

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Boardroom, The Oval Office,  
Cobblers Way, Westfield on  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 commencing at 7.00pm

**Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller;

Cllrs D Cooper, V Cox, J Honess, R Hopkins, E Jackson, R Moss,  
B Wallbridge (Vice Chair), P Wilkinson and P Williams

**Attending:** Lesley Close, Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant.

**Also attending:** 3 members of the public and Val King and Dave Fishlock from  
Dave Fishlock Building Contractors

### Comments from the Public:

A resident of Longfellow Road talked about the state of Longfellow Road after it has been resurfaced. He said there is a large amount of loose grit and tar, which is affecting cars and he felt that it hadn't set properly. He had been in touch with B&NES, who advised that they were asking the contractors to respond. He felt that it is B&NES who are responsible. Cllr Moss agreed to speak to the relevant officers in Highways.

Val King and Dave Fishlock attended the meeting to ask Councillors to support them in their request to change the way the Shambles is to be redeveloped. The planning permission states that the front of the building on the A367 has to be retained. This would cause a road closure on the Wells Road, because of scaffolding, for approximately 9 months, which is unacceptable. They want to remove the whole building and rebuild using the original material, meaning that the front of the building will look exactly the same as the plans that have been approved, and that it can be built, in the main, from inside and, as a result, the road will be closed for a 1-2 weeks, rather than months.

They asked Councillors to help them to find the right people in B&NES to talk to in order to get this passed as soon as possible. Councillors were happy to support them in their efforts to reduce the effect on traffic on the road, as long as there is no effect on the frontage of the building as agreed. Cllr Moss said that he and Cllr Jackson will approach planning to advise that they have the support of the Parish Council and try to get them moving forward to start work in April/May.

### 143. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed ..... Dated .....

Westfield Parish Council

**144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**145. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Resolved:** The minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

**146. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(a) Environment and Development Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January be noted.

**(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January be noted.

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

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

**148. BUDGET 2020/21 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE F&P COMMITTEE**

**Resolved:** to agree the budget 2020/21 as recommended by the F&P Committee.

Council commended the Finance Officer for drawing up the budget.

**149. PRECEPT 20/21 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE F&P COMMITTEE**

**Resolved:** to agree the precept in the amount of £207,100 as recommended by the F&P Committee.

**150. PRECEPT LEAFLET 20/21 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE F&P COMMITTEE**

**Resolved:** to agree the precept leaflet, with the removal of mention of the running track and fitness equipment at Westhill as finance from the Big Local wasn't confirmed at the time of the meeting.

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Signed ..... Dated .....

**Westfield Parish Council**

**151. RISK MANAGEMENT 2020 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE F&P COMMITTEE**

**Resolved:** to agree (1) the Risk Management Strategy, (2) the Financial Risk Assessment, (3) The Annual Review of the Insurance schedule and (4) The Local Council Risk Survey Summary as recommended by the F&P Committee.

**152. MENDIP LOCAL PLAN PART II MAIN MODIFICATIONS**

The modifications to Mendip Local Plan Part II were noted. There is now a consultation period until 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Resolved: (1)** The Clerk to draft a response, reiterating Council's previous objections to the development on the edge of Westfield for 450 properties. Response to be forwarded to Councillors for comment. The response to outline:

- The effect on the infrastructure in Westfield, in particular the A367
- The sustainability of the location ie. the lack of public transport means more cars, and air quality consideration in Westfield.
- The effect on local schools, doctors and dentists

**(2)** The Clerk to arrange a meeting with Midsomer Norton Town Council to discuss the Main Modifications, as there will also be an effect on Midsomer Norton.

**153. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY**

It was noted that the plans for the pavilion at Westhill are ready to be submitted for planning permission by the architect.

**Resolved:** to agree the submission of the plans with the removal of a fence close to the building and replace with a hedge.

Cllr Hopkins advised that the cost of putting barbeque stands on the benches at Norton Hill Recreation ground is prohibitive. He had been advised by another council that they had used paving slabs for barbeque stands in the same situation.

**Resolved:** Cllr Hopkins to trial the paving slabs

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Signed ..... Dated .....

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**154. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS**

**Mardons:** Cllr Cooper advised that the Chief Executive of B&NES, Mr Will Godfrey, had visited Mardons during his visit to Westfield last Thursday.

**Christians Together:** Cllr Jackson reported that Christians Together are looking forward to helping out with the VE Day celebrations.

**155. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman noted that there was an article in the Journal last week about the 3<sup>rd</sup> term that Westfield has been awarded Quality Status by the National Association of Local Councils. He offered congratulations to those involved in getting the status confirmed.

**156. B&NES COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr Moss reported:

- The budget had been set at B&NES with focus on climate emergency and prevention rather than cure, which he said was to be commended
- As requested by the F&P committee he is to approach B&NES with regard to funding for the pavilion at Westhill. He and Cllr Jackson will try to set up a meeting with the relevant officers.
- He, with Cllr Jackson, accompanied Mr Will Godfrey, Chief Executive of B&NES, on his visit to Westfield. The air pollution on the A367 was brought to Mr Godfrey's attention. Cllr Moss said that a full monitoring of air quality, both along the A367 and in the environment surrounding it needs to be undertaken.

Cllr Jackson reported:

- The visit to Westfield by Mr Will Godfrey had been successful. She thanked all those that had attended to meet Mr Godfrey and said he appeared genuinely impressed with what has been achieved and the forward-looking attitude of the Council.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm

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Signed ..... Dated .....