

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office,
St Peters Business Park, Westfield on
Monday 6th February 2012 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Chair: Cllr R Appleyard
Vice Chair: Cllr G Fuller

Councillors: R Baber, A Clarke, S Hamilton, R Moss,
E Newman, T Pack, S Russell B Wallbridge
and P Wilkinson

In Attendance: Mrs L J Welch (Parish Clerk)
Mrs B Burridge (Administrative)

Also Present: Mr Mark Walton, Representative of the Big Local

137. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

138. Declarations of Interest

Cllr S Hamilton - Declared a personal interest because a family member works for Wansdyke Play Association – Item 13 – Wansdyke Play Association – Volunteer Trustee needed.

The Council held a minutes silence for Christopher Cray a founder member of the Council.

139. Big Local in Westfield and Radstock

Mr Mark Walton, Representative of the Big Local gave a presentation about how the Big Local was set up. Areas in the South West were looked at where very little or no lottery funding had been granted or lottery funding had failed. Radstock and Westfield had been identified to receive the Big Local which is a £1 m project over 10 years. This work needed to be set up and the projects are to be community driven.

Radstock and Westfield are in the first 50 of 150 to benefit from at least a £1m of funding plus a range of support for the life of the programme, spent or invested over 10 years.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

There would be opportunities to share information with other areas and 'buddying' could be set up and new websites would be available. Mark will forward all information through to the Parish Clerk.

The Council thanked Mark Walton for his presentation and the Chair suggested that as he was on a very tight schedule the Parish Council would be best placed to assist him.

140. Co-option to the Parish Council

The Parish Council received two possible candidates for co-option but Members were advised that one had since withdrawn. Mr Bryan Wallbridge addressed the Council and a vote was taken.

Resolved: That Mr Bryan Wallbridge be co-opted onto the Westfield Parish Council.

141. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Resolved: Mr Bryan Wallbridge read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

142. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 3rd January 2012

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 3rd January 2012 be signed as a correct record.

143. Matters arising from the minutes for reporting only

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

144. Precept 2012/13

To consider the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee for the 2012/13 Precept. Cllr Moss thanked everyone for all their work in a difficult and challenging financial year for the new Council. He thanked the Office and Cllr Wilkinson, Vice Chair of the Committee for their hard work on the Precept and Cllr Pack for his help on the Outside Services.

Cllr Moss explained that the precept had to be increased because Bath and North East Somerset Council had included 99 houses in Charlton Road in Westfield when in fact they belonged to Midsomer Norton. This information did not come to us until January and he has addressed this with Bath and North East Somerset Council.

Resolved: That the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee at its meeting on 9th January 2012 to set the Precept for Westfield Parish Council at a 9.42% increase thus giving a Precept figure of £170,818 be agreed.

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145. Precept Leaflet 2012/13

To consider the Finance and Personnel Committee's recommendation on 9th January 2012 for the Precept Leaflet 2012/13

Resolved: That the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee at its meeting on 9th January 2012 for the Precept Leaflet 2012/13 be agreed.

146. Committee Reports

- Resolved:**
- a) That the Minutes, Confidential Minutes and recommendations contained therein of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 9th January 2012 be noted.
 - b) That the minutes and recommendations contained therein of the Environment and Development meeting held on 9th January 2012 be noted.

147. Chairman's Report

The Chair reported that Bath and North East Somerset Council had identified 15 areas for Snow Wardens. Westfield had 5 or 6 people volunteer to become Snow Wardens who wanted to get involved. Bath and North East Somerset Council took it upon themselves to deliver the salt and spreader to a local resident who is one of the Snow Wardens. We need to identify the areas that have the greatest need for gritting for example the area around the shops was not done. We also need to have a meaningful discussion with Bath and North East Somerset Council that Westfield Parish Council should be involved.

The Chair also felt that perhaps more spreaders were needed and that perhaps these could be bought out of a ward allowance.

A decision needs to be made as to whether the Council should purchase any regalia for the Chair to wear when attending functions. This will be put on the Agenda for the next Finance and Personnel meeting.

148. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' report

Cllr Moss reported that ten days ago he and Cllr Appleyard attended the Planning Meeting regarding the Alcan site. It went through Committee including the relocation of the club with offices above and £445,000 Section 106 monies which is supposed to be concentrated on jobs.

This then led on to discussion about Somer Valley Partnership which is now being rebranded and relaunched to make it fit for purpose.

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Cllr Appleyard asked Members to look at the Agenda for next weeks Finance and Personnel Committee meeting which included a feasibility study to build a new office for the Council with offices to rent out. This idea had been favourably received by the B&NES Council.

149. Wansdyke Play Association – Volunteer Trustee needed

Members were asked who would like to be nominated as a Volunteer Trustee for Wansdyke Play Association.

Resolved: That Cllr Bryan Wallbridge would be nominated as a Volunteer Trustee for Wansdyke Play Association.

The Meeting finished at 8.35 pm.

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Signed Dated