

Signed by Chairman Cllr T Pepperall 2nd June 2005

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 28th April 2005

1. Apologies for absence; Cllr M Groom, and Cllr V Saunders.
Present, Cllrs Pepperall(Chair), Bennett, Brimacombe, Holloway, Quartly-Bishop, & Saunders.

As the acoustics' in the room are poor, members were requested to speak one at a time.

2. Confirm minutes of 7th April 2005. The minutes were altered to say that the noisy manhole cover was between The Beeches and The Butts and it was noted that it may well be BT not Water.
The Lengthsmen had been requested to cut back hedge along Lydiard Green was changed to verge near the Beeches. The minutes were duly amended and signed by Cllr Pepperall.

3. Invitation for local PC to speak. There was no report.

4. County Councillor's report and questions arising. There was no report.

5. District Councillor's report and questions arising. There was no report.

The Chairman explained that the CPRE have joined Cllr Grooms' fight for judicial revenue on the proposed tunnel under the M4. The request for donations from the Parish Council towards this review will be brought to the June 2nd Meeting.

6. Parishioners' Question Time.

- Update was requested on the Cemetery figures. It was reported that there were 60 Burial plots and 60 Cremation plots left, which with an average of 3/4 burials p.a. is approx. 15 years. 5/6 cremations p.a. is approx. 10 years left. There were approximately 10 Burial and 7 Cremation plots pre-purchased.
- It was asked what the Parish Plan criterion was on how potential development plots were identified.

The working groups had taken plans of the parish and had identified, without prejudice, areas that could in the future become viable building sites.

It was made clear that not all the owners of the land identified had been personally visited by the Structure group, and that a breakdown in communication had caused confusion and distress.

It was generally agreed that this subject had needed more care than was given and some elderly parishioners had been deeply upset, and continue to be so. They did not understand that this was a hypothetical suggestion, and that nobody was going to compulsory purchase their land.

Cllr Baker had been unintentionally misled by the Chairman of the Parish Council that the land initially identified in Buryfield was on the other side of the road coming in at an angle, on which Cllr Baker had re-assured the land owners with this information.

Cllr Quartly Bishop had been concerned about the wording on the questionnaire and that it had not clearly identified the areas of land in question, which had lead

to more confusion when the draft plan was printed with the areas clearly delineated.

It was agreed that although the Council were not directly responsible for the Parish Plan, they would ensure that the Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Committee make a full apology to those that had been distressed.

On a positive note it was congratulated as a tremendous achievement to get so many involved with such support; lessons will be learnt from the breakdown in communications.

There was much overlap with the School Travel Plan, with shared objectives. Working together could realise some of the aims, particularly with footpaths and traffic calming on access routes to school. Sources of funding change yearly and will need to be identified at the time for specific projects. Safe Routes to School last year raised £15,000.

Unfortunately projects from completed Parish Plans do not attract funding to take them to fruition.

The Plan is now open to the Parish Council to choose the most important and realistic targets for the future and to either precept them or locate appropriate grant funding.

- A makeover has been suggested for the cemetery, which is reported to be an eyesore when visitors and the bereaved come to use the site.

The work on the spoil area, which has been precepted for, has not been commenced. The notice board was said to be in poor condition, there is long grass and brambles growing out of the conifers at the far end of the cemetery, and the dustbins are constantly overflowing.

The Chairman replied that the Groundsman had been requested to deal with the brambles and had been asked to deal with the shrub/hedge growth along the side of the spoil. The spoil, which is now large due to the unforeseen amount of recent burials, needs to be removed. The then cleared and empty site can then be fenced and covered with a tarpaulin.

A 'wheelie bin' had previously been costed and considered to be financially unviable. The dustbin needs to be emptied more frequently by the Groundsman. Likewise the grass will need to be cut more frequently.

