

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held at the Bell Inn (Skittle Alley Room) on Monday 21st February 2022

Present: Cllrs Dave Mattick (Chair), Estelle Kirby, Iain Kirby, Vicki Taylor

Also in attendance: Kate Egan (Clerk), Chris Cudmore (Interim Clerk)

145/22 Open Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance

146/22 Welcome by the Chairman

147/22 Apologies for absence

Cllr Paula Freeland, Martin Carter and Vicki Trundle

148/22 Absent

There were no Councillors absent, all were in attendance or had sent apologies.

149/22 Declaration of interests, Dispensations and Request for Recording

There were no declarations of interests from Councillors, Dispensations or a Request for Recording

150/22 County and District Councillor Reports

County and District Councillor Phillip Ham was not in attendance but sent his apologies prior to the meeting. District Councillor Alan Townsend also sent his apologies but forwarded a report prior to the meeting which is attached as appendix A.

151/22 To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 17th January and 31st January 2022, previously circulated.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 17th January and 31st January 2022 be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

152/22 Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda

- (a) Approval of reserved matters are not publicly available on the Mendip District Council website. District Councillor Alan Townsend will be contacted to see if he has managed to obtain further information with regard to this issue.
- (b) Cllr Martin Carter had submitted a grant application to Hanson & Tarmac to fund work for the parking on Park Hayes grass area, the Parish Council is still waiting to hear whether it was successful
- (c) The Parish Council is also waiting to hear from Highways whether permission is required for the work on Park Hayes grass area.
- (d) Further to the draft Parking Notice, it was proposed to wait until Cllr Martin Carter received information requested from the local police before the notices were issued.
- (e) Noelle Leigh is interested in becoming the Parish Council Tree Officer. Cllr Estelle Kirby will speak to her to finalise details and speak to other residents who have registered an interest.

153/22 Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered

- (a) **2022/0053/OTS** Application for outline planning permissions with some matters reserved for the erection of 3 no. dwellings with details of access. Corner Cottage, Quarry Lane, Leigh on Mendip **Update** Cllr Vicki Taylor proposed the Parish Council recommend refusal, this was seconded by Cllr Iain Kirby and unanimously agreed. The reason being in relation to the principle of development in this location, mineral safeguarding and highways safety.

- (b) **2022/0170/HSE** Erection of a single storey side extension, porch to front entrance, Juliet balcony to east elevation and conversion of garage/store with roof alterations. Ben My Chree, Blackers Lane, Leigh on Mendip. **Update** Cllr Dave Mattick proposed the Parish Council approve the application, this was seconded by Cllr Vicki Taylor and unanimously agreed.

154/22

Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Mendip District Council and Being Monitored

Due to the number being monitored, these have been included in a separate supporting document.

These were discussed and the Planning List will be updated each month.

155/22

To Be Resolved / Discussed

(a) Proposal to move the Parish Council Bank Account from NatWest Bank to Unity Trust.

The Council **RESOLVED** to move Parish Council Bank Account from NatWest Bank to Unity Trust. Cllr Vicki Taylor proposed the Parish Council move the Bank Account from NatWest to Unity Trust, this was seconded by Cllr Estelle Kirby. The Parish Clerk will download the paperwork and send out to Councillors for signing.

(b) Proposal to move the date for the April Meeting as it falls on Easter Monday.

The Council **RESOLVED** to move the April Meeting to Monday 25th April.

(c) Discussion and any proposals on events being created to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June.

Cllrs Estelle Kirby and Vicki Taylor arranged a village meeting on 15th February where lots of ideas were discussed, a schedule of events for the weekend will be published letting residents know. The Parish Council received a kind donation of £1000.00 from Cookswood Quarry Developments. Cllr Estelle Kirby proposed that the money be spent on locally made wooden keyrings to be given to the children in the village, a Silver Birch tree to be planted at Park Hayes in honour of the Queens Canopy and a bench to be placed beside the tree, this was seconded by Cllr Dave Mattick and it was **RESOLVED** by the Council. Cllr Estelle Kirby will investigate different types of silver birch and obtain quotes for this and for benches that will be brought to the next meeting.

