

# WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES** of a Meeting of **WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 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; Members of the Public (16)

## **130.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence received: Cllrs Ozcan Ozagir (holiday), Marian Hesketh (holiday), David Walker (County Council work commitments)

Absent: None

## **131.25 INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) Members' Register of interests** - Declaration of any matter to be discussed at the meeting related to anything included in a Member's Register of Interests (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Registerable Interests): Cllr Curtis declared an interest in item 138.25(c) as he is a school governor and the Parish Council representative to the school.
- b) Non-Registerable Interests** - Declaration of any Non-Registerable Interests in any matter to be discussed at the meeting: None
- c) Applications for dispensation** - To consider any applications for dispensation delivered to the Clerk prior to the meeting: None. NOTED that Cllr Curtis already has a dispensation to allow him to participate in the debate and vote on items related to the school (ref item 138.25(c)).

## **132.25 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES**

It was RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 February 2026 as a true record (subject to replacing '2025' in item 120.25 with '2026') and the Chairman was instructed to sign them as such.

## **133.25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A representative from All 4 Foundation gave a brief presentation in support of a grant application (item 138.25(c)) and answered members' questions.

*The representative left the meeting following item 133.25.*

## 134.25 REPORTS RECEIVED

- a) **Police** - Written report NOTED
- b) **Shropshire Council** - County Councillor David Walker had circulated a written report to members, which was NOTED
- c) **Clerk** - Written report considered and NOTED
- d) **Other Reports** - No other reports received.

## 135.25 FINANCE

- a) **Income received – NOTED:**
  - (i) Nationwide, interest 1-28 February 2026 (£73.62)
  - (ii) WE Price, grant and interment fee for single plot CG39 (£120)
- b) **Outstanding Payments – RESOLVED** 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 February 2026 (£858.36)
  - (ii) HMRC, income tax (£8.20), employer NICs (£69.60)(total: £77.80)
  - (iii) Shropshire Council, joint energy streetlights Q4 2025/26 (£398.96)(incl VAT £66.49)
  - (iv) H20 Clear, bus shelters power wash x3 & window clean x3 (£195)
  - (v) West Felton Village Hall, hire of back room 4 & 26 Feb 2026 (£28)
- c) **Other payments – other debits from Unity Trust account NOTED** as follows:
  - (i) Unity Bank, service charge January 2026 (£6)
  - (ii) NEST, pension contribution direct debit 1-28 February, employer (£10.83), employee (£14.44)(total £25.27)
- d) **Other income/invoices received after agenda sent out – the following income was NOTED:** Scottish Power, wayleave (£14.26)

## 136.25 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) **Planning Applications notified by Shropshire Council** - the following were considered:
  - (i) **Ref:** 26/00574/FUL (validated 13 Feb 2026)  
**Address:** 2 Clifton Villas, Queens Head, Oswestry SY11 4EF  
**Proposal:** Erection of two storey outbuilding with self contained annex and gym to replace existing  
RESOLVED to submit a representation that the Parish Council has no comment to make on the application.
  - (ii) **Ref:** 25/01250/FUL (amendment)  
**Address:** Rednal Airfield, West Felton  
**Proposal:** Construction and installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), with access, associated infrastructure, landscape and ecological enhancements  
RESOLVED to submit a representation objecting to the application, with the same concerns as previously stated, noting that there is no significant change to the application and that in particular the very worrying issue of the fire hazard has not been addressed. We urge that note be taken of the Chief Fire Officers Association report on BESS (<https://nfcc.org.uk/our-services/position-statements/battery-energy-storage-systems/>), which

highlights the significant risk and required response, and states that the National Fire Chief's Council is concerned about the lack of research on best practice firefighting tactics in response to a BESS fire incident. As there is no agreed national standard, and it is therefore incumbent on the local Fire and Rescue Service to ensure they are prepared, has Shropshire Fire and Rescue formulated a fire strategy in the event of an incident?

**(iii) Ref:** 26/00630/FUL (validated 18 Feb 2026)

**Address:** Apple Tree Cottage, 5 Grimpo, West Felton, Oswestry SY11 4HG

**Proposal:** Proposed two storey side extension and first floor extension over existing single storey

RESOLVED to submit a representation that the Parish Council has no objection to the application.

**b) Planning Decisions notified by Shropshire Council – none**

**c) Planning correspondence or decisions received after agenda sent out – none**

### **137.25 PARISH GROUNDS & ASSETS**

**a) Grounds maintenance and safety reports – NOTED** that no reports had been received.

**b) Playing field lease:**

**(i)** RESOLVED to approve the lease.

**(ii)** RESOLVED to authorise Cllrs Curtis and Summers to sign the lease.

**(iii)** NOTED receipt of a warning notice from the landlord advising that the lease is being offered without security of tenure. RESOLVED to authorise Cllr Thornhill to confirm receipt and acceptance of the warning notice by the swearing of a statutory declaration.

**c) Parish Council insurance – pre-renewal questionnaire considered and RESOLVED to approve.**

### **138.25 PARISH PROJECTS & ISSUES**

**a) Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Thornhill reported on a successful meeting on 26 February 2026 attended by ten residents (with three others apologising), as well as Cllrs Ozagir and Jones. He reported that there was a strong view to continue developing a Neighbourhood Plan.**

**b) West Mercia Parish Contact Contract – considered and RESOLVED to continue with the contract unchanged, with policing priorities for the parish to remain as (1) anti social behaviour, (2) speeding/parking, (3) drugs.**

**c) Grant application – RESOLVED to award a grant of £500 to All 4 Foundation for the setting up and initial running only of a youth club, with a request that the early start time of the club be reconsidered.**

### **139.25 POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

**a) The following new policies were considered for adoption:**

IT Policy – RESOLVED to adopt subject to agreed amendments.

Accessibility Statement – RESOLVED to adopt

**b) The following policies were reviewed and it was RESOLVED that no amendments required:**

Register of Assets  
Risk Management Policy  
Risk Management Scheme  
Standing Orders  
Financial Regulations

**140.25 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 14 April 2026 at 7:30pm in West Felton CE Primary School.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:45pm.

Chairman's Signature

Dated

DRAFT