

# MINUTES

## LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Committee Room

### Councillors Present

Chris Cudmore – Chairman (CC), Frank Higgins (FH), Rose Martin (RM), Marsha Read (MR), Alf Smith (AS).  
Clerk – Sandrine Vaillant (SV).

The meeting was attended by Claire Fleming (CF) and Philip Ham (PH), District Councillors, Gloria Cawood (GC), County Councillor, and Yvonne Mears (YM), PCSO.

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	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.0 Apologies</b>	
1.1 Apologies were received from Vicki Taylor and Ty Schlechter.	
1.2 Yvonne Mears was introduced to the council as the new Police Community Support Officer for the village and was briefed on ongoing issues.	
<i>It was agreed to move Councillors reports to the beginning of the meeting, although they have been reported at their usual place in the minutes.</i>	
<b>2.0 Declaration of Interest</b>	
2.1 No interest declared.	
<b>3.0 Minutes of the last meeting &amp; matters arising</b>	
3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2009 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.	
3.2 (3.6) Welcome Pack – RM tabled draft welcome pack for review by the council. To be agreed at next meeting.	<b>ALL</b>
3.3 (5.3) Invoice for May 2007 elections – Letter and cheque issued to MDC. Awaiting response. Action complete.	
3.4 (6.1) Quotations for mowing contract in cemetery – See item .... below. Action complete.	
3.5 (12.2) Bulbs distribution event – RM reported on the success of the event. Action complete.	
3.6 (12.3) Advertisement for Parish Councillor – Posters displayed on notice boards and article will appear in the village magazine. Action complete.	
<b>4.0 District/County Councillors' Reports</b>	
4.1 GC reported in detail on her February report and on the following issues:	
4.1.1 White Lining at Townsend – GC expressed her disbelief with this ongoing issue and is pursuing the matter.	
4.1.2 Somerset CC trial of reduced street lighting – GC confirmed trials would be ongoing for a	

- year at Westbury sub Mendip and would be followed by public consultations in the areas being trialled. GC suggested that the Council formally express their interest in reduced lighting with SCC. SV
- 4.1.3 New SALSF position was discussed, which will result in fewer monies being available to villages affected by quarrying activities. The Parish Council recorded their strong dissatisfaction with this Somerset County Council decision.
- 4.2 Philip Ham and Claire Fleming reported on district issues.
- 5.0 Finance**
- 5.1 Financial statements – Statement to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009 was agreed and signed.
- 5.2 East Mendip Community Grant – It was confirmed that MR and VT had £22 left of their £200 budget for bulbs and it was agreed to purchase further bulbs with this surplus. MR
- 5.2.1 MR briefly highlighted printing options/costs for the village welcome pack once it has been agreed.
- 6.0 Cemetery**
- 6.1 Hedge cutting contract – Quotation from Rod Cambourne was agreed as follows: £50/year for the next 3 years to cut the hedge twice/year. Clerk to issue contract letters. SV
- 6.2 Mowing contract – Quotation from Dave Jarvis was agreed as follows for 16 cuts, fortnightly, from late March until early November each year: £1,000 in 2009, £1,050 in 2010 and £1,100 in 2011. Clerk to issue contract letters. SV
- 7.0 Planning Applications / Updates**
- 7.1 The Chair updated the council on the positions of previous planning applications. Whitehole applications regarding the storage building and conversion to holiday lets had been withdrawn.
- 7.2 Application 120712/000 Herbett Dunn House; insertion of replacement windows – it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application. SV
- 7.3 Application 105715/004 Stanley Williams House; insertion of replacement windows – it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application. SV
- 8.0 Driver awareness course – Planning**
- 8.1 It was agreed to display posters and publish the event on the village website. SV/CC
- 8.2 The possibility of future communications with parishioners through emails was discussed. Clerk to publish article inviting parishioner to express their interest in receiving information from the parish via emails. SV
- 9.0 Development of Mental Health Services in Mendip & Bridgewater**
- 9.1 Mendip proposals discussed. No comments were submitted.
- 10.0 Councillors Reports**
- 10.1 PCSO – TS not present. However, ongoing issues were highlighted to YM, together with forthcoming events in the village.
- 10.2 **Footpaths** – TS not present. Report at next meeting.

SV

- 10.3 **Highways** – FH confirmed that Connaught would be undertaking manual sweep of the pavements from the Village towards Soho on a regular basis.
- 10.4 **Recreation Field** – RM reported that the hedge had been cut in the Rec. Field.
- 10.4.1 RM asked for the Council’s assistance in recovering VAT on behalf of the Rec Field Committee who are in the lengthy process of VAT registration. Clerk to check legal stance on this.
- 10.4.2 Forthcoming events – Barn Dance on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at the Memorial Hall.
- 10.5 **Memorial Hall** – MR reported on recent activities at the memorial Hall.
- 10.5.1 Forthcoming events – Quiz on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March.
- 10.6 **School** – SV confirmed that there was nothing particular to report.
- 10.7 **SALC** – No meeting held. March meeting was cancelled.
- 10.8 **Quarry** – GC and AS reported on the Halecombe Quarry Local Liaison Group meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. A draft terms of reference was tabled. AS had contacted SALC to ascertain if they required minutes. Minutes are being produced by Tarmac. Further clarification of the Restoration Fund is being sought as formal agreement is an ongoing action between SCC and Tarmac.

**11.0 Meetings Attended / To be attended**

- 11.1 Meetings attended:-  
East Mendip Community Partnership meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February was cancelled.
- 11.2 Meetings to be attended:-  
SALC Power of Well Being; 27<sup>th</sup> February 2009 – AS to attend.

**12.0 Correspondence**

- 12.1
- Contact details for Yvonne Mears
  - Leaflets for Parish Councillor vacancy
  - Response from MDC re. Election May 2007
  - Stiles report from Brian Loten
  - Quarry liaison Group Draft Terms of Reference
  - Team Somerset – Aim for Success
  - Updated schedule of speed indicator devices
  - Parishes information bulletin, February 2009
  - Somerset Rural Youth Project, Spring 2009
  - SALC Minutes of meeting held on 1/12/08

**13.0 Date & time of next meeting**

- 13.1 The next meeting will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall (Committee Room).