideally twice a week). This testing service offers appointments seven days-a-week from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (with late opening until 7:30 p.m. twice a week).

#### **Community “Surge” Testing Areas**

At the start of the month the Department for Health and Social Care announced that South Gloucestershire will be providing additional community testing for Covid-19 for specific postcode areas in Bradley Stoke, Patchway and Little Stoke between 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March. Surge testing is solely for residents who are asymptomatic. The parish of Westerleigh is not within any of those areas. Some parishioners, however, are still urged to participate. Anybody who travels to these postcodes for work, education or to visit someone in their support bubble is eligible to participate. Further information about community surge testing sites as well as collect and drop centres can be found at <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/community-surge-testing/>.

#### **Call for Sites Information Published**

Last year South Gloucestershire Council undertook a “Call for Sites” exercise. They have now published all the sites that have been submitted as an interactive map - [https://maps.southglos.gov.uk/Map/Map.aspx?mapName=CFS\\_MAP\\_01](https://maps.southglos.gov.uk/Map/Map.aspx?mapName=CFS_MAP_01). They have also published an FAQ sheet giving further information about the Call for Sites and how the council will use this information.

It is important to note that, just because land has been submitted to the Call for Sites process, it does not automatically mean it will go into the new Local Plan. It also does not indicate that planning permission is likely to be granted on any land.

All sites submitted to the Call for Sites will now be assessed and considered against priorities for the new Local Plan and the council’s broader objectives for achieving net zero carbon by 2030. The next stage of the process will also see each proposed site technically assessed using national planning guidance (called the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) process). The HELAA process assesses whether each individual site would be potentially suitable for development. It does not decide which sites should be proposed for allocation through the Local Plan. There will be further public consultation, for the next stage of the new Local Plan, on the sites which have passed through the HELAA process and could form part of our new plan.

#### **2021 Census and Library Services**

In line with government guidance, the South Gloucestershire Library Service is now providing click and collect, home delivery services to existing users and digital services. Computers and Wifi will be available for *essential purposes only* at most libraries from 8<sup>th</sup> March for an hour a day (bookable in advance). This also includes answering the 2021 Census which, for the first time, is being predominantly completed online. The census should ideally be completed on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Residents can get assistance with the census by ringing 0800 141 2021 (Open Mon – Fri 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Census Weekend 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.). They can also request a paper census form from <https://census.gov.uk/en/request/paper-questionnaire/enter-address/>.

Find out more about the what services are being provided in an alternative form during lockdown at <https://www.southglos.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/libraries/changes-to-library-services-during-covid19/>.

### **South Gloucestershire Council Budget for 2021/22**

The council tax rate in South Gloucestershire, as had been widely anticipated, is to be 4.99% with 3% of that being ring-fenced to cover the rising costs of social care. Even with this council tax increase South Gloucestershire Council's own budget report showed that it is facing a £16.3 million funding gap by 2024/25. The authority's auditors noted that "The council's medium-term financial plan relies on the use of reserves to deliver a balanced position in 2020/21 and 2021/22 but this strategy is not sustainable in the medium to long term." In this position it will be difficult to avoid further tax council rises in coming years without necessitating further stringent cuts to the authority's budget.

### **Potential for EV Charging Station in Frampton Cotterell Ward**

South Gloucestershire Council is exploring the potential for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station in Frampton Cotterell ward. The two locations being considered are the car parking spaces outside the shops on Lower Stone Close and the Coalpit Heath Village Hall (a.k.a. the Miners Social Club). Officers intend to consult with stakeholders (including Frampton Cotterell Parish Council and Westerleigh Parish Council) and residents in the coming months.

### **Covid Vaccination Programme and Concessionary Bus Passes Changes**

There are currently 19 GP surgeries, 2 hospital hubs and the mass site at Ashton Gate delivering vaccinations across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

The roll out has expanded in the last week to include pharmacies and employer hubs who are large providers of care. Billings Pharmacy in Kingswood, Ellacombe Pharmacy in Longwell Green and Boots Pharmacy at The Mall have joined the programme so far but it is hoped that more pharmacies will shortly follow suit.

The West of England Combined Authority (WECA) and North Somerset Council, to help residents get to and from vaccination centres, have removed the time restrictions on the use of concessionary bus passes. Passes will now be valid at all times up to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April in South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and North Somerset.

The vaccine roll-out is great news, but we must still do our bit to stop the spread by staying at home (except for specific essential reasons), following the Hands, Face, Space advice when out, and self-isolating and getting a test when necessary. Useful information about testing, self-isolation and vaccinations can be found at <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/testing/> as well as <https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/covid-19-mass-vaccination/>.