

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting held at Memorial Hall on Monday 17th April 2023

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

Also in attendance: Kate Egan (Clerk)

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

1 Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2 Apologies for absence

Cllr Neil Crump

3 Absent

No Councillors were absent

4 (a) To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

Cllr Martin Carter declared an interest in planning application 2023/0475/VRC agenda item 9(a)

(b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests

No written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests were received

(c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

No requests for dispensations as appropriate were received.

5 Public Session

There were two members of the public in attendance, this included Tom Kemp the Assistant Tree Advisor

6 County Councillor Reports

Somerset Councillor Barry Clarke sent his apologies

Somerset Councillor Philip Ham was in attendance and gave a verbal report. The new unitary council is settling down, lots of planning training is taking place. There are still some items to be sorted but it is slowly coming together. A discussion took place about the chaos that occurred at the planning meeting regarding planning application 2022/0053/OTS, this is still not known whether it has been deferred to the next planning board.

Cllr Martin Carter left the meeting at 7.16pm

Councillors were asked to have come with an open mind in discussing the following planning application.

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) 2023/0475/VRC – Application to vary condition 2 (Drawing no. 2022070) of planning approval 2022/1603/FUL (Erection of 3 no. dwelling houses) for Access, Drawing No 2022070A. 1 Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip.

Recommendation The applicant was invited to speak about the application and a discussion took place. The recommendation from the Parish Council was to leave the decision to the planning officer.

Cllr Martin Carter re-joined the meeting at 7.28pm

13 Clerk's / Councillors Report

(c) Update on installing parking spaces at Park Hayes

This was briefly discussed. Halecombe Quarry have said they are happy to carry out the work, although this has to be confirmed, but it will coincide with work being carried out at the quarry which has been delayed, but hopefully this will happen within the next six months.

7 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th March, previously circulated.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th March be accepted as a true record, these were signed and dated 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.

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

(a) 2022/2363/FUL Erection of 1no. 2 bed bungalow. 11 Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip.
Decision from Mendip District Council Approved

(b) 2022/0053/OTS Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved for the erection of 3no. dwellings with details of access. Corner Cottage, Quarry Lane, Leigh on Mendip **Update** This was discussed at Mendip Planning Board on 29th March, no decision was reached so the item was deferred to another meeting.

11 Grants

(a) Grant Application from the Recreation Field - £1500.00

This was deferred to the next meeting as a breakdown of costs was required before approval could be given.

12 To Be Resolved / Discussed

(a) Update from Cllr Estelle Kirby on the location of the sewage pipe and whether a scaled plan has been drawn of the new cemetery. Discussion on whether any proposals need to be carried forward.

The Council **RESOLVED** to ratify a decision to ask Tom Kemp to draw a map (to scale) for burial plots and cremation plots at a cost of £160.00.

The various options were discussed and a plan was shown to Councillors showing the proposed layout. Cllr Paula Freeland requested that it was recorded in the minutes that she was unhappy with the layout.

The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with the Tier 1 Risk Assessment and resubmit the Planning Application.

Tom Kemp and Cllr Estelle Kirby were thanked for all their effort in producing the scale plan.

Following the meeting the map was redrawn and this will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting.

13 Clerk's / Councillors Report

(a) Update from the Tree Advisor on trees situated on Parish Council land

No update was given as a report will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting being held next week. Tom Kemp was asked to look at the trees on Park Hayes as some of the branches seemed to be in a dire state. Following on from the last meeting, the fence and nails have been removed from the tree as requested.

(b) Update from Cllr Iain and Estelle Kirby on the backfilling of the graves.

This has not yet taken place due to the inclement weather.

(c) Update from Cllr Martin Carter on Highways

A brief report was given and Cllr Martin Carter has registered on Fix My Street so will receive notifications of issues with the roads. Somerset Councillor Phillip Ham mentioned he had met with Sara Davies from Somerset Highways in regard to highway issues but they will need to be prioritised.

14 . Finance

Bank Balances as at: 31st March 2023

Current Account £5955.29

Reserve Account £9583.86

End of year Budget review

This was deferred to the next meeting as Councillors asked for it to be rewritten

Approval and signature of the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March 2023

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March 2023 and it was signed by the Chair.

As per advice from an Internal Auditor the invoices are no longer required to be signed by two Councillors, in future the payment list will be approved.

Receipts

(a) Leigh on Mendip Allotments – Annual Rent - £1.00 – received 03.04.23

(b) Mellis Solar Farm – Community Funding - £2,000.00 – received 29.03.23

Payments

(c) Unity Trust Bank – Bank Charges - £18.00

(d) Idverde – Grass Cutting - £113.53

(e) Ionos – Web Hosting - £13.20 – Pd by DD

(f) Clerks Salary and Expenses - £327.84

(g) Memorial Hall – Hall Hire - £42.00

(h) ICCM Annual Membership - £95.00

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and receipts and also **RESOLVED** to approve the additional payments listed below.

(i) Chrysalis Landscaping – Detailed map of the new cemetery - £160.00

(j) Unity Printworks – printing of the annual newsletter - £52.00

(k) Angela Pearce – Internal Auditor - £120.00

15 Correspondence to be noted

- (a) Councillor Training Courses – forwarded 24.03.23
- (b) Road Closure Notice – Park Hayes – from outside Stanley Williams House, to outside number 14 Park Hayes for a total distance of 64 metres. Works are expected to commence on 17th April 2023 and last until 1st May 2023 between the hours of 00.00 – 23.59 for a total of 15 days. The Order is to enable sewage works to be carried out.
- (c) Conservative Group Members Briefing Sheet for Parish and Town Councils – April 2023 – forwarded 03.04.23
- (d) Somerset Council – Weekly Bulletin – forwarded 03.04.23
- (e) Councillor Training Courses – forwarded 03.04.23
- (f) Presentation from Somerset Council on the 20mph policy – forwarded 11.04.23

16 Matters to report / items for next agenda

- (a) The Internal Auditors report has been received; this will be formally presented to the Council at the next meeting.
- (b) Easement letters will be sent out those houses bordering the Recreational Field and Open Space.
- (c) The Annual Newsletter had been printed and will be distributed by the Councillors
- (d) The Parish Records have been deposited at the Somerset Archives in Taunton

17 Date and time of next meetings:

Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 24th April at 7pm Annual Council Meeting and Monday 15th May 2023 followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting. These will all take place in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm.