

**LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES
For Meeting Held At Leigh Village Hall On
20th MARCH 2018 At 7.30pm**

Present: -Cllr Scutt - Chairman, Cllr Stillitano, Cllr Bennett, Cllr West, Cllr Bugler, Cllr Read, DCllr Penfold, the Clerk and members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Vincent, CCllr Penfold for being late.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None
3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES
 - 3.1 It was resolved "THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 16th JANUARY 2018 BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN". Proposed: Cllr Bennett, 2nd Cllr Bugler. Unanimously agreed.
 - 3.2 Cllr Stillitano gave official notice of his resignation dated 20/3/18.
 - 3.3 Advertisements for the Clerks replacement have been placed on websites and in a number of publications, no response received as yet.
4. FINANCIAL MATTERS
 - 4.1 Clerk's salary for 2 months. Total: £305.94. Proposed: Cllr Bugler, 2nd Cllr Bennett. Unanimously agreed.
 - 4.2 Clerks invoice for 2 months expenses as per invoice - £49.40. Proposed: Cllr Scutt, Unanimously agreed.
 - 4.3 S106 / CIL money, projects and processes for application were discussed. Cllr Scutt was concerned that the money allocated to Leigh should be greater. She will review previous correspondence and contact Mr Hurley directly to clarify the situation
 - 4.4 It was agreed that VAT payments from playground equipment and inspection will be incorporated into the Play Park budget when reclaimed by the Clerk.
5. DEVOLUTION OF ASSETS & SERVICES - COMPLETE SURVEY BY 12 APRIL 2018
 - 5.1 The survey was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Bennett will review, circulate and attempt to send in a collective response.
6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
 - 6.1 Richard Smith reported that due to a number of circumstances, there has been little achieved lately. He would like to stand down as Chairman of the Steering Committee, though remain involved. It is planned to have a meeting and plan for the next 6 months and share these plans with the council. Cllr Scutt indicated that she is keen to become more involved in developing the neighbourhood plan.
7. DATA PROTECTION
 - 7.1 General Data Protection Regulations Update – email circulated.
 - 7.1 Preparing your council for the General Data Processing Regulations (GDPR) due to come into force in May 2018. – Email circulated.
 - 7.1 Newly produced Toolkit for Parish and Town Councils for the new Data Processing Regulations. – Link circulated.

7.2 Councilors discussed the new regulations and requirements and it was agreed that the Parish Council would allow the present registration to expire. It was felt that until it was clear what the new policies were, it was not appropriate to register for Data Protection.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Cllr West reported that she had attended the Parish and Town Planning Session at South Walks House. It was interesting and some aspects helpful, presentation circulated.

8.2 Planning Consultation WD/D/18/000067 LAND SOUTH OF ROSE COTTAGE, SOUTH STREET, LEIGH. PC comments: We object on the grounds that the original permission was given for one bedroom, but that the footprint is not changing and the plot is not big enough for larger. In addition, we and many of the local residents also object on the grounds of parking. The existing space does not allow for two cars, as they would encroach on the road, into a narrow lane, and opposite a terrace of houses, who also have to park on the road.

8.3 Decision Notice WD/D/17/002490 POGLES WOOD EXPLORERS, THREE GATES, LEIGH, SHERBORNE, DORSET DT9 6JQ – Approval of planning permission given.

8.4 Decision Notice WD/D/17/001371 GUYERS COTTAGE, CHETNOLE ROAD, LEIGH, SHERBORNE, DT9 6HL – Refusal of Planning Permission.

9. PLAY PARK

9.1 Cllr Bugler reported that the committee has been reviewing the equipment in the old play park to bring them up to today's standard and potentially relocate to the new play area. The committee is working in two parts, one group are looking at construction and design of the new play area and the other group are looking at funding streams.

9.2 It was noted that play park equipment that has been purchased by the Parish Council should reclaim the VAT and allocate to the Play Park budget.

