

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held at Memorial Hall on Monday 26th September 2022

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

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 and they were invited to speak under the relevant item.

2 Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

3 Apologies for absence

Cllr Paula Freeland

4 Absent

No Councillors were absent

5 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Vicki Taylor declared an interest in item 9(b) planning application 2022/1669/HSE

6 County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Alan Townsend sent his apologies but had forwarded a report prior to the meeting, this was read out by the Clerk and has been added as appendix A. County Councillor Phillip Ham also sent his apologies, County Councillor Barry Clarke was in attendance and gave a verbal report.

7 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th July 2022, 8th August 2022 and 22nd August 2022, previously circulated.

Following some amendments, the minutes for 18th July were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair. The minutes for 8th August and 22nd August were both accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair

13 To Be Resolved / Discussed**(d) Proposal to adopt the revised fees and documents for arranging Burials in the Burial Ground**

A member of the PCC attended and asked for information to be deleted from the fees currently shown on the website, this was discussed later on in the meeting.

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) [2022/1609/FUL](#) Erection of 1no three bed, two storey detached dwelling on land previously permitted for stables. Land at 368034 146946 Town End Lane, Leigh on Mendip **Update** The applicant was invited to speak about the application. The application was discussed and the Parish Council recommended refusal.

8 Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda

- (a) The local Enforcement Department have been involved with the issue regarding Park Corner.
- (b) Somerset County Council have been contacted in regard to the mineral safeguarding and the appeal for the 40 houses.
- (c) The Quarry has not yet been approached as to whether they will help with costs towards the Planning Consultant for the appeal hearing
- (d) Parking at Park Hayes will be discussed at the next meeting
- (e) Removal of unnecessary tree protectors from across the periphery of the quarry will be discussed at the next meeting

Cllr Vicki Taylor left the meeting at 7.45pm. Cllr Paula Freeland as Vice-Chair was not in attendance so Cllr Martin Carter chaired the next item.

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

- (b) [2022/1669/HSE](#) Erection of 2 rear dormers, creation of ensuite and relocation of external door and internal stairs. 1 – 2 Perrys Cottages, Leigh Street, Leigh on Mendip **Update** Leigh on Mendip Parish Council recommended approval

Cllr Vicki Taylor returned to the meeting at 7.50pm and took over as Chair of the Meeting

- (c) [2022/1855/REM](#) Application of reserved matters following outline planning consent 2022/1019/OUT for the erection of a single dwelling and associated access. Matters of access / appearance / landscaping / layout / scale to be determined. Land at 368840 147202 Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip **Update** Leigh on Mendip Parish Council recommended approval

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

- (a) [2022/1019/OUT](#) Application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved for the detached bungalow – Land South of 6 Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip **Update** Mendip District Council gave approval
- (b) [2022/1279/FUL](#) Change of use from agricultural to recreation and installation of play equipment, fitness equipment, seating, trees and other planting. Recreational Field, Leigh Street, Leigh on Mendip **Update** Mendip District Council granted approval.
- (c) Pavement Licence for the Bell Inn **Update** Due to the short consultation period and the Parish Council being unable to obtain an extension, this was submitted under delegated responsibilities from the Parish Clerk. The recommendation was obtained from the general consensus of the Councillors and this was to approve the application.
- (d) [2018/2779/HSE](#) (Resitting of existing driveway, piers and gates) was refused and then appealed with the following conditions the development shall begin no later than 3 years from the date of the decision.
- (e) [2022/1481/APP](#) Approval of details reserved by conditions 11 (Roofing) & 12 (External Walls) on planning consent 2021/2649/FUL. 1 Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip. **Update** Mendip District Council granted approval.
- (f) [2022/0954/HSE](#) Conversion and extension of existing garage to form 1 bed annexe. White House, Leigh Street, Leigh on Mendip. **Update** Mendip District Council have granted approval.

11 Policies**(a) Health and Safety Policy**

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Health and Safety Policy

12 Grants**(a) Application from Leigh on Mendip Recreation Field Committee for £1612.80 for costs towards Grass Cutting**

The Parish Council deferred this to the next meeting as various points needed clarifying.

13 To Be Resolved / Discussed.**(a) Proposal for the Parish Council to contribute costs for the Clerk to attend the National Conference in November for professional development - £75.00**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve to contribute £75.00 towards costs for the Clerk to attend the National Conference in November.

(b) Proposal to approve the Job Description for the Parish Council Tree Advisor Role

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Job Description for the Parish Council Tree Advisor Role

(c) Proposal on who will be attending the appeal hearing and representing the Parish Council on Tuesday 4th October.

Mark Reynolds from Context Planning will be in attendance on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllrs Dave Mattick, Vicki Taylor and Estelle Kirby have also requested to attend.

(d) Proposal to adopt the revised fees and documents for arranging Burials in the Burial Ground

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised fees and documents for arranging Burial in the Burial Ground, these are available from the website. They will be reviewed in six months.

(e) Discussion and possible proposal on the information received on moving the new Cemetery forward.

This was deferred to the next meeting

(f) Proposal to accept the quotes and appoint the Internal Auditor for this financial year

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Angela Pearce as the Internal Auditor for 2022-2023 for a cost of £120.00

(g) Proposal to consider the development of Local Community Networks Consultation and any responses

Due to the deadline being the same day as the next meeting, Councillors were asked to complete the questionnaire individually and return them to the Clerk, where with the Chair they will be compiled for submission.

