

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held remotely on Zoom on
Monday 5th October 2020 commencing at 7.00pm

- Present:** Chair: Cllr G Fuller;
Cllrs V Cox, J Honess, R Hopkins, E Jackson, R Moss, B Wallbridge and P Wilkinson
- Absent:** Cllrs D Cooper, L Mansell and P Williams
- Attending:** Lesley Close, Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Admin Assistant

59. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cooper, Mansell and Williams and accepted.

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

61. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7th September 2020

Resolved: The minutes of 7th September 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

62. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 14th September 2020

Resolved: That the minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting held on 14th September be noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 23rd September 2020

Resolved: That the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 23rd September be noted.

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

Resolved: (1) to approve spending of £5798.12 for benches for Westhill Recreation ground using s106 funding.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

(2) to approve spending of £9,500 for Christmas lights in Westfield

64. REPORT OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

No meeting has yet been held.

65. REPORT OF THE GREEN AND OPEN SPACES WORKING GROUP

Cllr Hopkins reported that there had been no recent meetings, but that work on the footpath project and nature trail was going well and that most projects identified so far have been successfully completed.

66. OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Radstock Museum - Cllr Jackson reported that the museum has been open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons and that the shop is now open. Cllr Honess offered assistance to reopen the café at the museum. The AGM is to be held on 24th November 2020 and there are 3 new trustees. The Chair has agreed to continue beyond his term.

67. CREATING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Cllr Jackson reported that she was progressing on the quest for a litter bin by Westfield Trinity Methodist church.

68. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Fuller reported that the running track and fitness equipment at Westhill is all complete and getting positive comments from the community. He offered thanks to all involved in the project. Cllr Hopkins advised that an acquaintance is prepared to use his drone to get some aerial photos of the recreation ground for the Council.

Cllr Fuller also asked Councillors to consider the impact of the letter from the Rt.Hon. Jacob Rees-Mogg that was sent to Council in response to the letter sent to him regarding the concerns of Westfield Parish Council about the White Paper on Planning for the Future. It was felt that there was no support from the MP.

Resolved: to prepare a press release and circulate among Councillors, before sending to the local press, showing our concern about the lack of support from the MP and establishing our opposition to the White Paper due to the nature of the bill being to remove the right for local people to have a say in planning applications.

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69. B&NES COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Moss reported:

- It has been reported in the local media that Dickie's on the Westfield Industrial estate is to close in March with the loss of around 280 jobs.
- There was no news about the next stage of covid restrictions in the area
- There has been a winter plan for adult care discussed at B&NES
- There has been a spate of anti-social behaviour in Westfield. Cllr Fuller responded to say that he met with the local police and a resident of Cobblers Way. The police have put together a plan which has a number that we can quote when reporting incidents of ASB.

Cllr Jackson reported:

- She had contacted the Transport members at B&NES regarding a response from B&NES about a vandalised bus stop by Westfield Primary School advising no further action. She said this had jagged edges which could be dangerous for a child if they touch the sign.
- The upper floor of the Manvers Street office in Bath is now closed and planning officers have to go to Keynsham for meetings.
- Jane Robson at B&NES has advised that the bench for Shakespeare Road is on order.

The meeting closed at 7:34pm

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Signed Dated