

**MINUTES OF LEIGH-ON-MENDIP  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
HELD AT 8pm ON TUESDAY 7 MAY 2002  
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

JW proposed adoption of the Minutes of the APM of 8 May 2001 and 28 January 2002, AG seconded and all agreed. The Minutes were signed as a true record.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT given by John Wright, Parish Council Chairman.

JW referred parishioners to the newsletter and expanded on aspects of it.

No one has come forward to fill the PC Vacancy so the PC hopes to co-opt.

Cemetery – discussions are still taking place with Mendip about the future of the responsibility for maintenance of the closed churchyard. The Mendip policy is that in future council tax payers in the individual parishes will be responsible for the cost of maintaining their closed churchyard with money being collected either through the Parish or the District rate.

Planning –It has been suggested that the need for low cost starter homes in the parish be explored, this means a survey being conducted. The Parish must demonstrate that villagers need low cost homes.

Work promised in December on the road at Townsend has still not been done. In general the state of the roads in the Parish is unsatisfactory and the standard of repairs is very low.

Parish Warden Scheme – the PC has not been asked to renew its contribution yet but substantial contributions have been secured from local businesses.

Code of Conduct – has been adopted by Leigh and it is now up to individual councillors to submit their Declaration of Interests. It is interesting to note that MPs have to declare gifts over £550, a Parish Councillor's limit is £25.

RECREATION FIELD REPORT from J Robson, Rec Field Chairman.

Report enclosed.

Annual safety inspection of play equipment due soon.

He was thanked for his report.

HALL REPORT from Sue Vaughan, Hall Chairman.

Last year the Hall Committee were trying to sort out the Post Office, this has now been done and the Charity Commissioners have been satisfied as to the amount of rent charged. A new shed, bought with a grant from the PC, is in use and the floor of the Hall has been repolished probably for the last time. The work on the roof has been completed and a Maintenance Day is planned for 11 May. Fund raising events have been successful although the Saturday night Bingo has been discontinued.

If people can think of any improvement to the service offered by the Hall the Committee would be pleased to know.

The Committee includes – S Vaughan, K Cockroft, R Haywood, R Orpwood, J Baker, R Beauchamp, A Francis, S Cambourne.

She was thanked for her report.

GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE from John Phillips, Committee Chairman.

Report enclosed. The child chosen to plant the tree will be picked by means of drawing a raffle ticket. He was thanked for his report.

TRANSPORT – Leigh now has a Sunday service – timetable to be displayed.  
JW explained that there was a lot of money for Rural Bus Services but navigating thought the options available was very complicated and it was advisable to contact Somerset County Council for advice.

A Parishioner suggested that the PC should be trying to find matching funding for Youth Facilities etc in the village. It was pointed out that the PC could not be responsible for daily running costs of groups but could give one off grants. Discussion then took place on the formation of one money-gathering group for all the committees in the village. The principle was greeted with enthusiasm by members of concerns present and it was agreed that the matter would be explored. Any thoughts on the matter to be submitted to Peter Knowles. **PK**

Their being no further matters raised the Meeting closed.

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## LEIGH ON MENDIP RECREATION FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL 7 May 2002

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**Committee Members:** AGM held 20 February 2002. The elected members are Jan Robson, Chairman, Anne Robson, Secretary, Caroline Peat, Treasurer, Steve Willis Cricket Social Club, David Mears, Vicky Higgins and David Pattison, elected.

Our parish council representative is Tony Gould.

**2.00 Insurances:** The ground is fully paid up for insurance to structure, fittings and third party liability via Avon Insurance. There has been a considerable increase in premiums throughout the insurance world and our portfolio is no exception. We are now paying £750.00 whereas a couple of years ago we were paying £450.00.

**3.00 Finances:** Our present financial status is that we have £982.66 in our current account £1511.99 in our Building Society and £52.88 in cash.

**4.00 Field Maintenance:** The ground is still looking reasonably well turned out overall. Somerset County Council cut the field via a direct agreement with ourselves, the cricket club keep the field in even better trim during their season.

We are always in need of volunteers to help with maintenance. Is there anybody out there! We would really like practical help.

The monthly rota to dig over the bark chippings under the playground equipment has been abandoned, as the majority of the folks who volunteered to dig did not turn up despite reminders. We have therefore employed Dave Jarvis to dig it every 6 weeks.

We need to particularly thank Gerald Jeanes who sponsored the roadside hedge cutting now that Tony Gould no longer has his cutter. Gerald also used his sit on mower to mow the field edge on occasion and to strim the playground interior. On and off throughout the summer last year Gerald was very busy and we very much appreciate this kind of help.

If and when you are on the field it would be very useful if you could pick up any litter you see, the bins are placed strategically about so you will not be carrying it for long.

Dog fouling on the ground is fortunately still low, thank you all dog owners.

We have now taken delivery of a new bench seat for the playground. It is with David Lowe for engraving at the moment but we anticipate it being installed within the playground area in the next couple of weeks. Once this is in place we anticipate providing at least four more around the ground. The playground bench has been purchased from the committee funds. We anticipate the parish council will provide a grant for one, the cricket club will provide funds for one and we have a memorial bench donated.