10. SPEED WATCH UPDATE

10.1 Cllr Bennett reported that Andy Denham continues to manage the speed watch group and is planning to be more active during this month. The group are keen to attract volunteers, so if anyone is interested in joining the group please contact the Clerk.

11. FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

11.1 Cllr Bennett reported that he was hopeful that, in conjunction with Farming and Wildlife Group (FWAG) South West, approval for a flood alleviation scheme for the eastern edge of the village (Bridge Garage) might be agreed by this autumn. The developing plan would involve tightening an existing natural 'choke', located immediately upstream of the point where Longbridge Drove crosses the stream. Mostly natural woodland materials would be used. This tightened choke would temporarily contain additional spate water in the existing flood area upstream of Longbridge Drove. The reduced rate at which sudden excess water could flow downstream will accordingly reduce the occurrence of flooding at Bridge Garage – and also ease the pressure on the Somerset Levels (FWAG's primary interest). The costings of this work will be available in due course; it is anticipated that FWAG will partially fund the scheme. There is therefore likely to be a requirement for financial support from the Parish Council; however no funding for this scheme was budgeted for by Leigh PC in FY 2018-19.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Invitation - Parish and Town Planning Session at South Walks House

- 12.2 Citizens Advice Dorchester & Sherborne - Annual Report
- 12.3 Latest travel and transport e-newsletter
- 12.4 Royal Garden Party Nominations
- 12.5 Highways England RIS2 email circulated.
- 12.6 Dorset Highways Performance: Q3 Top 12 & Satisfaction Surveys
- 12.7 DAPTC Annual Conference - Due to take place Friday 9th March 2018 at Kingston Maurward College near Dorchester.
- 12.8 DAPTC E-newsletter No. 6
- 12.9 Register Your Parish Council for #GBSpringClean.
- 12.10 Secretary of State announcement to support LGR proposals

13. ITEMS OF URGENT NATURE SUBJECT TO CHAIRMAN'S APPROVAL

- 13.1 Thanks were given by the Parish Council to Paul Orchard and the other 15 families who helped in the village clean up.
 - 13.2 Trevor Evans reported that Adam and Sarah had agreed to support in a part time capacity the role of footpaths officer.
 - 13.3 Trevor Evans reported that Longbridge Drove will be out of bounds for all but pedestrians for the foreseeable future until finances are made available for improvements. Cllr Bennett asked about horse access, he was informed that due to potential risks the footpath will remain closed to horses.
 - 13.4 Trevor Evans reported that 9 gates will be set up in approximately three weeks, in early April. He was now looking for areas to the north of the village and has circulated a plan for 4 new gates. He has spoken to landowners regarding their installation and they are enthusiastic. The Council needs to decide if they wish to move forward with this proposal. Cllr Scutt indicated that £570 had been budgeted in FY 2018-19 budget for gate installation.
 - 13.5 It was reported that the footpath by the village hall was planned for re-stoning. A SLA agreement will be taken out for maintenance of the hedge. Cllr Read indicated that he was happy to cut the hedge in September months when he was legally able to do so.
 - 13.6 Ms Wooten spoke with concern regarding the state of the roads in Leigh. She had reported a pothole on the dorsetforyou website, the report was closed but the pothole was not mended. It was dangerous and caused her to fall down in the dark. Cllr Penfold will review with Paul Thatcher.
 - 13.7 Mrs Wooten was also concerned about the amount of mud and debris on the road from Leigh to Yetminster. It was determined that the Farmer is liable for equipment deposits but not animal deposits on the road. If the issue continues then it should be a police matter.
 - 13.8 Cllr Bugler reported that Luke Goddard had given a donation for the cost of the play park inspection. Leigh Parish Council gave thanks for this kind contribution.
 - 13.9 Cllr Bugler has reported a blocked gully on dorsetforyou website.
14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Leigh Parish Council Annual Parish meeting at 7pm and Full Council at 7.30pm 15th May 2018.