Another set of gates has been offered by Cllr Pflieger, and as soon as the Co-op funeral service reply to the Clerks query about turning space has been received, work can commence on quotes to have the original gates taken down and replace with another set - further back. This will prevent vehicles parking out of sight and dropping their takeaway rubbish.

7. Councillors' reports of parishioners' queries.

The new extension at the school has lights permanently on at night. The light faces directly on to the road causing a nuisance to neighbours. Clerk to write to the School Governors.

Bus stops. The bus stop at Bagbury Park is in a dangerous position and leaves the waiting passengers in a very vulnerable position. The traffic speeds along that stretch of road, and a request for the local PC to watch the traffic from Bagbury Park is needed. The Clerk will write to PC Hulmes and seek advice from the Bus companies to try and achieve a safer waiting area.

The signs on the entrance to the village are in need of maintenance. Gateway signs have been precepted for and requests were made for these to replace the old signs in the near future. In the meantime Highway department need to maintain the existing signs. Clerk to write to Highway Dept.

8. Report on matters arising from 7th April not on the main agenda.

(The above items are for information only).

- Noisy Manhole -has been reported to water board, but could well be BT. Further request to be sent.
- Reminder has been sent to householder re hedge cuttings in ditch behind Park View Drive.
- No report on the water leak in Park Lane.
- Large puddles at the bottom of Greenhill. Question was raised about whether or not the Parish Council should be spending money on the bridleway leading away from the turning circle, which is on the Common Land. Quotes have been obtained to drain the water into the brook. These quotes were not actioned as it was thought that the brook needs to be cleared its entire length. Ownership of the brook will be investigated. Cllr Baker would prefer the money to be spent on kerbing in the Parish which would give a greater benefit for more members of the public.
- Parish Lengthsmen - a report had been received on their two days. It is poorly written and not clear. Clerk to ask for a clearer report.
- A tarmac ramp was requested whilst WCC was installing the Buryfield bollard lights - this was not possible at the time. The Council would need to apply for an official dropped kerb, but a temporary tarmac kerb could help in the meantime.
- Further to Mr and Mrs Bensons' request to tidy up the end of 'Perrins' Piece' and their garden, the Chairman visited them and has agreed a compromise. The Parish Council will have their Groundsman clear away the overgrowth and a prickly plant will be re-instated. Likewise they have agreed to clear their end and plant a further hedging plant
The shrubs currently in Perrins' Piece were planted by Cllr Baker when previous plants had died or been removed, these will eventually need to be maintained. In the meantime Cllr Baker is watering the young shrubs, and was thanked for doing so.

9. Planning Applications – None.

05/00717/FUL Amended plans, information only, 4 Lydiard Green. Replacement roof and extension.

NWDC Approval - 05/00485/FUL 30 Stone Lane, Erection of extension to Rear.

10. Accounts (*inc. vat)

001125	Mrs R Leckie	Salary	230.00
001132	Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	42.30*
001126	Mr R Nicholas	Groundsman	123.33
001127	Shaw F.C.	Line marking	100.00
001128	L.M. Parish Hall	Hire of Hall Council meeting	15.00
001129	Data Protection	Renewal	35.00
001130	Thames Water	Cemetery/JCH	73.09
001133	British Gas	JCH	49.87
001131	Williams Lea	Print of Parish Plan	1,875.00*

Further information needed on the brook before quotes accepted for drainage work at bottom of Greenhill.

The above accounts and observations were proposed by Cllr Quartly Bishop and seconded by Cllr Bennett; there were no objections.

Committee Reports

Recreation Field There has been an extra grass cut by SBC. Our groundsman's quote was higher.

The proposed joint meeting with The Cricket Club, Shaw Football Club and the Recreation Field Sub Committee had not been required by the two teams, thus did not take place.

A panel in the **Playground** area has been kicked down. The Chairman asked for a volunteer to help him repair this.

Cemetery fees. The new proposed fees had been circulated but due to time constraints of the meeting and the need for further information from the Clerk as to the process which takes place when purchasing grave space, this item will be put on 2nd June Agenda.

