

# WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of a Meeting of WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 2026 at 7:30pm in West Felton CE Primary School.**

**CHAired BY:** Cllr John Thornhill

**CLERKED BY:** Rosemary Wood

**PARISH COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** John Thornhill, Marian Hesketh, Alastair Forbes, David Walker, Chris Jones, Ozcan Ozagir, Neil Summers, David Curtis, Mike Green, Pat Mabe

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cllr David Walker as Shropshire County Councillor

<b>105.25</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies for absence received: Cllr Ed Nicholas (work commitments) Absent: none
<b>106.25</b>	<b>INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS</b> a) Declaration of any matter to be discussed at the meeting relating to anything included in a Member's Register (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Registerable Interests). <i>Cllr Walker declared an interest in any matters of relevance to Shropshire Council, as he is a member of Shropshire Council. John – on magazine committee</i> b) Declaration of any Non-Registerable Interests in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. <b>None</b> c) Any applications for dispensation delivered to the Clerk prior to the meeting. <b>None</b>
<b>107.25</b>	<b>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2025</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm the above minutes as a true record and the Chairman was instructed to sign them as such.
<b>108.25</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</b> No members of the public present.
<b>109.25</b>	<b>REPORTS RECEIVED</b> a) <b>Police</b> – written report <b>NOTED</b> b) <b>Shropshire Council</b> – County Councillor David Walker had circulated a written report to members, which he expanded on, and answered members' questions. c) <b>Clerk</b> – written report considered and <b>NOTED</b> . d) <b>Other Reports</b> – none
<b>110.25</b>	<b>FINANCE</b> a) <b>Income received - NOTED:</b> Nationwide, interest 1-31 December 2025 (£86.63) b) <b>Outstanding Payments - RESOLVED</b> to pay the following invoices and two of the authorised signatories were instructed to check the supporting paperwork before authorising payment: (i) Rosemary Wood, Clerk's net pay December 2025 (£858.36) (ii) HMRC: income tax (£8.20), employer NICs (£69.60)(total: £77.80) (iii) Rosemary Wood, Clerk's quarterly payment: mileage (£30.06), office consumables (£5), home work allowance (£41.04), Defibrillator pads & starter kit (£75.42) (total £151.52) (iv) SALC, Chairmanship Skills July 2025 (Cllrs Thornhill & Ozagir) (£180) (v) Graham Taylor Grounds Maintenance, Oct to Dec 2025 (£1,065) (incl VAT £177.50) (vi) Shropshire Council, joint energy costs 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2025/26 (£398.94) (incl VAT £66.49) c) <b>Other payments</b> - the following debits from Unity Trust account were <b>NOTED:</b> (i) Unity Bank, service charge December 2025 (£6) (ii) NEST, pension contribution direct debit 1-31 Dec: employer (£10.83), employee (£14.44)(total

	<p>£25.27)</p> <p>d) <b>Other income/invoices received after agenda sent out</b> - none</p> <p>e) <b>Quarterly finances</b> (at 31 December 2025) – considered and <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the following:</p> <p>(i) Receipts and Payments</p> <p>(ii) Budget Report</p> <p>(iii) Bank Reconciliation</p> <p>(iv) Reserves Statement</p>
111.25	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS</b></p> <p>a) <b>Planning Applications notified by Shropshire Council</b> – none</p> <p>b) <b>Planning Decisions notified by Shropshire Council</b> – none</p> <p>c) <b>Planning correspondence or decisions received after agenda sent out</b> – none</p>
112.25	<p><b>HIGHWAYS</b></p> <p>The following road closure (as previously reported) was <b>NOTED</b>:  <u>Grimpo Road</u>, West Felton Start Date: 2 March 2026; End Date: 2 March 2026; Purpose: Road closure – pole test; Works Promoter: Openreach; Enforcement pattern: 09:30 – 15:30hrs</p>
113.25	<p><b>PARISH GROUNDS &amp; ASSETS</b></p> <p>a) <b>Grounds maintenance safety report</b> – considered and <b>NOTED</b></p> <p>b) <b>ROSPA Annual Inspection of play equipment</b> – considered and <b>RESOLVED</b> to take the following action: (1) Remove homemade skate ramps, (2) Get quotes from the manufacturers for inspection of equipment that the inspector had indicated he was unable to access, (3) Compile a schedule of works identified as low risk but recommended for action, to build into a work plan.</p> <p>c) <b>1 Bay 2 Seat Swing</b> – <b>NOTED</b> that the replacement crossbar had been ordered with delivery anticipated in January.</p> <p>d) <b>Playing field lease</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept terms offered for a new lease, being a 15 year term at £250 per annum with rent reviews at years five and ten.</p> <p>e) <b>Parish Council website</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to proceed with Aubergine to provide a new website together with a generic email account hosted on the council’s own domain and the Clerk and all members to have a .gov.uk email address.</p>
114.25	<p><b>POLICIES &amp; PROCEDURES</b></p> <p><b>IT Policy</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> in principle to adopt an IT policy based on the NALC template, with members to consider the template prior to agreeing a final version of the policy at a future meeting.</p>
115.25	<p><b>PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS 2026/27</b></p> <p>Three grant applications were considered as follows:</p> <p>a) <b>West Felton Village Magazine</b> – Members considered an application for a grant of £300 to assist with the general running costs of the magazine. In acknowledgement of the importance of the magazine to the village, members <b>RESOLVED</b> to award a grant of £500.</p> <p>b) <b>Chirk Swifts and House Martins</b> – Members were very supportive in principle of the project to install a Sand Martin wall at Aston Locks Nature Reserve, but due to the absence of any accounts and constitution and the lack of funds raised to date <b>RESOLVED</b> to reject the application on this occasion.</p> <p>c) <b>4 All Foundation</b> – Members considered an application for a grant to assist with the setting up and running costs of a youth club at the school hall. Whilst members would in principle support a youth club in the village, they <b>NOTED</b> that the school knew nothing of the proposed club and there was very little detail in the application regarding the running of the club. It was therefore <b>RESOLVED</b> to reject the application on this occasion.</p>
116.25	<p><b>BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2026/27</b></p> <p>The draft budget as presented by the Clerk was considered. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve and publish the agreed budget and to set the precept for 2026/27 at £26,543 being a £4,424 (20%) increase on the 2025/26 precept.</p> <p><i>Cllrs Jones, Hesketh, Green and Summers voted against the resolution and requested that their votes be minuted.</i></p>

	<i>Cllr Walker abstained from the vote due to his interest minuted in item 106.25(a).</i>
<b>117.25</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL</b> It was <b>NOTED</b> that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 7:30pm in West Felton CE Primary School.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:40pm.

Chairman's Signature *J Thornhill*

Dated *10 February 2026*