

**MINUTES OF
LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 21 JULY 2003 IN THE HALL**

Councillors present: P Moore, J Wright and Chairman N Park.

Apologies were accepted from G Jeanes and M Taylor.

HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Jonathan Layzell, Rural Housing Officer, presented the results of the survey carried out in Leigh. He thanked those who had returned the survey form. Approximately 215 questionnaires were circulated and there were 97 replies. All completed page 1, 12% of respondents were in rented accommodation – this is below the Mendip and national average. 24 reported that a member of their household had left the village either due to employment, higher education or lack of affordable housing. 12% completed section 2 of these it was felt that 25% could afford to purchase on the open market and that the rest, might be able to afford shared ownership.

The conclusion drawn from the survey was that Leigh would benefit from 4-6 units predominately for rent but a few subject to shared ownership.

The results have been sent to Mendip who will invite their preferred development partners to look at potential sites and work up a bid for funding. The fastest time scale would be to apply for money in November 2003 and then perhaps building could start in 2004. Mendip work with six Housing Associations – Mendip Housing, Knighstone, Somer, Raglan, Signpost and Hastoe – and if the PC had a particular preference then they should inform the DC.

JL was thanked for attending the meeting, a copy of the survey will be sent to the PC.

Geoffrey Casey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed as a Councillor.

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

MATTERS ARISING – It was agreed to try and negotiate block booking rates if the PC was to continue meeting in the Hall. **CLERK**

AUDIT – completed and notices will be displayed. Fee – next Agenda. **CLERK**

PLANNING – Manor Farm refused, 2 Westleigh agreed, conditions for approval of land adjoining Remrosa received.

PARISH WARDENS – meeting info circulated grant request– next agenda. **CLERK**

PLANNING - SHEEPSHED at Tadhill. No objections, in keeping with agricultural area.

TADHILL FARM – second dwelling for agricultural worker. Strongly support as this is the last dairy farm in the village and its loss would alter the character of the village. It might also bring a new family into the village. Would like it to be in keeping with the VDS. Support its position as the speed of traffic along the Old Wells Road make the building of a property with access on to it dangerous. **CLERK**

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE draft – reply delegated. **JW/CLERK**

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N. Park
.....Page 1 of 2
.....Chairman

18/8/03
.....Date

FINANCE

FINANCIAL STATEMENT prepared by ML. Acceptance proposed by NP, seconded by PM, all agreed.

CEMETERY a/c, sheet 23 seen and signed by Chairman.

PC a/c, sheet 82 seen and signed by Chairman.

MOWING BILL for cuts on 30/05, 13/06 and 27/06 @ £40.62 per cut total £121.86.

PM proposed payment, JW seconded, all agreed. Cheque 37 on Cemetery a/c signed by PM & JW, GJ or MT will also be asked to sign. **CLERK**

G Casey signed the bank account forms for the current and investment accounts. These will be sent off when the new clerk is appointed so address details can be altered.

CLERK'S JOB has been advertised, a job description has been written by the current clerk. NP, GC and PM will conduct interviews.

ROADS & FOOTPATHS

The Clerk had been told that Leigh would have to apply for a 30mph limit extension. She is researching when this was first done and will contact SCC. **CLERK**

J Davis still has the broken milestone – SCC have ignored all requests to have it replaced. He suggested that there might be more response from the Milestone Association. The Clerk will research. **CLERK**

REC FIELD

PM reported that he had been told there had been an attempt to break into the Cricket Club shed and rumours were afoot that the Cricket Club wanted to limit access to the field. This will be monitored.

QUARRY

HALECOMBE LIAISON MEETING Minutes will be circulated. **CLERK**

Concern was expressed over accidents reported in Cooks Wood Quarry – it was suggested that it would be more cost effective to employ a lifeguard rather than security guards.

Closure of the footpath entrance at Park Corner will be drawn to the attention of Mells PC. **CLERK**

CORRESPONDENCE

Circulated

CEMETERY – subcommittee of JW, GJ and ML if she agrees to be co-pted. **CLERK**

Info about Broadband will be put in the parish magazine.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE agenda for 23 July: Copy of Local Plan adopted 19/12/02:

SOMERSET PLAYING FIELDS ASSOC - Summer News Letter: AVON & SOMERSET

POLICE Strategy plan 2003/04-04/05: OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER - The

Quality Parish & Town Council Scheme - explained with SALC Frequently asked questions

and info about the training scheme to get the AQA Certificate: STANDARDS BOARD FOR

ENGLAND - booklet entitled "How do I register & declare interests, & register gifts &

hospitality?" - copy for each Councillor: RURAL YOUTH newsletter 2003:

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL - changes to school governors: MINUTES OF

HALECOMBE QUARRY LIAISON MEETING:

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 18 AUGUST AT 1930 IN THE HALL.

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Noted. Page 2 of 2
.....Chairman

18/8/03
.....Date