

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office,
St Peters Business Park, Westfield on
Monday 2nd December 2013 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Chair: Cllr G Fuller
Councillors: A Butcher, A Clarke, D Cooper,
S Hamilton, R Moss, S Russell and P Wilkinson

Also Present: Two members of the public

Attending: Mrs L Welch, Parish Clerk
Mrs B Burridge, (Administrative)

Mr Richard Hambleton spoke about the ongoing problems with parking around Fosse Way School; even though the yellow lines will be coming in 4 – 6 weeks, this still will not solve the problem. Cars are being left on the estate from 8.30 am until 5.30 pm and often later.

As Fosse Way School is an academy funded by central Government, BANES do not have a lot of power. Dan Corbett has suggested a meeting with Jacob Rees Mogg, the local MP, to try to get something done.

95. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs R Appleyard and B Wallbridge who had work commitments and Cllr E Newman who was unwell.

96. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

97. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 4th November 2013

Resolved: That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th November 2013 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

98. Committee Reports

a.Environment and Development Committee

Minute 101 Parish Council presence at the Carnival

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Cllr D Cooper mentioned that she had received a lot of feedback from residents regarding the new route for the Carnival, they were not happy about:-

- (i) The big floats would have trouble getting round the bend from Charlton Road:
- (ii) That if they went into the County Circuit clubs are allowed to miss one carnival and if the route was changed they would miss us and not Shepton Mallet:
- (iii) Residents would not stand in Westfield waiting for carts until 9.30 pm

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 11th November 2013 be noted.

b. Finance and Personnel Committee

Resolved (a) That the Minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting held on 25th November 2013 be noted.

(b) That, given that there is no financial guarantee offered to local councils, the funds in the region of £42,000 in the Guaranteed Investment Account be moved to another bank or building society so that not all the Parish Council's funds are in the same place.

99. Draft 2014/15 Budget

Cllr R Moss thanked the Clerk for her work and said the Budget was on a good solid foundation. Cllr Wilkinson has a query on the Avon Pension Fund deficit as we are not clear on our liability this will be addressed with the Avon Pension Fund.

The Clerk informed Members that there had been a small adjustment to the Budget as Ellis Whittam's charges were now only £750.

Resolved With the above amendment that the budget for 2013/14 be agreed in principle.

100. Draft Placemaking Plan

The Draft Placemaking Plan was progressing well, Cllrs Butcher, Fuller, Cooper, Wallbridge and the Clerk each being responsible for a piece of the work. Cllr Butcher will pull all the work together in time to report to the Environment and Development meeting on Monday. The Council thanked Cllr Butcher for all his work this far on the Plan.

Resolved: That authority be delegated to the Environment and Development Committee to finalise the Plan by its deadline of 20th December 2013.

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Westfield Parish Council

101. Venue of Council Meetings

The Council considered the request of the Environment and Development Committee that Council meetings be held at the Bowling Club to make use of the multi use agreement. It was noted that Council meetings cannot be held on licenced premises.

102. Parish Council Rent

Members were asked to consider the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee (Minute 68 refers).

Resolved: To agree to the renewal of the tenancy with Oval Estates for a period of three years at a cost of £5,837 pa.

103. Outside Bodies Reports

Cllr P Wilkinson reminded Members that the Westfield Fun Day meeting was taking place at the Westhill Sports and Social Club on Wednesday 4th December.

104. Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming along to the Lights Switch On and advised that thank you letters have now been sent out. It had been a very good event and he thanked everyone involved in organising it.

The Chairman had spoken to Cllrs Steve Plumley and Paul Myers from Midsomer Norton Town Council about the crossing on Silver Street. A young lad had been knocked down and broken his leg and an article is going into the paper about a new crossing there.

The Chairman is going to visit Norton Radstock College to ask to see what is happening to the Notice Board that they are making for us and to get the specifications to buy a like for like notice board. Nothing had happened regarding this, despite chasing, and as it has been three years he will look into it.

The Council noted the pictures of the new play equipment for Norton Hill Play Area selected by the children of Fosse Way and Westfield Primary Schools.

He finished by thanking everyone for their support this year and wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

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105. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' report

Cllr Moss reported that BANES were working on the budget and there will be no expected rise in Council Tax. There are a couple of problems finding additional money for Children's Centres.

There will be £130,000 for small business loans for Westfield and Radstock to be matched with money from the Big Local. At present they are looking for someone to look after the loan scheme and the Credit Union may be the way forward; there will be more details to come out.

The Big Local Dragons' Den has been publicised locally.

There being no further business the meeting closed at **7.28 pm.**

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Signed Dated