

# WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING OF WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025 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, Ozcan Ozagir, David Curtis, David Walker, Pat Mabe, Chris Jones, Ed Nicholas, Mike Green, Neil Summers

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

14.25	<b>ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN</b> It was proposed and seconded that <b>Cllr John Thornhill</b> be elected as Chairman and he was then duly <b>ELECTED</b> by a majority vote and signed an Acceptance of Office Form.
15.25	<b>ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN</b> It was proposed and seconded that <b>Cllr Ozcan Ozagir</b> be elected as Vice Chairman and he was then duly <b>ELECTED</b> by a majority vote and signed an Acceptance of Office Form.
16.25	<b>DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE</b> It was reported by the Clerk and <b>NOTED</b> that Declarations of Acceptance of Office forms had been duly signed by all councillors elected and present and received by the Clerk prior to commencement of the meeting.
17.25	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies for absence received: none Absent: none Other apologies received from the police
18.25	<b>INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS</b> <b>a)</b> 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 items 25.25(a) and 30.25, as he is a member of Shropshire Council.</i> <b>b)</b> Declaration of any Non-Registerable Interests in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. <i>Cllr Mabe declared an interest in item 28.25(b,) as she owns a plot at the burial ground in which her late husband is interred.</i> <b>c)</b> Any applications for dispensation delivered to the Clerk prior to the meeting. <b>None</b>
19.25	<b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 8 APRIL 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.
20.25	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</b> No members of the public present.
21.25	<b>PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to nominate the following councillors to represent the Parish Council on the bodies below: <b>a)</b> West Felton CE Primary School (Cllr Curtis) <b>b)</b> SALC Oswestry Area Committee (Cllrs Curtis and Jones) <b>c)</b> West Felton Village Hall (Cllr Hesketh)

	<p>d) ABP Liaison Committee (Cllr Nicholas)</p> <p>e) Helicopter Noise Liaison Group - <b>NOTED</b> that no longer operating</p> <p>f) Other (none)</p>
22.25	<p><b>REPORTS RECEIVED</b></p> <p>a) <b>Police</b> – written report <b>NOTED</b></p> <p>b) <b>Shropshire Council</b> – County Councillor David Walker had submitted a written report and also gave a verbal report and answered questions from members.</p> <p>c) <b>Clerk</b> – written report considered and <b>NOTED</b>.</p> <p>d) <b>Other Reports:</b> None</p>
23.25	<p><b>ANNUAL ARRANGEMENTS</b></p> <p>a) <b>Adoption of the General Power of Competence (GPC):</b></p> <p>(i) <b>RESOLVED</b> that the council meets the following eligibility criteria for GPC: (1) a Clerk holding a relevant qualification; and (2) two thirds of council members elected.</p> <p>(ii) <b>RESOLVED</b> to formally adopt GPC.</p> <p>b) <b>Insurance policy</b> - renewal documentation considered. <b>RESOLVED</b> to enter into a one year policy with Hiscox Insurance Company Limited, with the Clerk being asked to investigate next year whether a lower premium could be offered by reducing unnecessary coverage and to request from the brokers details of alternative policies.</p> <p>c) <b>SALC/NALC affiliation</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to continue membership of SALC and NALC.</p> <p>d) <b>SLCC membership</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to proceed with Clerk's annual membership.</p> <p>e) <b>Banking</b> – to review the following banking arrangements:</p> <p>(i) <b>Bank mandate</b> (Unity Trust Bank &amp; Nationwide) - <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllrs Hesketh, Nicholas and Curtis would continue as signatories, and Cllr Walker would be removed and replaced with Cllr Thornhill.</p> <p>(ii) <b>Direct debits</b> - <b>RESOLVED</b> to continue the direct debit to the ICO for the council's annual data protection registration fee.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Savings accounts</b> - <b>RESOLVED</b> to continue 35 day savings account with Nationwide.</p> <p>(iv) <b>Internet banking</b> - <b>RESOLVED</b> to continue internet banking for the current account with Unity Trust Bank.</p>
24.25	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p> <p>a) <b>Income received - NOTED:</b></p> <p>(i) Shropshire Council, precept 2025/26 (£22,119)</p> <p>(ii) Nationwide, interest 1-30 April 2025 (£97.81)</p> <p>(iii) Jones &amp; Hughes, additional inscription on plot 3 (£120)</p> <p>b) <b>Outstanding Payments</b> - It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to pay the following invoices and two of the authorised signatories were instructed to check the supporting paperwork before authorising payment:</p> <p>(i) Rosemary Wood, Clerk's net pay for April 2025 (£851.08)</p> <p>(ii) HMRC: income tax (£2.60), employer NICs (£65.50)(total: £68.10)</p> <p>(iii) SALC, ALC affiliation fees (£828.92)</p> <p>(iv) H2O Clear, bus shelter basic clean (£45)</p> <p>(v) DM Payroll Services Limited, administration of payroll 2025/26 (£120)</p> <p>(vi) Scottish Power, streetlight electricity charges 31/3/24 to 31/3/25 (£1,634.57) (incl VAT £77.84)</p> <p>(vii) Gallagher Insurance, insurance premium 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2026 (ref 23.25(b)) (£1,867.10)</p> <p>c) <b>Unity Bank Service Charge</b> – <b>NOTED</b> that a service charge of £6 was deducted from the account for April 2025.</p> <p>d) <b>Other income/invoices received after agenda sent out</b> - It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to pay the following invoices and two of the authorised signatories were instructed to check the supporting paperwork before authorising payment:</p> <p>Scottish Power, streetlight electricity charges 31/4/25 to 1/5/25 (£138.63) (incl VAT £6.60)</p> <p>e) <b>Clerk's pension</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve arrangements for NEST pension.</p>
25.25	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS</b></p> <p>a) <b>Planning Applications notified by Shropshire Council</b> – the following were considered:</p> <p>(i) Ref: 25/01396/OHL (validated 8 April 2025)</p>

