

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall



MINUTES OF WESTERLEIGH & COALPIT HEATH ANNUAL FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

Before the meeting began the Council stood for a minute's silence to remember two residents of Ram Hill who did much for the community: Sue Drake - former chair of the Henfield Hall Committee, and Sheila Scully - caretaker of Bitterwell Lake for 24 years.

Present: Cllr R McCullough (Chair), Cllr J Lean (also ward cllr), Cllr T Clark (also ward cllr), Cllr C Goddard, Cllr D Margetts, Cllr K Kelliher, Cllr P King

Clerk: R Davis **Finance Officer:** S Simmons

Three members of the public.

4005. To ELECT the Chair of the Parish Council

RESOLVED: Cllr Rob McCullough was proposed, seconded and voted in as Chair of the Parish Council.

4006. Chair to SIGN the declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr McCullough signed the declaration, witnessed by the Clerk.

4007. To ELECT the Vice Chair of the Parish Council

RESOLVED: Cllr Jon Lean was proposed, seconded and voted in as Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

4008. To NOTE apologies for absence

Ward Councillors Marilyn Palmer and David Goodwin.

4009. To RECEIVE Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting, as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members and the Localism Act 2011

Cllr D Margetts declared an interest in the grant application from Smile & Shine to fund room hire at Westerleigh Village Hall (Min 4033 i) – Westerleigh Village Hall treasurer.

Cllr T Clark advised the Council that as he is a member of the South Gloucestershire Development Management Committee, that he is still permitted to speak and vote on planning items and issues (see min 4036) and would only have to declare an interest if he had a pecuniary interest or an additional non-pecuniary interest **Any contributions he makes are based upon the submitted documents available at this time and he retains an open mind should any application be subsequently referred to one of South Gloucestershire Council's planning committees for determination.**

4010. To APPROVE [Minutes](#) of Parish Council meeting held on 14th April 2025.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

4011. To RECEIVE reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the Parish

Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council – District Councillors' Report

Monday 12th May 2025

Planning

Planning application P23/03430/F, a proposal for a 49.99MW solar farm in the parish of Almondsbury, was narrowly approved by members of the Development Management Committee at a meeting on

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

Thursday 17th April at the Kingswood Civic Centre. The Development Management Committee voted by 5 votes to 4 to grant planning consent. Many of the planning considerations (e.g. whether the site constitutes Grey Belt, the impact on the Green Belt, the impact on the Landscape Character and the impact on Designated Heritage Assets) are likely to arise when the planning application (P24/03001/F) for a solar farm at Mousewell Farm is determined.

Family Hub Opens in Kingswood to Support Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

A new Kingswood Family Hub is now open to provide support for older children, young people and their families to understand and manage their emotional wellbeing and promote better mental health.

Established in the old caretaker's house in the grounds of the King's Oak Academy, the pilot project is a collaboration between South Gloucestershire Council, Cabot Learning Federation, which runs the King's Oak Academy, Kingswood Town Council and partners who provide support services on site. The building will be known as 'Martin's House' in recognition of the former caretaker whose home it was when employed by the school.

The type of support which young people and their families can access will include advice, guidance and services focused on all aspects of emotional wellbeing and strengthening relationships between young people and their parents and carers and help to build the resilience required by young people as they develop into young adults.

The council recognises that many young people and families are facing more challenges today than say, before the pandemic and due to financial hardship. So, it is important to create opportunities for young people and families to share concerns at the earliest stage, and for services to be able to respond in a timely way.

The Family Hub is part of the South Gloucestershire Council Children's Partnership Early Help Offer. By locating services closer to the community, teachers and other professionals will be able to point those who need help towards it more easily and support will be available in a familiar environment.

In addition to the councils and the school, partners include:

- Creative Youth Network, which employs a wellbeing practitioner and youth worker funded by the Town Council
- The local Mental Health Support Team, which will provide drop-in services and other support
- School nurses, who will offer support and guidance to young people and their parents
- Off The Record a mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11-25 who will provide support and guidance to young people and their parents
- Compass the Council's Early Help navigation team who make sure we can provide the right help, in the right way at the right time to help families understand other services designed to help them
- South Gloucestershire Care Leavers will also support and guidance on a drop-in basis for young people who are care experienced.

