

# WEST FELTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES of the WEST FELTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025 at 7:30pm at West Felton CE Primary School.

**Chaired by:** John Thornhill (Parish Council Chairman)

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

## PRESENT:

**Parish Councillors:** David Walker, Marian Hesketh, Ozagir Ozcan, David Curtis, John Thornhill, Chris Jones, Alastair Forbes, Neil Summers, Mike Green

**Shropshire Councillor:** David Walker (also attending as parish councillor)

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

**Additional Members of the Public:** none

1.25	<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 received from:</b></p> <p>Parish Councillors: Cllrs Ed Nicholas, Pat Mabe</p> <p>West Mercia Police</p> <p>Community Groups: Colleen Hughes (magazine), Mike Willis (West Felton Football Club)</p>
2.25	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2024</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>
3.25	<p><b>WEST MERCIA POLICE ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>No report received</p>
4.25	<p><b>WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Thornhill reported on the activities of the council during the year as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The council had met eleven times during the year.</li><li>• Local elections had been held in May, resulting in a full complement of 11 parish councillors elected, including two new members, and one of the members, David Walker, being also elected as Shropshire County Councillor. Following the election, the council has General Power of Competence.</li><li>• A number of planning applications had been considered.</li><li>• The Conservation Area was finally recognised and established.</li><li>• A Tree Preservation Order survey was commissioned, completed and sent to Shropshire Council for consideration.</li><li>• Asset of Community Value status was obtained for the Punch Bowl</li><li>• A grant was provided for a new screen in the village hall.</li><li>• We made representations relating to the Green GEN Cymru Project.</li><li>• A Community engagement programme was agreed.</li><li>• Our work on developing a Neighbourhood Plan is now more important as a result of the demise of the Shropshire Local Plan.</li><li>• We have responded to letters and emails from Parishioners on a number of items, including Bins, Street Lights, VAS sign, flooding, damage to bus stop and always raised them with the relevant authorities.</li><li>• We obtained posters re dog fouling and these have been distributed around the village.</li><li>• A positive report on our management of the Tedsmore Road Play Area was received from the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents and fully discussed.</li><li>• There has been frustration during the year in the lack of cooperation on various issues from Shropshire Council and apparent lack of interest from the designated County Councillor. In particular we are</li></ul>

	<p>concerned that although we obtained funding to install VAS signs the Council has still not organised a site visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks you to those who agreed to engage with the Community Speed Watch scheme, though I think we still need more to become involved.</li> <li>• We brought the defibrillator back into service at the Parish Hall and plan to run training sessions.</li> <li>• Two members, Cllrs Kerry Grove and Sonia Darcy, recently resigned and the Chairman thanked them for their work as members.</li> <li>• The Chairman thanked the Headteacher for allowing the use of the school for 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> </ul>
<b>5.25</b>	<p><b>SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>County Councillor David Walker reported on Shropshire Council’s financial position, corporate structure, new roles on the council, priorities of the new administration and various casework issues.</p>
<b>6.25</b>	<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 Village Hall</li> <li>(b) West Felton CE Primary School</li> <li>(c) West Felton Royal British Legion</li> <li>(d) St Michael’s Parish Church</li> <li>(e) Village Magazine</li> <li>(f) West Felton WI</li> <li>(g) Carnival Committee</li> <li>(h) West Felton Football Club</li> </ul>
<b>7.25</b>	<p><b>PARISH MATTERS/OPEN FORUM</b> – electors of the parish were invited to comment and ask questions on any parish affairs.</p> <p>The following comments were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of support from residents for the Annual Parish Meeting, with no residents attending except for councillors and representatives of groups.</li> <li>• Lack of groups for young people in the village, except for the football club. It was noted that there had been a youth club, but it had closed due to a lack of volunteers which was often the problem.</li> </ul>
<b>8.25</b>	<p><b>CLOSE</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8:50pm.</p>

Chairman’s Signature..... Dated.....