

WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 8 JULY 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, David Walker, Chris Jones, Ed Nicholas, Mike Green, Ozcan Ozagir, Neil Summers

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr David Walker as Shropshire County Councillor; members of the public (approximately 10)

44.25	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence received: Cllrs David Curtis (social engagement), Pat Mabe (domestic responsibilities) Absent: none Other apologies received from the police
45.25	INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 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 items 50.25(a) and 56.25, and any other matters of relevance to Shropshire Council, as he is a member of Shropshire Council.</i> b) Declaration of any Non-Registerable Interests in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. None c) Any applications for dispensation delivered to the Clerk prior to the meeting. None
46.25	MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10 JUNE 2025 It was RESOLVED to confirm the above minutes as a true record and the Chairman was instructed to sign them as such.
47.25	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION - <i>The Chairman advised that issues raised in this session may be recorded in public minutes and the member of the public gave consent to this.</i> Members of the public spoke in opposition to planning application refs 25/01838/FUL and 25/01839/LBC (items 50.25(a)(iii) & (iv)), with the main concerns over the surrounding highways being unable to support the increase in traffic, and noise pollution.
<i>Cllr Thornhill used his discretion as Chairman to move items 50.25(a)(iii)&(iv) to here, to follow immediately after the Public Session.</i>	
48.25	REPORTS RECEIVED a) Police – written report NOTED b) Shropshire Council – County Councillor David Walker had submitted a written report, which he expanded on and answered questions from members – NOTED . c) Clerk – written report considered and NOTED . d) Other Reports: <u>Carnival stall</u> - Cllr Thornhill reported that he was disappointed with the stall in terms of attendance from members and interest from the public. <u>SALC Oswestry Area Committee meeting</u> – Cllr Hesketh reported that she had attended the meeting, along with Cllr Walker who had attended as portfolio holder and spoken at length on Neighbourhood Plans and CIL. The portfolio holder for housing had also spoken. Attendance was disappointing. Cllr Martin Bennett was re-elected as Chairman.

	<p><u>West Felton Primary School poetry competition</u> – Cllr Hesketh, who had helped judge the competition along with Cllr Thornhill, gave a positive report about the event.</p>
49.25	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) Income received - NOTED:</p> <p>(i) Nationwide, interest 1-30 June 2025 (£94.35)</p> <p>(ii) WE Price, resident interment fee plot CG4 (£30)</p> <p>b) Outstanding Payments - It was RESOLVED 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 pay for June 2025 (net of June income tax and March to June employee pension contributions) (£798.05)</p> <p>(ii) HMRC: income tax (£2.80), employer NICs (£65.50)(total: £68.30)</p> <p>(iii) Rosemary Wood, Clerk’s quarterly payment/reimbursement Apr to June 2025: Mileage (£50.52), office consumables (£7.49), IT (£84.99), Home Working Allowance (£41.04), Other (£21.60)(total £205.64)(incl VAT £14.16)</p> <p>(iv) Graham Taylor Grounds Maintenance, contract Apr to June 2025 (£1,065)(incl VAT £177.50)</p> <p>(v) Marian Hesketh, reimburse tea bags/biscuits/milk for Annual Parish Meeting 2025 (£3.98)(Chq No 20)</p> <p>c) Other payments - NOTED other debits from Unity Trust account:</p> <p>(i) Unity Bank, service charge May 2025 (£6)</p> <p>(ii) NEST, pension contribution direct debits 1-30 June: employer (£10.01), employee (£13.35)</p> <p>(iii) Carnival Committee, carnival stall fee (£15)</p> <p>d) Other income/invoices received after agenda sent out - none</p> <p>e) Quarterly finance reports (as at 30 June 2025) – RESOLVED to approve the following:</p> <p>(i) Receipts & Payments</p> <p>(ii) Bank reconciliation</p> <p>(iii) Budget report</p> <p>(iv) Reserves statement</p>
50.25	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>a) Planning Applications notified by Shropshire Council – the following applications were considered:</p> <p>(i) Ref: 25/01935/FUL (validated 27 May 2025) Address: <u>Goose Cottage</u> Sandford, West Felton, Oswestry SY11 4EX Proposal: Demolish the existing utility room and replace with new structure of same size and scale RESOLVED to submit a comment that the Parish Council would like due consideration to be given to the comments from Shropshire Council Conservation (Historic Environment).</p> <p>(ii) Ref: 25/01936/LBC (validated 27 May 2025) Address: <u>Goose Cottage</u> Sandford, West Felton, Oswestry SY11 4EX Proposal: Demolish the existing utility room and replace with new structure of same size and scale RESOLVED to submit a comment that the Parish Council would like due consideration to be given to the comments from Shropshire Council Conservation (Historic Environment).</p> <p>(iii) Ref: 25/01838/FUL (validated 16 June 2025) Address: <u>Tedsmore Hall</u>, Tedsmore, West Felton, Oswestry SY11 4HD Proposal: Proposed use of property for occasional weddings RESOLVED to submit a comment objecting to the application on the grounds of the surrounding roads being unsuitable for the increase in traffic; noise pollution; ecological concerns; and inconsistencies and inaccuracies in the application.</p> <p>(iv) Ref: 25/01839/LBC (validated 16 June 2025) Address: <u>Tedsmore Hall</u>, Tedsmore, West Felton, Oswestry SY11 4HD Proposal: Proposed use of property for occasional weddings RESOLVED to submit a comment objecting to the application on the grounds of the surrounding roads being unsuitable for the increase in traffic; noise pollution; ecological concerns; and inconsistencies and inaccuracies in the application.</p> <p><i>Cllr Walker's comments on item 50.25(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</i></p>