	<p><b>Address:</b> <u>Llynclys To Maesbury Marsh</u>  <b>Proposal:</b> 11kV Overhead Electricity Distribution Line Rebuild  <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit a representation that the Parish Council has no comment on the application.</p> <p><b>(ii) Ref:</b> 25/01250/FUL (validated 7 May 2025)  <b>Address:</b> <u>Rednal Airfield</u>, Rednal, West Felton  <b>Proposal:</b> Construction and installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), with access, associated infrastructure, landscape and ecological enhancements  <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit a comment objecting to the application on the following grounds: huge Scale; noise pollution; fire hazard and subsequent environmental contamination; heavy traffic (particularly during the construction phase) on an already badly maintained road; visual impact  <i>Cllr Walker's comments on item 25.25(a) were provisional and he reserved the right to change those in light of the latest information and officer reports at Shropshire Council. Cllr Walker did not vote on this item.</i></p> <p><b>b) Planning Decisions notified by Shropshire Council</b> – the following decisions were <b>NOTED</b>:</p> <p><b>(i) Ref:</b> 25/00684/VAR (validated: 21/02/2025)  <b>Address:</b> <u>The Laurels Barn</u>, Grimpo, West Felton  <b>Proposal:</b> Removal of condition no 8 attached to planning permission reference 06/14461/FUL dated 04/08/2006  <b>Decision:</b> Grant Permission</p> <p><b>(ii) Ref:</b> 25/00647/FUL (validated: 28/02/2025)  <b>Address:</b> <u>Pradoe Barn, Haughton</u>, West Felton  <b>Proposal:</b> Installation of 2no. flush fitting conservation steel rooflights, alterations to an existing window opening to form a door  <b>Decision:</b> Grant Permission</p> <p><b>(iii) Ref:</b> 25/00648/LBC (validated: 28/02/2025)  <b>Address:</b> <u>Pradoe Barn, Haughton</u>, West Felton  <b>Proposal:</b> Installation of 2no. flush fitting conservation steel rooflights, alterations to an existing window opening to form a door  <b>Decision:</b> Grant Permission</p> <p><b>c) Planning correspondence or decisions received after agenda sent out</b> – none</p> <p><b>d) Planning application submissions 2024/25</b> – summary of planning submissions made by the parish council during 2024/25 <b>NOTED</b>.</p>
<b>26.25</b>	<p><b>PARISH GROUNDS &amp; ASSETS</b></p> <p><b>a) Grounds maintenance and safety reports</b> - considered and <b>NOTED</b></p> <p><b>b) Fox Lane bus shelter</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to investigate costs for a panel to replace the vandalised panel in the Fox Lane bus shelter.</p> <p><b>c) Shropshire Council Joint Energy Scheme</b> – new annual rate of £1,329.83 plus VAT from 1 May 2025 for supply of streetlight energy under the Shropshire Council Joint Energy Scheme <b>NOTED</b>.</p>
<b>27.25</b>	<p><b>PARISH PROJECTS/ISSUES</b></p> <p><b>Shropshire Council Environmental Maintenance Grant 2025/26</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit an application for £750 for a VAS sign.</p>
<b>28.25</b>	<p><b>POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</b></p> <p><b>a)</b> The following policies were reviewed and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that no amendments required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i)</b> Standing Orders</li> <li><b>(ii)</b> Financial Regulations</li> <li><b>(iii)</b> Code of Conduct</li> <li><b>(iv)</b> Scheme of Delegation</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Burial stone inscriptions</b> – <b>RESOLVED</b> to permit burial stone inscriptions to be added to existing stones with reference to deceased persons not interred in the plot.</p>
<b>29.25</b>	<p><b>ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL 2025/26</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to hold meetings for the period June 2024 to May 2025 on the following dates: 10 June 2025, 8 July 2025, 9 September 2025, 14 October 2025, 11 November 2025, 9 December 2025, 13</p>

	January 2026, 10 February 2026, 10 March 2026, 14 April 2026, 12 May 2026
<b>30.25</b>	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that in accordance with s1(2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the following item to be considered involves the likely disclosure of confidential information:</p> <p>Preliminary details of a housing development proposed by Chartland Homes were considered.</p> <p><i>Cllr Walker's comments on item 30.25 were provisional and he reserved the right to change those in light of the latest information and officer reports at Shropshire Council. <del>Cllr Walker did not vote on this item.</del> JT</i></p>

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:20pm.

Chairman's Signature *J Thornhill*

Dated *10 June 2025*