

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Boardroom, The Oval Office,
Cobblers Way, Westfield on
Monday 1st October 2018 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr G Fuller

Cllrs: D Cooper, R Hopkins (Vice Chair), E Jackson, L Mansell,
B Wallbridge and P Williams

Attending: Lesley Close, Parish Clerk; Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant

Absent: Cllrs: A Butcher, K Docherty, J Honess and P Wilkinson

85. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Honess.

86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 9 Youth Provision as a member of the Church Council.

87. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 3rd September 2018

Resolved: the minutes of 3rd September 2018 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

88. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 10th September 2018

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 10th September 2018 be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 19th September 2018

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 19th September be noted.

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Signed Dated

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89. APPROVAL OF ANY ITEMS OF £5,000 AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY VIREMENT

There were no items over £5,000 for approval.

90. WESTFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM RESULT

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan was carried by a very good margin. Cllr Hopkins reported that the turnout was perceived to have been very good. He has applied for permission to address the BaNES cabinet on 31st October but has not had a response. Cllr Jackson also to address cabinet.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Democratic Services to ask for a response for Cllr Hopkins.

91. GRASS CUTTING WORKING GROUP – Update on 13th Sept meeting

Cllr Fuller reported on a recent meeting of the Working Group, after which a letter had been sent to senior officers at BaNES asking for a further meeting. A response was promised within a couple of weeks, but not received.

Resolved: to follow up the original letter asking for a meeting with senior officers.

92. ADOPTION OF AMENITY LAND BY BANES

It was noted that Council has contacted other Councils within BaNES to ask if they are having the same discussion with BaNES regarding maintenance of land, with a view of meeting with them to approach the issue together. Some Councils have responded with the view to adding it to the Parish Liaison agenda for the next meeting.

93. YOUTH PROVISION

Minutes from a recent meeting of the Cluster Group were shared. It was noted that there was need of an extra volunteer in order to continue with the meetings inside the church and Councillors were asked that if they knew of anyone who might be interested to ask them and give the information to the Clerk. Cllr Hopkins proposed that as it is unlikely that the church hall will be used before Christmas that Council continues to pay the weekly charge in order to not lose the timeslot, which will be required next year. Cllr Wallbridge seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Resolved: to pay the weekly charge of £25 to the Trinity Methodist church to retain the session time.

There was discussion around the transitional agreement for Youth provision (1 October 2018-31 December 2018) and a request for the addition at item

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four to highlight topics such as health and well-being, in particular sexual health.

Resolved: to agree the Working Together Agreement to put a transitional arrangement for youth provision in place from 1st October until 31 December 2018. To request the new wording at item 4 if possible and request that it is part of the permanent agreement.

94. REMEMBRANCE

There is to be a two minutes silence on 11th November at 11am at the memorial stone, led by Rev'd Cramb, with a service to commence in the church at 10am. Cllr Jackson has invited Curo to lay a wreath. Cllr Hopkins to lay a wreath for Westfield Parish Council.

Resolved: Cllr Jackson to invite RADCO to lay a wreath.

95. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Cllr Fuller gave feedback on the most recent surgery at Trinity Methodist hall on Friday 7th September, where there was only one resident that approached, whose concern was the lack of a café at Elm Tree Avenue shops. There was also a BaNES Councillors' surgery on at the same venue and time. The next Parish Councillors' surgery is at Longfellows Café on Tuesday 9th October. Longfellows will publicise it on their Facebook page.

96. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORT

Cllr Hopkins to attend the next Parish Liaison meeting, and Cllr Mansell will also try to do so.

Resolved: To confirm Cllrs Mansell and Hopkins as representatives on the Parish Liaison meeting. Date of next Parish Liaison meeting to be circulated to them.

97. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Fuller reported on a successful walk for the Somer Valley Walking Festival. Several Westfield residents took part. It was felt that next year the walk, or walks, could possibly be shorter as one of the participants, a new resident in Westfield, expected to walk through the centre of Westfield.

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98. B&NES COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jackson reported that she is discussing the issue of nuisance neighbours with Curo as she has had several complaints. It was noted that Curo have a department to deal with anti-social behaviour. It was suggested that Curo could invite specialists to discuss issues with residents, which can ease anti-social behaviour.

She reported that it is difficult for single people to rent properties as there are no single bedroom properties in Westfield and the BaNES service, Homesearch, is not allowing single people to apply for two bedroom properties.

Resolved: To ask BaNES to define the Homesearch policy with regard to single people.

Cllr Jackson reported on the recent Council meeting where there is a stiffening of resistance to fracking in the area and a select committee is working with Sirona to ease the industrial dispute that is currently underway.

It was agreed to exclude the press and public on the grounds that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

99. LEASE WITH NORWEST BOWLS CLUB

Resolved: (1) To accept the quote from Thatcher and Hallam of £300 to undertake a rent review.
(2) To agree the concession in the lease is no longer required by the Parish Council relating to community use of the clubhouse.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm.

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