

LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Agenda of a Meeting of Leigh Parish Council Meeting to be held 'on-line' at 7-30pm on Tuesday 16th March 2021.

Members of the public may attend the virtual meeting as usual. It is asked that any members of the public wishing to attend 'virtually', which includes dialling in, should contact the Parish Clerk on leigh@dorset-aptc.gov.uk or phone 01935 872380 to request log in details.

ITEM NO	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD BY:
	<u>Opening Remarks.</u>	Chairman
1.	Apologies for Absence:	Clerk
2.	Declarations of Interest:	Councillors
3.	<p>LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES</p> <p>To Formally agree Minutes of previous online Leigh Parish Council Meeting 19th January 2021 circulated and displayed.</p> <p>3.1. Chairman to sign (circulated hard copy)</p> <p>3.2. Matters Arising that are not already on this meeting's agenda.</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Councillors</p>
4	<p>CO-OPTION.</p> <p>Filling Parish Council Vacancy</p>	Chairman
5	<p>FINANCES OVERVIEW:</p> <p>Accounts Spreadsheet reconciled to 28 February 2021 (TBD – awaiting Statement)</p> <p>5.1. Update on forecast for FY20/21 end of year figures.</p> <p>5.2. Precept FY 2021/21 – Application submitted and agreed (£9002)</p> <p>5.3. Preparations for end of F/Y 2020/21 Audit AGAR</p> <p>5.4 'Capex' spreadsheet</p>	Chairman
6	<p>APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS</p> <p>On the consolidated schedule of payments for review and agreement by Councillors – including:</p> <p>6.1. Payments made since previous meeting, for formal record in minutes: £276.03 (Finger Posts spend)</p> <p>6.2. Payments for agreement this meeting.</p> <p>6.2.1. Consideration of potential grant to Wriggle Valley Magazine (Letter)</p> <p>6.3. Expected payments pending: Financial 2020/21 year end and/or pre-May 2021 meeting (in F/Y 2021/22).</p>	Parish Clk

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ITEM NO	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD BY:
7.	<p>DRAFT DORSET COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN – LEIGH PARISH RESPONSE</p> <p>The Dorset Council Draft Plan opened for consultation immediately before previous Parish Council meeting. Whilst the consultation deadline is 15 March 2021 a deadline for response has been negotiated until 18 March to permit ratification in-meeting of Leigh Parish’s response - attached Annex A.</p>	
8.	<p>GRANT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER FUNDING</p> <p>Grant application update from Cllr Scutt</p>	Cllr Scutt
9	<p>PLAYPARK UPDATE - including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.1. Application of current Covid-19 regulations</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.2. New slide project – next planned on-site 3 Mar '21 - update on progress</p>	Cllr Bugler
10.	<p>VILLAGE GREEN UPDATE –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.1. Tree planting</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.2. Benches</p>	Cllr Ward
11.	<p>COMMUNITY ORCHARD PROPOSAL</p>	Chairman
12	<p>CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE. Update</p>	Cllr Dixon
13.	<p>PLANNING</p> <p><u>To consider Parish Planning Matters.</u> There are nil updates since previous meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">13.1. Chairman’s correspondence with DC Planning.</p>	Parish Clk Chairman
14.	<p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p>14.1. Gritting – Update</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.1.1. Snow Plan</p> <p>14.2. Speed limits – Further proposal of extension of 40mph limit to beyond Three Gates.</p> <p>14.3. Finger Post Project – Update and LPC insurance decision</p>	
15.	<p>COVID -19 update and or any Parish matters not included in other items.</p>	As required
16.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NORCAT email of thanks for grant and update. • Request to include Pop-Up Pub on Website – Julia Jepson 	Parish Clk
17.	<p>ITEMS OF AN URGENT NATURE – SUBJECT TO CHAIRMAN’S APPROVAL</p>	Chairman
18.	<p>DATE(S) OF NEXT MEETINGS:</p> <p>Next Leigh PC meeting follows the Parish Council AGM at or after 7-</p>	

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ITEM NO	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD BY:
	<p>30pm on Tuesday 18th May 2021 on completion of the Parish AGM. The Parish Council AGM includes ratification of accounts for previous year and establishes standing orders and processes for the financial year (2021/22).</p> <p>18.1. Parish AGM: Start time 19:00 / 7-00pm. Arrangements are dependent upon pandemic regulations in place.</p> <p>18.2. Meetings are agreed as 3rd Tuesday in alternate (odd) months, and subsequent meeting dates in 2021 would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 July, • 21 September and • 16 November 2021 	Chairman

ITEM 7 DRAFT RESPONSE

Dear Dorset Planning,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the comprehensive draft Local Plan. This comment is Leigh Parish Council's formally considered views on specific aspects as they affect Leigh. In forming these, we have consulted Mr Edward Gerry (Community Planning Manager of Dorset Council's Spatial Planning section); we are grateful for his time and assistance.

