

MINUTES
LEIGH-ON-MENDIP ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 20 MAY 2019 AT 8.00 P.M. IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

Present	David Mattick (Chairman)	DM
	David Sparkes	DS
	Paula Freeland	PF
	Vicki Trundle	VT
	Vicki Taylor	VGT

In attendance	Anthea Brooks, Clerk	AB
	17 members of the public	

1	APOLOGIES	ACTIONS
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1.1	Apologies were received from Philip Ham (PH), County and District Councillor and Alan Townsend (AT) District Councillor,	
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2	REPORT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL	
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The Chairman gave the Parish Council report as follows

2.1	Welcome Booklet – a welcome booklet is available on the village website for everyone is new to the village.
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2.2	Community Open Space – the bid to MDC for S106 funding to purchase land adjacent to the Recreation Field was successful. The land purchased will create allotments and eventually additional facilities for the Parish including a children’s play area. Twelve people have already signed up for allotments and work is underway to prepare the land. As part of the project there will be an accessible allotment (a raised bed) to aid anyone who may find bending and digging difficult.
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2.3	Leigh-on-Mendip First School – on 1 November 2018 the school became an academy and joined the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership. The school is looking forward to the added benefits of this partnership.
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2.4	Quarry – Tarmac has been granted planning permission to expand deepen the Halecombe quarry within the existing site boundary and the local management team have reassured us that their support to the school and village activities will continue. Strict rules are in place to prevent lorries from Halecombe using the village street. Any lorries
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seen should be reported to Halecombe who will check to see if it came from there.

- 2.5 **Planning** – in terms of planning purposes Leigh-on-Mendip is an isolated settlement where all development is strictly controlled. However the Parish Council have been consulted on a number of planning applications during the year. The Council is also keen to ensure that the design of any new development follows the Village Design Statement. This is available to view on the village website.
- 2.6 **Footpaths** – a team of volunteers continue to supervise our footpaths and report problems. If you would like to supervise a footpath please contact David Sparkes for more information.
- 2.7 **Parish Rangers** – our small but active band of Rangers contribute to the care and maintenance of the village. This year an additional dog bin has been installed by the gate to Halecombe footpath and many other tasks complete. In particular we thank Chris Ingreem for using his expertise in cleaning and painting more of our heritage signposts. We have some Parishioners who regularly pick up litter and their work is appreciated very much. Please inform the Council if you know of a job which needs doing or contact David Sparkes.
- 2.8 **Report problems when you see them** – most issues can now be reported directly by the public, e.g. www.fixmystreet.com (potholes, street lights, fly-tipping) or by speaking directly to those present (drivers, etc) contacts can also be found on the village website.
- 2.9 **Leigh-on-Mendip Website and Facebook** – both are exclusive to Leigh-on-Mendip to stay in touch and communicate your events, lost/found, sales/wants and information/contacts. There are also the two Parish Council Noticeboards and the old telephone box (which anyone can use).
- 2.10 **Getting Involved** – contact a Parish Councillor if you are interested in any of the following
- Speedwatch – if there are enough volunteers, we could run a speedwatch scheme in the village.
 - Cycle Link – is there any support for an off-road cycle link from the village to the Colliers

Way cycle path by joining up current footpaths and bridleways

- Neighbourhood Watch – several areas in the village have co-ordinators to send you messages about recent incidents, warnings and security hints. If you are not receiving these messages then you are NOT a member of a Neighbourhood Watch School. Check with a Parish Councillor or the PCSO at a Beat Surgery (held monthly in the Church Tower Room).

2.11 The Chairman concluded by thanking his fellow Councillors for their enthusiasm and efforts, the Parish Clerk for her communications and organisation and to all those who work to keep the village organisations running smoothly.

3 REPORT FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

3.1 In the absence of Sue Vaughan, Denis Pattison presented the report from the Memorial Hall Committee and reported that the Committee have been busy maintaining and improving the Hall and its facilities. Bookings remain at a good level but nearly all Fridays are free and many periods over the weekends so please spread the word to anyone looking for a venue for a function.

3.2 Finally as always a big thank you to the committee who all contribute in their different ways, without their commitment we could not keep the Hall in the good condition which the village deserves.

3.3 The Chairman thanked Sue Vaughan and the Memorial Hall Committee for their work.

4 REPORT FROM THE RECREATION FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

4.1 In the absence of Vicky Higgins, David Pattison presented the report from the Recreation Field Management Committee.

- The Recreation Field continues to be used by many villagers which is fantastic to see and its use has grown since the completion of the Pump Track.
- There are a lot of things going on behind the scenes such as the secretarial jobs completed by David, financial affairs ably completed by

Denis and general maintenance of the field and club house completed by the committee and fellow villagers. .

- **Committee** – finally thanks are extended to all Committee members for their hard work over the year.

4.1 The Chairman thanked David for presenting the report and extended thanks to Vicky Higgins for all her hard work together with the Committee..

5 **OPEN MEETING**

5.1 The Chair asked those members of the general public who were present if there were any issues that they wished to raise

5.2 **Open Space Project**

Question - what is happening about the transfer of the land for the new area? When can allotment holders gain access to start planting?

Answer – the contract is currently under discussion and review and will be on the next Parish Council agenda. The vendors have agreed that the allotment holders can access the land to start planting.

5.3 **Speedwatch**

Question – what is the view of Speedwatch in the village? Is it something we want to do or not. Chris Ingrem (CI) stated that he would be prepared to take this on if there were others who were prepared to join him.

Answer – anyone who is interested in a Speedwatch scheme in the village should contact the Parish Council who would be willing to start the process. DM will speak to CI.

DM

7 **THANKS**

7.1 The Chairman extended his thanks and that of the Council and the Village to CC for his fifteen years serving as a Councillor with 12 years as Chairman. It was suggested that a suitable event will be organised as a formal thank you and other village organisations will be asked to join in. DM will take this forward.

DM

8 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Annual Parish Meeting is planned for 15 June 2020

PMN: The 2020 APM/APCM was cancelled due to Covid 19 Constraints

8.1

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday 17 June 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.