Item 3x in the Standing Orders states that a meeting shall not exceed 3 hours, the Council thought the limit was 2 hours so Cllr Estelle Kirby proposed that the meeting be extended until all business had been concluded, this was seconded by Cllr Martin Carter and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the extension in order to conclude the meeting.

(h) Proposal to respond to the questionnaire from Somerset County Council in regard to providing warm spaces.

The Parish Council declined to respond due to the short timescale.

14 Clerk's Report.

- (a) Following an appraisal between the Chair of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk due to the completion of the six-month probation period, both parties were happy and the Parish Clerk is happy to remain as the Parish Clerk and as a result the SCP point is increased by one.
- (b) Unfortunately, Phillip Watts has stepped down from the role of Parish Path Liaison Officer, he was thanked for his time to date.
- (c) Update from the Halecombe Quarry Community Fund Meeting held on 21st September. **Update** The Parish Council were successful in their grant application and were awarded £5,000. This will be put towards new play equipment in the recreational field. Cllr Vicki Taylor also gave a verbal report from the Quarry Liaison Meeting
- (d) APP/Q3305/W/21/3284378 – Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved for the erection of up to 40 dwellings. The Informal hearing will be held at The Council Chamber, Mendip District Council Offices, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet on Tuesday 4th October starting at 10.00am
- (e) The bench has been removed from the Burial Ground due to Health and Safety, there are plans to replace it but probably not until the next financial year.

15 Finance

Bank Balances as at: 18th September 2022

Current Account £16,205.08

Reserve Account £9,574.95

Review of the Annual budget

The budget was reviewed and will brought back to the next meeting

Receipts

(a) Memorial Fees - £79.00 – cheque banked 12.09.22

Payments

(b) Parish Clerk - Postage - £2.05

(c) Parish Clerk – National conference - £75.00

(d) Parish Clerk – purchase of stationery - £35.97

(e) Parish Clerk – Salary July - £298.08

(f) Parish Clerk – Salary August (includes 8.25 hours for Burial Work) - £398.89

(g) HMRC – August - £9.40

(h) SALC – Training Course - £75.00 (two invoice)

(i) SALC Annual Membership - £153.38

(j) Ionos – Monthly website hosting (July) - £1.20

(k) Ionos – Monthly website and emails (August) - £4.80 – pd by DD 09.09.22

(l) Idverde – grass cutting – July, August and September - £340.59

(m) ICCM – Training Course - £324.00 (two invoices)

(n) Leigh on Mendip Recreation Field Committee – Grant - £1612.80

(o) ICO – Annual Subscription - £40.00

(p) Mendip District Council – election costs - £100.00

(q) Jubilee expenses - £651.51 – to be re-approved as not authorised online following the previous meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and receipts apart from 15(n) as the grant application had been deferred and also **RESOLVED** to approve the additional payment below

(r) Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall – hall hire - £42.00

16 Councillor Reports

There were no Councillor Reports

17 Correspondence to be noted

- (a) Whatley and Westdown Community Liaison Group meeting 5th October – forwarded 19.07.22
- (b) Press Release: New Somerset Council supports local decision – forwarded 19.07.22
- (c) Frome LCN Mapping Villages Report – forwarded 29.07.22
- (d) Mendip District Council Health and Wellbeing Bulletin August 2022 – forwarded 09.08.22
- (e) Invitation to a Somerset Unitary Team Meeting on Tuesday 27th September at Wells Town Hall – forwarded 22.08.22
- (f) Invitation to Mendip Parishes Liaison Group Meeting on Thursday 29th September – forwarded 18.09.22

18 Matters to report / items for next agenda

Various items had been brought up during the meeting

19 Date and time of next meeting: Monday 17th October 2022 in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed 9.40pm

Appendix A

LEIGH ON MENDIP REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

PLANNING

Quarry Lane 40 dwellings – we plan to attend the Informal Appeal Hearing on 4th October to support the Parish Council's objections.

4 Park Hayes – the Mendip Planning Officer wished to reject the application to remove the hedge and replace with fencing panels, despite the Parish Council's support and no neighbour objections. We have blocked this and referred it to the Chairman of the Planning Board with a request to try to change the Officer's mind and not waste the Board's time with what appears to be a trivial issue.

Gypsy and Travellers – Mendip have lost their appeal against a site for 9 pitches at Emborough, The Inspector ruled that as Mendip have failed to allocate enough formal sites there are no grounds to refuse. A cross party proposal has been submitted to the Head of Planning to urge them to issue Certificates of Lawfulness to the dozens of acceptable sites already in existence around the District. This would immediately rectify the shortfall and remove at a stroke the risk of random settlements being approved without defence.

FULL COUNCIL

This evening's meeting is being asked to endorse the Climate and Ecological Emergency Plan. It still envisages 31 x 450 ft high wind turbines in the District by 2030 with 10 in place by the end of 2023. The Plan also envisages that freight emissions will be reduced by "10% increase in use of waterborne transport".

There are two emergency motions. One to amend planning procedures so that Wessex Water are required to address the impact of major developments on watercourses and treatment works. The second seeks to impose a vegan culture on our local agriculture.

26-9-22