(d) Update on the churchyard walls from Cllr Paula Freeman and whether a contractor has been invited to quote for the work involved.

This was deferred to the next meeting.

(e) Update from Cllr Dave Mattick on the rangers removing the bramble patch in the Churchyard

The bramble patch has now been removed; the Rangers were thanked for their hard work.

(f) Update from Cllr Dave Mattick on who is responsible for maintaining the closed churchyard following the meeting on 18th January.

The issue is still being discussed between the Parochial Church Council and Mendip District Council as to their responsibilities for managing the churchyard. Documents are awaiting to be received from their legal department confirming the situation. The Parish Council will continue to monitor and assist as work not funded by Mendip District Council may need to be funded by the Council.

(g) Proposal to develop a Climate and Emergency plan.

This was discussed and a Climate Plan was not needed at this time. The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Iain Kirby will start putting together an Emergency Plan for the Parish Council, the initial draft copy will be brought back to the Council in a couple of months.

156/22

Clerk's Report

(a) The new dog bin has been installed on Stocks Lane and is being used by dog walkers. Frank Higgins was thanked for reinstalling the dog bin after it had become damaged.

157/22

Finance

Bank Balances as at: 4th February 2022

Current Account £7,286.55

Reserve Account 9,573.99

Approval of Financial Report and Cash Book

The Council **RESOLVED** the approval of the Financial Report and Cash Book, it was signed by the Chair and the Responsible Finance Officer and has been included as appendix B.

Receipts

(a) Donation of sponsorship for the Queens Jubilee - £1,000.00

(b) Cancellation of cheque 1119 for £95.00 as the ICCM seem to have mislaid it.

(c) VAT Refund - £408.24

(d) Burial Fees - £76.00

Payments

(e) Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) – Annual Membership - £95.00

(f) Idverde Invoice – February Grass Cut - £101.12

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the above payments and receipts.

158/22

Health and Safety Issues

There were no Health and Safety issues to report following the recent storms.

159/22

Councillor Reports

(a) PCSO

Cllr Vicki Taylor had been contacted as a neighbourhood watch coordinator by the local PCSO after the storms asking if there were any vulnerable people within the village that required support. Cllr Martin Carter has PCSO's in their mobile van in the village and learnt of new contacts / officers for our area. He has subsequently made contact requesting attendance at a future meeting. To date no response has been received.

(b) Footpaths

There are no new issues.

(c) Rangers

The extensive ivy growing over the east wall of the churchyard is being trimmed this week.

(d) Highways

Parking is still causing an issue; this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

(e) Recreation Field

A willow structure was created within the Open Space Field, unfortunately it was damaged in the local storms but is still standing.

(f) Quarry

Cllr Dave Mattick is attending liaison meetings and will keep the council updated. Cllr Vicky Taylor will join him for the Halecombe Quarry Community

Management Committee addressing funding requests planned 22nd March 2022.

(g) Allotment Association

There was nothing to report

(h) Climate and Emergency Plan

This was discussed earlier in the meeting and an Emergency Plan will be drawn up.

(i) Cemetery

The meeting with the new burial clerk was postponed due to the storm but a new date has been arranged. The hedge will be cut soon at a price of approximately £225 + VAT.

(j) Memorial Hall

Decoration of the hall is in progress. Some of the trees need attention and the surface of the car park requires addressing.

(k) School

There are no new issues.

160/22

Correspondence

(a) Questionnaire on preparedness to undertake their roles as Town and Parish Councillors – forwarded 23.1.22

(b) Invitation to Local Government Reorganisation Advisory Board Meeting 3rd February – forwarded 23.1.22

(c) Letter regarding elections on the 5th May – forwarded 26.1.22

(d) Registration for the Town and Parish Council Conference – Thursday 17th February – forwarded 2.2.22

(e) Frome Area – LCN Development work brief – forwarded 4.2.22

(f) Frome Area LCN Upcoming Meeting Dates – forwarded 10.02.22

(g) Nomination papers are now available for the May 2022 elections to Somerset, Town, City and Parish Councils – forwarded 14.2.22

161/22

Matters to report / items for next agenda

(a) Annual tender for the Grass Cutting of the Cemetery

(b) Cllr Dave Mattick attended the Town and Parish Council online conference on 17th February and gave a brief overview

(c) Writing of the annual newsletter.

