

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held at Memorial Hall on Monday 17th July 2023, starting at 7pm

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

Also in attendance: Kate Egan (Clerk)

1 **Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 **Apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence were received

3 **Absent**

All Councillors were present

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

There were no declarations of interests or requests for dispensations.

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

Cllr Martin Carter has a written request for dispensation in relation to Leigh on Mendip Recreation Association for four years (June 2027). A written request had been received from Cllr Vicki Taylor in relation to Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall for one year, this was granted and will expire in June 2024.

(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.

6 **Somerset Councillor Reports**

Somerset Councillor Barry Clarke was in attendance and gave a verbal report including subjects covering Finance for Somerset Council, refuse strike which has been delayed for two weeks, Local Community Network Meetings (LCN's), 20mph community scheme, sports action taking place in the holidays and state of road in general.

Somerset Councillor Philip Ham was in attendance and gave a verbal report including subject covering LCN Meetings, finance, Frome By-Election for the local MP, increase in parking fees, Somerset Council are looking for areas of land to fulfil the housing allocation, the Chief Executive of Somerset has been invited to the local quarries and the number of lorries using the stretch of road between Long Cross and the Beacon Crossroads.

7 **To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th June, previously circulated.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th June as a true record, these were signed and dated by the Chair.

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

(a) Cllr Martin Carter will be representing the Parish Council at the Local Community Network on 31st July at Pilton Village Hall.

(b) It was agreed to not proceed with the Council of the Year Award as more evidence was required, but it may be considered for next year.

(c) The Planning Application for the new Cemetery has not yet been submitted, due to commitments over the summer, this was deferred until the autumn.

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) **2023/1084/FUL** Convert barn to form terrace of 3no. single storey dwellings. Land at 369311 147357 Quarry Lane, Leigh on Mendip. **Recommendation** Leigh on Mendip Parish Council recommended refusal.

10 Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Somerset Council

- (a) **2023/0475/VRC** Application to vary condition 2 (Drawing No. 2022070) of planning approval 2022/1603/FUL (Erection of 3no. dwelling houses) for access drawing no. 2022070. 1 Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (b) **2023/0601/APP** Approval of details reserved by conditions 4 (lighting for bats), condition 5 (CEEMP), condition 6 (LEMP), condition 10 (Construction Management Plan), condition 11 (Roofing – Sample Panel) and condition 12 (Walling – Sample Panel) on consent 2023/0475/VRC. Land South of Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (c) **2023/0674/HSE** Extension of existing outbuilding to create home office/studio space. 1 – 2 Perrys Cottages, Leigh Street, Leigh on Mendip. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (d) **2023/0950/APP** Approval of details reserved by condition 3 (Surface Water Drainage System) on consent 2022/1603/FUL. 1 Apple Meadow View, Park Hayes, Leigh on Mendip. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.

11 To Be Resolved / Discussion

- (a) **Proposal to gift the recently purchased Steel Trim Trail to the Leigh on Mendip Recreation Field Management Committee, Charity number 279013 and be excluded from the Parish Council Asset List.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to gift the recently purchased Steel Trim Trail to the Leigh on Mendip Recreation Field Management Committee, Charity Number 279013 and be excluded from the Parish Council Asset List.

- (b) **Proposal to appoint a Councillors to be a representative for the local Quarries and the Primary School.**

This was deferred until the Parish Council has a full quorum of Councillors, in the meantime Cllr Iain Kirby will cover matters relating to the quarries.

- (c) **Discussion on possible Health and Wellbeing Grants from SALC. Small grants available up to £2500 and larger collaborative grants available up to £35,000.**

This was deferred until the Parish Plan is published, it is currently being produced. Ideas and suggestions will be pulled from comments within the plan.

- (d) **Discussion and possible proposal on applying for the Community Funded 20mph speed limits.**

Evidence is required and with the short time scale, unfortunately there is not enough time and there is no Speedwatch group within the village to support the scheme. The funds are not currently within the budget.

12 Clerk's / Councillors Report

The following two items were swapped around

- (b) **Monthly Highways report from Cllr Martin Carter**

Cllr Martin Carter gave a verbal report mentioning the lack of signage around the village – costs will be obtained and brought back to the next meeting and the Community Speedwatch Group. A request will be published for volunteers for the Speedwatch Group, a minimum of three is required. Speed indicator devices were also mentioned and grants from Avon and Somerset Police.

(a) Monthly update from the Parish Council Tree Officers.

Tom Kemp was in attendance and gave a verbal report. Trees at Park Hayes have been looked at and a plan showing the details of the planting will hopefully be presented at the next council. At the March meeting there was discussion about a tree at Park Hayes that was in poor condition, sadly this has been damaged and will not recover, a discussion followed as to removing it.

Tom Kemp was appointed as the Tree Officer and Noelle Leigh is now the Assistant Tree Advisor.

- (c)** 6th June 2024 is the celebration of 80 years of D-Day. Communities are being encouraged to take part in the commemorations by lighting a beacon at 9.15pm on 6th June 2024.

13 . Finance

Bank Balances as at: 10th July 2023

Current Account £9,769.71

Reserve Account £9,583.86

Quarterly Budget Review

The Council noted the Quarterly Budget Review

Approval and Signature of the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation; this was signed by the Councillor responsible for Finance Cllr Iain Kirby.

Receipts

- (a)** Burial Fees – Memorial Tablet for Wolffe - £84.00

Payments

- (b)** Ionos – Website Hosting - £13.20 – pd by DD
(c) Memorial Hall – Hall Hire - £42.00
(d) ICO Membership - £40.00
(e) Clerks Salary and Expenses - £340.34
(f) Unity Trust Bank – Quarterly Charges - £18.00 – pd by DD 30.06.23
(g) Idverde – Grass Cutting - £113.53

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and receipts

14 Correspondence to be noted

- (a)** Councillor Training Courses – forwarded 27.06.23
(b) Mendip East Police Newsletter – forwarded 10.07.23

15 Matters to report / items for next agenda

- (a)** Cllr Martin Carter will write to the Chief Inspector of Avon and Somerset Police stating how disappointed the Council are in the lack of police response to engage with the village.
(b) The Notice Board on the side of the pub is damaged and only the right-hand side can be opened. This will be investigated and hopefully the problem will be solved.
(c) Community Plan
(d) There were concerns about the entrance to the new houses at Park Hayes, this will be monitored as there could be health and safety issues.
(e) Biodiversity and Biodiversity Net Gain on Certain Housing Applications
(f) Due to the non-attendance of Cllr Neil Crump for six months, he has ceased to remain as a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council will now advertise for a Casual Vacancy.

16 Date and time of next meeting: Monday 18th September 2023 in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed 8.56pm