

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Boardroom, The Oval Office,
Cobblers Way, Westfield on
Monday 2nd September 2019 commencing at 7.00pm

- Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller;
Cllrs, D Cooper, V Cox, J Honess, R Hopkins, E Jackson,
B Wallbridge, P Wilkinson, P Williams
- Attending:** Lesley Close, Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant.
- Also attending:** Rev'd Ian Rousell and 1 other member of the public
- Absent:** Cllrs L Barnes and R Moss

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Barnes and Moss.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 7 – Planning application for RADCO - as a shareholder and as a member of the BaNES Planning Committee.

Cllr Hopkins declared an interest in item 7 – Planning application for RADCO - as his property borders the RADCO land and in item 11 – Youth Cluster Group – as Chairman of the Board of Youth Connect South West.

72. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 1st July 2019

Resolved: The minutes of 1st July 2019 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

73. TO WELCOME REV'D IAN ROUSELL

Rev'd Ian Rousell attended the meeting in order to introduce himself to Councillors as reverend of St Peter's Church in Westfield. He said that he felt that in Westfield there was a lack of community, and was interested to see that on the agenda there is a running item – Creating Community identity. It was explained to Rev'd Rousell that this is a running item as the parish is quite new in its inception and the Council works hard to make residents feel part of the parish. Rev'd Rousell welcomed that and said that in the two years that he has been reverend at St Peter's the church is growing and becoming a more fun place to be. He finished by saying all are welcome.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

74. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 8th July 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting held on 8th July be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 17th July 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 17th July be noted.

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

Cllr Jackson proposed to accept the budget of up to £3,000 for the VE Day commemorative event on May 8th 2020 and Cllr Wallbridge seconded. All were in favour.

Resolved: (1) To allocate up to £3,000 for VE Day commemoration from 4232/202 “Community Projects” and EMR 330 “Community Fund”.

(2) To ratify payment of £7005.45 + VAT to Theme Bins International Ltd for new benches at Norton Hill as approved on 1st July, to be funded from B&NES s.106 funds.

76. PLANNING APPLICATION 18/05623/OUT – Cooperative Store A, Wells Road

The revised planning application was discussed and Councillors agreed the following:

Westfield Parish Council wholeheartedly supports the planning application on the grounds that (1) it enhances the Conservation Area, (2) it provides better working conditions for the employees and (3) it gives improved accommodation for local residents.

77. S.106 AND CIL IN RELATION TO THE ABOVE APPLICATION

It was noted that Cllrs Fuller, Wallbridge and Hopkins are to meet with Dave Dixon of B&NES shortly and will report on the discussions at the next Council meeting.

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78. WESTFIELD GREEN AND OPEN SPACES WORKING GROUP

Cllr Hopkins reported that the working group is making some significant achievements. Of note currently are the picnic benches and tables that have recently been installed at Norton Hill Recreation Ground and are already being used extensively.

79. VE DAY 75 WORKING GROUP

The following points from the meeting on 2nd September were noted.

1. Vehicles - Ron Hopkins mentioned that World War II vehicles might be loaned from the Haynes Museum.
2. Eleanor Jackson to contact Peter Yates of Double Hills
3. Vince Cox played Churchill's two minute speech declaring Victory in Europe. The Clerk to contact BBC Somerset Archives to request a copy of the speech on cd.
4. The Clerk to contact Strode Sounds for a quote to book a sound system for 3pm on 8th May 2020.
5. Memorial Artefact - The Clerk to respond to Bath College asking them for budget bandings which tell us what might be achieved in each banding so that we can go out for funding.
6. Games played by children in the war years – Joan Pack to research
7. The Clerk to write to the schools, clubs and groups in the area letting them know of the event and asking if they would like to take part by running an activity of some kind and/or dressing in 1940's clothes.
8. The Clerk to contact the Silver Band and Westfield Voices for their availability to play/sing at 3pm on 8th May 2020.
9. Food – Joan Pack to look into whether the Methodist Church might make some of the war time recipes to be handed out as tasters on the day. James Honess and Vince Cox offered to look further into offering refreshments.
10. Publicity – Joan Pack has an original VE Day Flag and would liaise with the Clerk regarding an article in the next Westfield Warbler.
11. Road Closure – might be necessary on Elm Tree Avenue from its junction with Wells Road to Waterside Road.
12. Events Licence – to hold off on this for now until the venue is confirmed.

80. YOUTH CLUSTER GROUP

Cllr Fuller gave an update on the meeting with the Youth Cluster Group on 29th August. It was noted that the service has not yet transferred to Youth Connect South West, but that it should do so shortly.

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81. RUSKIN ROAD

Cllr Fuller reported on a meeting with Mandy Bishop of B&NES who has written a letter to the residents.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to Neil Butters, B&NES cabinet member for Transport Services, inviting him to visit and to ask if there has been any response to the letter.

82. ROADWORKS IN WESTFIELD – KEEPING RESIDENTS INFORMED

Cllr Cox had been approached by a resident of Hazel Terrace, who was unhappy that she hadn't been given enough information about recent roadworks on the Fosseyway. Discussion was held around what information residents receive when roadworks are planned.

Resolved: Cllr Cox to put together a summary of what information is required and a letter to be sent to Cllr Neil Butters.

83. TO REVIEW THE GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AS AGREED AT F&P

Resolved: To agree the Grievance and Disciplinary procedures with no changes.

84. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

A question was asked about road signage, as Westfield doesn't appear on any road signs on the highways leading to the area.

Resolved: to write to Cllr Neil Butters, Cabinet member for Transport Services to establish how Westfield can be included on directional signs.

85. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

It was reported that the Big Local are supporting youth work in Radstock and Westfield and that Youth Connect are putting together a bid to fund a full time Youth Worker based at Writhlington and Norton Hill schools. The question had been raised about whether Radstock Town Council and Westfield Parish Council would like to partners in the project, which would include being invited to meetings to determine what goes into the bid.

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Resolved: to put on the agenda for E&D and to invite Sam Plummer to an E&D meeting to discuss.

Cllr Jackson reported that Radstock Museum are holding an exhibition to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Double Hills glider crash.

86. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Fuller reported that he will be leading a walk around Westfield as part of the Somer Valley Walking Festival on Saturday September 14th at 2pm, starting at the shops on Elm Tree Avenue. All are welcome to join in.

The benches and tables at Norton Hill Recreation Ground are nearly all installed now and they are already very well used. There has been a lot of positive feedback. Cllr Fuller gave thanks to the Green and Open Spaces Working Group for their work on the project.

87. B&NES COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Jackson reported on a visit from Cllr Neil Butters of B&NES, Cabinet member for Transport Services, to Longfellow Road to see the difficult situation that arises with inconsiderate parking along the road. She is shortly to have a meeting with Cllr Paul Crossley, Cabinet member for Communities, to discuss providing something for the young people of Westfield.

The Infringement Officer investigating the situation at Mardons has found that Linden Homes were required to have the 14 offices "fitted and usable" which hasn't been done.

The Civic Service for Cllr Jackson being sworn in as Chair of B&NES took place in July. Westfield Voices took part.

The meeting closed at 8:07pm

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Signed Dated