

## LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE SMALL HALL, HIGH STREET, LEIGH ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 8.00PM

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**PRESENT:** Cllr R. Britain, Cllr P. Croft, Cllr A. Johnston, Cllr J. Kaye and Cllr G. Marchant  
**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. C. Stratton-Brown (Chairman), Cllr R. Lake, Cllr L. Provan and Cllr S. Smith  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs L. Kleinschmidt (Clerk). County and District Cllr Lake and members of the public attended the meeting for the Open Session only.

#### Closed Session

**64. To appoint temporary Chairman of Leigh Parish Council whilst Cllr Stratton-Brown is absent**

Cllr Croft proposed that Cllr Kaye stand as Chairman for a temporary period whilst Cllr Stratton-Brown is absent, recovering from the injuries sustained in a road traffic accident. This was seconded by Cllr Britain and all were in favour. Cllr Kaye agreed to stand and was appointed with immediate effect.

#### Open Session

Bruce and Nicky Williams attended the meeting in order to thank the Parish Council and District Cllr Lake for their support regarding the planning application at Manor Buildings.

#### Report by District Cllr Lake

District Cllr Lake reported that the waste transfer station at North Farm, Tunbridge Wells, will close on 17<sup>th</sup> September for ten weeks. People will need to use Dunbrik in the meantime. The application at Manor Buildings will be refused and the applicant will be asked to provide further evidence if he decides to re-apply. The application at Brookside Barn has also been refused and if the applicant wishes to re-apply, more accurate measurements will need to be supplied. D.Cllr Lake said that the roads in the area are in a dreadful state. KCC will be spending an additional £3m on pothole repairs but roads need resurfacing. He added that he will be seeing the Highways Manager in the next week and will drive around the parish pointing out issues that require attention, and if there are any specific issues, please let him know. D.Cllr Lake reported that KCC is stopping the bus route around Sevenoaks Weald, and to reinstate it will cost £35,000. D.Cllr Lake suggested that this funding is passed to Sevenoaks Weald Parish Council and they could perhaps purchase a community minibus. Colin Bastable asked D.Cllr Lake whether the Kent highways online reporting system works, and D.Cllr Lake said that yes the highways team respond quickly to faults logged on the system.

D.Cllr Lake and Mr and Mrs Williams left the meeting at 8.20pm.

#### Closed Session

- 65. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Stratton-Brown, Cllr Lake, Cllr Provan and Cllr Smith, and members accepted their reasons for absence.
- 66. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Non-Pecuniary Interest on matters to be discussed**  
None.
- 67. The minutes of the Leigh Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017** were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr Marchant, seconded by Cllr Johnston and all were in favour.
- 68. To discuss process of co-opting a new member to replace Cllr Lake**  
The Clerk reported that there were no requests for an election, and therefore the Parish Council may co-opt a new member. There are currently three applications to fill the vacancy. It was agreed that informal interviews would be carried out by Cllr Kaye, Cllr Johnston, Cllr Marchant and the Clerk.

## 69. Planning

### i. To consider applications received

The Clerk reported that the Planning Committee considered the following applications and comments were submitted:

