

WESTBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**AT THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE LAVERTON,
BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY ON MONDAY, 7th JULY 2008 AT 7.00 PM.**

PRESENT: Cllr M Hawkins (Chairman).

**Cllrs A Berrisford, M Cuthbert-Murray, Mrs G Denison-Pender, P
Ezra, Mrs S Ezra, C Finbow, R Hawker, F Morland, H Prickett, Mrs J
Reed, I Taylor and D Windess.**

Also in attendance: 17 members of the public

**Mr J Cross, Works Manager, and Dawn Moore, Environmental Co-
ordinator, Lafarge Cement UK.
Police Inspector S Douglas
PC N Holt
Mr John Green, “Moonfest” Organiser.
County Cllr Miss F de Rhé Philipe**

T.1874 PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr P Biggs: Lafarge Cement UK, Westbury Cement Works – recent emissions; proposed Leigh Park Doctors’ Surgery Site; and The Laverton Institute – its future, and the Town Council’s planning application for change of use of part of the ground floor.

Mr A Rowse, Mr S Curtis and Mr D Levy: Lafarge Cement UK, Westbury Cement Works – recent emissions.

T.1875 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE.

Cllrs S Andrews – personal; Mrs C Mitchell – unwell; and D H Hulin – clash of meetings.

T.1876 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Nil.

T.1877 MINUTES. The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on the 7th May 2008 were signed by the Chairman.

T.1878 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES:

Appointment of representatives on other bodies – Westbury By-Pass Alliance (T.1855). Noted.

T.1879 LAFARGE CEMENT UK, WESTBURY CEMENT WORKS. To consider the fact that the Lafarge cement works in Westbury has been issued with a written warning by the Environment Agency for exceeding its permitted limits in its emissions of dioxins and furons on one occasion earlier this year, and to request and/or receive a full explanation and reassurance from the management at Lafarge that they are doing their best to avoid any further breach of the limits - Cllr R Hawker.

Presentation by Jim Cross and Dawn Moore – See attachment.

Cllr Hawker raised the question of the effects of dioxin emissions when the plume grounds due to specific local weather conditions: dioxins being more of a concern when ingested rather than inhaled, and asked whether it is possible to set up monitoring stations where the grounding tends to occur.

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Lafarge had carried out an extensive exercise completed in 2005 with twelve monitoring stations radiating out from the chimney as far away as Frome and Devizes. The published study showed that the average levels of particulates were well below air quality standards with no obvious link to emissions from the chimney. With regard to ambient monitoring, it is difficult to identify the source of any particular pollutant, ie whether from traffic, heating systems, etc.

It was resolved to arrange a Public Meeting later in the year, under the chairmanship of the Town Council, with representatives from the Environment Agency, Health Protection Agency, Wiltshire Primary Care Trust, Lafarge Cement UK, and Environmental Services at West Wiltshire District Council(WWDC) to look further into the issue of the grounding of emissions with a view to discussing what further may be done.

T.1880

POLICE REPORT:

- a. **Report by Inspector Douglas and PC Holt** – Detection is up and crime is down. This has resulted from robust policing when dealing with prolific priority offenders, of which there were three in Westbury and who were undoubtedly responsible for much of the crime. Following legitimate targeting of these individuals by the local police they have now moved out of the area.

A new officer, PCSO Neil Turnbull, has commenced duties in Westbury.

One area of concern is the level of violence in Westbury. During April, May and June, 190 incidents have been recorded, 30% of which are domestic violence cases, and the remainder being street offences, with criminal damage being the highest. The local police have been targeting violence against the person, concentrating on the public houses and using plain clothes officers.

Alcohol Repair Programme for offenders and victims – this gives offenders the opportunity to attend counselling sessions or workshops where trained councillors help them to see how their drinking causes them to offend. Those who go through this programme re-offend less than those do not.

Police have powers to ban people from an area for up to 48 hours, and if over 16 years can issue an on the spot PCD ticket. In concentrating on the town centre, it is hoped to improve the quality of life of local residents.

