

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Boardroom, The Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 commencing at 7.00pm

**Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller  
Cllrs D Cooper, R Hopkins, E Jackson, B Wallbridge, P Wilkinson and P Williams

**Absent:** Cllrs A Butcher, K Docherty, J Honess and L Mansell

**Attending:** L Welch, Parish Clerk

### 153. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence due to work commitments were received and accepted from Cllrs Andrew Butcher, Kevin Docherty and Lesley Mansell, and from Cllr James Honess who was unwell.

### 154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

### 155. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018

**Resolved:** that the minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 be signed as a correct record.

### 156. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### (a) Environment and Development Committee – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 be noted.

#### (b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 be noted.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

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

The cost of adapting the 12 lampposts for festive lights was agreed in the amount of £5,400.

**158. TO AGREE THE FINAL BUDGET 2018/19**

The budget 2018/19 was amended with (1) the removal of all budgetary provision for the telephone box on Charlton Road; and (2) the reduction of the grants budget from £17,844 to £17,000.

Cllr Hopkins to contact BANES regarding the future maintenance of the telephone box.

**Resolved:** that with the above amendments, the budget as set out in the agenda be agreed.

**159. TO AGREE THE PRECEPT 2018 19**

**Resolved:** that the precept for 2018/19, as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee of £184,000 be agreed. This equates to £100.11 per band D equivalent.

Cllr Hopkins asked that his deep concern that the precept is too low in the light of potential changes in service delivery be noted.

**160. TO AGREE THE PRECEPT LEAFLET 2018 19**

**Resolved:** that the precept leaflet, as circulated, be agreed.

**161. WESTFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 were noted.

**162. MENDIP LOCAL PLAN PART 2**

**Resolved:** that the Parish Council responds to Mendip District Council supporting the BANES response and adding that the Parish Council believes the area on the edge of the Mendip district close to the Westfield border is neither suitable nor sustainable for development.

**163. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY**

**(1) Westfield- Midsomer Norton Signage –** The Parish Council considered the proposed signage on the cycle track between Westfield and Midsomer Norton.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**Resolved:** to respond requesting (1) that the number of the national cycle track be added to the signs; and (2) due to the fact that facilities in Westfield are spread across the Parish and not located in one town centre as is the case with Midsomer Norton, that an appropriate sign to Westfield Parish Council be added.

**(2) Westfield Massachusetts** – The suggestion from Westfield Massachusetts of linking the Westfields of the world was met with interest.

**Resolved:** to respond expressing an interest in the potential for a link up of the world's Westfields via a social medium. This to be discussed further at the Environment and Development Committee.

**(3) Town Status-** The Parish Council received guidance on town status.

**Resolved:** to not pursue status as a town.

**164. GRASS CUTTING IN WESTFIELD**

The meeting scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> February with BANES was noted.

**165. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS**

**Radstock Museum** – Cllr Jackson reported on an exhibition on Downside Abbey and the programme for half term.

**Mardons Social Club** – Cllr Cooper reported that one month on the contractors were still trying to understand the problems with the leaking roof. Cllr Jackson had asked DAG to look into it.

**166. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported that Cllr Bull had contacted him regarding including Westfield in the Somer Valley Walking Festival again, which he had agreed.

**167. B&NES COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Jackson reported on (1) the BANES forthcoming decision on its budget which would elicit a Council tax increase; (2) an IT failure in Virgin Care which amongst other things resulted in a delay in pension payments; (3) a meeting the following day to discuss provision for youth.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**168. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

It was agreed to invite the CEO of Radco to talk with the Parish Council about plans for the Radco site. Fully understanding that plans might be commercially sensitive, it would be placed in Part 2 of the agenda.

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.

**169. LAND AT WESTHILL CLUB**

There was a discussion on the progress of the lease.

**Resolved:** that the lease be progressed following the advice of the solicitor as summarised in the Clerk's report.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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