

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office,  
St Peters Business Park, Westfield on  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 commencing at 7.00 pm

**Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller (Chair)  
  
Councillors A Butcher, D Cooper, S Hamilton, R Moss, S Russell, B Wallbridge and P Wilkinson.

**Absent:** Cllrs R Appleyard, A Clarke and E Newman .

**Attending:** One member of the public.  
Lesley Welch, Parish Clerk

### Comments from the public

A member of the public reported that three weeks ago he had found a computer bag, battery and phone on the railway walk, which he had tried to hand to the Police but either found the Police Station closed or was told that they could not accept it. He raised the question of the level of policing in this area. The Chairman offered to take the bag to the Police and raise the issue with them directly.

### **68. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Newman who was unwell and Cllr Clarke who was preparing to move out of the area.

### **69. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Hamilton declared an interest in item 6 Grants Recommendations as her daughters work for Swallow and Wansdyke Play Association.

### **70. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **71. Committee Reports**

#### **(a) Environment and Development Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**Resolved:** (1) That the Minutes of the Environment and Development meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014, be noted.

#### **(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014**

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 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 be noted.

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

There were no items over £5,000 requiring the approval of the Council.

**73. Grants recommendations**

The Council received the recommendations of the Grants Sub Committee and discussed in particular the recommended amounts to Creativity Works, PEOPLE and Off the Record.

**Resolved:** that the recommendations of the Grants Sub Committee as set out in the report be accepted and the grants awarded accordingly. It was further noted that the Royal British Legion would be given £44 for the poppy wreaths and the final year of agreed funding to the Carnival Association would be raised in the amount of £3,500.

**74. Christmas Lights on Lamp Posts**

The Council discussed the possibility of including Christmas Lights on lamp posts in 2015. A wide ranging discussion included the fact that funds might be better spent elsewhere for the long term benefit of the residents, and the importance of making Westfield a place where people are proud to live and the importance of the Parish Council meeting the expectations of the public. The suggestion of sponsorship for the lights was raised.

The following resolution was made with 5 for, 2 against and 1 abstention.

**Resolved:** that Christmas Lights on Lampposts in the amount of £3,000 be arranged for 2015.

**75. Wildlife area/ Park at land north of Fosseway Gardens**

The Council received a quote for a negotiator.

**Resolved:** that the land in question be valued first and that funding be allocated so that this may be progressed.

**76. Outside Bodies Reports**

**Development Agency Group** – The Parish Council noted the Communications and Engagement Plan for Radstock and Westfield and the request from BANES for two representative on this Group.

**Resolved:** that Cllrs Andrew Butcher and Robin Moss represent the Parish Council on this body.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

**77. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that the clatterbridge had been installed at Westhill Recreation Ground by Halsall.

A survey had taken place the previous Friday at Norton Hill Recreation Ground exploring the viability of CCTV and a report had been received that day which would go to Environment and Development Committee the following week.

Whilst he had not visited Norton Radstock College to enquire about the noticeboard, the Chairman reported that this item was on the agenda of the Environment and Development Committee.

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

Cllr Moss reported that the Council was looking at next year's budget and for 2015 16 onwards the outlook was bleak for many Councils due to the fact that the subsidy from Central Government in lieu of the Council tax scheme might well be ceasing. This would mean a potential shortfall of almost £20,000 each year for the Parish Council.

The consultation results were due to be announced relating to the potential closure of the Radstock/ Westfield Police Station. BANES would be asking about the cost of the consultation and whether the results were being acted upon.

Finally, Cllr Moss reported on a discussion in Bath about the lack of representation at Parish level within the city. The cost to the people of Bath to gain an equivalent level of representation to those in north east somerset was under discussion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.35pm