

**LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
For Meeting Held At Leigh Village Hall On  
20th September 2016 At 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Scutt, Cllr Bugler, Cllr Stillitano, Cllr Vincent, Cllr West, Cllr Bennett, DCllr Penfold, the Clerk and a large number of the general public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Smith.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Cllr Scutt at 11.4 planning application.
3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES
  - 3.1 It was resolved "THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016 BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN". Correction on Cllr Stillitano name noted. Proposed: Cllr Stillitano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Scutt. Unanimously agreed.
4. DISCUSSION PERIOD.- no discussion took place.
5. FINANCIAL MATTERS & ASSET REGISTER
  - 5.1 Clerk's salary for 2 months. Total: £305.94. Proposed: Cllr West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Bugler. Unanimously agreed
  - 5.2 Clerks invoice for 2 months broadband at £10 per month, £20. Proposed: Cllr West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Bugler. Unanimously agreed
  - 5.3 Zurich Insurance documents passed to Cllr Bennett to review.
  - 5.4 Comments from external audit regarding Leigh Parish Councils asset register circulated. Cllr Bennett explained the accounting process, asset register and how costs are attributed. BDO audit invoice for £36.00 unanimously agreed. . Proposed: Cllr Bennett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Bugler
  - 5.5 It was resolved "THAT THE PARISH CONCIL AGREE VIA EMAIL ANY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXPENSES UPTO THE VALUE OF £150. THIS MONEY TO THEN BE REIMBURSED FROM GRANTS RECEIVED FOR THE NEIGHBOUR PLAN DEVELOPMENT. Proposed: Cllr Scutt, Seconded: Cllr Bennett. Unanimously agreed.
  - 5.6 Cllr Bennett confirmed that 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 is the date when the precept demand needs to be submitted by. It was agreed a draft budget would be made to review at the November meeting but should alterations be required based on information received in December then the precept could be amended and confirmed at the January meeting. Cllr Stillitano asked about budgeting for the precept in view of County Council unification. As this has not been decided, it is difficult to budget for.
  - 5.8 DAPTC Subs £153.42, Cllr Bennett recommended payment. Proposed: Cllr Bennett, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr Bugler unanimously agreed.
  - 5.9 Welcome pack expenses of £35.36 unanimously agreed. Proposed: Cllr Vincent 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Bugler.
  - 5.10 Common Land and asset register was discussed. There are 3 parcels of land of common land, ownership of none of them is disputed. Cllr Bennett proposed that a land registry search should be done at approximate cost of £40. 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Bugler, Unanimously agreed.

6. OAK TREE PLAQUE

6.1 The plaque is now in place. Watering is been done by Cllr Stillitano.

7. PLAY PARK

7.1 Cllr Scutt outlined the position of the Council and the need to find a new location for the play area by 2020 or the facility will be lost. Discussion has taken place with the Land agent for purchase of an area by the Village Hall of 2 acres. If it is agreed that the land is purchased the proposal is that it is done over a 3 year period and could be financed by an increase in the precept over a 3 year period. Obviously grants would also be sought but the Council needs to consult to find out if the community are prepared to fund this facility through the precept, should applications for grants be unsuccessful. Cllr Scutt has completed a business plan in anticipation for funding applications. Whichever route the Parish decides to take a discussion needs to take place now as budgeting for the 2017-18 precept needs to be agreed by the end of January.

Potential costs would be in the region of a fee of £20,000 for 2 acres, an allowance for £5000 for legal fees, fencing and landscaping budgeted for £1500 and relocation of equipment £5000, with a contingency of £5000. Potential cost of £36,000. The land on offer is 2 acres; the seller does not want to part with smaller parcels of land. The best position for the play park would be in the corner of this area, with the rest of the land designated as a village green.

Cllr Bennett outlined the impact on the Leigh PC precept if no grants were forthcoming, and how this would translate across to the Parish Council element of residents' annual Council Tax Bill. Assuming the tax base does not change, a Band D house in Leigh currently paying £24.30 per annum would see its parish element increase to £76.35 per annum. This would make a 3.1% increase to a Band D property's present total Council Tax Bill (assuming the other elements (DCC, Police, Fire, WDCC) remained the same). If this charge was maintained for a three year period, it would generate £35,000 towards the above purchase costs. Thereafter, it is envisaged that the parish element would reduce to c.£31 per annum for a Band D property; this would generate sufficient additional income to cover annual maintenance costs (grass cutting, fence maintenance etc).

Numerous questions were taken from the public, looking at location, noise, alternative funding, and alternative positioning of the park, planning, ongoing maintenance costs etc.

Council members explained that this item had been on the agenda since 2014, on the minutes and the website. Unfortunately very few people attend meetings or take an active interest normally.