The new upgraded **Web site** is up and running, with thanks to Peter Windo. There will be a photo call for the councillors at the AGM to be added to the Web site.

11. Co-option Nominations

Mr Andrew Harris had indicated his interest in becoming a Councillor, he was going to attend the AGM to meet some councillors before obtaining a proposer and seconder. This still leaves the Parish Council one councillor short.

12. Parish Plan Up-date and next steps

Parish Plan has now been handed over to the Parish Council. Next step will be to set the priorities, Cllr Holloway will take the list of actions from each element and produce working document.

The proposed footpath from Forge Fields past the back of the garage could be one of the first to be explored in more detail, although there is much debate on having a crossing over The Street from The Sun and back again by the hump adjacent to The Close. Chairman to discuss with Area Highway Engineer.

There has been reported a higher volume of cars parking at The Sun Inn and the crossing could be part of the next safe route to school package, which needs to be finalised in the next couple of months.

It would be necessary to ensure that the Sun Inn Manager has the legal authority to agree to the current parking arrangements.

Post Office Update

The Post Office grant is still to be agreed, the Postmaster needs to get matching grants of £5000 from Wiltshire and Swindon Renaissance, and a NWDC Business Start up Grant. This will cover the cost of the fortress and counter. It will initially be a small shop and start off with stationery.

The footpath access to Stone Lane will need to be a higher priority if the Post Office bid is confirmed.

13. Standing Orders

The finishing time was questioned. The old standing orders stated 10.00 finish whereas the new one indicates a finish time of not more than two and half hours

after the start time. A vote was taken to leave it, allowing for a flexible start time.
The standing orders were not adopted and will return to the June 2nd Agenda.

14. The Butts Pond

A quote from 'Taurus' is awaited. Taurus is the company who did the previous work for The Butts Pond Group, and who carried out the raised flower bed renovations.

15. Cemetery fees - see committee reports.

16. Lydiard Plain - new Agricultural Subsidies – application to be sent after the meeting.

17. Parish Spring Litter Pick -

Has been arranged for Sunday 8th May. First group to meet at 9.30 in The Sun Inn car park. The manageress of The Sun is happy for the black bags to be picked up on Monday 9th May.

We shall have approximately four teams on various routes if enough volunteers turn up. Cllr Bennett will make a decision on the most urgent area if only a handful of volunteers arrive. Posters will be put up on the notice boards and it has been advertised in the Lydiard Magazine. The Clerk to arrange insurance cover.

18. Correspondence

1. WALC Circular 04/05 - interesting article on cemetery inspections. Copy given to Cllr Baker.
2. Land and Mineral Management Ltd - Hills at Parkgate Farm, Purton - re-submission of application for permit to include hazardous waste. Open Forum meeting 25.4.05, 3-5 p.m. Purton VH.
3. Community Area Highway Annual Report
4. Development Control Committee agenda for 20th April 2005 - no items for LMPC
5. Mazars - External Audit forms for year 2004/5 received.
6. Wiltshire Highways Partnership - report from Parish Lengthsmen 14/15th March 2005.

Late Correspondence

7. Lloyds TSB Statement 258 £3617.59
8. WCC Speed limit review 2005 Greenhill. Support or not subject for determination
9. NWDC Public Spaces and Local Plans Panel agenda for 3rd May 2005
10. NWDC Housing Strategy Consultation Document 2005-2008
11. Trafalgar Weekend 21-23rd October - Your guide to taking part - brochure.
12. WCC Provisional Wiltshire Local Transport Plan Consultation Paper
13. 2006/7 - 2010/11 five copies received. - response by 27th May 2005.

19. Date of next Council Meeting, Thursday 2nd June 2005 at 7.30, Parish Hall

Date of Annual General Meeting 7.15 p.m. and Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 p.m. both on Thursday 5th May 2005, JCH.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.