Neighbourhood Tasking Group – these are really starting to work. All the agencies come together to discuss problems and look for solutions, ie Storrige Road when people leave Club Ice and commit criminal damage on people's property. The local police are working very closely with Club Ice, who take security very seriously and invest in high security.

Grassacres Park – The aim is to patrol the area proactively in the afternoons and evenings during the summer holidays and during the weekends in order to reduce the historical anti-social behaviour of youths being rowdy until late in the evenings.

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All Saints Church Yard – The aim here is to reduce the instances of criminal damage to the Church, and to identify persistent anti-social youths, who are ruining the quality of life of the residents there.

Westbury Youth Centre – Negotiations with Wiltshire County Council have currently stalled with regard to opening the Centre on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, which are the evenings most of the anti-social behaviour occurs with bored teenagers.

It was resolved to pass this matter to the next General Purposes Committee to consider making a resolution to request Wiltshire County Council to reschedule the evenings the Youth Centre is open to Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

- b. **Presentation – “Moonfest” Music Festival on the 29th, 30th & 31st August 2008 at the Stormore Farm site.** The festival organiser, Mr Green, has had twenty five years in the music industry and has run successful events in the past. Twelve months ago he came up with the plan to run a small festival in Westbury for about two to three thousand people, but has applied for a licence for 5000. He is in regular contact with and taking advice from WWDC, Police, Fire Brigade etc. He is trying to attract people from the local area and not from abroad or further afield in the UK, and stated most ticket sales to date have been local.

The music commences outdoors on Friday, 29th August at 18.00 hrs on the main stage until midnight, then continues for a further two hours within the marquee at a lower noise level. This programme is repeated on Saturday, and also on Sunday, except the music finishes at 22.00 hrs on the Sunday night. He has been advised that if music stops completely at midnight this could result in a large number of people migrating to Club Ice. Therefore, it has been decided to keep in line with the Club Ice timings. Mr Green has engaged the same security firm for the festival as Club Ice to take advantage of their local knowledge. The festival is primarily aimed at families and mature music fans.

There will be a camping area, sited fifteen minutes north along a public footpath at Southwick Farm with parking and shuttle buses to and from the site. There is a huge demand for family activities, and a field has been set aside for inflatables, entertainers, etc.

To date 60% of sales have been to the Westbury and Trowbridge areas. He has been in contact with Police on how to route traffic, and has provision for a maximum of 1500 cars. Free parking will be provided at Southwick, so should not affect Westbury.

Security – Mr Green has been in consultation with the Police for some months, and will be paying for extra policing for the event. He is employing a SIA registered security company, who will be providing twenty SIA registered security staff and a similar number of stewards to police not only the festival site, but the Southwick site also. The entire site will be fenced off with Heras fencing, and there are systems in place to deal with gatecrashers. Festival goers must have tickets to gain access.

Inspector Douglas reported he had been working with Mr Green over policing, SIA staff numbers and car parking. He is hopeful that with all things put in place the offences will be kept to a minimum.

T.1881 **WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT.** Nil.

T.1882 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.** The following Minutes were received and noted.

Highways, Planning & Development Committee -	19.05.08
Highways, Planning & Development Committee -	16.06.08
General Purposes Committee	- 02.06.08

T.1883 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES:** Nil.

T.1884 **WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (WCC) – PARISH ELECTIONS – 2009 OR 2013?** It was resolved to support holding the next parish election in 2013.

