

**LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL**  
Meeting held at Memorial Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

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

Also in attendance: Kate Egan (Clerk)

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

- 1 Public Forum** – Ashley Reay (Mendip Area Speedwatch Co-ordinator) will be attending to talk about setting up a Speedwatch group

There were four members of the public in attendance

Ashley Reay gave a very interesting talk about Community Speedwatch about how to set one up and what is involved. Training is available and the equipment used is given for free. His colleague also spoke about speed indicator devices (SID's) and the various options. The Parish Council thanked him for his time and sharing the information.

The applicant for planning application 2022/1007/FUL was also in attendance and spoke briefly about the plans and the frustration in the slowness of decisions being made from Mendip District Council.

- 2 Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone.

- 3 Apologies for absence**

All Councillors were in attendance

- 4 Absent**

No Councillors were absent

- 5 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations**

There were no declaration of interests or dispensations.

- 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) 2022/1007/FUL** Demolition of existing barn and erection of holiday let. Annexe, Long Cottage, Tadhil Lane, Stoke St Michael. **Update** The Parish Council recommended approval but with additional comments concerning the size of the window.

- 6 County and District Councillor Reports**

Alan Townsend was in attendance and sent his report prior to the meeting, this is appendix B. He spoke verbally about the report and the housing allocations which are now not mandatory but advisable.

County Councillors Phillip Ham and Barry Clarke were both in attendance and both gave verbal reports. Subjects covered were various cost of living grants available on Somerset County Council website, LCN's and the budget.

- 7 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December, previously circulated.**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

- 8 Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda**

There were no matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda.

**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) 2022/1603/FUL** Erection of 3no dwelling houses. Land South of Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip. **Update** This application is being discussed by Mendip Planning Board on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January, Cllr Vicki Taylor will be attending and speaking on behalf of the Parish Council.

**10 Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Mendip District Council**

- (a) 2022/2185/APP** Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 (Joinery Details) on planning consent 2021/2750/HSE. Church Cottage, 5 Church Walk, Leigh on Mendip. Mendip District Council have granted approval.

**11 To Be Resolved / Discussion**

**(a) Discussion and proposal to accept the quote to carry out a Tier 1 Risk Assessment on the new Burial Ground**

Cllr Estelle Kirby went through the various options and the Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Bold Environmental Ltd to carry out a Tier 1 Risk Assessment on the new Burial Ground for a cost of £895.00

**(b) Proposal for the Parish Council to create a Parish Council Facebook Page, where Parish Council items will be posted, these will then be shared to the Village Facebook Page.**

The Council **RESOLVED** in principle to create a Parish Council Facebook Page. A meeting will be held with Cllrs Martin Carter, Neil Crump and the Parish Clerk to finalise the details before proceeding.

**(c) Proposal for the procedure on reporting enforcement issues, whether members of the public report the issue if they are able or whether all details are passed to the Parish Council**

This was discussed to some length and it was proposed to signpost and support residents in reporting the issues themselves, Cllr Estelle Kirby will write how enforcement issues can be reported, this will be uploaded to the Website. If items are brought up at Parish Council meetings, they will be forwarded to the County Councillors.

**(d) Discussion on how the questionnaire for the community plan will be distributed and how the replies from the hard copies will be entered into the online system. This will also include a proposal for the Parish Council to cover the costs for printing the questionnaire for the Community Plan.**

The questionnaire will be done online although a drop-in session will be advertised for people to come and answer the questions which will cover a variety of questions. The survey will go live on 20<sup>th</sup> February with plenty of warning via the Website, Facebook, Posters, and a leaflet drop. The Council **RESOLVED** to budget £50 to cover the costs of printing.

**(e) Proposal to add new signatures to the Bank Mandate and also to include online authorisation.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve Cllr Martin Carter and Neil Crump to be added as signatures and be given online access to authorise payments.

**12 Policies**

**(a) Adoption of the Parish Council Social Media Policy.**

**(b) Appointment of the Parish Council Moderator for Social Media**

Both the above items were deferred until the Parish Council Facebook Page had been set up.