4012. To RECEIVE questions and comments from members of the public present with respect to business on the agenda (in accordance with Standing Orders 3 e-3 i)

A presentation from the South Gloucestershire Project Team on the Yate Spur Cycle Path project was deferred to June meeting.

A member of the public spoke in relation to the Kendleshire Triangle item (min 4039). It was asked whether the stretches of Ruffet Road and Coalsack Lane which have been closed since the A432 bridge closure to manage the traffic impact, can remain closed when the new bridge opens next year. These lanes have been exceptionally well used by cyclists, horseriders and pedestrians during this time. Cllr Lean advised this may be put forward as a 'highways improvement request'

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

to South Gloucestershire Council which, if accepted, would trigger a public consultation. Action – Clerk to add to the June agenda.

4013.To APPOINT members to existing committees

Appointment to:	Number required	Term of Office	Appointees
Finance & General Purposes Committee	5	To May 2026	Chair (ex officio), JL, KK, TC, DM
E&L/ LNAP working group	Min of 3	To May 2026	RM, PK, CG, Clerk
COMMS working group	Min of 2 + staff	To May 2026	RM, JL, Clerk

4014.To Review and APPROVE delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, staff and other local authorities

RESOLVED: To APPROVE amended delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, staff and other local authorities.

4015.To Review and APPROVE the terms of reference for committees

RESOLVED: To APPROVE amended terms of reference for committees.

4016.To APPOINT representatives to outside bodies and APPROVE arrangements for reporting back

Appointment to:	Number required	Term of Office	Appointees
Westerleigh Village Hall Management Committee	2	April 2026 AGM	CG, DM
Avon Pension Fund	3 Authorised contacts in addition to RFO	Ongoing	Chair of PC; Chairs of F&GP Committee & Staffing Sub Committee (tba at F & GP)
Avon Local Councils Associations (ALCA)	1 PC representative	To May 2026	Chair of PC

4017.To REVIEW and APPROVE Standing Orders

RESOLVED: To APPROVE amended Standing Orders.

4018.To REVIEW and APPROVE Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: To APPROVE amended Financial Regulations, with the inclusion of a footnote stating the most up to date 2024 UK Public Procurement thresholds, as required by the Internal Audit Action Plan (see min 4026).

4019.To APPROVE the time and place of [ordinary meetings](#) of the full Council up to and including the next annual meeting of Full Council

RESOLVED: To APPROVE the time and place of [ordinary meetings](#) of Full Council to May 2026. Second Monday of the month (no meeting in August).

FINANCE

4020.RFO to report on 2024/2025 Finances

The RFO gave her final report on the 24/25 finances. These can be viewed at <https://www.westerleighcoalpitheathparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RFO-Report-for-12-May-2025-APC-meeting.pdf>

4021.To APPROVE Section 1 of the Annual Return – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 for Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath PC

RESOLVED: Section 1 of the AGAR was unanimously APPROVED and signed by the Chair and RFO.

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

4022. To receive Internal Audit report and NOTE matters arising

The PC received the IA report and NOTED that there were only low priority suggestions arising.

4023. To APPROVE accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025 (including Asset Register)

RESOLVED: The Annual Accounts were unanimously APPROVED with no questions arising. They were signed by the Chair. They will appear on the Annual Accounts page of the PC website.

4024. To APPROVE section 2 of the Annual Return – Accounting Statement 2024/2025 for Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath PC

RESOLVED: Section 2 was unanimously APPROVED and signed by the Chair.

4025. To APPROVE Period for the Exercise of Public Rights for 2024/2025 Accounts

RESOLVED: The Period for the Exercise of Public Rights was APPROVED as Tuesday June 3rd 2025 to Monday 14th July 2025. The Notice and the Public Accounts will appear on Parish Noticeboards during that period. Accounting documents will remain on the website under Annual Accounts.

4026. To CONSIDER matters arising from internal audit

The only two low priority suggested actions are:

- (i) covered under Financial Regulations updates above (min 4018),
- (ii) **RESOLVED:** Clerk/RFO to review if a minimum amount might be needed for the Asset Register.

4027. To APPROVE April 2025 payments made in accordance with FR 5.2

RESOLVED: APPROVED with no questions arising – attached as Appendix 1.

4028. To NOTE end of April 2025 Financial documents: Bank Statements & Reconciliation, receipts

All NOTED with no questions arising. The RFO confirmed that the VAT refund for last year, the first precept payment and CIL payments were all received. The payment for the Says Court Farm solar benefit (£19800) is still outstanding. The peppercorn rent has been received from Manor Hall.

4029. To NOTE CIL receipt

It was NOTED that a higher than expected CIL receipt of £23961.12 was received from SGC on 30/4/25.

4030. To NOTE FINAL BUDGET SHEET with April 2025 CIL included and final carry forward amounts

The final Budget sheet shows the higher CIL receipt NOTED above. The budget sheet was signed by the Chair.

4031. To APPROVE Zurich Insurance Policy renewal (Yr 5 of 5 contract)

- (i) Cost of 5th year

RESOLVED: The 5th year renewal price is £1559.39. (Last year was £1843.78). This was APPROVED for payment.

- (ii) New RFO to gather quotes in readiness for May 2026 - NOTED

4032. To review, update & APPROVE locations of funds with reference to the [WPC Investment Policy](#)

RESOLVED: After reviewing current location/amounts of funds across 4 accounts, following receipts of CIL/Precept etc into the current account, it was agreed to move money from the current

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

account as follows: £30k to the Natwest Reserve account (instant access) and £10k to the Redwood account (35 day Notice Savings account).

4033. To consider and APPROVE any Grant Applications including:

- (i) Smile & Shine

Cllr D Margetts declared an interest and did not take part in the vote.

RESOLVED: The application for money to pay the hire charges for Westerleigh Village Hall was APPROVED up to £5400 in the current financial year. However, rather than pay the organisation a lump sum it was agreed and arranged that the WVH Treasurer will invoice W & CH PC each month, copying in the group, so that payments can be tracked and made direct. This should be paid from CIL.

- (ii) The RFO reported that in June a substantial grant application will be received for discussion/approval from Westerleigh Village Hall for changing room refurbishments/upgrades of around £25,000.

4034. To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on Bitterwell Lake platform renewal proposal and forward plan with quotation (deferred from April meeting)

The four-stage proposal for new platforms and associated works were discussed.

RESOLVED: The total cost is £7,400 plus VAT. This was APPROVED to be paid by CIL with the new RFO asked to contact BDAA (British Disabled Angling Association) who funded platforms in the past for any current funding help.

4035. To RECEIVE and take a DECISION on any other finance matters

- (i) To APPROVE costs for suggested improvement works to Westerleigh bus shelter (painting, replace perspex window and frame if required) - £560

RESOLVED: This was APPROVED.

- (ii) To note sign-off/handover of RFO role – final working days 27th/28th May 2025
NOTED

- (iii) To APPROVE payment of remaining holiday (at 31st May) with final salary payment to retiring RFO on 25th May

RESOLVED: APPROVED

- (iv) To receive an update on proposal for a replacement storage shed at Westerleigh Playing Field (following cllr meeting on 8th May 2025).

The Clerk reported that following a site meeting, one shed at the top of the field behind the goal is the preferred option. Prices to be obtained and location and shed design to be approved by Full Council, prior to a planning application being submitted.

The RFO left her final meeting at this point.

4036. PLANNING

- a) To NOTE planning comments submitted since last meeting

None. NOTED

- b) To NOTE planning decisions made by South Gloucestershire Council since last meeting

NOTED. See Appendix 2.

- c) To discuss and COMMENT on any necessary Planning Applications or other Planning Matters:

- (i) [P25/00921/F](#) Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling with associated works. Plot 7 Self Build Blackberry Park Coalpit Heath South Gloucestershire

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

RESOLVED: Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application. However, it queries the inclusion of only one parking space and the lack of pedestrian access to the rear garden, contrary to the requirements of the self-build 'design guide' for the site.

- (ii) [P25/00948/TRE](#) Works to 1no. Oak to reduce by 1-2m (25-30%) spread of full canopy leaving standing height between 22-24m covered by TPO 0108 dated 24/07/2009. 11 Greenacres Park Ram Hill Coalpit Heath South Gloucestershire BS36 2UB

RESOLVED: Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council makes no comment on this application and defers to the decision of the Tree Officer.

