

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the SWALLOW Meeting Room,
Old Pit Road, Westfield on
Monday 5th December 2016 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Chair: Cllr G Fuller

Cllrs: A Butcher, D Cooper, K Docherty, J Honess, R Hopkins, E Jackson, B Wallbridge and P Williams

Attending: Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk

Absent: Cllrs L Mansell and P Wilkinson

118. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L Mansell and P Wilkinson who had other engagements.

119. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

120. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7th November 2016

Resolved: That the minutes of 7th November 2016 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

121. JOINT SPATIAL PLAN

The Chairman welcomed Simon de Beer of B&NES. Mr de Beer highlighted the 19th December deadline for comments on the emerging Joint Spatial Plan and circulated a presentation on the West of England consultation on the Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study in relation to the Somer Valley. Approximately 39,000 homes were to be built in greenfield sites and 15,000 on brownfield sites. There is no strategic growth envisaged for the Somer Valley in the JSP, but 1,000 more homes were required across BANES including the Somer Valley. Growth was to be limited in the Somer Valley due to problems of infrastructure. Devolution funds were not likely to be used in the Somer Valley due to other priorities. There was a discussion on the Old Mills location for the enterprise zone and it was felt that the infrastructure surrounding this location in terms of roads, transport and broadband would work against it.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Mr de Beer understood the frustrations in Westfield, where over 10 years huge growth had taken place in terms of housing, but nothing to support the infrastructure. The Parish Council asked for a detailed study of what can be done to support this area – air pollution, traffic, road improvements, schools, surgeries etc all suffered from massive housing development with no corresponding interest from BANES in directing the CIL and s.106 funding it received back into the area.

Mr de Beer suggested a workshop to identify all the issues, log them and try to rectify them. The Parish Council thanked him for attending and agreed that this should be the way forward.

Cllr Butcher arrived at 7.35pm.

122. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 8th November 2016

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting, held on 8th November 2016, be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 23rd November 2016

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting, held on 23rd November 2016, be noted.

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

Resolved: That, in accordance with the decision of the Finance and Personnel Committee last month, £16,600 be paid for 3 years pension deficit payments, creating a saving of £1,100.

124. CONSIDERATION OF GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Parish Council received information from the Carers' Centre as requested.

Resolved: To award the Carers Centre a grant in the amount of £700.

125. WESTFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 28th November were noted. The meeting with DLP Consultants regarding a feasibility study for a new community facility in Westfield was discussed.

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126. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

There had been tremendously positive public feedback following the Westfield Lights Switch On.

The lack of the 12 additional lights was discussed and it was agreed that compensation should be sought from BANES due to the fact that the Parish Council had rented the 12 extra lights from Lamps and Tubes having been assured by BANES that the adjustments would be made to the lampposts.

127. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Radstock Museum – Cllr Jackson reported that the Museum had held an excellent Victorian Day and encouraged all to attend the Christmas Fair at the museum on Saturday. On 11th January there was a meeting to plan the History of Westfield exhibition and if anyone had anything they might contribute please contact Cllr Jackson.

128. B&NES CORE STRATEGY REVIEW

The Review was noted and it was agreed to feed back to BANES via the Workshop suggested by Mr de Beer.

129. B&NES CABINET MEETING 14/11/16

Cllr Jackson reported the challenges facing Hope House Surgery, which might be moved to Waterloo Road. She also raised the difficulties for Veterans in finding relevant help and advice in BANES.

130. CHAIRMANS' REPORT

The Chairman thanked SWALLOW for the venue, given free of charge for this meeting and also the January Parish Council meeting.

He thanked everyone involved in the Lights Switch On, a successful event which is growing larger each year. Next year we should look at spreading it out further.

Last week the Chair attended the service at St Nicholas Church to induct the Rev. David Izzard.

On 13th December SWALLOW has a carol service at St Peters – all were encouraged to attend.

The Community Carol service at Trinity Church Radstock the previous day had a massive turn out and was an excellent event.

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The Welcome to Westfield sign at the Radstock entrance was to be moved due to it being a hazard for those coming out of their drives further up the hill. By permission it was to be moved to the private land of the residents of Summercourt, Wells Hill at a cost of £534.

131. BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Jackson reported that the finger sign posts had disappeared from the boundary of Westfield following the changes to the road layout in Radstock. The Parish Council was asked to support her in asking BANES to replace it.

No further action had taken place with the hole in the wall. It was suggested that the church should re-open the gap they closed to allow people in wheelchairs access from the car park to the church. This would allow alternative access for those who can not open the self closing gate in the gap adjacent to the crossing, proposed by BANES. It was suggested by Cllr Jackson that Mendip Total Renovations be contacted to find out if they have a street works licence and if so, be invited to quote to fill the hole in the wall. It was noted that this was not Parish Council land and such work could not be commissioned by the Parish Council. It was further noted that due to the fact that this opening is used extensively, that residents should be informed when any changes are to take place.

Cllr Jackson and Cllr Mansell were requesting an Air Quality Check of the A367 from BANES.

Cllr Jackson had had a meeting with Robert Jones of Pentland to improve signage at Mardons.

Cllr Jackson was asked to take back to BANES the fact that the yellow lines at Welton Road has still not been painted and that an accident happened there four days ago.

She was also asked to take back to BANES the fact that the Planning Enforcement team had not yet got back to Cllr Hopkins on the underground house being built at the rear of the Railway Inn.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm.

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