

MINUTES

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 20th December 2010 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Councillors Present

Chris Cudmore – Chairman (CC), Rose Martin (RM), Matthew Odolphie (MO) and Brenda Wigmore (BW).

Clerk – Sandrine Vaillant (SV).

The meeting was also attended by three parishioners.

Action

1.0 Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Marsha Read (MR).
Yvonne Mears also advised that she would not be able to attend the meeting.
- 1.2 Chair introduced the meeting and advised that items would be dealt with in a slightly different order than that on the agenda for the convenience of visitors in attendance.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 No interest was declared.

3.0 Agreement to minutes of meeting held on 15/11/10 and Matters Arising

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2010 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.
- 3.2 (3.2) Churchyard – Clerk has contacted Cheryl Norton regarding the cutting back of the Yew trees so that a meeting can be organised with MDC's tree surgeons.
Clerk to chase. **SV**
- 3.3 (3.3) Risk Audit Report – Copy of certificate of insurance for R. Cambourne has been issued to the Clerk. Action complete.
- 3.4 (3.4) New Village Sign; Moving of stones – BW to enquire with VT if the grant application has been sent. BW and RM to follow up on the application. **BW**
- 3.5 (3.9) Parish Council Vacancies – Notices have been displayed on the notice boards, in the pub and in the parish magazine. Action complete.
Clerk spoke to the Officer at MDC who confirmed that the parish could carry on as normal with regards to co-opting new councillors before the election.
- 3.6 (4.1.1) Proposed closure of Coleford Waste Recycling Centre - Letter was drafted and issued to K. Maddock and petitions forms were circulated. Action complete.
- 3.7 (4.1.3) County Ticket – RM to draft letter of objection. **RM**
- 3.8 (4.1.4) Cuts in Adult Social Care – RM to draft letter of objection. **RM**
- 3.9 (5.2) Clerk to organise for update of signatures on Nat West Bank account. **SV**
- 3.10 (5.3) Signatures for NS&I savings account have been updated. Action complete.

- 3.11 (5.7.1) Clerk contacted MDC to find out price of holding the elections and this has been included in the budget discussed under item 5.2. Action complete.
- 3.12 (5.7.1) The school have sent a letter detailing projects they would appreciate a grant for. This has been taken into consideration when drawing the budget. Action complete.
- 3.13 (10.3.2) Flashing lights – The school have been informed that this was now not available due to cuts in funding. Action complete.
- 3.14 Grit bags – Mo collected the bags in Frome, which were left at strategic places for use by parishioners when needed.
Clerk to ask SCC Highways for to refill all grit bins.

SV

4.0 Reports from members of the public

- 4.1 F. & V. Higgins, present at the meeting, reported displeasure from residents about the recent road closure for the following reasons:-
 - There was no public transport through the village, and no notices were erected to advise the public of alternatives.
 - The necessity for the entire road closure was queried. Could the works have been undertaken on one side of the road, with temporary traffic lights allowing traffic on the other side.
 - Reason why the road was closed. Was it necessary or just for the benefit of the contractors?

CC agreed to:-

- Contact First Bus to query why notices were not displayed about the change of bus route.
- Write to SCC to query the necessity to close the road for 3 days.

**CC
CC**

- 4.1.1 In future, the Parish Council agreed to look into plans for road closures in more detail and for them to be challenged to minimise inconvenience to the public, if necessary.

5.0 Finance

- 5.1 Financial Statement – Financial statement to 19th December 2010 was agreed and signed.
- 5.2 Budgeting and Precept 2011/12 – The Chair and Clerk presented and explained the proposed budget. CC proposed to request a precept of £6,100, which is an increase of 1.5% from last year (£6,010). RM seconded, all agreed.

6.0 Cemetery

- 6.1 Hedge Cutting invoice – R. Cambourne invoice No 66 dated November 2010 was agreed. Cheque #106 was signed.
- 6.2 Update from Cemetery Sub-Committee – David Pattison, John Davis, SV and CC met to discuss the purchase of extra land for a new cemetery on 22 Nov. It was agreed at the meeting to identify all adjoining properties/land to explore all options; letters were then sent to the owners to evaluate interest in selling land. RM suggested we contact SCC regarding the land around the new-build affordable houses. Clerk to send letter to SCC to express interest in buying land.