- i. SE/17/02140/HOUSE: Elvanin, Lower Green, Leigh TN11 8RU - demolition of existing porch and garage, erection of a two storey side extension with attached garage, erection of a single storey side extension with first floor extension above, conservation roof window to new bathroom. Members supported this application.
- ii. SE/17/01228/HOUSE: Brookside Barn, Eggpie Lane, Weald TN14 6NP - the erection of a detached garage. Members agreed the following response: "Leigh Parish Council strongly objects to this application, as the proposed development would materially harm the openness of the Green Belt through both excessive bulk and serious visual intrusion and would thereby contravene Policy GB3. In this regard, it must be remembered that Brookside Barn has been developed in a wood, which is a priority habitat under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. The Parish Council fully supports the contents of Mr Stuart Adair's letter. Leigh Parish Council has been advised by Mr Adair that he owns the final 15 yards of the access to the road. We are also aware that the barn can be seen from the road and believe that the garage will be as well. Given that the application is misleading, the Parish Council not only wishes to oppose this application but recommends that this application is declared invalid."
- iii. SE/17/02148/HOUSE: 6 The Square, High Street, Leigh TN11 8RJ - erection of a small garden shed / summerhouse. Members supported this application.
- iv. SE/17/01581/HOUSE: 9 Wyndham Avenue, Leigh TN11 8RB - extension of existing patio. Members agreed the following response: "Leigh Parish Council strongly opposes this application. The new pier built without approval in the rear garden of 9 Wyndham Avenue has a large detrimental impact on the residents of 8 Wyndham Avenue. Anyone standing on this pier can easily see into the garden and a bedroom of 8 Wyndham Avenue, and it would not help the situation by adding a further 0.85m to the fence as that would result in the fence being 2.90m high at ground level of 8 Wyndham Avenue. The measurements included in the application are incorrect. The actual fence height is 1.23m not 1.8m as shown on the plan. Leigh Parish Council feel that this application should therefore be declared invalid. If SDC does not wish to declare the application invalid, then the Parish Council strongly objects to this proposal and asks that the applicant be asked to remove the pier."
- v. SE/17/01855/HOUSE: Rookery View, Penshurst Road, Leigh TN11 8HL - demolish existing single storey side and rear extension and conservatory, erection of a two storey side extension with rooflight. Amended plans to show reduced floor area. Members supported this application, providing that the proposal does not breach the 50% rule.
- vi. SE/17/02382/HOUSE: Wood End, Greenview Avenue, Leigh TN11 8QT - first floor side extension. Members supported this application.
- vii. SE/17/02248/LDCEX: Land south of Hollow Trees Drive, Leigh TN11 8RD - Certificate of Lawfulness of existing use or development (CLEUD) under the provisions of S.191 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for the use of a building for residential purposes (within class C3 of the Town & Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended)). Members agreed that if this application satisfies planning policy they had no objection.

### Applications for Tree Works

- i. SE/17/02352/WTCA: Podium House, The Green, Leigh TN11 8QN - fell one tree in the Conservation Area. SDC had no objection to this work.
- ii. SE/17/02692/WTCA: Old Kennards, Hildenborough Road, Leigh TN11 8RE –
  - 1 and 2 - pollard willows (regularly pollarded every few years)
  - 3 and 4 - remove rear part of large leylandii to allow hornbeam hedge behind to fully grow
  - 5 - removal of a conifer leaning at an alarming angle
  - 6 - removal of partially removed conifer now suffocating recently planting Portuguese laurel
  - 7 - cut back overgrown conifers
  - 8 - removal of mis-shaped ash overhanging driveway
  - 9- removal of overhanging hawthorn

10 - removal of overhanging branch of large ash

11 - remove small oak to allow others to develop

12 - remove small hawthorn

Cllr Kaye declared a DPI on this application. SDC had no objection to these works.

iii. SE/17/02645/WTCA: Chilling House, High Street, Leigh TN11 8RH – various works to trees in the Conservation Area. Cllr Croft said that he has no objection to this work.

ii. To report SDC planning application decisions

- SE/17/02090/WTPO: The Old Burial Ground, High Street, Leigh – works to trees with TPO, including the removal of all dead and broken branches from the oak tree, the removal of all basal growth from the two lime trees and the removal of the basal growth from the holly. Application approved.
- SE/ 17/01631/HOUSE: Middle Cottage, 42 Well Close, Leigh: single storey rear extension and single storey front extension to form porch. Application approved.
- SE/17/01689/MMA: Applebys, Tonbridge Road Chiddingstone Causeway: Minor Material Amendment to application SE/14/03285/HOUSE (external alterations to existing garage barn and conversion to a self-contained dwelling, relocation of shed) in order to make changes to external fenestration. Application approved.
- SE/17/01678/HOUSE: 2 Hunter Seal, Leigh: single storey side and rear extension. Application approved.
- SE/17/01820/HOUSE: Fairlawn, Hollow Trees Drive, Leigh: erection of a single storey rear, side and front extension, alterations to fenestration. Application approved.
- SE/17/01855/HOUSE: Rookery View, Penshurst Road, Leigh: demolish existing single storey side and rear extension and conservatory. Erection of a two storey side extension with rooflight. Application approved.
- SE/17/02140/HOUSE: Elvanin, Lower Green, Leigh: demolition of existing porch and garage. Erection of a 2 storey side extension with attached garage. Erection of a single storey side extension to existing kitchen, with first floor extension above. Conservation roof window to new bathroom. Application approved.

iii. To consider SDC's Local Plan Issues and Options consultation

The Clerk reported that SDC launched the Local Plan Issues and Options consultation on 3rd August and this will run until 5pm on 5th October 2017. This document is available at [www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/issuesandoptions](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/issuesandoptions).

Consultation Arrangements

The consultation period runs from 3rd August to 5th October at 5pm.

- Monday 11th September, 2pm to 8pm (Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1HG)
- Tuesday 12th September, 2pm to 8pm (Edenbridge Town Council, Rickards Hall, Edenbridge TN8 5AR)
- Wednesday 13th September, 2pm to 8pm Swanley Town Council, St Marys Road, Swanley)
- Thursday 14th September, 2pm to 8pm (Westerham Town Council, Russell House, Market Square, Westerham TN16 1RB)
- Friday 15th September, 5pm to 8pm (New Ash Green Village Association, Centre Road, New Ash Green DA3 8HH)

As part of the current public consultation on the Local Plan Issues and Options, SDC has asked Town and Parish Councils to a Local Plan Placemaking Workshop at Rickard's Hall, Edenbridge, TN8 5AR on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. The workshop will include discussions centred on the 6 objectives of the Local Plan:

1. Promote housing choice for all
2. Promote well designed, safe places and safeguard and enhance the District's distinctive high quality natural and built environments
3. Support a vibrant local economy both urban and rural
4. Support lively communities with well performing town and village centres which provide a range of services, facilities and infrastructure
5. Promote healthy living opportunities

## 6. Promote a greener future

### Included in the consultation

- i. The Clerk reported that SDC has classed the following as deliverable: Garages at Old Orchard, Charcott - 3-4 residential units
- ii. SDC has classed the following as unsuitable: Land at Greenview Avenue, Leigh - zero yield
- iii. The following is listed as having pending or existing conditions: Land at Burton Avenue - 5 residential dwellings

Members wished to object to the inclusion of the garages at Old Orchard Charcott because it would remove valuable parking space for residents of the flats. The access and the lane are both very narrow and would not allow for parked cars.

#### iv. Possible Breach of Planning Consent at Rookhurst, Powdermill Lane

The Clerk reported that she wrote to SDC to say that a substantial brick base had been laid without planning approval. There is a large new building on site. SDC responded by saying "we will contact you and will let you know what action, if any, we propose to take." Clerk to chase. The Clerk has also contacted Licensing to enquire whether the property has a licence for keeping dogs. They have said that there is no animal boarding establishment licence for homeboarding at the property Rookhurst. Under current arrangements, they would not need a licence to run a doggy day care centre. If a local resident wishes to complain about the barking, they should call SDC on 01732 227000 and log it with the contact centre.

#### v. Old Powder Mills

Email from Eddie Boutland regarding the damage to verges in Powder Mill Lane by development traffic connected to the Old Powder Mills site. Bruce Williams has said "My understanding from conversations with Peter Lake and Bellway is that there is an agreement between Bellway and KCC Roads and Highways that on completion of the development there is to be a joint assessment of the verges/roadway by both parties based on a condition survey carried out at commencement and repairs will accordingly be undertaken by Bellway."

#### vi. Manor Buildings, Powder Mill Lane

The Clerk reported that there were many emails over the summer between the planning officer, Mike Holmes, District Cllr Peter Lake and Bruce Williams. There has finally been verbal confirmation that Mike Holmes will refuse the application, see Open Session above.

## 70. The Green:

#### i. To hear update regarding the programmed improvement works to The Green

The Clerk reported that Bourne Amenity have mowed the new football pitch, plus the rest of The Green, they have applied fertilizer and sand top dressing. They have carried out verti-draining and overseeding. To do: another application of sand top dressing.

#### ii. To agree costs of replacement goal post sockets

Bourne Amenity have quoted £1,400 + VAT to supply and install the goal post sockets. The first football match will be on 16<sup>th</sup> September and the Clerk is in contact with Derek Furneaux regarding the positioning of the goal posts and the marking of the pitch. Members felt that this is very expensive but given the short timescale before the first match, members agreed the cost unless the Football Club is able to find an alternative.