- (iii) [P25/01016/HH](#) Erection of a two storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation. Erection of front porch. Creation of new vehicular access on to South Avenue. 442 Badminton Road Yate South Gloucestershire BS37 5HX

RESOLVED: Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.

- (iv) [P25/00958/CLE](#) Confirmation of buildings and land as Class E commercial premises. Land And Buildings At Westerleigh Park Nurseries Westerleigh Road Westerleigh South Gloucestershire

RESOLVED: Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council makes no comment on this application

- (v) The Clerk asked if there were any concerns regarding the following two applications notified after the circulation of the agenda: [P25/01109/HH](#) Installation of 18no. ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels sited within the rear garden. Foxfield Westerleigh Road Westerleigh South Gloucestershire BS37 8QQ, [P25/01040/TRE](#) Works to 1no Oak Tree T1 to crown reduce by 2m in height and thin by 10%. Works to 1no Oak Tree T2 to crown reduce by 2m in height, thin by 10% and reduce lateral spread by 2m on building side, covered by Tree Preservation Order TPO 311 dated 12th September 1979. 97 Greenacres Park Ram Hill Coalpit Heath South Gloucestershire BS36 2UB). No concerns were raised and the Clerk will submit responses using delegated powers.

4037. To RECEIVE Parish Councillor Reports and any other Reports – written submissions, taken as read with questions taken as necessary

Cllr McCullough tabled a report at the meeting, about the A432 Active Travel Scheme - see Appendix 3. It was read out and discussed at min 4040.

ITEMS REQUIRING A RESOLUTION

4038. To discuss matters and take a DECISION on required actions arising from A432 Badminton Rd bridge closure:

None.

4039. To discuss progress with land negotiations re Kendleshire Triangle with South Gloucestershire Council Property Services, and take a decision on any required actions.

It was noted that the Council has previously agreed to give up a small part of Kendleshire Triangle to accommodate an active travel cycleway and realignment of the junction as part of the A432 Active Travel Scheme. A corner of the triangle (in front of the bus shelter) will become adopted highway and the northern branch of Ruffet Rd will be closed to traffic. Part of the closed branch will be returned to grass, added to the triangle and made over to the Parish Council in exchange for the lost land. Although this Council objected to the Active Travel Scheme as a whole, it was agreed to give up this land if South Glos Council approved the scheme (which it has). The Kendleshire Triangle is unregistered land, and work is ongoing with South Glos Council Property Services to evidence the Parish Council's ownership.

RESOLVED: To approve the new plan for the Kendleshire Triangle (attached at Appendix 4) and related land exchange. The land shown in turquoise (106.1 sq m) to be made over to the Parish Council.

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

4040. To NOTE recent communications with South Gloucestershire Council members and officers re design and consultation process for A432 Active Travel Project (section through Coalpit Heath) village from Frog Lane to viaduct) and take a DECISION on any required action

Cllr McCullough read out a report (attached at Appendix 3) summarising an informal meeting he attended with Cllr Willmore (SGC Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration). They discussed ongoing concerns about the consultation process and elements of the design raised by this Parish Council via the formal consultation in summer 2024 (consultation response - Aug 2024 minutes, appendix 1).

The following motion was proposed and put to a vote: this Council requests that South Gloucestershire Council drops the section of the A432 Active Travel scheme which runs from the railway bridge to Frog Lane through the centre of Coalpit Heath village. It failed to receive a majority vote so was not carried.

A second motion received a unanimous vote and was carried as follows:

RESOLVED: To request that, as soon as possible, South Gloucestershire Council writes to all households along the Badminton Road that will be directly impacted by the Active Travel Scheme, to explain how the space outside their houses will function after completion i.e. how the cycleway, footway and road will be laid out and what they can and cannot do. (Clerk to action).

4041. To discuss any required CONSULTATIONS and COMMENT as necessary:

None.

ITEMS TO NOTE

4042. To NOTE progress of South Gloucestershire Highways review re speeding in Westerleigh (from Shorthill Road to the Nibley Lane junction)

The first phase of improvements (refreshing line markings though the village etc) was completed in early May. There is no timeline for phases 2 and 3 as yet (see min 3925, Feb 2025 for summary of phases). Action - Clerk to request an update from Ward Cllr Palmer.

