

**MINUTES OF
LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2003
IN THE SCHOOL.**

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

The **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** were accepted as a true record and signed.
District Cllr Cawood arrived during the next item.

Jonathan Layzell, Rural Housing Enabler, explained that there were plans to survey Leigh and adjacent parishes to ascertain housing needs. It was pointed out to him that Leigh were concerned with their needs and if houses were built wanted them to be available for people with a strong village connection. The survey would be used to decide the mix of houses needed in the village and was not necessarily only aimed at social/shared ownership housing, it would be a guide for planners dealing with future development. After answering questions from the floor JL gave the PC a copy of the proposed survey explaining that the aim was to get as much information as possible in one survey rather than having to repeat the exercise. The survey will be circulated to Councillors for discussion.

JW thanked JL for attending the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

PLANNING – GC reported that Long Cottage had been passed with two changes.

FINANCE – the Printer/scanner/copier had been purchased with cheque 377 on the Current a/c for £185 and was proving a great success.

CHANGE OF SIGNATORIES – the forms provided by Nat West were incorrect and new mandates had to be signed. Those Councillors present signed, the absentees will be contacted as soon as possible. **RFO**

ROADS & FOOTPATHS – GC reported that she was still trying to get the promised work done at Townsend. JW had written to the Chairman of SCC about this matter. The Clerk had complained to Phil Harris our local SCC/WS Atkins contact about the state of roads especially at Tadhil and Whitehole.

A thank you letter had been received from Gill Harry, Head of Leigh School, for the money to buy computer soft ware.

PLANNING

Demolition of single storey side extension and erection of replacement two storey side extension at Townsend Cottage.

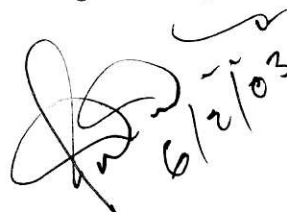
[MT declared an interest as a neighbour and took no part in the discussion.]

No objection.

[MT returned to the meeting.]

CLERK

Cllr Cawood reported that the Somerset Aggregate Sustainability Fund had granted £39,933 to Leigh School to convert the disused building in the playground into a



permanent home for the Under 5s Group. Last year JW had written to Ken Hobden (SCC) asking if money from the fund could be used to buy land for a village green but had received no reply. GC explained that money from the fund can be used to improve playground facilities, refurbish village halls etc. this information will be passed on. Discussion took place on the state of the second classroom at the school; the Governors had completed a Risk Assessment on it which they had sent to SCC. The provision of a Bus Stop near the reservoir was discussed with GC. GC left.

FINANCE - RFO

The Financial Statement was circulated, agreed and signed.

JW checked Nat West Current a/c statement, sheet 80; and Cemetery a/c sheet 21. He and the RFO signed them.

SLCC SUB - £43 was proposed by ML, seconded by MT and all agreed. Cheque 378 made out and signed.

CLERK'S SALARY for period up to 31 December 2002. Expenses - £37.11

+ Arrears £18.57

+ Salary £323.43

TOTAL £379.11

ML propose payment, PM seconded, all agreed. Payment from the Inv. A/c was arranged.

The RFO reported that the figures given for the Cemetery Clerk's salary increase from 1 April to 30 Sept 2002 had been corrected by NALC. On 31/09/02 the PC had agreed a salary increase to £7.372 per hour, the corrected figure was £7.369. ML proposed keeping to the original figure, JW seconded and all agreed.

PRECEPT – The Clerk had asked local concerns to inform the PC if they would be applying for any large grants in the next financial year, the RFMC had asked for £520 to fell the ash tree but said that the work really ought to be done before the spring. They had provided the PC with details of allocation of their existing funds of approx £3200 - £1050 for benches: £360 for insurance for social club cash till: £200 for Bonus Club Prizes: £1600 for Insurance Premium. After discussion it was proposed by PM to grant them £400 from the current years funds with the proviso that no grant will be made from the 03/04 financial year. JW seconded this proposal and all agreed. **CLERK**

ML proposed a Precept of £3000, PM seconded and all agreed.

The JUBILEE ACCOUNTS had been looked at and agreed by the RFO and consequently endorsed by the Chairman.

ML proposed a transfer of £800 from the Investment Account, JW seconded, all agreed.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT – PUBLICATION SCHEME

PM proposed adopting the PC Model Scheme 'Core Classes', JW seconded and all agreed. It was pointed out that the information contained in the 'Core Classes' had always been made available to Parishioners. **CLERK**



The resolution that – “The Council acknowledges its continuing duty under Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and resolves that in the provision of its services due regard must be given to (i) the elimination of unlawful discrimination;(ii) the promotion of opportunity; and (iii) the promotion of good race relations between people of different racial groups.” Adoption was proposed by JW, seconded by ML, all agreed. **CLERK**

JW proposed that Summons to Meetings include a general statement as suggested by SALC’s County Secretary P Lacey in ‘Recommendations for Action’ document dated December 2002, to the effect that – “Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.” ML seconded and all agreed. **CLERK**

HALL REPORT – Minutes circulated.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following were circulated – Minutes of Parish Wardens Steering Group 18/12/02;
Community Update: MDC – Notice of intention to adopt Mendip District Local Plan:
SCC – Bristol Bath to South Coast Study Newsletter & Winter Services in Somerset
2002/2003: Somerset Rural Youth Newsletter: Thatch: Clerks and Councils Direct:
Countryside Agency Publications - Vital Villages Update 2, Get your community
moving and Local Heritage initiative.

**DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS – 6 FEBRUARY 2003
6 MARCH 2003**

jal10/01/03



Handwritten signature and date 6/2/03