#### iii. To hear update regarding repair of bench on The Green

The Clerk reported that she has chased Bourne Amenity, who have said that they will collect the seat, make the necessary repairs, and return the seat to The Green.

#### iv. To hear update regarding the proposed erection of netting outside Elizabeth Cottage

Cllr Marchant reported that he tried to meet Ian Bishop to discuss the netting, but provided that the netting and the post sockets are off the line for future kerbing, then he would recommend that the Parish Council approves the proposal. He undertook to meet the resident and the cricket club when the netting is erected, probably next spring.

#### v. To consider request for a Langton Green youth football team to play on The Green on Sundays

The Clerk reported that the project manager for the improvement works on The Green, Richard Earl, said that The Green is generally progressing well aside from isolated patches where grass needs to develop further, which would have been helped by the recent rain.

He said that, provided the pitch is well-maintained, it should be able to support between 3 to 6 hours of use per week. Leigh Football Team use the pitch for 5 hours a week. It was agreed therefore that it was important that new grass on The Green has an opportunity this year to establish, and it may be possible for the Langton Green youth team to use the pitch during the 2018/19 season.

- vi. To discuss and agree costs relating to work to trees on The Green
- i. The Clerk reported that she asked RWE Rural Services to look at the chestnut trees on The Green. The Clerk subsequently met Ben on The Green, who said that one of the trees has a split that will need further investigation. It is at the union of the trunk and a branch. The whole tree looks very sad and limp. Ben suggested that Sam Bateson carries out an investigation of the tree. He also suggested that mulching would benefit all the chestnut trees. RWE has quoted £247.50 + VAT to carry out a climb, aerial inspection and report of the tree. Members approved the work.
  - ii. The Clerk reported that another chestnut tree has two limbs that need reducing. One limb has an old wound at the base of the branch and needs reducing to reduce the weight, and the other limb needs reducing and reshaping as it hangs low and it looks as though children swing on the branch. This is a safety critical issue. Members approved the work. Clerk to seek approval from SDC.
  - iii. The Clerk reported that there is a Lime tree in the Old Burial Ground that has some decay. RWE has suggested an inspection of the base cavity and a resistograph to detect the level of decay. They have quoted £214.50 + VAT to carry out this work. Members approved the work.

## 71. Charcott:

- i. To hear update regarding the installation of the new defibrillator in the adopted phone box  
The Clerk reported that the new defibrillator and cabinet will shortly be installed in the telephone box. Cllr Lake has made the arrangements with a local electrician.
- ii. To hear update regarding the possibility of moving the bus stop onto land belonging to The Redleaf Trust and erecting a bus shelter  
Cllr Lake reported that Jonathan Booth at Lambert & Foster has replied to say that The Trustees acknowledge that the bus stop needs to be improved for safety reasons but would rather the bus stop remains in its present location but is set back from the road to allow for a shelter to be constructed. He said that if agreement in principle on its location is reached, he will revert to the Trustees for further instructions on this matter. Members agreed to the Trustees suggestion and Clerk to contact Lambert & Foster accordingly.

## 72. Highways & Environment

- i. To hear update regarding the proposal to initiate double yellow lines in Leigh  
The Clerk reported that the following has been included in a Parking Amendment Order by SDC: High Street, Leigh – yellow line junction, bend and pinch-point protection opposite Powder Mill Lane and near The Green requested by Leigh Parish Council. Peter Lake has kindly agreed to fund this through his Members Fund, but members suggested that the Parish Council pays from CIL funding, if C.Cllr Lake has not already committed the funding.
- ii. To hear update regarding the Rural Swathe and Visibility Cutting Contract 2017  
The Clerk reported that the third cut will be done during the first half of October.
- iii. To hear update regarding the clearance of Crandalls Pond  
The Clerk reported that SDC's contractor cleared the pond during July and it seemed to go without any problems. Cllr Johnston said that there were complaints about the damage to the verge by the pond, but said that it will recover. Members agreed that the pond itself is much improved.
- iv. To discuss action taken to reduce dog fouling  
The Clerk reported that two wooden signs have been ordered and Cllr Croft agreed to put them up at the end of Greenview Avenue. The Clerk has also ordered an aluminum sign to be placed on the fence, and she mentioned this in the September edition of the parish magazine.
- v. To discuss the litter pick on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Cllr Kaye reported that the next litter pick has been arranged for the 7<sup>th</sup> October, meeting at 9.30am on The Green.

