

# LEIGH PARISH

## Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Leigh Parish Annual meeting (7:00 PM) in Leigh Village Hall

1.	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Rachel Graham sent her apologies.</p> <p>16 residents of Leigh parish were in attendance.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>WELCOME</u></b></p> <p>Parish Council Chairman Steve Humphries was accepted as the 'by default' Facilitator/Moderator. He explained that it was a legal requirement for a parish to hold an annual meeting; and that, while it was the parish council Chairman's responsibility to facilitate, the meeting was otherwise entirely independent of the parish council. This was to ensure that residents have the opportunity to discuss issues that a parish council might have been 'blocking'. He accordingly welcomed those attending in the hall.</p>
3.	<p><b><u>TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE RECORDS</u></b></p> <p>Steve Humphries drew attention to the proposed minutes of last year's parish annual meeting, held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023. From the floor of the hall, Julie Taylor proposed acceptance and approval of the record. Alan Bennett seconded this motion. There were no objections.</p>
4.	<p><b><u>MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION ON THE AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>Following advertising of this annual parish meeting, no matters had been pre-notified by residents for inclusion on the agenda.</p> <p>Steve Humphries drew attention to the fact that, following a formal survey of traffic speeds within the village, the parish council was in consultation with Dorset Council regarding a 20mph limit within the confines of the village. Comments and suggestions from the floor included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Imposing a 'no -parking' restriction around the confines of Church corner.</li><li>• Using pedestrian 'painted walkways' (aka those in Yetminster near the railway bridge) at the 'danger points' along Chetnole Road.</li><li>• Re-invigorate and expand the existing painted 'Slow' and '30' markings on the road.</li><li>• The importance of reporting a 'near miss' or other incidents to Dorset Police – without such reports, Dorset Council was less than likely to expend significant funds on traffic calming measures.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Note: <a href="https://www.dorset.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/making-a-road-traffic-incident-report/">https://www.dorset.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/making-a-road-traffic-incident-report/</a> is a reliable and easy method of making such reports.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>Steve Humphries thanked those present for their comments, and asked if anyone present was against the concept of applying for a 20mph zone within the village. Nobody voiced such an opinion.</p> <p>The issue of sufficiently high internet speeds to homes (particularly those running a business) was raised. It is understood that, local resident, 'Bos' is conducting a survey; residents were encouraged to participate. Steve Humphries said that he would look to include the subject on a future parish council agenda, once the relevant information has been sent through, to assess whether the council was in a position to assist in any way.</p> <p>The ongoing issue of the poor state of Longbridge Drove at the Batcombe Road end was raised. Dorset Council Byways had recently refreshed the notices advising that the Drove (together with Morgan's and Bolters Drovers) remain closed to all traffic except pedestrians, for the next 6 months. Dorset Council future funding availability remains the determinant of when any improvement could be implemented. Residents were reminded that if they see anyone use it the droves improperly, that this needs to be reported to Dorset County Council.</p>

# LEIGH PARISH

5.	<p><b><u>REPORT BY LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL</u></b></p> <p>Steve Humphries referred to the attachment to the agenda, which gave details of the parish council's achievements during the past 12 months. In particular, he singled out ex Councillor Charlie Adey for her leadership regarding the most recent additions to the Play Park. He also drew attention to the newly planted hedge-row on the north side of the Green; the ongoing success of the annual litter pick; the on-going requirement to eradicate any incidents of dog-fouling; and that the 4% increase in the parish charge was less than recent inflation.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>REPORTS BY LEIGH COMMUNITY GROUPS</u></b></p> <p>Cate Dixon stated that, following on from the success of the 2022-2023 Leigh Talks! series of lectures, Leigh's Climate Change group continued to meet. Cate has issued a report that is available for all to see in more detail which will be available on the website, she drew particular attention to the 'make do and mend' sessions aimed at reusing products that people already own.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>ANY OTHER MATTERS</u></b></p> <p>No other issues were raised. In closing, Steve Humphries expressed his thanks, as the Chairman of the parish council, for the ongoing support of the community. In particular, he expressed thanks to those who act as the council's champions/representatives providing leadership on specific issues: Rachel Graham with regard to Footpaths; Sarah Rudd with regard to the Community Speed Watch; Graham Bugler with regard to the Defibrillator; Andrew Little with regard to the annual litter pick; Chris Fox with regard to the Boyles Trust; Gordon Morris with regard to the Candle Auction; Amélie Mahot with regard to keeping the dog poo-bag dispensers replenished. He also thanked last year's Coronation Committee with Michelle Read, Sam Sanderson and Sue Fudge along with their team for another excellent village event.</p> <p>He also expressed his thanks to his fellow councillors, who continue to serve the community without any financial recompense (and yet again, have made no claim for associated personal expenses incurred throughout the past year).</p> <p>From the floor, Sarah and John Ashford proposed, on behalf of residents, a vote of thanks to all the aforementioned. This was unanimously endorsed by all present.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b></p> <p>The date is set for Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025.</p>

Steve Humphries  
Chairman, Leigh parish council  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2024