

**MINUTES OF
LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2002
IN THE SCHOOL.**

Councillors present: Chairman J Wright, G Jeanes, P Knowles, M Loten and P Moore.
Apologies were accepted from A Gould.

The **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** were accepted as a true record and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

ROADS & FOOTPATHS – the Clerk provided each Councillor with a map of the Parish showing the footpaths. The stiles that need to be cleared will be marked and then tenders invited. **CLERK**

FINANCE – (ML declared an interest) PM reported that the school needed science related software and were investigating the matter. **PM/CLERK**

Duplicate bill from Somerset Computing received. K Cockroft, who was present, had agreed to be the internal auditor and had all the finance documents. He was thanked by the Chairman for undertaking this task.

RISK ASSESSMENT – the sizes of box needed will be agreed. **ML/CLERK**

HALL – letter from SCC – new contractor being asked to give a price for the tree work.

There being parishioners present they were invited to speak. They had come to the meeting because of their concern over the low cost housing proposed for the village. SCC employees had been in Leigh that morning marking the area the County plan to retain when Grove Shute Farm is auctioned in September. They had told GJ that the County planned to retain the entire road frontage onto Leigh Street.

JW reported that he had attended a meeting with MDC and other interested parties on 2/08. The initial plan had been for 6 houses east of the barn but it had been pointed out that it was more logical to continue the high street from the Moss property west. MDC planned to present a proposal to the parish some time in September. It was agreed to advise MDC that maximum publicity needed to be put in place for this meeting. **CLERK**

PC VACANCY

PM and GJ had talked to a parishioner after the July meeting who had expressed interest in joining the PC and she had been approached by JW and given information about being a councillor. GJ reported that she felt, due to personal reasons, that now was not the time to join the PC but would be interested to do so in the future. ML reported that Michelle Taylor had expressed interest in the vacancy. A vote was taken and it was agreed that she would be approached on the question of being co-opted. **GJ/CLERK**

[Cllr Cawood arrived]


3/9/02

PLANNING

Erection of detached single storey building for use as a studio/sun room, Ebenezer Chapel. Councillors felt that this was a substantial building, more like an annex to the house and that the building materials did not seem appropriate. It was agreed to object to it on its proximity to a listed building; its size and the design. **CLERK**

No objection was made to certificate for lawfulness application for building at 6 Bellfield. **CLERK**

FINANCE

The August financial statement was approved and signed.

ML explained that the reclaimed VAT money was not yet in the current a/c.

Splitting the footpath clearing work into two parts was discussed, with tenders being invited for both parts separately. This may be decided as being the way forward.

TRANSACTION ON THE CURRENT ACCOUNT

HALL RENT for 9 July 2002 of £9. ML proposed payment, PK seconded, all agreed. Cheque 369 made out and signed by 3 Councillors.

CLERK'S SALARY claim for April to June 2002. Salary £310.98

Expenses including printer cartridge £56.71

TOTAL £367.69

ML proposed payment, PM seconded, all agreed. Cheque 370 made out and signed by 3 Councillors.

TRANSACTIONS ON THE CEMETERY ACCOUNT

MOWING BILL - £75 claimed for cuts on 12 and 26 July. ML proposed payment, PM seconded, all agreed. Cheque 30 made out and signed by 3 Councillors.

01/02 ACCOUNTS FOR AUDIT

Keith Cockroft had started the internal audit. ML had completed section 1 using the annual accounts as agreed at the May AGM, she had also prepared a letter explaining how discrepancies had arisen between the 00/01 figures and the 01/02 figures: -


- 1) the amount of precept claimed - due to the Hall roof grant not being claimed;
- 2) the level of staff pay - in line with SALC recommendation;
- 3) the total of other payments - listing grants made;
- 4) the bank reconciliation on both accounts;
- 5) the valuation of the fixed assets - community land value taken from the published accounts.

PK proposed that Section 1 be signed, PM seconded and all agreed. ML and JW signed Section 1 as RFO and Chairman respectively.

Section 2 was then read to all the Councillors present and the questions answered in the affirmative. JW proposed that he and the Clerk sign Section 2 on behalf of the Council, PM seconded, all agreed and the Chairman and Clerk signed the document. The form will be photocopied for the RFO and the IA, if required, and sent for audit. **CLERK**

ROADS & FOOTPATHS

The lack of action at Town's End despite promises on the 8 July that the painting of warning signs would be treated as urgent was raised with Cllr Cawood.


3/9/02

She agreed to organize a meeting with WS Atkins to look at the road repairs needed in the Parish and contact JW and GJ with date and time.

The fact that once again the signpost at the junction of Hollybush Lane and Knap Hill has escaped the paintbrush wielded by Council workers was brought to GC's attention.

GC told Councillors how she had successfully assisted a parishioner seeking reimbursement in a claim against the bus company for a cancelled bus. A number of complaints have been made about the 161 and she asked that anymore be passed on to her.

The state of the road near the junction of Stocks Lane and Pitten Street was causing concern. It was agreed to inform SCC of this and the other matters raised previously.

The Clerk had received a complaint about ragwort on quarry land. It was agreed to write to the local quarries, the County Council and DEFRA. **CLERK**

[Cllr Cawood left]


GJ had surveyed 3 footpaths for MDC. 8/23 passed but 8/30 and 8/9-8/5 failed.

VILLAGE COMMITTEE – PK

Two people had expressed interest in the idea of a main fund raising committee and the PC approved in principle that PK pursue the matter and formulate guidelines for a committee similar to the one in Nunney so that he can discuss it with village organizations. **PK**

QUARRY MATTERS

It was agreed to write to SCC about the surrendered IDO on Barns Close. **CLERK**

HALL REPORT – circulated. ML reported that the Hall was in danger of not being able to form a committee at their next AGM and was desperately in need of a Booking Clerk to take over when the current incumbent gave up later in the year. 

CORRESPONDENCE

CIRCULATED – Hall report; MDC Standing Committee Minutes; Countryside Agency leaflets; letter concerning Hall trees; Clerk magazine; MDC Shepton area board seminar workshop on 28/08 details; Duty to promote racial equality pack.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 3 September in the School.

Thereafter meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month.

Thursday 3 October in the School.

Jal6/08/02

