

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office,  
St Peters Business Park, Westfield on  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016 commencing at 7.00pm

- Present:** Chair: Cllr R Moss
- Cllrs: A Butcher, D Cooper, K Docherty, G Fuller, R Hopkins,  
E Jackson, A Seaman-Moss, B Wallbridge and P Wilkinson
- Apologies:** Cllr P Williams
- Attending:** Suzanne Norbury, Somerset Guardian, Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk

### 143. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Pat Williams who was unwell and apologies for lateness from Cllr Butcher due to work commitments. Cllr Butcher arrived at 7:30pm.

### 144. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

- Cllr Fuller declared an interest in item 8 Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration as an employee at the Rugby Club.

### 145. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

### 146. Committee Reports

#### (a) Environment and Development Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016

It was noted that the Fourth Avenue Motors planning application and the Hazel Terrace application were to go to Development Control at BANES that week. The Chairman had visited Fourth Avenue Motors and had sent his comments directly to BANES.

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, be noted.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, be noted.

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

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

**148. Feedback from the Westfield Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**

The minutes of the meetings on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were noted. The first consultation event had taken place, attendance was disappointing and it was suggested that more could be done to encourage passers-by to take part.

**149. Annual Review 2015/16**

The Annual Review 2015/16 was agreed and it was noted that the Chairman's introduction would be added in due course.

**150. Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration**

The Council discussed arrangements to mark the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations which included a joint event with Midsomer Norton Town Council at the Rugby Club and the lighting of a beacon/bonfire. The Parish Council had agreed to donate £150 to the Juniors at the Rugby Club. The Rugby Club was kindly providing refreshments.

**Resolved:** (1) That the lighting of the beacon at the Rugby Club should be 8.30pm;  
(2) That the shuttle bus should run in Westfield, paid for by the Parish Council, but that clarification be sought regarding its route, how payment would be made and that it is DVLA compliant;  
(3) That Westfield Parish Council marks the Queen's Birthday with the planting of a disease resistant elm tree in Westfield as part of the Great British Elm Experiment. The Tree Officer at BANES to be contacted for advice but in principle the Parish Council agreed to look at purchasing the elm tree from Trees Direct, who were co-ordinating the experiment at a cost of £43.50 plus planting.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**151. Parish Charter**

The existing Parish Charter was discussed and it was agreed that individual comments could be made by Parish Councillors directly to ALCA by 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

**152. Creating Community Identity**

The Council noted the costs provided by PR companies and the need for sustained press releases to keep Westfield in the public eye. Projects such as South West in Bloom and highlighting the history and unique features of Westfield were raised as excellent means of raising the profile of the Parish.

**Resolved:** (1) Cllr Wallbridge to talk to Bath Spa about students taking on the raising of the profile of the Parish as a project;  
(2) Cllr Angie Seaman-Moss to work on increasing the number of press releases by the Parish Council;  
(3) The Parish Council staff to look at taking every opportunity to write press releases, with extra hours allocated where required to fulfil this role;  
(4) That this item be put back on the May agenda.

**153. Fun Day**

Cllr Wilkinson gave an update on plans for this year's Fun Day to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 12-4pm at Westhill Recreation Ground. The line up in the events ring is brilliant and oversubscribed already. There is an urgent need for more volunteers and a press release would go out to this effect. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Wilkinson and Cooper and all the existing volunteers for their hard work.

**154. Westfield Warbler Review**

The Council discussed the Westfield Warbler, its advertising and the possibility of sending any over-runs to be handed out at local outlets.

**155. Banners in Westfield**

Cllr Butcher raised the proliferation of banners in Westfield. Whilst he wanted to support local businesses, he did not want to see a negative impact on the environment. The Parish Council felt that it was important that local businesses can advertise but that some oversight was required regarding their location and those which had become scruffy.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**156. Outside Bodies Reports**

Cllr Cooper reported that she went to a meeting at Mardons. There was no remedial work to the roof yet and there was concern about the management fee for this community building.

Cllr Fuller reported as a Trustee of the Community Play bus that the new bus had been bought and was being fitted out.

Cllr Butcher reported that he had been in contact with the Chair of Chilcompton Parish Council regarding mutual planning interests relating to the new housing developments on the Mendip border. He was emailing a proposal for a meeting.

**157. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Moss reported on the rash of anti social behaviour recently including mini bonfires at Westhill Recreation Ground and bags of dog waste thrown into people's hedges. Cllr Fuller stated that anti social behaviour had been discussed with PC Mark Graham at the site meeting for the new play equipment and action was being taken by the Police. It was felt that a meeting with the local police would help and the Clerk was asked to facilitate this.

**158. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' report**

Cllr Jackson reported that the homeless family of a veteran had been rehoused in Westfield and that BANES had now designated a BANES Officer for supporting military families and raising awareness with colleagues in BANES of the issues faced by those discharged from the Forces.

Cllr Jackson also raised the fact that the figures on domestic violence did not give a breakdown for Westfield and that she was looking at supported sessions in the area by FreeDOM.

There had been a meeting with Jacob Bishop Pike, Youth Parliamentary Rep and it would be worth considering inviting him to a Parish Council meeting.

Due to new rules in Somerset, there are now charges for those commencing their bus journey with a bus pass between 9-9.30am if the journey commences in Somerset. This does not apply if the journey commences in the BANES area.

The meeting closed at 8:50pm.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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