SV

7.0 Planning

- 7.1 Latest status of existing planning applications –

Planning Application 2010/2204; 15 Park Hayes – It was informed that following refusal of permission, applicant is intending to register an appeal.

- 7.2 Application 2010/2844; 1 Church Walk; Two storey rear extension – The applicant, present at the meeting, gave background information to the application and reasons for the extension proposed. MO proposed to support the application as the changes fit in with neighbouring properties and with the Village Design Statement, as long as finishes are in keeping. Planners to also ensure that east facing windows are wooden (not PVC). RM seconded. All agreed.

8.0 Response to proposed cuts to Services -

- 8.1 Closure of Coleford Recycling Centre – CC and BW attended a meeting in Coleford with representatives from SCC and Somerset Waste Partnership on 7th Dec. Various options to the closure were tabled and their cost savings are to be quantified by the contractor (Viridor). We are expected to be informed of the outcomes in January prior to the final decision by SCC in February.

9.0 Libraries Consultation

- 9.1 It is proposed that only 2 mobile libraries (out of 6) will remain, to cover the areas all 6 were covering. MO/BW to stop by the mobile library next time it is in the village to speak to driver to query number of users in the village. Chair to write letter to SCC to oppose cuts. A further open presentation has been organised for 7th January in Glastonbury Town Hall, 9am-12pm. BW will try to attend.

MO/BW
CC
BW

10.0 Somerset Future Transport Plan 2011/2026

- 10.1 No comment on the consultation.

11.0 Councillors' Reports

- 11.1 **PCSO** – RM attended Police Liaison Meeting held on Thursday 25th November. There were reports of shed thefts and residents are asked to be vigilant.

- 11.1.1 Speed Watch – A training day will take place on 24th February. Volunteers to contact the Parish Clerk or Rose Martin. All to ask for volunteers.

ALL

- 11.1.2 (3.6) Following MO's query a couple of months ago with regards to outcome results, RM advised that this is not a requirement, and that information was available on the Avon & Somerset Police website, under the Coleford beat.

- 11.2 **Footpaths** – MO advised that a couple of sign posts have been repaired. Footpath from Great House around the quarry towards the Mells Road should be reopened by the end of the year.

- 11.3 **Highways** – Parking outside Park Hayes Bungalows; BW advised that extra parking spaces were needed (or a widening of the road). Clerk to email Jeff Bunting to query how to go about requesting additional parking spaces in the area.

SV

- 11.4 **Rec Field** – Christmas Bingo on Saturday 11th December was very successful. Nothing further to report.

- 11.5 **Memorial Hall** – Nothing further to report.

- 11.6 **School** – Nothing to report. Letter regarding future projects to be circulated in correspondence file.

11.7 **SALC** – Meeting attended on 6th December 2010 in Glastonbury. Localism bill; workshops to be held soon. CC advised that the S37 allowance was now £6.44 per resident.

11.8 **Quarry** – Nothing further to report. Next meetings on 17th March and 13th October 2011.

12.0 **Meetings attended (including training courses)/to be attended**

12.1 Meetings attended:

- Clerk's training; Budgeting Update – 18th November.
- New Cemetery sub-committee – 22nd November.
- Police Liaison Meeting; 25th November.
- SALC Area Meeting; 6th December.
- Coleford HWRC meeting; 7th December.

Meetings to be attended:

- East Mendip Community Partnership; 18th January. Agenda: housing in parishes. RM unable to attend. Volunteer required to attend.
- Parish Forum; 31st January

ALL

13.0 **Correspondence**

13.1 The following correspondence was circulated by email before the meeting:-

- Weekly Rural News Digest
- Rural Services Network
- Letter to Parish Councils from Sheila Wheeler
- Journal of Local Planning
- Update and meeting re. Coleford Recycling Centre
- Libraries Consultation
- Winter updates from SCC
- Somerset Future Transport Plan
- G. Cawood monthly report
- PCSO monthly report

13.2 No correspondence was circulated after the meeting due to lack of correspondence leading to the Christmas and New Year season.

14.0 **Date & time of next meeting**

14.1 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 17th January 2011, at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall, Committee Room.