4043. To NOTE progress with rectification works at Pansy Vale following recent utility works

Noted at April meeting that reseeding of the filled soil area and making good damaged verge areas/ area used as compound, has not been completed by the contractor. Action - The Clerk has obtained a new contact for the contractor and will request rectification or payment as per the wayleave agreement.

4044. To NOTE annual play inspection reports for Westerleigh Play Area and Newman's Field Play Area (April 2025) and actions taken/ outstanding

The following actions to repair wooden equipment at Newman's Field have been completed as per the inspection report.

- (i) Cycle rack – loose material removed.
- (ii) Seating sleepers (embankment) – 2 x decayed timber steps replaced and others re-faced in decking board to prolong life.
- (iii) Swing hammock – loose leg reset and brushes refurbished.
- (iv) Slide platform – broken plank repaired.
- (v) Balance beam - older beam of 2 removed.
- (vi) Zip wire – inspection & service booked at cost of £375+VAT.

It was noted that the wooden equipment is coming towards the end of its useful life, so ongoing repairs are expected and budgeted for. New wooden equipment is due for installation this summer, as a replacement for the existing as it needs to be removed over time.

At Westerleigh Playing Field the play surface under the swings has been cleared of moss.

The following actions at Westerleigh Playing Field are outstanding. Action – Clerk:

- Goalpost – replace net clips.
- Play Area Signage - dog ban & ownership signs recommended.

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

4045. To NOTE progress with E&L projects

- (i) Two new bins installed - Roundways Coalpit Heath, Ruffet Rd/ Henfield Rd junction.
 - (ii) Two Parisis Path signs installed at Blackberry Park (to celebrate friendship between Frampton Cotterell RFC and Parisis Rugby Club, France)
 - (iii) Two easy-latch gate openers fitted at Bitterwell Lake
- NOTED.

4046. Correspondence/Communication with Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council: From South Gloucestershire Council:

- Good Neighbours South Glos campaign toolkit (joint project with AgeUK)
- 28th May – 10th June: Yate Link Rd overnight closure for resurfacing (8pm – 6am week nights)

Other received items

- Swift Sports April 2025 fun day report (4 dates)
- 28.04.2025 Brightwell West of England MS Therapy Centre end of grant report - £200 for extended opening hours
- ALCA In-Short April 2025 newsletter

4047. To NOTE items considered urgent by the Chairman

None.

4048. To CONSIDER any exempt items:

Due to the nature of the business under consideration, a resolution to exclude the press and public may be required under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the LGA 1972, s100.

-To confirm staffing arrangements from 1st June 2025.

It was not necessary to exclude the press and public. Cllr McCullough reported that the staffing arrangements will proceed as planned from 1st June 2025 i.e. combined Clerk & RFO role following retirement of the Finance Officer. A risk management report relating to the staffing structure will be tabled at the June meeting.

4049. Dates of future Parish Council meetings

June 9th Full Council meeting 7pm Westerleigh Village Hall

July 21st Full Council Meeting 7pm Manor Hall, Newman Room (venue confirmed)
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM JULY 14TH.

(Full list at www.westerleighcoalpitheathparishcouncil.gov.uk/meeting-dates)

The meeting was closed at 8.49pm.