Cllr Britain said that this will be useful as it will be after the Half Marathon the previous weekend. Clerk to borrow the kit from SDC.

vi. To discuss the hedge at Well Close

The Clerk reported that Robin Hadley at KCC has said that the hedge does not belong to KCC and they only cut it last time as there were complaints that it was obstructing the road. The Clerk has carried out a Land Registry search for the title and the plan of the property. This has cost £31.20. Members approved the expenditure and Cllr Kaye and Cllr Britain undertook to look at the documents and item to be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

**73. Rights of Way**

i. To hear ROW committee report

Cllr Kaye reported that the Countryside Access Warden training was planned for 30<sup>th</sup> July but it was cancelled by KCC PROW. A new date has yet to be arranged.

ii. To hear update regarding occurrences of inappropriate behaviour on SR430

Email from Highways England regarding the layby on the A21: "Thank you for your email on 28 June about graffiti on a footbridge over the A21 in the Leigh area. Firstly regarding the graffiti, our local depot has made arrangements to remove the graffiti from the area and on the footbridge, I'd like to thank you for letting us know about this problem. Turning to your comments about the behaviour of people in the area, I can certainly appreciate the shock of your female companion at an unexpected and unwanted sight, if you haven't already, I would strongly suggest contacting Kent Police about this as unfortunately there is little that we can do to enforce this. Currently we have no plans to change or close any section of the layby and car park here. We do completely appreciate your concerns and I'd like to let you know that we've recorded this issue as a near miss, which we will look into further. Should our investigations recommend that changes are made, we will consider those as part of our future improvement works on our network."

iii. To hear update regarding the request for a permissive path at Paul's Hill Cottage

None.

**74. Affordable Housing: To hear update regarding the Leigh Affordable Housing Scheme**

The Clerk reported that the list of possible sites for a small scheme of affordable housing together with the individual maps have been sent to Simon Taylor at SDC. He will visit the sites and then assess the sites according to SDC's criteria for rural affordable housing.

**75. Aviation: To hear report of the High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group**

The Clerk reported that Richard Streatfeild has agreed to temporarily chair the HWCAAG until Cllr Stratton-Brown has recovered. Currently, Martin Barraud and Richard Streatfeild are in the process of drafting a request to the Noise Management Board that still air protocol (the shared use of easterly and westerly arrivals when there is nil or low wind, rather than the current westerly only approaches) is subjected to a trial. HWCAAG has stressed that any trial must be carried out on the basis that any subsequent permanent change would be subject to either a full airspace change process or a permanent and planned redistribution of airspace process.

**76. Leigh Village Halls report**

None.

**77. Aged Persons Dwellings**

Cllr Marchant and Cllr Croft undertook to look at the path and step at No.2 The Bungalows.

**78. To report on correspondence received**

The Clerk reported that lists of correspondence received have been circulated, and drew members' attention to the following:

- i. Item 3: Email from Tigger Boyne regarding the area of The Green to the north of the B2027: "I am so upset, that grass was green with the meadow vetch showing and clover, it has now been scalped and so turns brown.

“Unless we have rain it will stay like that, and every summer this happens a huge expanse of brown scorched grass in front of the church. I do not want long grass there, but surely it could be cut less often and the blades raised to avoid this.”

