

MINUTES

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 16th March 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), Ty Schlechter (TS), Alf Smith (AS).
Clerk – Sandrine Vaillant (SV).

The meeting was attended in part by Gloria Cawood (GC), County Councillor.

		Action
1.0	Apologies	
1.1	Apologies were received from Vicki Taylor and Yvonne Mears, PCSO. Late apologies were received from Ty Schlechter.	
2.0	Declaration of Interest	
2.1	No interest was declared.	
3.0	Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising	
3.1	The minutes of the meeting held on 16 th February 2009 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held with corrections of items 5.2 and 5.2.1 to read 'RM' not 'MR' to carry out actions.	
3.2	(3.2) Welcome Pack – First draft was reviewed. RM advised that a 2 nd draft was being worked on. To be reviewed at April meeting.	
3.3	(4.1.2) SV to contact SCC to express PC's interest in joining trials on reduced street lighting.	SV
3.4	(5.2) East Mendip Community Grant – RM confirmed that VT was in the process of purchasing bulbs with the remaining £22 available.	RM/VT
3.5	(6.1 & 6.2) Contracts for mowing and hedge cutting have been issued and countersigned letters from contractors received for filing. Action complete.	
3.6	(8.1) Posters to advertise Driving Awareness Course were displayed and email sent. Action complete.	
3.7	(8.2) Communication with Villagers – SV issued the first email newsletter in March, which was well received. Clerk to issue monthly e-newsletter.	SV
3.8	(10.4.1) Recovery of VAT from Rec Field – RM advised that assistance was no longer necessary.	
	<i>GC & TY joins meeting.</i>	
4.0	District/County Councillors' Reports	
4.1	GC March report was tabled and discussed.	

- 5.0 Finance**
- 5.1 Financial statements – Statement to 15th March 2009 was agreed and signed.
- 5.2 Risk & Financial Review – TS agreed to carry out review before the end of his term as Parish Councillor. **TS/SV**
- 5.3 Assets & Risks Audit - TS agreed to carry out review before the end of his term as Parish Councillor. **TS/SV**
- 5.4 Clerk Salary & Expenses – Clerk expenses were agreed and cheques #90 (Cemetery) and #559 (Parish) were signed.
- 5.5 SALC Affiliation Renewal – It was agreed to renew the affiliation to SALC for 2009/10. Cheque #560 signed.
- 5.6 B. Loten invoice for Stiles Report and clearance – Invoice dated March 2009 was agreed and cheque #561 signed.
- 5.7 Payment of Election Costs – Following discussion, a motion was passed against further payment of the invoice (5 for; 1 against). SV to contact Peter Lacey to check legal stance and Parish right to refusal of payment. **SV**
- 5.8 Website domain name renewal – Cost agreed. Cheque #562 to be issued upon receipt of invoice made to the Parish Council. **SV**
- 5.9 Grant request from Somerset Art Week – FH proposed to grant £30 to support and help local artists promote their work. Unanimous motion passed. Cheque #563 signed.
- 6.0 Cemetery**
- 6.1 Nothing to report.
- 6.2 Clerk to contact MDC with a view of obtaining information on procedures to buy plot of land to extend cemetery. **SV**
- 7.0 Planning Applications / Updates**
- 7.1 The Chair updated the council on the positions of previous planning applications.
- 7.2 Extension of existing Elliot Classroom Building – Following review of the plans, it was unanimously agreed to support the application for an extension to the existing Elliot building. **SV**
- 8.0 Maintenance of Playground**
- 8.1 Chair advised council of MDC's intention to pass on costs for playground maintenance to parishes where they were maintained by MDC. FH confirmed that all maintenance was undertaken by the Rec Field and that no further costs should be incurred by the parish. Chair to follow up. **CC**
- 9.0 Parish Councillor Vacancy**
- 9.1 There will be a vacancy on the Parish Council from April 2009 following Ty Schlechter departure.
- 9.2 RM agreed to attend the Police Liaison Meetings.
- 9.3 Nominations were sought for Vice Chair and Footpaths Officer

9.0 Disturbance outside Pub

9.1 AS reported on residents concern over disturbance outside the pub late at night. Residents should be advised to contact the PCSO, Yvonne Mears, or call the police when the disturbance is occurring in order for them to deal with the problem in the first instance.

10.0 Councillors Reports

10.1 PCSO – Report from YM tabled.

10.2 **Footpaths** – TS handed in tools and notebook he has received to carry out his work as Footpath Representative. A new footpath Representative is now needed.

10.3 **Highways** – FH updated on current issues pertaining to Highways. White side-lines had been painted at Townsend (following 15 months of repeated reminders) although these had not been positioned to emphasise the hazard, as agreed with Highways in Dec 2007.

10.4 **Recreation Field** – RM updated the council on the activities of the Recreation Field Committee.

10.4.1 Barn Dance on 14th March 2009 at the Memorial Hall – The barn dance was success, although it was not known how much money was raised during the evening.

10.5 **Memorial Hall** – MR reported on recent activities at the memorial Hall.

10.5.1 Forthcoming events – Quiz on Saturday 28th March.

10.6 **School** – VT not present. Nothing further to report.

10.7 **SALC** – AS gave a summary of the last SALC meeting attended, mainly pertaining to changes to PC powers under the Power of Well Being.

10.8 **Quarry** – Chair asked GC for an update on the situation with regards to setting up regular meetings. Following agreement of the Terms of Reference at the last meeting, Tarmac are due to issue the minutes and agree a date for the next meeting. GC (as Chair) to progress.

11.0 Meetings Attended / To be attended

11.1 Meetings attended:-
SALC Power of Well Being; 27th February 2009 – AS

12.0 Correspondence

12.1 A public path diversion order across land at Pitten House was discussed. TS to contact nearby residents to ensure they are aware of the order.

TS/SV

13.0 Date & time of next meeting

13.1 The next meeting will be held on 20th April 2009, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall (Committee Room).