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

Appendix 1 - April 2025 payments list

Date	Descript	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
01/04/2025	Annual subscription	ALCA	899.19		899.19
01/04/2025	Grass cutting	CPS Grounds Ltd	957.31	191.46	1,148.77
01/04/2025	Storage unit rental fee	PE King (Bristol) Ltd	73.33	14.67	88.00
01/04/2025	Printing & copying charges	Konica Minolta	5.29	1.06	6.35
07/04/2025	Loo hire	Andyloos	159.60	31.92	191.52
09/04/2025	PWLB loan repayment	PWLB lending facility	1,957.28		1,957.28
14/04/2025	Room hire	Manor Hall	22.00		22.00
14/04/2025	Grant for fire doors	Westerleigh Village Hal	3,400.00	680.00	4,080.00
16/04/2025	Aerator at Bitterwell Lake	EON	18.48	0.92	19.40
22/04/2025	Council mobile phone	H3G (Three)	3.04	0.61	3.65
23/04/2025	Annual play inspections	Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA)	80.00	16.00	96.00
23/04/2025	Annual play inspections	Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA)	100.00	20.00	120.00
23/04/2025	Holiday activity days	Swift Sports Coaching	1,600.00	320.00	1,920.00
25/04/2025	Monthly Pension payment	Avon Pension Fund	574.80		574.80
25/04/2025	PAYE	HMRC	1,189.97		1,189.97
25/04/2025	Salary	SWSimmons			
25/04/2025	Salary	Rachel Davis			
28/04/2025	Sign & Bin installations	C R Belcher Agricultura	300.00	60.00	360.00
28/04/2025	Sign & Bin installations	C R Belcher Agricultura	550.00	110.00	660.00
29/04/2025	Monthly Expenses	SWSimmons	97.33		97.33
29/04/2025	Monthly Expenses	Rachel Davis	110.22		110.22
30/04/2025	Bank charges	Natwest	12.25		12.25

Appendix 2 - Planning decisions since 9th April 2025

Description	Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council Comment submitted	Notice	Decision	Decision Date
i) P25/00582/CLP Erection of single storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation. 147 Roundways Coalpit Heath South Gloucestershire BS36 2LU	Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council makes no comment on this application. (Delegated - F&GP inquorate)	17/03/2025	Refuse certificate of lawfulness	24/04/2025
ii) P24/02883/RVC Variation of condition 4 attached to permission P24/00993/F to alter the approved plans. Erection of 1no. self build dwelling with parking, cycle and bin storage, and associated works. Self Build Plot 11 Cow Leaze Blackberry Park Coalpit Heath	Westerleigh & Coalpit Heath Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.	16/12/2024	Approve with conditions	29/04/2025

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

Appendix 3 – Report of an informal meeting in April 2025 between Cllr Rob McCullough and South Gloucestershire Cllr Chris Willmore (Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure)

Following previous discussions, email exchanges and letters with Councillor Willmore over the A432 CRSTS scheme passing through Coalpit Heath we arranged to meet in person to discuss further.

This was an informal discussion, it didn't carry the voice of the parish council. I didn't report it earlier due to the pre-election period restrictions.

In the meeting I raised the previous concerns over the process enacted by the officers regarding this project and had nine pages of timeline showing where and how I believed our parishioners had been let down. Cllr Willmore acknowledged the process does seem to have gone wrong and although it may be too late for this project valuable lessons should be learned by SGC for future projects.

I pointed at the fundamental failures, in my eyes, warranting the complete dropping of the scheme between the railway bridge and Frog Lane - thereby avoiding the village entirely. This is a point that Cllr Willmore took on board but obviously the scheme is for an entire corridor between Yate and UWE - which is apparently the background behind the scheme's designers to take in wider voices ahead of local ones. It just seems that the local focus was an element that wasn't come back to, after pre-election periods, etc.

We discussed the particular design elements through the village, which have all been raised before but have been explained away by the design team for failing to answer the LTN1/20 rules, and Cllr Willmore pledged to go through them again with the designers. She said that some elements - outside the church, the burger van lay-by, etc - were still being confirmed. Works already started at the demolished bridge end of the road were early facilitating works.

There seemed to be disagreement over the actual physical end result of the interaction between peoples' driveways, the new pavements, the cycle ways and the road ways. Cllr Willmore was going to check into this.

We agreed that if we didn't understand it then it's very likely the residents along Badminton Road wouldn't either, and an exercise - soon - in letter dropping information to tell people how the space outside their houses will function after the scheme is finished, would be very valuable.

Cllr Willmore asked if I, or we, would assist with this.

Road parking could, she suggested, continue where necessary - but on the actual roadway (rather than the pavement or cycle way).