- ii. Item 5: Kent Police:
  - Barnetts Road: between 1:00pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and 7:00pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, the front number plate was stolen from a Seat Leon parked in a driveway.
  - Crandalls: on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July between 2:30am and 7:45am, a shed at a residential property was broken into, padlock damaged and fishing equipment stolen.
  - Compasses: on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August around 2:29pm, a flower bed outside a public house has been vandalised.
- iii. Item 11: Email from Glynis Rogers: “I am a resident of Hollow Trees Leigh. Please see my email dated 21st July addressed to SDC Planning. You will see I am concerned about the building at the rear of Garden Cottages, Leigh where an access road is being built around the rear of the gardens and a car park is being built across the rear of the plot. I am surprised at this as it wasn't in the detailed plans and wasn't part of the consultation and also as neither the Parish Council nor Sevenoaks had any issue with parking capacity in the road at Garden Cottages. Indeed the planning inspector who heard the appeal regarding the application for houses on either side actually made the point that he was not considering parking as it was not an issue. My concern is that if it is not permitted it is much more difficult to stop.” Clerk to liaise with D.Cllr Lake and to contact enforcement officers at SDC.
- iv. Item 15: EDF is holding a series of roadshows to give stakeholders the opportunity to engage directly with them, give feedback on the services they provide today and in the future. At these roadshows they will be discussing:
  - how they support vulnerable consumers during a storm;
  - how they provide a customer service that suits all of their customers' needs;
  - how they are innovating to deliver a reliable service and protect the environmentThe dates and locations for the three upcoming Roadshows are:
  - Friday 29th September: Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Canterbury Cathedral, The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2EH
  - Monday 2nd October: Firstsite, Lewis Gardens, High St, Colchester, CO1 1JH
  - Monday 9th October: The Salvation Army Regent Hall, 275 Oxford Street, London, W1C 2DJEach event will take place between 9am and 12:30pm with breakfast served from 8.30am.
- v. Item 16: KALC Sevenoaks: “The next meeting of Sevenoaks KALC will be on Friday 8th September at Sevenoaks Town Council offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3QG - starting at 7pm. At our last meeting we had a presentation from Cllr Roddy Hogarth portfolio holder at SDC for Economic Development. This was an opportunity to gather some ideas as to how we in the parishes could assess the input of the District into the support of our local economies. I attended a presentation by SDC Leader Peter Fleming outlining the significant decisions and steps being taken to make SDC independent of Government funding. Cllr Fleming has agreed to be at our meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September. We are also waiting for confirmation that the new Police Area Commander can join us. I recently gave a presentation on KALC to the SDC Clerks' Forum, and part of the feedback was that we should rethink the day of the week that we hold our meetings. I appreciate that we cannot satisfy everyone but I believe we should perhaps try out something different. Perhaps we can briefly debate this at the meeting.”
- vi. Item 17: KALC: An Introduction to Planning for Local Councils at The Assembly Rooms, Church Approach, New Romney TN28 8AS on 23rd October 6:30pm to 9.30pm. Cost £60 + VAT per delegate.
- vii. Item 18: SDC: “We are delighted to announce the Sevenoaks Housing Forum will mark the launch of our newly adopted Housing Strategy. The Forum will be held on 3rd November at the Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1HG, from 3pm to 5pm. Light refreshments will be served prior to the event from 2.30pm. Further details of the Forum will follow nearer the time, including confirmation of our guest speakers - we are hoping the Rt Hon. Sir Michael Fallon, MP (and Secretary of State for Defence) will be in attendance. Please let us know if you would like to attend.”

- viii. Item 20: KCC: Kent County Council gives notice that Coppings Road, Leigh will be closed to through traffic, on or after 4 September for up to 6 days. The road will be closed at the junction with Scabharbour Road and Compasses Hill. The closure is necessary to enable carriageway patching works to be carried out by KCC Highways.
- ix. Item 22: Email from Dan Eaton regarding a possible school trip to Ypres.

**79. To hear update regarding resident's request for provision of a small skate and scooter trick area**

The Clerk reported that she has heard back from Hilddenborough Parish Council regarding their experiences in this regard. "Apologies for the delay in responding. We don't have a skateboard trick area although we were thinking about it at one time and got as far as planning it but in the end the Parish Council decided it might be an attraction to youngsters some distance away and as we had been experiencing a lot of vandalism at the time they didn't go ahead. There were other reasons as well, they really are very large and reach quite a height which it was felt was not conducive to our Recreation Ground as well as cost. They felt that the cost of the outlay and maintenance would not benefit enough local residents to warrant the outlay." Reluctantly, members agreed that they would not be able to proceed further with this proposal because, firstly the safety aspect of the equipment is very important, secondly there is nowhere to site the equipment and thirdly they were concerned about the cost involved as the budget is tight this year. Clerk to contact the resident who raised the issue.