**13 Clerk's / Councillors Report**

- (a) Update from Cllr Neil Crump on discussion with Halecombe Quarry regarding creating parking spaces at Park Hayes. **Update** Cllr Neil Crump will chase but the dates need to tie in when the Quarry have the equipment available.
- (b) Further to the inspector's report on the appeal, the only comment received was as to whether items reported could be quoted as a precedent to use in response to future planning applications in the village.
- (c) Update from Cllr Martin Carter on setting up a speed watch team within the community. **Update** Cllr Martin Carter thanked the speakers again for giving out the information during the public session. Cllr Martin Carter is in correspondence with Somerset County Council as to locations.

**14 Finance****Bank Balances as at: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023****Current Account £13,336.79**

Please note the payments approved at the previous meetings are still awaiting authorisation

**Reserve Account £9,574.95**

**Approval of Quarterly Review** This was noted by Councillors

**Approval of Quarterly Bank Reconciliation** The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation and it was signed by the Chair.

**Payments**

- (a) SLCC Annual Membership - £44.25
- (b) Idverde - £113.53
- (c) Ionos - £4.80
- (d) Clerks Salary – December - £327.84
- (e) Unity Trust Bank – Bank Charges - £18.00

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments.

Cllr Paula Freeland left the meeting at 9.07pm

Cllr Iain Kirby left the meeting at 9.09pm

**15 Councillor Reports**

- (a) Cllr Martin Carter reported that the drains outside the Memorial Hall are blocked once again, these have been reported to the relevant authority.

**16 Correspondence to be noted**

- (a) Councillor Training Dates – forwarded 03.01.23
- (b) Reminder of the deadline for the next round of funding from Halecombe Quarry – forwarded 06.01.23
- (c) January brief from Somerset County Council – forwarded 06.01.23

**17 Matters to report / items for next agenda**

- (a) Reminder to Councillors regarding the Code of Conduct training on 9<sup>th</sup> February
- (b) Increase in burial fees

**18 Date and time of next meeting: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm.**

Meeting closed 9.13pm

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions; Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Planning Applications – Applications not having yet had a decision made by Mendip District Council**

- (a) 2022/1603/FUL** Erection of 3no. dwelling houses. Land South of Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip
- (b) 2022/0053/OTS** Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved for the erection of 3 no. dwellings with details of access. Corner Cottage, Quarry Lane, Leigh on Mendip
- (c) 2021/2121/FUL** Creation of external storage area with erection of shed and installation of two shipping containers (Retention of works already started). Land at 370558 147315 Quarry Lane to Somers Hill, Leigh on Mendip
- (d) 2022/1007/FUL** Demolition of existing barn and erection of holiday let. Annexe, Long Cottage, Tadhill Lane, Stoke St Michael
- (e) 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.
- (f) 2022/2289/HSE** – Erection of integral garage and relocation of front door and bedroom. Raglan, Leigh Street, Leigh on Mendip.
- (g) 2022/2363/FUL** Erection of 1 no. 2 bed bungalow. 11 Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip

## **APPENDIX B**

### **LEIGH ON MENDIP PC REPORT JAN 2023**

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Following the cancellation of the December Full Council Meeting and the 9 th January Cabinet due to “lack of substantive business” the Scrutiny Board Meeting scheduled for 17 th January has now been cancelled.

#### **PLANNING**

Planning Policy – The Local Plan Part 2 continues to fail to show a forward 5 year supply of housing land. The implication of the recent statement by HMG that the national targets were no longer mandatory remains unclear. This of course has a potential impact on the Apple Meadow View application 2022/1603 due to be heard by the Planning Board on 18 th January The status of the Local Plan has been further eroded by the Judicial Review decision last month that the allocation of the additional 505 dwellings in the north east of the District had been incorrectly managed by both Mendip and the Examining Inspector. We await clarification from Mendip of the effects on the Local Plan and the costs incurred. An Emergency Meeting of Full Council has been requested.

Stoke St Michael – we still await the outcome of the appeal against Mendip’s refusal of 47 houses on Coalpit Lane.