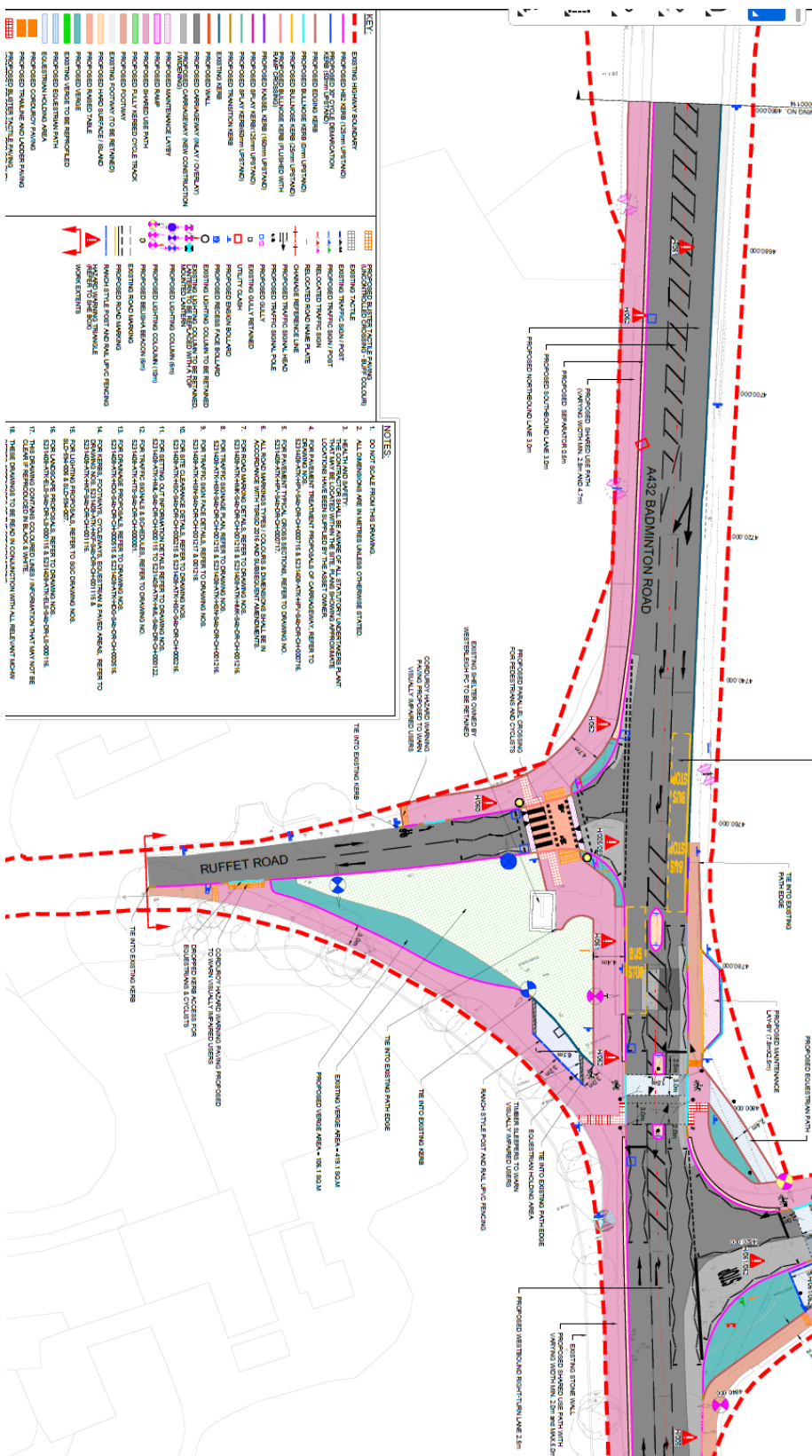
I reinforced my belief that the scheme simply isn't suitable for this road and this village, and that it seems that no one at any time has stopped to consider this. I raised how moving slow moving vehicles onto separate carriageways could increase vehicle speeds through the village; meanwhile electric bikes and scooters - some of which I have seen doing 35+ mph through the village, will now be unrestricted as they pass through Coalpit Heath - making things dangerous,

Cllr Willmore emailed me the next day to confirm she had gone through all the information we discussed with Andy Whitehead, and she would report back further.

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, Henfield Hall

APPENDIX 4 – Approved plan for the Kendleshire Triangle and related land exchange (Land shown in turquoise and adjacent to existing triangle (106.1 sq m), to be made over to the Parish Council



[Link to original plan document](#)