

MINUTES

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 16th November 2009 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Councillors Present

Chris Cudmore – Chairman (CC), Rose Martin (RM), Matthew Odolphie (MO), Marsha Read (MR) and Alf Smith (AS) and Claire Fleming (CF), District Councillor.

The meeting was also attended by 4 persons (including Nick Hiscox (Grove Shute Farm Planning Application) and Chris Langdon (CL), The Langdon Partnership).

Clerk – Sandrine Vaillant (SV).

Action

1.0 Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Vicki Taylor (VT), Parish Councillor; Philip Ham, District Councillor; and Gloria Cawood (GC) County Councillor.

2.0 Declaration of Interest

2.1 MR declared an interest in the Planning Application to be discussed under item 4.
AS declared an interest in the WI grant request.

3.0 Agreement to minutes of meeting held on 19/10/09

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2009 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held with the following amendments:

- GC apologies were added to the minutes.
- The date of the next but one Quarry Liaison Meeting was amended to reflect date of 14th October 2009 (not 18th).

4.0 Planning Application Ref. 2009/1514, Grove Shute Farm, re-building to provide coldstore, meat cutting room and packaging, kitchen staff facilities and small farm office.

4.1 The applicant's representative (CL) explained the situation, giving the views and intentions of the applicant.
It was raised that some details in the application appeared to be incorrect with regards to the rights to the access road. However, CL confirmed that the application was still standing at the time of the meeting and advised that the applicant has been speaking to MDC about this.

4.2 Members of the public raised the following points:

Noise, especially from refrigeration units – Neighbouring residents are concerned that there will be an increase in noise level. CL advised that a planning conditions would ensure and monitor that noise does not go beyond the perimeter of the property. Mr Hiscox stressed that it was not an industrial business and that they would want to keep the area quiet as they themselves reside there.

Increased traffic – Neighbouring residents are worried with the increased traffic which will ensue. The activity at the farm is very low at the moment as the original farm was broken down and some of the farm buildings converted into residential units.
However, CL pointed out that it was once a dairy farm.

Issue of safety with regards to increased traffic and HVG traffic was raised. It was suggested that the council points out that there are children living nearby.

MR leaves the room

4.3 Parish Council consideration:-

Chair summarised the situation and asked the councillors to take into account how this would affect the village, particularly with regard to children living around the proposed development, the noise, smell and waste.

After some discussion, the Chair proposed to support the application for the following reasons:-

- To support the local business/industry, in keeping with the Parish Plan;
- Design is in keeping with village design statement and the new building would be a visual improvement to the existing barn;
- It is believed that the limitation on the size of the business should have a negligible impact on the neighbouring properties.

Planners are asked to consider the following conditions:-

- Environmental conditions to ensure that any noise, light, smell and waste pollution is negligible for the neighbouring properties;
- Business operations are limited to defined hours; typically normal working day.
- The traffic (deliveries in) limited to an average of 2 LGVs/week and deliveries out (van-size, as indicated by the applicant) typical of 1/day.
- Traffic Safety Measures to be erected to enforce slow speed limits and provide warning, to safeguard children living in neighbouring properties.

AS seconded. It was unanimously voted to support the planning application with the conditions outlined above.

MR leaves the meeting.

5.0 Matters arising from meeting held on 19/10/09

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| 5.1 | (3.3) Log at the boundary of Leigh and Coleford – Letter from Coleford Parish Council was tabled. It was agreed that MO would contact Mr Patch to discuss removal as the tree is on his property. MO confirmed that the bridge was not privately owned, it was owned by SCC (Taunton). | MO |
| 5.2 | (3.3) Branches in the area of the small stream on Whitehole Hill. MR to speak to land owner as it was noticed that they had not been removed. | MR |
| 5.3 | (3.5) Parish Plan Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newsletter – SV to send draft to CC.• Footpaths – CC to speak to Mr Patch with regard to permissive access to footpath on his land. Action continues. | SV
CC |
| 5.4 | (3.7) Dog Bins – MO to speak to June regarding where to install the bin. To be discussed at December meeting. | MO |
| 5.5 | (13.1) Chairman’s Award to the Community – SV completed the form which was signed by CC and MR. Action complete. | |
| 5.6 | (5.2) Grant request forms - Action complete. To be discussed at December meeting. | |
| 5.7 | (5.5) Grant request from WI to help with litter pick up day – See item 7.4 below. | |

- 5.8 (6.2) Cemetery extension – To be discussed at December meeting.
- 5.9 (8.1) Village sign – VT not present. To be discussed at December meeting.

