MINUTES OF LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2002 IN THE SCHOOL.

Councillors present: Chairman J Wright, A Gould, M Loten, P Moore & M Taylor. P Knowles arrived late.

Apologies G Jeannes.

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

[P Knowles arrived]

MATTERS ARISING - Thanks had been received for the grant to the CAB.

ROADS & FOOTPATHS – Cllr Cawood; 25/11 the white lining machine in Mendip.

PLANNING - the garage at Bellfield does not need planning permission.

JUBILEE COMMITTEE – books closing 16/12/02 when tree planted in the School.

There being parishioners present they were allowed to raise their concerns. Steve Anderson had copied an email to the Clerk detailing his concern over the state of the road at Whitehole Hill. He wanted support for a weight restriction to stop HGVs using the route and causing even more damage.

CLERK

Others present wanted to know if there had been any progress on the Housing Needs Survey – Jonathan Lazeby has been invited to the January meeting when the format of the survey will be discussed. The PC were not willing to be party to the suggested format that had been sent and felt that a simpler version was needed.

PLANNING

LONG COTTAGE – The PC objected to the application on the grounds that there was grave concern over the loss of light to the neighbouring property which was lower down the north slope, this could be overcome by moving the extension to the other end of the property. Work had already started on the drive and clarification of the exact amount of land for which change of use is requested will be sought.

CLERK

MANOR FARM – Exercise track. No objections.

CLERK

GROVE SHUTE FARM – No objections.

CLERK

PARISH COUNCIL HALL REP. Michelle Taylor agreed to take on this duty.

FINANCE – ML, RFO.

CEMETERY ACCOUNT STATEMENT sheet 20 signed by JW.

FINANCIAL REPORT – agreed and signed by JW and ML.

Following the decision to buy a printer JW proposed spending £185 on a Hewlett Packard PSC 2110 from Microbitz in Wells. PK seconded, all agreed. Matter to be progressed to see if invoice/payment can be made PC cheque.

RFO/CLERK

CEMETERY ACCOUNT – Final mowing bill for 4/10, 18/10, and 1/11 total £112. JW proposed payment, PM seconded, all agreed. Cheque 33 made out and signed. **RFO**

ML declared an interest and took no part in these items.

CURRENT ACCOUNT - ML had purchased vouchers to a total of £25 as a thankyou to K Cockroft for auditing the books. JW proposed repaying her the £25, PK seconded, all agreed. Cheque 375 made out and signed.

RFO

In line with a decision made on 9/07/02 to acknowledge the excellent OFSTED report for Leigh School PM proposed making them a grant of £50, JW seconded and all agreed. Cheque 376 made out to L O M First School.

RFO

ML returned to the meeting.

CHANGE OF SIGNATORIES for Nat West Current Account number 52068838 Parish Council of Leigh on Mendip, and Nat West Account 25136127 Parish Council of Leigh on Mendip Cemetery Account and PO Investment Account number 138405806. ML proposed that any 3 councillors, for audit purposes one of whom is the meeting chairman, be authorized to sign cheques, counterfoils and any financial documents. JW seconded, all agreed. Those authorized to sign are Anthony Gould, Gerald Jeanes, Peter Knowles, Margaret Loten, Paul Moore, Michelle Taylor and John Wright.

PRECEPT FOR 2003/04 – next meeting.

J Phillips brought in the Jubilee Accounts – given to JW.

JW

RISK ASSESSMENT – deferred to next meeting. CLERK

ROADS & FOOTPATHS

It had been suggested to the Clerk that residents on the Townsend road write to SCC about the parlous state of the road. Residents will be invited to do so.

MT

ML reported that SCC started work on the pavement on the same day that building work began at the School and access to the site was made very difficult. It was suggested that it would be courtesy to inform residents when major work is to be done.

CLERK

FOOTPATHS – one tender for stile clearing, for next agenda.

CLERK

It was suggested if the ash tree at the Rec was cut down the chippings could be used around stiles to make them less muddy.

REC FIELD REPORT – Minutes of 20/11/02 to be circulated, copy of annual accounts to be requested.

CLERK

QUARRY MATTERS – JW, PM. Halecombe Liaison Meeting.

Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund discussed and ways to access money. Leaflet in circulation pack. Volunteer needed on steering group.

MEETINGS ATTENDED – JW – SALC on 2/12.

Subs being raised to 21p per elector. Smaller parishes cannot become Quality PCs. Date of approval of accounts to be brought forward. APM to be in November. Election nominations to be in by March for May election.

CORRESPONDENCE – CIRCULATED: Sustainability Fund Leaflet; RFMC Minutes; Countryside & Rights of Way Act request for Access committee volunteer; MDC Standards Committee papers; Security products leaflet; SALC meeting of 2/12 notes; Youth on the Mendips Minutes; The Clerk.

NEXT AGENDA – Freedom of Info Act; Precept; Housing Needs Survey; Jubilee Accounts; Risk Assessment.

NEXT MEETINGS – 9 JANUARY 2003 6 FEBRUARY 2003.