

# WEST FELTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES of the WEST FELTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2024 at 7:30pm at West Felton CE Primary School.

**Chaired by:** David Walker (Parish Council Chairman)

**Clerked by:** Rosemary Wood (Parish Council Clerk)

## PRESENT:

**Parish Councillors:** David Walker, Marian Hesketh, Ozagir Ozcan, David Curtis, Pat Mabe, John Thornhill, Chris Jones

**Representatives from local groups:** six (including one parish councillor)

**Additional Members of the Public:** 14

**West Mercia Police:** two PCSOs

1.24	<p><b>CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME &amp; APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>The Chairman introduced himself, welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. He also advised that anything that was said may be included in public minutes and all present consented to this.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> received from:</p> <p>Parish Councillors: Cllr Kerry Grove</p> <p>Member of Parliament: Helen Morgan (unwell)</p> <p>County Councillor Steve Charmley</p> <p>Community Groups: Colleen Hughes (magazine), Gillian Sturgess (West Felton WI)</p>
2.24	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2023</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm the above minutes as a true record and the Chairman was instructed to sign them as such.</p>
3.24	<p><b>HELEN MORGAN MP</b></p> <p>It was <b>NOTED</b> that Helen Morgan MP was unable to attend due to illness but had offered to speak at a future meeting, and had invited everyone to attend a meeting regarding the Vyrnwy Frankton Connection.</p>
4.24	<p><b>WEST MERCIA POLICE ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>PCSO Stuart Carroll introduced himself and went through a report of last month's incidents. He advised that the parish is a fairly low crime area and that it is hard to pinpoint crime trends other than speeding/traffic incidents on the Holyhead Road and rural crime such as a recent incident of theft at the school. He also reported that there are currently not many drug related incidents although there have been in the past. He felt that over the year, crime was within an acceptable range.</p> <p>A number of members of the public raised various concerns regarding speeding, and a discussion followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speeding hotspots identified as the Avenue, Holyhead Road, the bottom section of Oak Farm Lane and the top part of School Road past Orchard Drive.</li><li>• PCSO Carroll agreed that speeding was a concern and advised that Community Speed Watches are a big deterrent. A discussion followed concerning the criteria for this and the lack of volunteers coming forward previously. Head Teacher Helen Hughes offered to advertise the scheme on the school messaging service should it be attempted again.</li><li>• Cllr John Thornhill reported that the Parish Council had set up a working group to look into speeding amongst other things, the result of which was that the Parish Council had committed funding to install various VAS signs and is applying for grants and seeking the cooperation of Shropshire Council.</li><li>• Traffic counters were discussed and Cllr Thornhill advised that these had already been on the roads and he had requested data from Shropshire Council.</li></ul> <p><i>The two police representatives left the meeting after item 4.24.</i></p>

5.24	<p><b>WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Walker reported on the activities of the council during the year as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The council had met ten times.</li> <li>• Policies and procedures had been reviewed routinely.</li> <li>• CIL monies of £10,000 and repayment of the £10,000 Alma Close s106 monies had been received, and the CIL Task &amp; Finish Group had met to prioritise spending.</li> <li>• Concerns raised by residents had been considered, including mud on the roads, fly-tipping and flooding on Ralph's Drive.</li> <li>• Ten planning applications had been considered, which is considerably lower than previous years.</li> <li>• A new defibrillator had been installed in Grimpo.</li> <li>• £50,000 of CIL monies had been released to part fund the new school hall.</li> <li>• Grants totalling £750 had been paid to the school for Rock Steady music service and the 'Summer Slide'.</li> <li>• Decisions had been taken to commission a TPO survey, install accessible play equipment and path at the playing field, investigate various traffic management measures, install a streetlight on The Avenue, consider a Neighbourhood Plan.</li> <li>• A 0% increase was agreed for the Parish Council's part of the council tax.</li> <li>• There had been frustration during the year in lack of cooperation on various issues from Shropshire Council and apparent lack of interest from the County Councillor.</li> <li>• Two members, Cllrs John Houghton and Carole Coles, had recently resigned and the Chairman thanked them for their work as members.</li> <li>• The Chairman thanked the Methodist Chapel for hosting the Parish Council meetings, and the school Head Teacher for agreeing for the meetings to be held at the school following closure of the Chapel.</li> <li>• The Chairman advised that a new Chairman would be appointed in May, and he thanked members for their support during his chairmanship.</li> </ul>
6.24	<p><b>SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>County Councillor not present and no report received.</p>
7.24	<p><b>ANNUAL WRITTEN REPORTS FROM PARISH GROUPS</b></p> <p>Written reports from the following groups, giving an update of their activities over the year had been published on the parish council website (where provided) and were read by representatives and <b>NOTED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) West Felton Methodist Chapel</li> <li>(b) West Felton Village Hall</li> <li>(c) West Felton CE Primary School</li> <li>(d) West Felton Royal British Legion</li> <li>(e) St Michael's Parish Church</li> <li>(f) Village Magazine – no report given</li> <li>(g) West Felton WI</li> <li>(h) Carnival Committee</li> <li>(i) West Felton Football Club – a message was read by Head Teacher Helen Hughes, reporting that the club had recently been restarted and would value their own pitch.</li> </ul>
8.24	<p><b>PARISH MATTERS/OPEN FORUM</b> – electors of the parish were invited to comment and ask questions on any parish affairs. A member of the public raised concerns about dog fouling and a discussion followed, during which the recently passed Shropshire Council Dog Fouling and Stray Dogs PSPO was noted and suggestions for dealing with the problem were discussed.</p>
9.24	<p><b>CLOSE</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9:25pm.</p>

Chairman's Signature *J Thornhill*

Dated 20 May 2025