6.0 District & County Councillors' Report

6.1 CF reported on activities at District level.

Cookswood Quarry – CF informed that parish councillors from the 6 neighbouring villages would be invited to a meeting to be briefed on the application, probably to be held at MDC.

Plastic & Cardboard Recycling – Following Parish Form meeting, Chair queried whether a decision had been made on this issue. CF confirmed that unfortunately, this was not going to go ahead because MDC do not have the funds to support this at present.

CF advised that SCC had proposed to cut back funds allocated to PCSOs.

Somerset Aggregate Levy Fund – CF suggested we ask our MP to look at this.

CF leaves meeting.

6.2 Chair read report emailed by GC, County Councillor.
SV to remind the school that they can send pictures of special events (pond opening, etc.) to CC to have them published on the village website.

SV

7.0 Finance

7.1 Financial statement – Statement to 15th November 2009 was agreed and signed.

7.2 Expenses for Notice board Repairs – Cheque #577 signed, as agreed at October meeting, item 3.

7.3 Budget 2010/11 – Chair asked council to think about budget for 2010/11 and for figures to be emailed to CC and Clerk prior to next month's meeting. SV to check number of habitants in the village from voting register.

ALL/SV

7.4 (5.5) WI Grant Request for Litter Pick-up – Unanimously agreed to award the grant to the WI to help organise and conduct the Litter Pick-up. Cheque #578 agreed and signed.

8.0 Cemetery

8.1 Dave Jarvis' invoice #029, dated 9th November 2009 was agreed. Cheque #96 agreed and signed.

9.0 Planning Applications / Updates

9.1 Prescott, Leigh Street – No comment or presentation to be made.

10.0 Parish Plan Actions

10.1 Village signs – RM reported that VT had requested a quotation for the price of a stone for the purpose of a village sign. Action continues.

VT

11.0 Obstruction in the Mells Stream near Bennett's Farm, Coleford

11.1 See item 5.1 above.

12.0 Somerset Aggregate Levy Fund; letter from Binegar

12.1 Chair suggested that we write to the contact suggested on the letter from Binegar, with a

copy to David Heath.

CC

13.1 Most Desirable Villages (TV show)

13.1 AS proposed we show an interest. MO seconded. Unanimous vote. SV to send application.

SV

14.0 Councillors' Reports

14.1 PCSO – PCSO report was circulated. Chair advised that the PCSO was hoping to recruit new local neighbourhood watch members.

14.2 Footpaths – Nothing further to report.

14.3 Highways – CC agreed to take it on temporarily following FH's departure. CC to obtain highways file from FH.

CC

SV to write a letter to 'the occupier' to ask that hedge be cut back on Moss' property.

SV

SV to write a letter to 'the occupiers' regarding the hedge from Corner Cottage, towards Barns Close Quarry, as 'obstruction has been reported'.

SV

14.4 Rec Field – Last meeting held on 9th November 2009. Decorating continuing.

14.5 Memorial Hall – MR not present. Nothing further to report.

CC attended the AGM, annual report included in the correspondence file.

Chair advised that The Memorial Hall Committee were looking for a new bookings clerk.

14.6 School – VT not present. Nothing further to report.

14.7 SALC – Next meeting 30th November 2009. Nothing further to report.

14.8 Quarry – Next meeting on 18th March 2009. Nothing further to report.

15.0 Meetings attended (including training courses)/to be attended

15.1 Meetings to be attended:

- East Mendip Community Partnership 1st December 2009.

16.0 Correspondence

16.1 Correspondence circulated for information:

- Letter from PC of Coleford re. Obstruction in Mells Stream
- Copy of Gloria's November report
- Retriever 50 Dog Bin product information
- Ref Field Grant Request
- Memorial Hall Annual Report 2008/2009
- PCSO Report and Avon & Somerset Policy Authority Newsletter
- Change to Highways Area Office email (now countyroads-mendip@somerset.gov.uk)
- Guide to winter Services in Somerset
- Slow down leaflet
- Letter from Mendip Housing re. Change of name to Flourish Homes
- Consultation papers from South Western Ambulance Service
- Letter from Digital UK
- Parishes information bulletin, November 2009; The Playing Field, Autumn 2009;

17.0 Date & time of next meeting

17.1 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 21st December 2009, at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall, Committee Room.