

**MINUTES OF
LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 2 APRIL 2002
IN THE SCHOOL.**

Councillors present: Chairman J Wright, A Gould, G Jeanes (who arrived late), P Knowles, M Loten and P Moore.

The **MINUTES OF 5 MARCH 2002** were accepted as a true record and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

ROADS & FOOTPATHS – there was a general feeling that road repairs were being done on a token basis without any proper schedule and to appease complainers.

[G Jeanes arrived]

GJ asked if any more had been heard about overgrown hedges – nothing.

PC VACANCY – will be put in the newsletter, now how 35 days to co-opt which takes us to mid May.

All cheques sent.

The **MINUTES OF 25 MARCH 2002** were accepted as a true record and signed.

ADOPTION OF CODE OF PRACTICE & REGISTER OF INTERESTS & HOSPITALITY

JW proposed accepting the Code of Conduct as proposed by Mendip DC from 1 May 2002, PM seconded and all agreed. MDC will be informed that Leigh would like to take part in the joint advertisement they plan to place. **CLERK**

MDC had sent a suggested “Declaration of interests etc” form for the use of Councillors. The Clerk had spoken to a district solicitor who said that if a Councillor was a Council rep on a committee they did not have to declare it. Discussion took place as to how the declaration complied with the Data Protection Act. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would attend an SALC run Code of Conduct Training session on 8/04 in Chilcompton Village Hall and report back.

FINANCE

JW checked and signed Bank Statements nos 16 and 17 on the Cemetery Account and Statement no 76 on the Current Account.

The year end accounts were distributed. JW proposed adoption, PK seconded and all agreed. Thanks were expressed to ML for all her work.

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – STANDING ORDERS

Proposed financial regulations were circulated and agreed on. Risk Management was discussed and it was agreed that it would need to be minuted regularly that a risk assessment had been done.

JW proposed accepting the enclosed document, PK seconded and all agreed.

The **APRIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT** was accepted as a true record and signed.

A £500 transfer from the PC Investment a/c to the Current a/c is due on 8/04 therefore all cheques written were dated 11/04/02 to allow for the transfer to clear.

SALC AFFILIATION FEE - £75.24p. JW proposed payment, ML seconded, all agreed.

Cheque 360 made out and signed.

CLERK



Handwritten signature and date: 11/06/02

RELATE GRANT REQUEST - PM proposed granting £25, GJ seconded, all agreed.
Cheque 361 made out and signed. **CLERK**

SALC meeting at Chilcompton – fee £10 for 2. It was agreed that 2 people would go and the Clerk would pay and claim on expenses.

CLERK'S SALARY & EXPENSES for January to March 2002.

Salary	£310.98	Expenses	£12.90	= Total	<u>£323.88</u>
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ML proposed payment, AG seconded all agreed. Cheque 362 made out and signed.

The question of appointing an internal auditor was discussed. Advice will be sought on remuneration. **CLERK**

CEMETERY

GJ reported that dirt from grave digging was being spread at the base of the hedge, unfortunately this encouraged weed growth. The grave diggers will be asked to remove the dirt or to put it on other graves which have sunk, if they do this they will also be asked to reseed the graves they have 'filled in'. **CEMETERY CLERK**

Also dead flowers and wreaths were being placed on the site of the old spoil heap which the PC had had cleared away. It was agreed a sign was needed asking people to put dead greenery in the rubbish bin.

ROADS & FOOTPATHS

Rights of Way Network Survey information given to GJ.

Hobbs Holdings will be asked to ensure that the footpath that starts opposite Great House Farm be kept clear to allow it to be walked. The fertilizer put on this field was queried as a walker's dog had picked up a pigs trotter. **CLERK**

GJ reported that Tarmac had put in kissing gates at either end of the quarry footpath.

PLANNING – work done at Whitehole Farm was queried. **CLERK**

REC FIELD – Minutes 27 March circulated.

HALL - Minutes of 4 March circulated

MEETINGS ATTENDED – SALC (JW) - disbelief at the Government's latest initiative had been voiced.

PARISH WARDENS (PK) – Councillors agreed that they wanted increased visibility of Parish Wardens to continue to be a priority.

SCHOOL (PM) – New teacher appointed to cover maternity leave. OFSTED inspection in May, it was suggested that greater publicity be given to the results.

CORRESPONDENCE

CIRCULATED: - SLCC AGM notice and yearly accounts; DEFRA illegal poisoning campaign posters; HALL quiz night 6/04/02; From SCC – Agricultural Advisory Service info, Bus Strategy, A to Z Highway Guide; MP surgery dates; Commission for Racial Equality papers.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS – 7 MAY in the Hall for the AGM/APM at 7.30pm.

11 June 2002 in the School at 7.30 pm.