162/22

Date and time of next meeting: Monday 21st March 2022 in the Village Hall

Meeting Closed 9.20pm

Appendix A

LEIGH ON MENDIP PC REPORT – FEB 2022

MENDIP

Council Tax – At tonight’s meeting of Full Council the motion to agree an increase of 3%, representing £5 a week for a Band D tax payer will be robustly contested . The Special Expenses Rate is proposed to be unchanged at £12.50.

Local Plan Part 2 – A briefing session from Mendip Planning confirmed our fears that the lack of 5 year housing land supply could be an issue for many years. We were told that South Somerset has had this problem for 10 years, almost as if we should not be too critical! We pressed the Council for its programme to rectify the problem at the 7th February Cabinet and were given no comfort by the statement “There will be a process leading to joint agreement on a review programme ahead of vesting day” – which is 1st April 2023, implying we could be over a year away from even establishing a programme! Our worst fears over the potential open door to any speculative housing application were only slightly calmed by the refusal at appeal for 95 houses at Chilcompton. Mendip’s A Team were able to convince the Inspector that Significant and Demonstrable Harm would have been caused by the impact on the character and appearance of the area as it would appear as an incongruous addition to the village. Application ref 2021/0421/OTS.

Park Corner – the visit by Planning and Enforcement was very unsatisfactory. The tree works carried out do not constitute grounds for action and there appears to have been no concern expressed over the Quarry Sterilisation issue despite the proximity to the working face.

3 Bungalows south of Apple Meadow View, 2021/2649/FUL – we have asked for this to go to the Planning Board

Unitary – the Structural Change Order has now been placed before Parliament to allow both Houses to debate and approve the legal basis for the new Somerset Council to provide all services from 1-4-23. This is scheduled to be approved in time for the local elections to proceed on 5th May this year.

