

## WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Homes car park,  
Cobblers Way, Westfield on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.00pm

Members of the public were invited via Zoom

**Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller;

Cllrs D Cooper, R Hopkins, E Jackson, S Pritchard and  
P Wilkinson.

**Absent:** Cllrs J Honess, L Mansell, B Wallbridge and P Williams.

**Attending:** Cllr R Moss via Zoom; Lesley Close, Clerk

The Chair welcomed everyone back after the summer break, including Cllr Moss, attending as a member of the public via Zoom.

### 61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Honess, B Wallbridge and P Williams.

### 62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

- Cllr Hopkins declared an interest in item 9 Caravan at the back of the Railway Inn as he lives close by.
- Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 14 B&NES report as a patient of the local doctor's surgery.

### 63. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Resolved:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed.

### 64. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### (a) Environment and Development Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July be noted.

#### (b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 22nd July 2021

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 22nd July be noted.

#### (c) Climate Change Emergency Working Group - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

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**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July be noted.

**(d)** Fun Day and Queen's Platinum Anniversary Working Group – had not met but was discussed later in the agenda.

**(e)** Waterside Valley Working Group – 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Waterside Valley Working Group meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> August be noted.

**65. APPROVAL OF ANY ITEMS OVER £5,000 AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY VIREMENT**

Tree work at Norton Hill and Westhill Recreation Grounds in the total amount of £5,210 was agreed.

**66. INTERNAL AUDITOR**

**Resolved:** to note that there are no links between individual councillors and the internal auditor, Mr Stuart Pollard of Auditing Solutions Ltd in a personal, professional or financial capacity.

**67. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

The Parish Council was grateful for the suggestion that it combines in a celebration with Midsomer Norton, however since it falls on the weekend of the traditional Westfield Fun Day, the Parish Council agreed to continue in its arrangements for a Westfield event.

**Resolved:** To hold a tea party on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 2pm to 5pm at Westhill Recreation Ground. Cllr Wilkinson to make enquiries about the Bouncy Castles and book if possible. Cllr Cooper to confirm the booking of music and sound system with Strode Sound, Cllr Fuller to talk to Westhill Club, asking that they decorate the Club in the spirit of the event and the Clerk to arrange St Johns Ambulance, the security, one marquee for First Aid and Lost Children and trestle tables. To be brought back on every agenda.

**68. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT**

**Resolved:** to hold a Christmas Lights Switch on event on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, government guidance allowing and in a Covid aware capacity. This decision was made taking into account the fact that it may have to be cancelled if government guidance changes this winter, but balancing against Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

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this the view that at this stage it is better to commit to arranging the event and risk a late cancellation. A Covid risk assessment will be written including marquees open on three sides and steps to mitigate the risk to Father Christmas. Cllr Cooper to arrange the sound system with Strode Sounds.

### 69. CARAVAN AT THE BACK OF THE RAILWAY INN AND PARKING AT RUSKIN ROAD

Correspondence from Will Godfrey, Chief Executive of B&NES was noted.

**Resolved:** To respond strongly stating the inactivity on both accounts was unacceptable. There has been no progress at Ruskin Road and the damage to the public open ground worsens weekly as does the danger to the public. The works to the rear to the Railway Inn resulted in water cuts, sewage damage and wall damage and to allow both issues to continue in this way is deeply damaging to the community.

### 70. HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY REVIEW

**Resolved:** To agree the Health and Safety Policy.

### 71. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

***In Bloom*** – Cllr Jackson is going to the Awards Ceremony on 7<sup>th</sup> October and gave a round-up of steps to promote Westfield In Bloom. She asked if her Ward Councillor's initiative funding might be transferred to the Parish Council and used to pay expenses incurred by the group. The Clerk to check and report back.

***Radstock Museum*** – is back to normal opening hours but with no café.

***Christians Together in Radstock and Westfield*** – have consulted the Parish Council via Cllr Jackson about their arrangements for Remembrance Sunday. The Parish Council looks forward to hearing more.

### 72. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

**Signage to Westfield** – It was agreed that a letter be sent to B&NES requesting that Westfield is included in future signage.

### 73. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair reported on a meeting with PCSO Paul Thatcher where anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Grounds was discussed.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

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

**Westfield Parish Council**

The Chair represented the Parish Council at a recent meeting of the Big Local where the final Plan for spending the last tranche of funding by 2026 was revealed. The establishment of a CIC so that the funding organisation might continue past 2026 was seen as a positive step.

**74. B&NES COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr Moss reported via Zoom (1) that anti-social behaviour was noted in respect of speeding drivers and low-level vandalism; (2) Westfield Surgery is looking to expand; and (3) raising awareness that domestic violence has over doubled this year.

Cllr Jackson (1) gave a background to the application for funding to the Big Local by the Doctors surgery for its expansion; (2) the backlog of planning enforcement issues in Westfield and the suggestion that Cllr Samuel is invited to Westfield; and (3) a Local Plan Update meeting which she will be attending.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

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