**80. To hear report of the summer family fun play event**

The Clerk reported that there was a good turnout on the day, which was warm and sunny. There were plenty of activities for the children.

**81. Finance:**

i. To discuss the Clerk's salary

Cllr Kaye reported that Cllr Stratton-Brown told him that the Parish Council should consider the number of hours worked by the Clerk as she does more hours than she is paid for. He suggested that an increase in hours of approximately 2.5% should be considered. Clerk thanked members for their consideration and item to be discussed at the next meeting.

ii. To discuss the CIL income and consider possible projects that could be funded by this income

i. Email from Simon Taylor: "In terms of CIL for Leigh Parish Council and how it can be spent, I have received a response from our Legal team. I asked for their view on three particular projects that the Parish Council would like to spend CIL money on.

i. The Cricket Pavilion – it is considered that that the pavilion would fall to be infrastructure under sporting and recreational facilities. It will then depend on the nature of the works. Improvement and maintenance can both be fine. Minor works would be more difficult to justify, particularly if this would fall into the category of day-to-day spending. In such a case this would not be supporting development.

ii. Drainage for the Green - this could fall into sporting and recreational infrastructure. It seems that this would be possibly improving the capacity and resilience of The Green and so would be an improvement allowing greater use.

iii. Installation of double yellow lines - Section 216 refers to "roads and other transport facilities". Some District/Borough Councils have placed yellow lines on their CIL Regulation 123 lists and it could be reasonable suggest that yellow lines could class as infrastructure. Whether CIL money can be spent will depend on where the restrictions will be and why they are necessary. If, for example, they are to deal with growing traffic at the centre of the village (that would be exacerbated by increased use) then this would be suitable. However, if they are merely to deal with an existing, isolated, residential road then this does not seem suitable.

ii. The Clerk reported that, following a meeting of SDC Clerks in July, Richard Morris said that the Planning Policy and GIS team are working together on a piece of work to create a GIS overlay, so that there will be real time information on the website showing how much CIL has come in, how much is allocated, how much unspent and how much has been paid/is due to each local council.

- iii. Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) adopted its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in February 2014, and began charging on liable developments since August 2014. CIL is a charge on development where the amount received by the Council is dependent on the size and location of the development and also the type of development proposed. The money collected through CIL can only be spent on Infrastructure and the spending of this money is managed by Sevenoaks District Council as the charging authority. The Council has recently agreed its Governance arrangements and has now opened the bidding process to the CIL Spending Board. The deadline for CIL bids will be Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017.
- iii. To approve payment of cheques  
Cllr Kaye proposed that the list of cheques be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Britain and all were in favour.

**82. Items for reporting or inclusion in future agenda**

None.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

**LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
LIST OF CHEQUES  
September 2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail of payment</b>	<b>Amount Inc. VAT</b>	<b>VAT</b>
07.08.17	1849	Clerk	Salary August	£686.82	
07.08.17	1850	HMRC	PAYE	£253.39	
07.08.17	1851	KCC	Pension contribution	£273.69	
04.09.17	1852	Clerk	Salary September	£686.82	
04.09.17	1853	HMRC	PAYE	£253.39	
04.09.17	1854	Clerk	Mileage & office expenses Aug & Sept	£255.28	
04.09.17	1855	KCC	Pension contribution	£273.69	
04.09.17	1856	Bourne Amenity	The Green project plus regular maintenance	£8,707.36	£1,451.23
04.09.17	1857	RWE Rural Services	Tree work	£1,980.00	£330.00
04.09.17	1858	Shaw & Sons Ltd	Purchase two minute books	£182.38	£30.40
04.09.17	1859	SDC	Contribution to clearance of Crandalls Pond	£522.00	£87.00
04.09.17	1860	SDC	Hire Bulk Refuse Freighter 15.07.17	£93.60	£15.60
04.09.17	1861	Chiddingstone PC	Contribution to advert boards for play event	£50.00	
04.09.17	1862	Mr P. Croft	Mowing	£375.00	
04.09.17	1863	Mr R. Croft	Mowing	£156.00	
<b>Total</b>				<b><u>£14,749.42</u></b>	<b><u>£1,914.23</u></b>