

WEST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL

**Provisional Minutes to be approved at the next Annual Parish Meeting**

Page 6 of 19/20

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at the Memorial Hall, West Harptree starting at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr R Ireland (Chairman), Mr P Hutton (Vice-Chairman), Mr G Joyce, Mr J Mitchell and Mr P Wood and Mr D Wood.

APOLOGIES: Mrs R Wakeley.  
Mr C Gay did not attend.  
Three members of the public attended.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were agreed as an accurate record. The minutes were proposed and seconded and unanimously agreed for adoption.

2. Chairman's Report

This is my 6th annual report, and yet again we have experienced another busy year for all involved.

The new Memorial Hall Committee, in conjunction with the new licencees of The Crown, are working hard on organising 2 proposals that will hopefully become annual; a summer event provisionally named "West Fest" and a Christmas event, and WHPC have offered to support and assist where we can, especially organising the small road closure on the Pub side of the triangle. They have also been very busy in organising upgrades and repairs to the Hall, supported in part by CIL money, including Truespeed broadband, a projector and screen, a hearing loop and repairs to both the general electrical system and the roof. They continue to work hard on ideas to increase the use of this historic and valuable village resource. Thanks must go to Paul Hutton, as the Parish Council representative, and to all the other committee members for their on-going time and efforts.

Initials .....

The Recreation Ground is in good order, thanks to the hard work and vigilance of Mike Taviner, with some Dilly Meadows CIL money spent on refurbishing the wet-pour surface, and re-painting the iron work. This should help keep this valuable asset in good order for future generations.

We have also had most of the historic village fingerposts refurbished, and will be repairing and re-locating the Blue Bowl one this winter.

We successfully lobbied B&NES regarding the originally planned changes to the village centre and access from Dilly Meadows, resulting in the removal of an additional footway along the Church Wall, which would have made Bristol Road impossibly narrow. We also obtained agreement that the footway B&NES negotiated with the Developer around The Crown would be of sympathetic paving material protected by bollards, and not just another tranche of tarmac. Whilst this has proved contentious with a few residents, the general opinion seems to be that it has enhanced the village centre, whilst meeting B&NES Officer's requirements to make the junction safer and more compliant, and the licensee of The Crown is maintaining this and has added planters to enhance the aesthetic appeal

The ACV application for The Crown has been completed and processed by B&NES, and the application for the Shop is also with B&NES.

Thanks to Peter Wood's on-going vigilance, we actively monitor road and flooding issues and generally manage to obtain remedial action from B&NES where needed.

We are fortunate to receive continued donations towards the costs of planting The Triangle, which again looked great last summer, and I would also like to thank all of the volunteers who have assisted with the on-going upkeep. We also organised another successful litter pick this Spring, and my thanks go to everyone who assisted with that too.

The CVNP is now in a dormant state, as a number of original Councillors may well not be standing again and a new committee will be required. They are also waiting for the B&NES and West of England Planning

Initials .....

Consultations to pass external examination before reviewing if an update of policies are required.

Mike Taviner sadly stated that he would not be standing for re-election in May after a number of years as a Councillor and I would like to thank Mike for all his hard work over the years. We would like to welcome Graham Joyce, who after attending several meetings last year, stood as a candidate and, along with the remaining Councillors, was elected unopposed.

I would also like to thank our out-going District Councillor Tim Warren for the many years of help, assistance, guidance and support given to WHPC, and look forward to a similar relationship with David Wood in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all Parish Councillors who continue to work hard on behalf of the Parish and give all of their time freely, and finally to Jan Burdge who continues to keep us all in order.

Richard Ireland  
14th May 2019

### 3. District Councillor's Report

As it is the end of my term, I thought I'd give a brief outline of what we have achieved over the last four years.

Despite inheriting a £1.7m recurring deficit from the last administration and facing unprecedented cuts, we have still managed to achieve the necessary £49m savings by either changing the way we work or finding additional ways of making income, to enable front line services to keep functioning. We have left behind a balanced budget.

Despite having to make unprecedented savings, we are still supporting and caring for 2500 adults every day.

Initials .....

1200 children and young people with special educational needs receive excellent education - the Ofsted report is probably the best in England to date.

200 children are well looked after in our care.

96% of our schools are now good or outstanding - up from 79% in 2014  
In the last 4 years we have built 3 new schools and expanded another 7.

Bath Quays North and South are finally happening after 10years! These are mixed developments that will provide a ground ??? highly paid jobs for the area.

We now have an enterprise area in the Somer Valley to provide even more locally well paid jobs.

We have provided more affordable homes than any other administration.

Some of the worst road hotspots have been transformed.

We instigated the West of England Combined Authority, which will provide over £1 billion of investment into the larger area.

We have already secured £85m in BANES.

We have a robust local plan to protect against rogue developments.

We have increased the number of libraries whilst significantly reducing the overall running costs.

We have balanced the commercial estate to secure best value for our residents.

We have developed a housing company which will not only provide much needed homes, but also much needed funding for front line services.

Initials .....

This is just a brief summary of a few of the things we have achieved during the last four years.

To finish - it has been an honour and a privilege to serve West Harptree.

I have made a lot of friendships over the years which will stand the test of time.

It just leaves me to thank you - I will miss working with this Parish Council - and wish you all the best for the future.

Tim Warren  
Cllr for Mendip Ward  
Leader of Bath & Northeast Somerset Council  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2019

4. Council Accounts 2018/19

The Clerk distributed copies of a Receipts and Payments Statement, which gave details of the Council's accounts during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 (copy placed on Minute file). The Council had a credit balance of £21,904.22 at the end of the period. It was proposed and seconded, all other Councillors were in favour that the accounts be accepted.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date Signed .....