20-2-22

Appendix B

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL CASHBOOK 2021-2022

Date	Minute Book	Details	Chq No	Receipts	Payments	NSAI Ac	Bank Ac	Income	'Unitary' Costs	Grants	Salaries	Gen Admin	Footpaths	Cem	VAT	S137	Capital
1 01.04.21		Budget															
2 14.04.21		Carried Forward															
3 22.04.21	173.2/20	Precept	1083	£16,443.15		£9,573.99	£9,889.16	£10,300.00	£1,700	£7,750	£3,487	£4,829	£100	£7,300			£200
4 22.04.21	173.2/20	Ivverde - Mar Grass Cut	1084	£10,300.00	£99.14		£99.14								£18.52		
5 22.04.21	173.2/20	Clerk - Mar Pay and Expenses	1085		£226.96		£226.96				£216.96	£10.00					
6 22.04.21	173.2/20	HMRC - Oct 20-Mar 21	1086		£325.44		£325.44				£325.44						
7 29.04.21		Somersel Forge, Downhead X Repair			£480.00		£480.00					£400.00			£80.00		
8 04.05.21		Burial Fee		£130.00			£130.00	£130.00									
9 10.05.21		Eccelesiastical payment, Dhd X Repair		£440.00			£440.00	£440.00									
10 10.05.21		HMRC - VAT Refund 17/18		£171.60			£171.60	£171.60									
11 12.06/21		HMRC - VAT Refund 19/20		£1,079.82			£1,079.82	£1,079.82									
12 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	HMRC - VAT Refund 18/19		£205.72			£205.72	£205.72									
13 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	Carnie & Co - Annual Insurance	1087		£437.26		£437.26				£437.26						
14 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	Clerk - Apr Pay and Expenses	1088		£226.96		£226.96				£216.96	£10.00					
15 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	Anthea Brooks - Carmelery Clerk pay	1089		£108.48		£108.48							£108.48			
16 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	C Ingram - Downhead X painting	1090		£290.00		£290.00					£290.00					
17 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	D Matick - Newsletter paper & print	1091		£32.99		£32.99					£32.99					
18 17.05.21	APCM 13.5	PKF Littlejohn - Annual AGAR Audit	1092		£336.00		£336.00					£260.00					
19 01.06.21	16/17/20	Ivverde - Apr Grass Cut	1093		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
20 16.06.21		Leigh on Mendip School - Grant for Storage	1094		£439.91		£439.91			£439.91							
21 16.06.21		Interment Fee - Vaughan		£242.00			£242.00	£242.00									
22 21.06.21	007/4/21	Eccelesiastical payment, Dhd X Repair, XS	1095	£250.00			£250.00	£250.00									
23 21.06.21	007/4/21	Ivverde - May Grass Cut	1096		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
24 21.06.21	007/4/21	Clerk - May Pay and Expenses	1097		£226.96		£226.96				£216.96	£10.00					
25 19.07.21	024/2/21	Memorial Hall May Booking	1098		£10.50		£10.50					£10.50					
26 19.07.21	024/2/21	Ivverde - Jun Grass Cut	1099		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
27 19.07.21	024/2/21	M Carter - Flyers re Lighting	1100		£23.40		£23.40					£23.40					
28 19.07.21	024/2/21	SALC - Annual Subscription	1101		£149.41		£149.41					£149.41					
29 19.07.21	024/2/21	Clerk - Jun Pay and Expenses	1102		£226.96		£226.96				£216.96	£10.00					
30 09.08.21	037/1/21	V Taylor - Expenses (Land Search)	1103		£6.00		£6.00					£6.00					
31 17.08.21	037/2/21	Ivverde - Jul Grass Cut	1104		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
32 20.09.21	049/2/21	C Ingram - Tel Box Paint	1105		£32.71		£32.71					£32.71					
33 20.09.21	049/2/21	Ivverde - Aug Grass Cut	1106		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
34 08.10.21	067/2/21	Clerk - Jul Pay (Final - A Brooks)	1107		£216.96		£216.96				£216.96						
35 02.11.21	067/2/21	Ivverde - Sep Grass Cut	1108		£101.12		£101.12							£84.27			£16.85
36 19.11.21		Ivverde - Oct Grass Cut	1109	£144.00			£144.00										
37 22.11.21	063/2/21	Hobbs Marble & Granite - Cem fees (DT)	1110		£249.72		£249.72										
38 22.11.21	063/2/21	Clerk - Oct Pay & Expenses (J Gregory)	1111		£7,266.00		£7,266.00		£6,055.00						£1,211.00		
39 22.11.21	063/2/21	James Bannell - Open Space fencing	1112		£70.00		£70.00					£70.00					
40 06.12.21	096/1/21	Memorial Hall - Bookings Jul-Dec 2021	1113		£101.12		£101.12										
41 20.12.21	109/2/21	Ivverde - Nov Grass Cut	1114		£152.27		£152.27							£84.27			£16.85
42 20.12.21	109/2/21	Glasdon UK Ltd - Dog Waste Bin	1115		£180.00		£180.00					£180.00					
43 20.12.21	109/2/21	Somersel Forge Ltd - Dog Waste Bin	1116		£56.00		£56.00					£56.00					
44 20.12.21	109/2/21	D M Sparkes - Rangers gifts	1117		£101.12		£101.12					£101.12					
45 20.12.21	109/2/21	Ivverde - Dec Grass Cut	1118		£276.76		£276.76				£276.76						
46 30.12.21		HMRC - PAYE Apr-Nov 2021	1119	£128.00			£128.00	£128.00									
47 14.01.22		W J Trotman - Cem fees (D Dunstan)		£76.00			£76.00	£76.00									
48 17.1.22	128.3/21	Young Johnson Ltd - Cem fees			£101.12		£101.12										
49 17.1.22	128.3/21	Ivverde - Jan Grass Cut			£95.00		£95.00							£84.27			£16.85
50 19.01.22		ICCM membership												£96.00			
		HMRC - VAT refund 2020/21		£408.24			£408.24	£408.24									
				£30,018.53	£13,262.99	£9,573.99	£1,191.55	£13,575.38	£0.00	£6,494.91	£1,928.72	£1,988.27	£0.00	£1,128.78	£1,587.42	£0.00	£126.89

Approved by Councillors at Meeting on 21.01.22

 Chairman

 RFO.