If anyone is considering a memorial bench please let me know.

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Our major project is to provide a surface to the new car park at the rear of the new houses and we have at last had a commitment from the quarry that they will sponsor the stone. This means we can now proceed. It has been a long time coming and I want to get it sorted before the fair.

The delay in getting the commitment from the quarry was in part due to the provision of the basketball court. The quarry sponsored the tarmac surfacing. We have to thank the village youth for sticking to the task of raising money with a sponsored litter pick up and discos. Particularly we need to thank Frank and Vicky Higgins for providing most of the hard labour in getting the thing installed.

Grateful thanks are also extended to Phil and Sarah Wilson. Phil sponsored his services for laying the tarmac surfacing and Sarah for getting the quarry to sponsor the material.

We had a full season of football with Badgers Hill Sports playing on Sunday mornings and Frome Town Boys playing in the afternoon. Although Frome Town Boys are to return next season I believe Badgers Hill Sports will not. I understand there is to be a merger of teams and our pitch is the casualty. Now we need a football team to play on the ground for the income generated so please put the word out to anyone you may know. We are advertising the availability in the local papers now.

**5.00 Clubhouse:** The maintenance of the clubhouse continues and many thanks to Dave Mears for a number of small but necessary jobs.

**6.00 Security:** The Clubhouse was broken into on the weekend of 22/23<sup>rd</sup> February. The till was forced and the television was pinched and both sets of front doors are a right off. This is the first insurance claim I have made as chairman. There were one or two other clubs in the area broken into on the same night so obviously somebody was doing the rounds. I am convinced however that the alarm did its stuff and got them out pretty quickly as very little was disturbed. They also forgot to take the remote for the TV and its instructions. We are now in the middle of loss adjusting.

**7.00 Fund Raising and Grants:**

We have continued to fund raise. The Bonus Club is still operational. The BBQ and Hog Roast at the Fair was successful as was the Burns Night Supper – a sell out with many thanks again to Frank and Vicky Higgins. We also had a car treasure hunt which was only moderately successful but I have to say that we had a few folks who donated the entry fee even though they could not turn up which was very gratifying.

**8.00 Conclusion:**

In general the recreation ground is looking very good, but we are still finding it very hard to raise funds for projects and we desperately need hands on volunteers to help with ground maintenance etc.

**9.00 Any Questions:** If not, hope to see you next year.

## Leigh upon Mendip - Golden Jubilee Committee

### Report to the Parish on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2002

1. Since the beginning of Feb the Golden Jubilee committee has met 6 times to discuss and develop the ideas put forward by the villagers as to what to do to celebrate the Queen,s golden jubilee this coming June.
2. The celebrations will begin on Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> June with a treasure hunt organised through the fete committee by Maureen Chubb, they were kind enough to re-schedule the event from the original date at the request of the G.J. committee. Details of the hunt have been circulated with the parish magazine but basically the tickets to enter cost £2.50, the hunt will start from the village hall at 2.30pm and a raffle and a general knowledge quiz is to be held in the hall while the T.Hunt sheets are examined. The cost of the ticket includes a cream tea. All proceeds from the hunt will go to the village fete not the G.J. celebrations.
3. On ~~the~~ Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June the main event of the celebrations will be a garden party / picnic on the Recreation ground commencing at noon. The idea is for villagers to bring their own food and drink although beer and soft drinks can be purchased from the cricket pavilion by courtesy of the cricket club. All proceeds from the liquid refreshments will go to the cricket club not to the G.J. celebrations.
4. During the afternoon there will be organised football and rounders and depending on the level of support from the village some fun races like the egg and spoon race and three legged races. We plan to give prizes.
5. At 2 o' clock there will be a tree planting ceremony on the recreation ground to mark the occasion and a presentation cheque given to the chairman of the rec. committee towards the purchase of a seat. The tree is to be planted by a child from the village who will be democratically selected on the day.
6. A marquee is to be erected on the ground which will not only provide shelter, if it should dare to rain, but will also house an exhibition of any village memorabilia hopefully with the accent on coronations and jubilees. Also, perhaps for the first time, the village millennium book will be on display by courtesy of the Millennium committee.
7. Villagers are invited to wear fancy dress and a token prize will be awarded to the best turnout.
8. That is the basic structure for the June celebrations, but later on in the autumn there will be the planting of a tree in the school grounds and subject to funds left in the kitty the planting of more trees on the recreation ground.

9. **Funds** – the committee is pleased to announce that to date a total of £730 has been raised from local businesses, the SCC and parish council. Our budget breakdown is

£

Seat	400
Trees	120
Hire of Marquee	80
Hire of PA system	40
Prizes, hats, bunting etc	90

10. Finally the committee are actively seeking the services of a photographer to record the celebrations.

11. That ladies and gentlemen concludes the committee's report, any questions please?

Chairman

*John Philips*  
*7th May 2002.*