It was emphasized that no decisions have been made, the play park will be lost if action is not taken. The Parish Council wished to gage the feeling of the community prior to any decisions.

It was agreed that a plan of the proposed play area and green space would be made available for the next meeting. That should anything move forward that a pre application for planning would be put in place prior to purchase. That another notice would be put in the Wriggle Valley Magazine for discussion at the November meeting.

Cllr Scutt felt it was important to keep the play park and the Neighbourhood plan meetings separate as there would be potential for confusion in objectives otherwise.

It was agreed that Play park committee minutes would be published on website.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- 8.1 Cllr Richard was not present to report. Cllr Scutt chaired a meeting in his absence which agreed on a shortened form of questionnaire which will be printed and go out to every household in Leigh, will then be collated and moved forward.

9. DATA PROTECTION

- 9.1 Cllr Stillitano has begun a data protection plan to forward to Cllr Scutt.

10. TRAFFIC SPEED IN LEIGH

- 10.1 Mr Denham outlined a report he has made on speed in Leigh. It was agreed that Councilors would digest and report back at the next meeting. The report will be attached to the minutes.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

- 11.1 Local Council Paperless Consultation Project update circulated.

- 11.2 APPLICATION NO: WD/D/16/000787

PROPOSAL: Installation of wrought iron gates at entrance to farm (retrospective)

LOCATION; CHURCH FARM, CHETNOLE ROAD, LEIGH, SHERBORNE, DT96HL.

PC COMMENT: - No objection. Submitted 5/7/16

- 11.3 APPLICATION NO: WD/D/16/001534

PROPOSAL: Extend the existing slurry store with an earth banked lagoon.

LOCATION: DRUMMERS FARM, BATCOMBE ROAD, LEIGH, SHERBORNE, DT9 6JA.

PC COMMENT: No objection submitted 19/8/16

- 11.4 APPLICATION NO: WD/D/16/001737

PROPOSAL: Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic (Retrospective).

LOCATION; BRAMBLESHAW, SOUTH STREET, LEIGH, SHERBORNE, DT9 6JG

PC COMMENT: No objection submitted 19/8/16

12. RESHAPING THE COUNCIL

- 12.1 Reshaping your councils - Consultation on unitary proposals for Dorset. Questionnaire circulated.

- 12.2 Cllr Stillitano attend the recent workshop, he reported that there is a consultation going on within DCC, 9 local authorities are consulting to reduce to 2 or 3. There was not a great deal of information given on how much money would be saved, what services would change and how these services would be delivered. Consultation started in September and will end of October. Cllr Penfold reported that there is a website available to review and there will be further consultation. By 2020 there will be no government funding.

13. WORKING TOGETHER CONSULTATIONS

- 13.1 Working Together - Dorset Highways and Town and Parish Councils

- 13.2 Cllr Scutt met with CCllr Hall on the details of this working together consultation. She reported to Cllr Hall that the Parish Council does not have the expertise, contractual understanding or time to take on the regular responsibilities of these increased duties. The consultation is going to the legal department for consideration.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- 14.1 Dorset Highways Performance Report 2015/16

- 14.2 DAPTC Summer 2016 magazine

- 14.3 8 different road traffic regulations notices received.
- 14.4 DAPTC CE Circular June 2016
- 14.5 Dog Related Public Space Protection Order
- 14.6 Extraordinary Chief Executives Circular - DAPTC Annual General Meeting 2016
- 14.7 Local Council Paperless Consultation Project
- 14.8 Dorset Highways Top 12 Performance - Q1 16/17
- 14.9 NHS Dorset CCG clinical review – update
- 14.10 Request To Relay Link To NALC Community Led Housing Survey [30/9 Response Deadline].
- 14.11 Power cut? New phone number 105 launches in September
- 14.12 Opportunities for community and voluntary groups
- 14.13 Dorset Highways Councillors Satisfaction Survey 2016
- 14.14 NALC Bulletin on national developments and meetings - 5 August 2016
- 14.15 Dorset Local Access Forum Recruitment - Deadline: Friday 23 September 2016
- 14.16 SAVE THE DATE - Workshops on Local Government Reorganisation - September 2016
- 14.18 Beer Mill Mead Conservation Fund disposal emails circulated.

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

- 15.1 Cllr Bugler updated the meeting with regards to the defibrillator being installed at the Village Hall. South West Ambulance are all in favour of the plan and the Village Hall Committee are organising its placement on the outside wall. A grant for the full amount and installation has been received. Hopefully it will be in place for Christmas. It will be advertised in the Wriggle Valley Magazine and training will be provided.
- 15.2 Mr Read brought to attention of the Parish Council the destruction along Bound Lane by 4 x 4's. It was agreed that Trevor Evans would be asked to look into this.
- 15.3 It was agreed that the Agenda would be put on the website.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING –15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm.