

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Oval Office
Monday 3rd February 2025 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr P Wilkinson
Cllrs: K Biggs, D Cooper, G Fuller, R Hopkins, E Jackson,
L Lambell, P Millard and P Williams.

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

Absent: Cllr R Moss

122. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Moss.

123. Declarations of interest and dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

124. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 6th January 2025

Resolved: with two minor amendments the minutes of the meeting on 6th January 2025 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

125. Committee and Working Group reports

Environment and Development – 13th January 2025

Resolved: That the minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on the 13th January 2025 be noted.

Finance and Personnel – 22nd January 2025

Resolved: That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 22nd January 2025 be noted

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

There were no items to consider.

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Signed Dated

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127. Budget and Precept 2025/26

Resolved: to agree

- a. Final Budget as circulated.
- b. Precept Option C which is a precept of £274,500, equating to £142.74 per annum for a band D property – an increase of £17.82 per year or £1.49 per month.
- c. The Precept leaflet, with some small additions.

128. Fixed Assets register

Resolved: to accept the Fixed Asset register as recommended by Finance and Personnel Committee on 22nd January 2025. Separately, the Clerk to clarify the local council regulations on valuing of buildings.

129. Financial Risk Management

Resolved: to agree the following documents on the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel committee on 22nd January 2025:

- a. The Risk Strategy document
- b. The Financial Risk Assessment for 2024/25
- c. The Annual Review of the Insurance Schedule
- d. The Risk Register 2025

130. Outside Bodies reports

Mardons – Cllr Cooper reported antisocial behaviour is frequent with regular vandalism including graffiti and damage to a car in the car park. CCTV has been sent to PC George Simpson.

B&NES will use the club for the Mayoral Elections which take place on 1st May 2025.

Radstock Museum – Cllr Jackson reported that the museum reopened on 1st February. The current exhibition is; Somerset Miners: Welfare and Health Care. The Bygone Days talks continue, with one on the Haydon Incline taking place 4/2. The museum continues to look for volunteers.

Westfield In Bloom – Cllr Jackson reported the Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been rearranged and will now take place on 4/2 at Swallows Café. A safeguarding policy is being worked on and will be displayed on the wall of

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any venue when in use by Westfield In Bloom. A group of residents in Shelley Road have expressed an interest in tidying up the area and adding some tubs.

131. Creating Community identity

Cllr Hopkins reported that he continues to communicate with B&NES regarding signage for Westfield.

132. Chairman’s report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

133. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors’ reports

Cllr Moss emailed his report prior to the meeting:

- The budget will be a 4.99% increase from B&NES, with no confirmation of final figure from Police & Fire as yet
- CIL & s106 payments – the head of planning at B&NES advised there will be a more transparent reporting system for where the B&NES portion of CIL is spent & on what projects
- Reports have been received of taxis from Bath to Westfield only accepting cash, not card, leaving some passengers vulnerable. In other areas accepting cards is compulsory, this will be followed up.

Cllr Jackson reported:

- The revised plans for the Radco site should be out in April for public consultation.
- Following a complaint from a local resident regarding dog faeces on pavements including outside the Co-op, Cllr Jackson discussed this with Radco and they advised that staff will clear any mess that is directly outside of the shop.
- Cllr Jackson shared the Somer Valley Links leaflet.

Resolved: The Clerk to contact Somer Valley Links to query why Westfield is not included in the leaflet.

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.

134. New office

A verbal update was given and the Fire Risk Assessment was agreed with thanks to Cllr Biggs.

The meeting closed at 20:09

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Signed Dated