

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held at Memorial Hall on Monday 20th June 2022

Present: Cllrs Dave Mattick, Iain Kirby, Estelle Kirby, Paula Freeland, Vicki Taylor (Chair), Martin Carter and Neil Crump

Also in attendance: Kate Egan (Clerk)

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

1 Public Forum

There were five members of the public in attendance

Introductions were made around the room as newly elected County Councillors were present and members of the public wished to raise a couple of issues.

The Chair of the Recreational Field spoke asking whether the Parish Council could submit a grant application for the Tarmac Community Fund for costs towards new play equipment. Councillors asked questions and these were answered.

The issue was also raised regarding the area of land at Park Haynes which requires levelling and tidying up and whether residents might be able to carry out the work themselves. This was discussed further under item 18 (c)

2 Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and gave a short presentation to Dave Mattick for his time as Chair over the years. Flowers were also presented to be handed to his wife.

The Chair requested Councillors reports are issued in advance to the meeting giving Councillors time to read the information and prepare any questions if necessary.

3 Apologies for absence

All Councillors were present

4 Absent

All Councillors were present

5 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations and Requests for Recording

There were no declarations of interests, requests for dispensations or requests for recording.

6 County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillors Phillip Ham and Alan Townsend were in attendance, a report had been forwarded prior to the meeting, this is attached as appendix A.

County Councillors Phillip Ham and Barry Clarke were in attendance, they spoke briefly about how the planning issues may be decided under the new council and how the Local Community Networks (LCN) may work.

7 To confirm the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on 16th May and the Planning Meeting held on 26th May, previously circulated.

The Council **RESOLVED** that Following a correction of a date the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on 16th May were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair. The Council also **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Planning Meeting held on 26th May be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

8 Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda

(a) Job Description for the role of volunteer Tree Advisor – the job description has been written and will be discussed at the next meeting.

(b) Health and Safety Policy, prior to the agenda being issued for this meeting it was decided to defer it to the next meeting.

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

(a) **APP/Q3305/W/21/3284378** Planning Application 2020/1877/OTS Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved (access considered) for the erection of up to 40 dwellings and provision of school playing field and car park. The appeal is to be decided at a hearing, location and date are still yet to be decided.

Update The appeals department at Mendip District Council will be contacted to ask why everyone who commented on the original application has not been notified of the appeal process. A copy of the letter has been posted on the Website with a link on the Village Facebook page. [It was agreed that Cllrs Paula Freeland and Dave Mattick finalise the appeal statement](#)

9 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) [2022/1019/OUT](#) Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for 1no. detached bungalow. Land South of 6 Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip. **Update** Leigh on Mendip Parish Council recommended the decision be left to the Planning Officer

(b) [2022/1007/FUL](#) Conversion of barn (planning permission approval 2021/2403/FUL) into holiday let. Annexe, Long Cottage, Tadhil Lane, Stoke St Michael **Update** Leigh on Mendip recommended the application be refused

11 Grants

(a) Grant Application from Leigh on Mendip Allotment Association

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application from Leigh on Mendip Allotment Association for £772.14

12 Policies

(a) Equality and Diversity Policy

This was deferred to the next meeting

(b) Social Media Policy

This was deferred to the next meeting

13 To Be Resolved / Discussed.

(a) Proposal for the Parish Council to open a Business PayPal account

The Council **RESOLVED** to open a Business PayPal account

(b) Proposal to set up Councillor Emails for the Parish Council.

The Council **RESOLVED** to set up Councillor Emails for the Parish Council, these will be published on the Noticeboards and the Website

(c) Discussion on the situation of creating car parking spaces at Park Hayes following a meeting on 18th June.

Following a lengthy discussion this will be brought back to the next meeting where costs and plans can be considered.

(d) Update and discussion on whether the Rangers agree with the Volunteer Policy and will provide risk assessments

The Rangers have not yet met to discuss the Parish Council volunteer policy, this will be brought back to the next meeting.

(e) Discussion on whether to update the Parish Plan

This was discussed briefly and it was decided to put the review of the Parish Plan on hold until after the appeal for the potential 40 houses.