In the draft plan, Leigh is categorised as a Tier 4 'smaller village'. We agree with this categorisation.

The draft Appendix 2 requires Leigh to deliver 19 new dwellings over the 17 year period of the plan.

- Mr Gerry stated that this figure had been arrived at by a summation of the of the 5 parameters detailed in Section 2 at paragraph 2.10.5 (and repeated in Appendix 2 at para 1.1.1).

For Leigh parish, this consists of just two of the 5 parameters (the remainder 3 parameters each currently generating 0):

- extant planning permissions: 5
- a windfall allowance on minor sites: 14
 - Mr Gerry explained that this 'small site windfall allowance' has been generated by taking the Leigh total planning 'completion rate over the past 6 years' (2014/15 - 2019/20: 6), and then, using this 'average annual build rate' (so, for Leigh, 1 per year), projecting this forward over the 17 year period.

We note that **applying the above methodology to Leigh - as a Tier 4 'smaller village' - is not in line with the stated policy at paragraphs 2.6.20 and 21:**

2.6.20:

"The smaller villages in rural Dorset have not been given local plan development boundaries and outside such boundaries development is 'strictly controlled' by Policy DEV7. However, development boundaries have already been introduced at some smaller villages in neighbourhood plans and further 'neighbourhood plan development boundaries' may be

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identified in the future."

2.6.21:

"In terms of the spatial strategy, the 'smaller villages' will not be the focus for growth in rural areas. Where a neighbourhood development boundary has been established at a smaller village, development within it should accord with the policies in the neighbourhood plan, which should have already taken account of 'local needs' and considered the scale of development that the village can accommodate."

Paragraph 2.10.5 is **the methodology that the draft plan states has been applied to Tier 3 'larger villages'** (paragraphs 2.6.16 - 2.6.19) in order to calculate their scale of development. But:

- Applying the same methodology to Tier 4 villages will mean the same degree of expansion will apply to both Tiers; but this 'all-villages together' approach is clearly not the current policy for Tier 3 'larger villages' *and* Tier 4 'smaller villages'.

Therefore, Leigh considers that:

- The Appendix 2 housing requirement figure presently designated to Leigh is not in accordance with the stated policy at paragraphs 2.6.10 - 11, Section 2
- if the Tier 3 methodology - contrary to the current draft – is also to be applied to Tier 4 'smaller villages', it is demonstrably at odds with Dev7.
 - It would result in a small village, that has assisted with the delivery of additional housing over the past 6 years, being penalised by being allocated a further associated windfall allocation of requirement over the next 17 years.
 - Meanwhile, a small village that has added no housing to the county's total over the past six years is, by the same methodology, allowed to continue with no windfall requirement for future development at all.

Leigh also notes that:

- the Tier 3 villages of Thornford / Hazelbury Bryan / Bradford Abbas (and others, further afield from Leigh) all currently have an Appendix 2 requirement of 0, while Tier 4 Leigh is set at 19.
 - This major imbalance, given the Section 2 policies, is unexplained. It is illogical that several Tier 3 villages should have a zero requirement, while an 8.33% increase is demanded of Leigh
 - This figure is arrived at by expressing the Appendix 2 figures as a percentage increase of a village's published 2021/22 property tax base (enclosure 4 to Dorset Council Financial Services email of 11 Dec 2020).
 - So, for Leigh, $19/228 = 8.33\%$ increase

Based on the above, Leigh parish council asks Dorset Council to now reassess the Appendix 2 requirement for Leigh, by applying the stated policy for a Tier 4 smaller village as expressed in Section 2, paragraphs 2.6.20 and 21.

Alan Bennett
Chairman, Leigh parish council
16 March 2021