

	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p><u>LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING</u></p> <p><u>TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2026 AT 19.00</u></p>	
	<p><u>PRESENT COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>Steve Humphries – Chair (SH) Sam Vincent – Vice Chair (SV) Julie Taylor (JT) Leonora Stewart (LS) Alan Bennett (AB) Alfie Southwell (AS)</p> <p>Members of the public: 7</p>	Formatted: Left
	<p>1. <u>OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair welcomed the audience to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. • There were no declarations of conflict of interest from any councillors. • The Chair declared that due to the number of people in the audience who had arrived to discuss item number 4 (Goals), he would move this item up the agenda so that any members could leave afterwards if they wished. 	Formatted: Font: Bold
	<p>2. <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>Kaye Elston (Clerk) had passed on her apologies, and they were accepted by all.</p>	Formatted: Font: Bold
	<p>4. <u>VILLAGE GREEN – GOALS (MOVED UP THE AGENDA)</u></p> <p>Following the previous meeting (13/1/26) and the agreed size of 12ft x 4ft goals, further information had been supplied by Julia Jepson, requesting the council reviewed the size and considered a larger set. Russell Jepson was in the audience and provided more information to the council as to why larger goals would be more beneficial to users. After much discussion, the Chair took the council to a vote, and 16ft x 6ft goals were agreed upon.</p> <p>The chairman thanked all those in the audience who had come along to express their support, for attending the meeting.</p>	Formatted: Font: Bold

3. VILLAGE GREEN – LEGAL

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3.1 Solicitors

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The council had four solicitors to choose from and unanimously agreed that they would select Porter Dodson to act for the parish council on the purchase of the freehold of the village green.

Proposed: Cllr Humphries

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Seconded: Cllr Taylor

All councillors in agreement

3.2 Overage Policy

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SH proposed that the parish council make a very straightforward and uncomplicated offer to the Edwards family regarding the overage policy that is to be put into place if the parish council look to sell the village green in the future.

AB suggested that the parish council cover their initial outlay of £30,000 for the leasehold, back in 2019, and that all other profits from the land go to the Edwards family. He also suggested that this be put in place until 2118, the current term of the lease.

The parish council would like to protect the village green for many years to come and ensure that it remains in its current state for the village to use and enjoy. AS suggested the parish council put a covenant in place to achieve this.

All councillors were in agreement with AB's proposal, and SH said that he would contact Joe Edwards to make him aware of the parish council's decisions.

Proposed: Cllr Bennett

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Seconded: Cllr Stewart

All councillors in agreement

JT suggested that the parish council appoint a dedicated councillor to liaise directly with the solicitors, to not take up the Clerk's limited hours, and that she was happy to put herself forward for this position, due to her experience in real estate and liaising with solicitors. All councillors were in agreement and thanked JT for taking on this role.

LS has looked into a JustGiving page for the council to potentially set up, which would help them raise funds to pay towards the legal fees in relation to the purchase of the green. LS said that the company take 2.9% plus £0.35 per donation as a fee that covers the cost of the service they provide. All councillors were in agreement that this was a good idea and thanked LS for her work on this

initiative. LS to finalise a draft copy of the page with some more details and circulate among councillors for final approval. This will be done over email.

5. DATE(S) OF NEXT MEETINGS

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Next scheduled meeting at 19.00 on **Tuesday 10 March 2026**.

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Subsequent 2026 meetings (village hall booked) as agreed:
12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November.