

MINUTES

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 19th November 2012 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Councillors Present: C Cudmore – Chairman (CC), I Barnes (IB), A Dagger (AD) and David Sparkes (DS).
In attendance: S Vaillant (SV; Clerk), Val Horler (VH, District Councillor) and five members of the public.

	Action
1.0 Apologies	
1.1 No apologies were received. Gloria Cawood, County Councillor, also advised she would not be able to attend the meeting.	
1.2 Chair advised the order of the meeting would be altered to accommodate members of the public in attendance.	
2.0 Declarations of Interest	
2.1 No interest was declared.	
3.0 Co-option of Councillor	
3.1 AD proposed to co-opt David Sparkes onto the council (IB seconded, all agreed). The relevant form was signed and a Declaration of Interest form handed over to DS to fill in within 28 days.	DS
4.0 Minutes of the meeting held on 15.10.12 and matters arising (where not dealt with later)	
4.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as true and accurate record of the meeting held.	
4.2 (3.4) Visibility of lettering on Village Stones – The letters have been painted on two of the signs, and it was agreed that it was an improvement. B Wigmore to advise Jeff Body to paint the last sign. CC to contact Bren. Clearance of vegetation around the stones – Action complete.	CC
4.3 (3.4) Reduced Street Lighting Consultation – Still awaiting response from SCC.	
4.4 (3.5) Finger post at the junction on top of Soho Cottages – V Horler and Coleford PC to liaise directly with Jeff Bunting. Action complete.	
4.5 (3.7) Delegation of business to clerk in case of non-quorum to be investigated – Ongoing.	SV
4.6 (3.8) Village Neighbourhood Watch sign – Chair waiting for the finger posts to be repainted before fixing the sign.	CC
4.7 (3.9) Recruitment of councillors – Action complete.	
4.8 (3.12) Footpaths Grant – IB confirmed that there were not grants available and that we currently received no service from SCC on the footpaths. Action complete.	
4.9 (4.1) Specification for verge cutting and weed killing – Statements were obtained. Matter to be pursued via shared lengthman contract.	
4.10 (4.2) Shared lengthman contract with Stratton – CC agreed to attend meeting organised for a small group of parish councils. Clerk to circulate email containing details once received.	SV/CC
4.11 (4.3) Health & Wellbeing Grant – Recreation Field have submitted an application. No decision yet. Action complete.	

- 4.12 (5.3) Mowing of the Recreation Field – AD to obtain specification for Clerk to organise in the New Year. **AD**
- 4.13 (6.3) Nat West Signatories – All paperwork has been finalised and submitted. Action complete. It was agreed to look at amending the Financial Regulations for only 2 councillors to sign the cheques (instead of current 3). To put on the agenda for next month. **SV**
- 5.0 District & County Councillors Reports**
- 5.1 VH in attendance reported as follows:-
- Reiterated that any parishioner can attend the parish forums, not just councillors.
 - Application for a Wind Turbine in Coleford has been rejected due to opposition from the MoD.
 - No news regarding decisions on new Coleford pharmacy. Next deadline in February.
- 6.0 Consultations**
- 6.1 Draft Countywide Homelessness Strategy – No comment.
- 6.2 Somerset Waste Strategy; Consultation on modifications – Chair reminded council of our original response. No comment.
- 7.0 Planning**
- 7.1 Latest status of existing applications/decisions:-
- App. 2011/3232; Halecombe Quarry (variation of conditions) – no decision.
- 7.2 Planning Application 2011/2109; Rookery Farmhouse, Limekiln Lane; Internal and external remedial works and use of Rookery Farmhouse for temporary office and conference facilities and use of barns A, B and C for storage purposes in connection with Halecombe Quarry, part demolition and making of barn D and erection of retaining walls as per amended drawings dated 4th October 2012 – CC proposed (AD seconded, all agreed) to recommend approval as the proposed works are to maintain and preserve the buildings sited within the quarry and in the care of Tarmac Ltd.
- 7.3 Planning Application 2011/2110; Rookery Farmhouse, Limekiln Lane; Internal and external remedial works. Provision of new roof and toilet facilities to Barn C part demolition and making good of barn D and erection of retaining walls as per amended drawings dated 4th October 2012 – Listed building application, response as above.
- 7.4 Planning Application 2012/2354; Land South of Old Wells Road, Waterlip; Erection of telecommunications mast and equipment – After review of the proposal documents, DS proposed to leave the decision to the planners (AD seconded, all agreed) as the erection of the mast will have very little impact on the residents of Leigh on Mendip.
- 7.5 Planning Application 2012/2470; Grove Shute Farm, Tadhil; Single storey rear (N) extension and first floor level extension at rear (N) – Following review of the drawings, IB proposed (AD seconded, all agreed) to recommend approval as the proposals appear sensible and will not affect anyone.
- 7.6 Visit of Grove Shute Farm – It was felt that the proposals would be for a private development and not in the interest of the parish council to get involved. The councillors would appreciate a site visit once actual plans are received and a planning application is submitted. Clerk to contact Nick Hiscox. **SV**
- It was also queried whether the homes would qualify as new homes as part of the development target within the District Development Plan.
- 8.0 Finance**
- 8.1 Financial Statement – Financial Statement to 18th November 2012 was agreed and signed.

