

LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

To all Members of Leigh on Mendip Parish Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Leigh on Mendip Parish Council for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Joe McGhee, Clerk to the Council

Agenda for the Meeting of LEIGH ON MENDIP PARISH COUNCIL

**To be held on Monday, 15th September, 2025, in the Memorial Hall
Starting at 7:00pm**

- 1. Welcome by the Chairman**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Absent**
- 4. (a) To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda
(b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests**

Cllr Vicki Taylor has an approved request for dispensation in relation to Leigh On Mendip Memorial Hall until June 2027.

Cllr Vicki Trundle has an approved request for dispensation in relation to Leigh On Mendip Recreation Field Committee until March 2029.

Cllr Paula Freeland has an approved request for dispensation in relation to St Giles Church until June 2029.

(c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

- 5. Public Session**
- 6. County Councillor Reports**
- 7. Monthly update from Tom Kemp – Parish Tree Officer**
- 8. To confirm the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st July, 2025, previously circulated (Attachment 1).**
- 9. Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda.**
- 10. Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered.**

(a) 2025/1374/FUL

Erection of an attached 3-bedroom dwellinghouse.

Land at 368913 147215 Park Hayes, Leigh On Mendip, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

- 11. Planning Applications – Decisions to be noted from Somerset Council**

(a) 2025/1291/NMA

Non-material amendments to consent 2022/1669/HSE (Erection of 2 rear dormers, creation of ensuite and relocation of external door and internal stairs)

1-2 Perrys Cottages, Leigh Street, Leigh On Mendip, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA3 5QW

Decision. Approval Non-Material Amendment.

(b) 2025/1257/PAH

The erection of a single storey rear extension.

Holly House, Leigh Street, Leigh On Mendip, Radstock, Somerset BA3 5QP

Decision. Prior Approval Not Required.

(c) 2025/1057/FUL

Convert & extend two agricultural buildings to create eight dwellings, involving building extension with parking & curtilage ground.

Tadhill Farm, Old Wells Road, Leigh On Mendip, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA3 5QX

Decision. Approval.

12. Finance and Annual Reporting

(a) To approve (or not) bank reconciliation at 10 Sep 2025 (Attachment 2)

(b) To approve (or not) receipts and payments as identified in the Cashflow 16 Jul 2025 to 10 Sep 2025 (Attachment 3), incorporating increase in hourly rate for clerk's local government grade, SCP 17, as agreed by the National Joint Council and backdated to 1st April 2025.

13. Clerk's / Councillors' Report

(a) The council's eligibility to be covered by the FSCS scheme has been confirmed with Unity Trust Bank.

(b) Exemption from external audit has been confirmed by the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn.

(c) Comments were applied at the Somerset Council planning portal on applications 2025/1057/FUL (Tadhill Farm) and 2025/1152/LBC (Cottage Garden, Leigh Street), in favour of approval in both cases.

(d) Emails of thanks were sent to the directors of Advantage FS and to Halecombe Quarry for their financial support for the car show and village day.

(e) A Coleford resident asked for the dangerous nature of the SOHO junction on the road between Leigh On Mendip and Vobster to be taken up following a collision in which both cars were written off, the latest in a series of collisions. A request for a review of the junction and its signage was raised on the Somerset Council Highways website.

(f) Somerset Council requested a review and report on the status of the parish's grit bins prior to preparation for the winter. Cllr I Kirby carried out a survey and the Clerk reported the results to Somerset Council.

(g) The request to Devon and Somerset Fire Service for a review of fire tender access to Park Hayes was repeated via email to an address provided by their enquiry desk. Response awaited.

(h) Because an extension to the deadline for comments on planning application 2025/1375/FUL (Conversion of garage to a dwelling house) was not granted, councillors considered the application, including a site visit and discussions with the applicant. Clerk applied a comment to the effect that the council will defer to the planning authority view but asked that Somerset Council Highways carry out a review of traffic implications.

(i) A contractor was requested to remove a portaloo which has been left on Leigh Street following works, and undertook to remove within the week.

(j) The Information Commissioners Office confirmed that the Parish Council's registration has been renewed.

(k) Information on council meetings – rules for scheduling along with information provided in advance – was updated on the website.

- (l) An email was sent to Somerset Council seeking clarity on the council's responsibilities for street cleaning.
- (m) C Cudmore reported that the stile on the path north of Pitten House is to be replaced with a kissing gate. Once that is done there will be no stiles on the path from Pitten Street to Tufa Falls.

14. To Be Discussed / Resolved

- (a) Proposal from Somerset Council to transfer land to the Parish Council.
- (b) Development of biodiversity plan for churchyard/cemetery.
- (c) New cemetery
 - Memorial tree branch removal.
 - Procurement of chain link fence.
 - Drawings and quote for gates.
 - Signage
- (d) Community notice board – sketch and costings from Bell Inn landlord.
- (e) Repair shop questionnaire.
- (f) Somerset Council interim planning application process.
- (g) Annual letter to Recreation Field car park neighbours.
- (h) M Carter request for PC to issue invitation for new Speedwatch team members.
- (i) Advert for new councillor.
- (j) Request to EA to investigate stream under the road near Great House Farm.
- (k) Telephone box:
 - purchase of red paint
 - purchase of appropriate signage
- (l) C Cudmore requests:
 - Application to Somerset Council for EV charging points in the village under the funding they have received for this; possible inclusion in the Community Plan.
 - Hedge cutter funding to clear the hedge on the corner of the road entering the village from Hollybush.
 - Approval of updated Welcome Guide.

15. Matters to report / items for next agenda.

16. Date and time of next meeting: Monday 20th October, 2025, at 7:00pm in the Memorial Hall.

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions; Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.