	<p><i>item.</i></p> <p>b) Tree Preservation Order – notice of Shropshire Council (Land East of West Felton) TPO 2025 (Order no. SC/00538/25) NOTED.</p> <p>c) Planning Decisions notified by Shropshire Council – none</p> <p>d) Planning correspondence or decisions received after agenda sent out – none</p>
51.25	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>a) Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area – application considered and RESOLVED to approve for submission to Shropshire Council, subject to adding the Woodhouse historic estate to the description of the settlement in the justification statement.</p> <p>b) Future funding of Neighbourhood Plans – RESOLVED to approve the following motion and resolution calling on the government to provide dedicated funding for Neighbourhood Plans: West Felton Parish Council acknowledges that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood planning empowers local communities to shape the development and growth of their areas through the creation of Neighbourhood Plans. • The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans requires significant time, expertise, and financial resources, often placing a burden on parish and town councils. • Neighbourhood Plans contribute to more democratic, locally informed planning decisions and support the delivery of sustainable development aligned with community needs and aspirations. <p>Therefore, it is Resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call upon His Majesty’s Government to provide increased and sustained funding to support the development, review, implementation and maintenance of Neighbourhood Plans. 2. Request that the Government ensures funding is accessible to all communities, to promote inclusivity and fairness in the planning process. 3. Write to Helen Morgan MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to communicate this resolution and advocate for enhanced support for neighbourhood planning.
52.25	<p>PARISH GROUNDS & ASSETS</p> <p>a) Grounds maintenance and safety reports – reports for June and July 2025 considered and NOTED.</p> <p>b) Tree safety survey – RESOLVED to have a safety survey carried out by David Woodhouse.</p>
53.25	<p>PARISH PROJECTS/ISSUES</p> <p>a) Traffic Management programme – RESOLVED to move forward with getting quotes from Shropshire Council’s two approved contractors for the two different types of VAS signs initially just for locations 1 and 2 at either end of the Holyhead Road. Cllr Thornhill to obtain quotes.</p> <p>b) Neighbourhood Fund Annual Monitoring Form 2024/25 – RESOLVED to approve for submission to Shropshire Council.</p> <p>c) West Felton CE Primary School, Summer Slide – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250.</p>
54.25	<p>POLICIES, PROCEDURES & SURVEYS</p> <p>(a) Police priorities – parish police priorities reviewed and RESOLVED to amend to 1. Antisocial behaviour, 2. Traffic-speeding/parking, 3. Drugs</p> <p>(b) Shropshire Council Call for Information survey – agreed to complete and submit as individual councillors.</p> <p>(c) SALC Post Election survey – considered and RESOLVED to submit response as agreed.</p>
55.25	<p>NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL</p> <p>It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 9 September 2025 at 7:30pm in West Felton CE Primary School.</p>
56.25	<p>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>RESOLVED 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>

Planning enforcement case – NOTED

Cllr Walker's comments on item 56.25 were provisional and he reserved the right to change those in light of the latest information and officer reports at Shropshire Council.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:45pm.

Chairman's Signature

Dated

DRAFT