T.1885 **NEW UNITARY AUTHORITY – DELEGATION OF SERVICES.** It was resolved to forward to the Delegation Team the following agreed list of services that Councillors would like further details about with regard to the possible delegation of these services:

- Markets
- Street Cleaning
- Litter Control
- Recycling
- Noise/Nuisance
- Taxi/Street Trading/Pub Entertainment Licensing
- Street/Road Naming

T.1886 **LEIGH PARK DOCTORS’ SURGERY SITE.** Cllr Hawker proposed the following motion:

1. To write formally to Persimmon Homes confirming:
 - a. a bid from the town council, on behalf of the local community, for the freehold of the Doctors Surgery Site at Leigh Park, Westbury, in the sum of £1,000 (One Thousand Pounds), SUBJECT TO CONTRACT;
 - b. that our sole intention is to put the site to use as a doctors surgery (with or without ancillary medical or health-related uses, such as a dentist surgery) as soon as practicable when a suitable medical practice confirms and shows it is ready and able to construct and use a surgery on the site; and
 - c. that, if necessary, the council will put in place suitable legal arrangements to ensure this (b above) at the time (eg. a charitable trust with suitable objects designed to allow and ensure this purpose).

The Town Clerk advised against the motion.

Cllr Ezra proposed an amendment to monitor the situation of the Section 106 agreement on the Leigh Park Doctors' Surgery Site with a view to possibly making an offer at a later date. This amendment was defeated. Cllr Hawker's motion was then put to the vote and succeeded. The vote was recorded as follows:

Name	For	Against	Abstained
Cllr M Hawkins	✓		
Cllr Mrs S Ezra		✓	
Cllr Mrs G Denison-Pender		✓	
Cllr A Berrisford	✓		
Cllr Mrs J Reed		✓	
Cllr D Windess	✓		
Cllr I Taylor		✓	
Cllr C Finbow	✓		
Cllr F Morland			✓
Cllr R Hawker	✓		
Cllr H Prickett	✓		
Cllr P Ezra	✓		
Cllr M Cuthbert-Murray		✓	

T.1887

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **WCC – Formal Consultation on Proposed Electoral Divisions for New Unitary Wiltshire Council (T.1837).**
It was agreed to defer this matter until an Extraordinary Town Council meeting has been arranged prior to the deadline of 28.08.2008.
- b. **Wiltshire College, Westbury – Grant acknowledgement.** Noted.
- c. **WSYP News' – Available in the Clerk's Office.** Noted.

T.1888

THE LAVERTON INSTITUTE TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

- Heritage Lottery Fund bid – John Parker, Project Manager, has produced an interim report, which has been discussed by the working group, who will meet with John in the near future to discuss next steps.
- Question & Answer Session 29th May 2008 – See attached report.
- Snooker Club planning application for change of use – an application for listed building consent has been submitted to WWDC.
- Hiring update – The Hall has been very busy due to the By-Pass Inquiry. Given that this overlaps with the Street Fayre and the Hall's use by other hirers, the additional workload on the Town Clerk and his staff has been very considerable and is much appreciated. As agreed, a detailed report on hirings will be produced for Town Council in November.
- Wind & Waterproof evaluation and cost estimate – It was agreed this should be commissioned as soon as possible.

T.1889

TOWN CENTRE VIABILITY GROUP. Nil.

T.1890

WHITE HORSE AREA ACTION GROUP. Nil.

T.1891

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE TOWN MAYOR. Cllr Hawkins reported on the recent events he had attended since the last meeting:

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- 9th May 2008 – Royal British Legion Dinner.
- 24th May 2008 – Lions of Westbury Charter Anniversary.
- 6th June 2008 – Westbury Twinning Association 30th Anniversary Celebration.
- 27th June 2008 – Westbury Junior School 50th Anniversary.

T.1892 **PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNTS.** On report by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer it was unanimously resolved to approve the List of Payments made since the last meeting, or to be made, and to confirm the action of the Clerk, the Mayor and one other member in signing the necessary orders for payment and Bank Transfers as follows:-

2 nd June 2008	-	£53,818.61
7 th July 2008	-	£33,047.60

T.1893 **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2007/2008.** The Statement of Accounts for 2007/2008 as prepared by DCK Beavers Ltd was approved and accepted subject to audit.

T.1894 **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.** Cllr Mrs G Denison-Pender reported on the forthcoming March Through of the Troops for all the Wiltshire Garrisons on the 18th July 2008.

10.35 pm

**Signed on behalf of the Meeting
this eighteenth day of August 2008**

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Chairman