

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Oval Office
Monday 8th January 2024 commencing at 7.00pm

- Present:** Chair: Cllr P Wilkinson
- Cllrs: D Cooper, J Cradock, G Fuller (arr 7:06), J Honess,
E Jackson, R Hopkins, P Millard
- Attending:** Lesley Close, Parish Clerk and Tracey Stephens, Deputy Clerk.
- Absent:** Cllrs P Moss and P Williams

108. Co-option

There had been no applications for co-option.

109. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received from Cllrs Moss and Williams.

110. Declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Hopkins declared an interest in item 7 – Youth Connect - as a trustee of Youth Connect South West.

111. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 4th December 2023

Resolved: the minutes of 4th December 2023 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

112. Committee and Working Group reports

(a) Environment and Development Committee – 11th December 2023

The minutes of the Environment and Development Committee meeting of 11th December 2023 were noted.

(b) Finance and Personnel Committee – 13th December 2023

The minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of 13th December 2023 were noted.

Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

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

There were no items over £5,000 to consider

114. Youth Connect

Resolved: to accept the 5% increase to £11940.86 + VAT per annum for Youth Services in Westfield.

115. Bath College

Bath College had been in discussion with Somer Valley Rediscovered regarding students volunteering in the Waterside Valley as part of the Level 3 Animal Management studies course and had written to the Parish Council asking for permission to do so.

Resolved: (1) to respond advising that the Somer Valley Campus of Bath College is in Westfield, not Radstock

(2) to respond advising that the Parish Council is happy to accept the offer for the students to work in the valley in collaboration with, and under the guidance of, Somer Valley Rediscovered.

(3) to provide us with evidence of their work that can be published in the Journal, on our website, the Westfield Warbler and Facebook.

116. Westhill Recreation Ground

A boundary agreement had been prepared to show an exchange of land between Westfield Parish Council and Westhill Sports and Community Centre.

Resolved: (1) to accept the boundary agreement

(2) to authorise the Chair and Vice Chair to sign the boundary agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.

117. Outside Bodies reports

Radstock Museum – Cllr Jackson reported on the AGM of the Friends of Radstock Museum.

Westfield in Bloom – Cllr Jackson reported that they are currently looking for funding for various items of work needed before this year's It's Your Neighbourhood campaign.

Royal British Legion – Thanks were given to Cllr Williams and other volunteers for collecting money for the Royal British Legion during Remembrance.

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118. Creating Community Identity

It was noted that the Somer Valley Links Engagement Report made reference to Midsomer Norton and Radstock but not Westfield on the map. The report was to be discussed further at the next Environment and Development committee meeting.

It was agreed that the poppies that were laid on Remembrance weekend were to be removed shortly.

119. Chairman's report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

120. Bath and North East Somerset Councillors' reports

Cllr Jackson reported on:

- her work with homeless people in Westfield
- Issues with social housing and care homes
- The ongoing consultation re: the B&NES budget, encouraging Councillors to make comments.
- Her meeting with the new Head of Planning at B&NES, Gary Collins, to whom she outlined all the planning issues in Westfield.

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.

121. Funfair in Westfield

The Funfair organisers had been expected to attend the meeting but were unable to do so. There was no discussion on this item as a result.

The meeting closed at 7:43pm

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Signed Dated