

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Oval Office
Monday 7th October 2024 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr P Wilkinson
Cllrs: D Cooper, G Fuller, R Hopkins, E Jackson, P Millard,
R Moss and P Williams

Attending: Lesley Close - Parish Clerk, Caitlin Brown - Admin Assistant

Absent: Cllrs M Curtis, L Lambell, K Biggs

68. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Biggs and Lambell and were accepted.

69. Declarations of interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

70. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 2nd September 2024

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting on 2nd September 2024 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

71. To confirm the Committee(s) on which Cllrs Curtis and Lambell would like to serve

Cllrs Curtis and Lambell were absent so no decision was made.

72. Committee and Working Group reports

(a) Environment and Development – 9th September 2024

Resolved: That the minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on the 9th September 2024 be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel – 18th September 2024

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Resolved: That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on the 18th September be noted.

73. Approval of any items over £5,000 and consideration of any virement

There were no items to consider.

74. External Audit Report - recommended for approval by F&P

Resolved: The report was noted.

75. Meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner Clare Moody on 7th November at 6pm

Resolved: The Clerk will provide the following questions to Clare Moody prior to the meeting on the 7th November.

Questions in advance centre around –

- Policies on Pit Bikes – there is a particular problem on the roads and green spaces in Westfield
- Low policing levels resulting in spiralling anti-social behaviour / vandalism to play areas
- Speeding on the A367 through Westfield (particularly at night) – there has been a recent spike in serious accidents on the A367
- Intentions for the future of the Police Station, located in Westfield

76. Outside Bodies reports

Radstock Museum – ‘By Gone Days’ lectures continue to take place. As always, there is an appeal for volunteers.

B&NES Local Plan – Cllr Hopkins provided a report on the B&NES Local Plan. B&NES Ward Councillors will continue to report on any developments.

77. Creating Community identity

Westfield in Bloom – results will be announced tomorrow Tuesday 8th October. The publicity associated with an In Bloom result is beneficial to the area.

Remembrance – The traditional ceremony will be held at the memorial stone on Sunday 10th November, as arranged by the Church.

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78. Chairman's report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

79. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' reports

Cllr Jackson reported:

- (1) on the latest B&NES Planning Committee meeting
- (2) B&NES public transport consultations are taking place

Cllr Moss reported:

- (1) Investigations in to how CIL money is spent continues
- (2) The NHS are offering vaccinations for Covid, Flu and RSV (age limitations apply) and encourages those who are eligible to book in with their GP
- (3) Avon Fire and Rescue are circulating a leaflet about home fire checks. They are also offering to visit homes of those who are unable to carry out the checks themselves
- (4) B&NES budgets are being drafted.

To resolve that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

80. Purchase of Parish Council Office

A verbal update on the meeting with the vendor on 2nd October 2024 was given.

Resolved:

- (1) The Clerk to chase the vendor for the timed schedule of works so that it can be assessed if this is feasible
- (2) If timescales do not allow for this, to consider holding back a portion of the price. Those items which are to take longer to be marked on the schedule and a reasonable retention held. We would require professional advice on the amount to be retained at this point.

81. Fallen Tree at May Tree Road

An update on insurance claim was given and a review the risk assessment was carried out. The latest tree report is being chased from B&NES.

The meeting closed at 20:27

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Signed Dated