

**MINUTES OF LEIGH-ON-MENDIP
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT 8pm ON TUESDAY 6 MAY 2003
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

NP proposed adoption of the Minutes of the APM of 7 May 2002, PM seconded and all agreed. The Minutes were signed as a true record.

POLICE REPORT given by PC Martin Smith

In the year April '02 to 31 March '03 there had been 18 reported crimes in the Parish, an increase of 2. Parishioners were asked to report crimes to the Police. The 6 month Beat Surgery Trial was over and had not led to it being adopted as a regular occurrence. A Community Contact Vehicle now goes round the villages – due in Leigh on 13 May.

PC Smith can be reached on his voice mail at 01275 816868 Ext 71081 or through the local police web site.

QUESTIONS – what was the detection rate – 16%

Where the Parish Wardens a help? By dealing with things like abandoned vehicles they free up a lot of police time and PC Smith felt eased people's fear of crime.

What input did he have into the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? He did not see what went out in the name of the Neighbourhood Watch but could ask for things to be included in the information they published.

PC Smith was questioned about speed checks on the Old Wells Road. He explained that as there was not a proven problem with accidents the area was not targeted for speed checks. Parish Wardens had equipment and as part of their duties would execute speed checks.

NP thanked PC Smith for attending. PC Smith said he hoped the Parish Warden who was at Mells AGM would join the meeting later and answer any questions.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT given by John Wright, retiring PC Chairman.

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

Cemetery – discussions are still taking place with Mendip about the future of the responsibility for maintenance of the closed churchyard. Following a letter dated 16/12/02 saying that a formal maintenance agreement will be made with the PC nothing has been heard so the PC have arranged a mowing contract for both the closed churchyard and the civil cemetery.

The Housing Needs Survey conducted in the parish had had a 39% response which was being analysed.

In general the state of the roads in the Parish is unsatisfactory and the standard of repairs is very low. JW had written to the leader of SCC and was told, on 10/01/03, that the matter would be discussed with the portfolio holder, nothing has been heard since. The PC had had the area around the stiles cleared and had set aside money to install kissing gates

Parish Warden Scheme – the PC would like parishioner's opinions on the scheme.

Code of Conduct – following the government initiative to set up a Register of Interests, in the last year one parish councillor out of about 80,000 has been barred from office.

Web Site – currently being updated, but it is only as good as the information put on it.



Aggregate Levy - £280k available to SCC for local projects. The PC had been advised that a request for help to purchase Sparks Farm Field might be successful but anything to do with Barns Close would be too expensive.

QUESTIONS – Had the PC any knowledge of improvements to Rights of Way? G Jeanes was looking into this matter.

A parishioner asked if more information could be put in the PC report in the magazines. The Clerk explained that she tried to keep the reports short but Minutes were available on the noticeboards for all to read.

Could the Aggregate Levy be used for insurance payment at the Rec Field? No one knew, so the questioner was advised to approach the SCC.

RECREATION FIELD REPORT from D Pattison, Rec Field Committee Member.

Report enclosed.

Cricket Club pays an element of the insurance. Somerset Football Association have been told the pitch is available for hire.

He was thanked for his report.

HALL REPORT from Sue Vaughan, Hall Chairman.

The work on the roof has been completed and the outside painted. A new cooker and some chairs with arms have been purchased and the stage lighting extended. The water tank above the stage has been removed and the floor is being inspected to see if work needs to be done on it.

Bookings included yoga, computer and art classes, tai quando, the toddler group and the play group.

Caroline Peat had become booking clerk and June Brewster had a key. A Maintenance Day was planned. Fund raising events in the past had been very successful and more are planned. Volunteers were needed to join the committee.

She was thanked for her report.

NP re-iterated that the PC also needed 2 more members and invited volunteers to come forward.

Their being no further matters raised the Meeting closed.



Jal6/05/03

LEIGH ON MENDIP RECREATION FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL 6 May 2003

Committee Members: AGM held 19 February 2003. The elected members are Jan Robson, Chairman, Anne Robson, Secretary, Caroline Peat, Treasurer, Steve Willis Cricket Social Club, Vicky Higgins, David Mears, and David Pattison, elected.

Our parish council representative ^{is} Tony Gould.

2.00 Insurances: The ground is fully paid up for insurance for 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 £983.00 whereas three years or so ago we were paying £450.00.

3.00 Finances: Our financial status at 31/12/02 is that we have £1630.92 in our current account £1732.87 in our Building Society and £12.41 in cash. We have since then paid our insurance premium mentioned above and purchased two benches for the field.

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.

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 have been fortunate and are extremely grateful to have recently obtained sponsorship for this work from Kevin McCloud for the coming year.

We need to particularly thank Gerald Jeanes who sponsored the roadside hedge cutting. Gerald also used his sit on mower to mow the field edge on occasion and to strim the playground interior.

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 continue to provide new bench seats for the field. At present we have one in the playground itself sponsored by the committee, the Jubilee Committee has one in place next to the Jubilee tree, and there is a private memorial bench near the roadside car park. We have two more in the village, one is sponsored by the Cricket Club and is being engraved by David Lowe, the other is in storage and has been sponsored by the Griffin – Moore family. Two more benches are to be ordered sponsored by the Parish Council and from the Evergreens.

Our major project last year has been the surfacing of the new car park. The material being sponsored by the Quarry and the workforce being provided by the Community Service. We thank Frank Higgins for his co-ordination of the workforce being from his offices of the Probation Service.

We had a partial season of football with the Griffin Inn providing a series of friendly matches on Sunday mornings and Frome Town Youth playing in the afternoon.

We are still on the look out for a regular adult league team but will allow the Griffin to continue in the present arrangements.

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

6.00 Security: The Clubhouse was broken into on the weekend of 22/23rd February 2002 as reported last year. Since then we have been required by the insurers to carry out a number of additional security works. We have been saved a tremendous amount of grief in this by the services of Derek Robinson and Steve Anderson under the self styled guise of 'Village Task Force'. They have been brilliant in providing a tremendous amount of effort to accomplish the requirements. We extend our very grateful thanks to these intrepid heroes. Thanks are also due to Paul Burlison for his specialist help in altering some of electrics so that they can be said to be to modern standards.

As a result of all their efforts we could report back to the insurers and have satisfied them on all counts. They are still our insurers as they were the cheapest around at renewal time.

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.

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.