- 8.2 Grant request from Toddler Group (Help to pay for hire of the hall) – Representative explained that fees (£351/year) were currently covered by a grant from Coleford Youth Club but this has now stopped due to cuts in funding. CC proposed to grant £200 to cover hiring fees until April 2013 (IB seconded, all agreed). Item to be considered for 2013/14 budget.
- 8.3 Grant request from Memorial Hall – To be discussed at December meeting.
- 8.4 Grant request from Leigh on Mendip First School (for IT server) – Mary Sturgess, head teacher, explained that the school had saved most of the money needed to replace the server, however, they would also need to replace all four computers in the school bringing the total cost to £6,470. It was agreed to consider this as an item to be included in 2013/14 budget (partial grant). Clerk to check PC is able to donate to the school for this purpose. **SV**
- 8.5 Grant request from Life Education Wessex – Mary Sturgess was consulted and advised that the fee was prohibitive to the small school. Grant to be discussed at a later date if the school decides a visit would be beneficial to the pupils.
- 8.6 Grant request from Mendip Community Transport – IB proposed to grant £25 (DS seconded, all agreed). CC to display brochure in the telephone box. **CC**
- 8.7 The following invoices/payments were agreed and cheques signed:-
- | | | |
|-----|---|--------------|
| | | £ |
| 691 | S Vaillant; Clerk's Salary & Expenses | 216.81 |
| 692 | Glasdon; purchase of dog waste bin | 233.02 |
| 693 | Toddler Group; Grant to help with hall hire | 200.00 |
| 694 | Mendip Community Transport; Grant | <u>25.00</u> |
| | | 674.83 |
- 9.0 Cemetery**
- 9.1 Payment of invoice for cutting back of hedge – Invoice No 34 was agreed. Cheque #118 was signed.
- 9.2 New cemetery; Offer of school pond area adjacent to churchyard – Councillors have been able to assess the area which was found suitable in terms of size. IB wanted clarification whether the money would go straight to the school, which it will if sold. CC to arrange the necessary tests to assess ground suitability. Clerk and IB to organise for a valuation of the grounds. **CC**
IB/SV
- 10.0 Councillors' Reports**
- 10.1 **Highways** – CC reported as follows:-
- Wig-wag is to be fitted outside the school.
 - Car parking at the school – IB agreed to contact PCSO regarding cars belonging to the garage. AD to bring up at the next PCSO meeting. **IB/AD**
 - Old Wells Road/Townsend Lane junction – Highways have agreed to put signage to warn of junction.
 - Finger posts; ongoing.
 - Clerk advised that x10 20kg bags of de-icing materials were available to PCs. CC agreed to collect. **CC**
- 10.2 **Rec Field** – AD reported as follows:-
- Grass cutting for next year; discussions ongoing
 - Skate Park / Pump track – ongoing, pricing required before consultation with children. It was also confirmed that planning permission would be needed. Fund raising Christmas Bingo; 8th December; Prizes appreciated.
 - The additional dog waste bin has been installed near the small white gate. Clerk to advise MDC for incorporation into emptying schedule. **SV**
- 10.3 **Memorial Hall** – Email from Bren was noted.

- 10.4 **Quarry** – CC attended meeting on 18th October. Main issue is the Long Term Management fund and how the monies will be invested.
Chair to email IB with contact at the quarry to ask for donation for the fair. **CC**
- 10.5 **SALC** – Next East Area Meeting in Glastonbury Town Hall on 3rd December. **SV/CC**
- 10.6 **PCSO** – Liaison Meeting; meeting next week. Nothing further to report.
- 10.7 **Footpaths** - IB has been around most paths in the parish and nothing requires work. All in order.
- 10.7.1 Footpaths and lengthman scheme – Chair summarised the discussions which are currently ongoing between SCC and parishes to provide weed killing and verge cutting. SCC had been requested to clearly define the level of services provided. CC to obtain details of the MDC Core Services contract. **CC**
- 10.8 **School** – nothing further to report.
- 11.0 Meeting attended/to be attended**
- 11.1 Meetings attended:-
- Quarry Liaison Meeting 18th October, 10am – CC attended.
 - Parish Forum, 29th October – Not attended. Main slides were circulated.
 - Local Choices Events, 8th November - CC attended and reported.
- 11.2 Meetings to be attended –
- Police Liaison Meeting – AD to attend.
 - Members Development Session/Chairing Skills, 29th November – CC and SV to attend
 - SALC Meeting, 3rd December – SV/CC to attend.
- AD
CC/SV
CC/SV**
- 12.0 Correspondence**
- 12.1
- Email advising of cessation of Friends of Asham Wood group – noted.
 - Downhead's query to hire the hall to show a film on Fracking. It was agreed that the council should not endorse it.
- 13.0 Date & time of next meeting**
- 13.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 17th December 2012, at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Committee room.
- 13.2 DS advised he would not be able to attend.