WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office Monday 5th February 2024 commencing at 7.00pm

Present:	Chair: Cllr P Wilkinson
	Cllrs: D Cooper, J Cradock, G Fuller, E Jackson, R Hopkins and P Moss
Attending:	Lesley Close, Parish Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Deputy Clerk.
Absent:	Cllrs J Honess, P Millard and P Williams

122. Co-option

There had been no applications for co-option.

123. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received from Cllrs Honess, Millard and Williams.

124. Declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Jackson declared as a Director of Radco.

125. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 8th January 2024

Item 117. Outside Bodies Reports, Westfield in Bloom should read: Cllr Jackson reported that they are currently looking for funding for various items of work needed for this year's South West in Bloom.

Resolved: with this correction the minutes of 8th January 2024 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

126. Committee and Working Group reports

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 15th January 2024

The minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting of 15th January 2024 were noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 17th January 2024

The minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of 17th January 2024 were noted.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

127. Approval of any items over £5000 and consideration of any virement

Scrub Clearance at Waterside Valley by M&G Countryside Development Ltd was noted at £6768. This is paid for from a grant from Somer Valley Rediscovered.

The survey on Housing needs in Westfield, delivered by CNB Housing, was noted at £7766.40. This is paid for from a grant from Locality

128. To consider and agree the draft budget as recommended by F&P committee

Resolved: to agree the draft budget as recommended by F&P committee

129. To consider and agree the precept in the amount of £240,802 (£124.92 pa for a Band D Property) as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee

Resolved: to agree the precept in the amount of £240,802 (£124.92pa for a Band D property) as recommended by the F&P Committee.

130. To consider and agree the Precept leaflet

It was suggested that the allotments should be included in the leaflet.

Resolved: with this amendment to agree the Precept leaflet

131. To agree the Fixed Asset Register as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee

Resolved: to agree the Fixed Asset Register as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee.

132. Financial Risk Assessment

Resolved: to agree (1) The Risk Management Strategy

- (2) The Financial Risk Assessment
- (3) The Annual Review of the Insurance Schedule
- (4) The Risk Register

133. Outside Bodies reports

Mardons – Cllr Cooper reported that the Elections Officer had visited Mardons with a view to using the club as a polling station. There was no decision yet.

Museum - Cllr Jackson reported that the museum has reopened after refurbishment

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134. Creating Community Identity

There was nothing to report on this item.

135. Chairman's report

Cllr Wilkinson reported on an inaugural meeting with Chairs of parish and town councils with ALCA.

136. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' reports

Cllr Moss reported:

- budget meetings within B&NES.
- A decision had been taken by B&NES to approve the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone in Paulton.

Cllr Jackson reported:

- The B&NES Local Plan is out for consultation and she encouraged Councillors to take part in the survey.
- She has been attending several scrutiny panels with regard to the budget where there has been strong representation from charities that are going to be affected.
- Dan Norris, Mayor of WECA, will be visiting Westfield to see how the change in the bus provision has affected Westfield.
- She is on the Knife Crime working party

To resolve that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

137. Minutes of the last meeting

The Chairman advised that Shaun Rogers, of Shaun Rogers Funfair, had been unable to attend the last meeting but had emailed a request to continue the funfair in Westfield. It was discussed at length. Councillors were reluctant to make the decision as it is a very popular event in Westfield, but it was felt that the safety of visitors to the fair was paramount and that this was prohibitively difficult to manage.

Resolved: to advise Shaun Rogers that the Parish Council would not give permission for use of an area in Westfield for the Fun Fair. This was agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm

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Signed Dated