(f) Discussion on whether to join an Eastern Mendip Parishes to discuss issues regarding the Unitary Council

The Parish Council were interested in attending the initial meeting on Thursday 7th July, it was noted that Cllr Vicki Taylor and the Clerk will attend and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

14 Clerk's Report.

(a) A code of conduct complaint was sent to the Monitoring Officer at Mendip District Council. Upon conclusion no action was taken in regard to this matter.

(b) A local resident has accepted the volunteer role of Parish Path Liaison Officer and hope to make the next meeting. In the meantime, arrangements have been made for them to meet with Cllr Dave Mattick to pass over information.

15 Finance

Bank Balances as at: 12th June 2022

Current Account £18909.90

Reserve Account £9573.99

Receipts

(a) Burial Fees – Vaughan - £203.00

(b) Memorial Fees – Longley - £79.00

Payments

(c) Ionos – April & May - £2.40

(d) Clerks Salary – May - £421.48 (includes extra 10 hours to set up the new website)

(e) HMRC – May - £0.80

(f) Idverde May Grass Cutting £113.53

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the above payments and receipts and also **RESOLVED** to accept the additional receipts and payments as listed below

Receipts

(g) VAT Refund - £1640.72 – received 20.06.22

(h) Business PayPal confirmation - £0.01 – received 20.06.22

Payments

(i) Clerks Salary – June - £298.08

(j) Leigh on Mendip Allotment Association - £772.14

16 Councillor Reports**Recreation Field**

This was discussed earlier during the Public Forum.

Cemetery

Cllr Estelle Kirby will contact the ICCM and obtain further information as to costs and the process of creating the new cemetery in the village. These will be brought back to the next meeting

Highways

Idverde are dropping off leaflets in relation to street cleaning but without prior notice so residents are not given much warning. Cllr Martin Carter will contact them to ask if longer notice can be given.

The Parish Council have been notified of an abandoned car, this will be reported to Somerset Highways

Footpaths

Report of a broken stile back in 2020 has now been fixed

17 Correspondence

- (a) May Meeting of Frome Area LCN – forwarded 18.5.22
- (b) Trail launched for communities to rewild Mendip Land – forwarded 24.4.22
- (c) Councillor Training Dates – forwarded 24.5.22
- (d) Frome Climate and Health Conference – forwarded 30.05.22
- (e) Local Heritage List – forwarded 01.06.22
- (f) Invitation to a Bus Meeting with Somerset Bus Partnership – forwarded 01.06.22
- (g) Think Travel Website – forwarded 01.06.22
- (h) Amendments to Local Validation List – forwarded 02.06.22
- (i) Climate and Ecological Emergency – forwarded 02.06.22

18 Matters to report / items for next agenda

- (a) NS&I have confirmed the change of contact details and signatures to the account
- (b) Possible Enforcement Issue

19 Date and time of next meeting: Monday 18th July 2022 in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm.

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

Appendix A

Leigh on Mendip PC REPORT JUNE 2022

Mendip DC Annual Full Council Meeting 23-5-22 – Appointments to Committees were agreed as follows:

Cllr Ham – Scrutiny Board, Substitute member; Audit Committee – Substitute member

Cllr Townsend – Scrutiny, Full member; Planning Board – Substitute; Audit Committee – Full member.

Council passed a resolution to Declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency. 2 days later the Chancellor announced his support package.

It was resolved that Great Elm Parish Council should close as they had not fielded sufficient candidates at the election to form a quorum.

Audit Committee 1-6-22

It was confirmed that the much-delayed accounts for the year ending 31-3-21 will finally be signed off by the external auditors this month. The external audit of the 21/22 account will not start until October and will therefore miss the November target date.

Highways

Stoke Bottom - County Highways have confirmed that maintenance work including drainage repairs, ditching, patching and restoration of verges is scheduled to commence on 8-8-22.

Also, in Stoke St Michael, Mendip Rd from the Knatchbull roundabout towards Wainwrights will be closed to allow repair work to the stream culvert under the road. This will of course require a diversion for HGVs which will be welcomed by many in Stoke.

Planning

Good to attend the Village Design Code presentation at Stoke St Michael on 26 th May and to exchange ideas with residents and Mendip planners. Stoke are piloting this scheme in Mendip. To many people the key immediate issue is the future of the speculative housing application in the village with Mendip having no plan to rectify the 5 year housing land supply shortage.