

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF meeting 2nd March 2006

Present: Cllrs Pepperall (Chair), Bennett (V.Chair), Brimacombe, Groom, Harris, Holloway, Pflieger, Quartly-Bishop, Smith and Saunders.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr B Baker.

Public attendance: 10

2. Minutes of meeting 2nd February 2006 were amended: Cllr Harris should have been an apology. Planning application 05/03010 was wrongly numbered replace with 06/00154 and add Walnut Tree Gardens. Item 13, add the word 'if' between ascertain and it's. They were then signed as a true record.

3. Local PC Report - P.C. was not present.

4. County Councillor's report and questions arising.

Main item has been the tunnel under M4 again. Cllr Groom is fighting this proposal, and is to ask on 15th March the WCC Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to have it investigated.

Health: Three top officials attended a meeting of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to 'consult' on proposed changes to Primary Care Trusts, Strategic Health Authorities etc. We voted for what we thought was best for Wiltshire but we felt it was a pointless exercise because by merging with a larger area a saving of £4 million was possible.

Police Authority: From what we hear it looks as though the South West will be the last region to be summoned to the Home Office. The Minister has made it clear that he proposed to go through Parliament to attain what he wants. This means that the Wilts Police Authority could cease as from 31 March 2008. We understand that initially there could be a Glos. Wiltshire and Dorset force but it could be a larger merge.

5. District Councillor's report and questions arising.

It is important that as many residents as possible complete NWDC Spatial Strategy questionnaire and return it to North Wilts by 5th April because the future strategy for the District will have to take into account residents' views.

6. Parishioner's Question Time.

6.1 The previous month's minutes agreed to Post Office funding as justifiable with Parish Plan. If Post Office does not get off the ground, will £1,000 be returned?

Reply - The Council will have control over the venture's capital expenditure. Despite concerns over the viability of a re-opened Post Office, there has been consistent support for the project, and it has been supported at PC more than once in the last few months, as a parish project worth fighting for.

6.2 What response had been received from Highways regarding the Lengthsmen report?
Reply still to be written as the Clerk had been unwell during the month.

6.3 It was noted that Plans for Walnut Tree Gardens had been amended again. The walnut tree is not now marked for destruction; the estate road seems wider, turning circle at No. 1 removed. It was recommended that parishioners continue to send in and re-iterate their objections. A Parishioner mentioned that he had seen the Highway report which included 2 Caveats and 13 Objections. This can be seen at Chippenham on the master file.

6.4 Greenhill. The verge is churned up opposite the first dwelling after the Crossroads, and a drain cap is still displaced that is causing a hazard. An official lay-by or passing place was requested. Clerk to find out who owns the verge before any decisions could be made. There is a large pothole opposite Holland's Farm, and a high bump in the road at the top of the hill, which damages undercarriages of vehicles. The turning circle at the bottom end of the road is again under water, where the tarmac laid last autumn has disintegrated.

6. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

7.1 Bagbury Lane, An open drum was dumped 2nd March in the verge at Bagbury Park. Cllr Holloway to report what it is to Clerk for action to be taken.

7.2 A 4 Inch hole, initially a Drain/sump, outside Lydiard Cottage has now been covered with tarmac instead of a cover. Clerk to question this action with Highways.

7.3 Speeds of buses in Lydiard Green need to be reported again - *Cllr Groom to action.* Similarly speeds of vehicles in Stone Lane.

7.4 Bus drivers will not stop to pick up Wootton Bassett Comp. School children unless they wait by the road, rather than at the bus stop even when raining. *Investigation required.*

7.5 Cllr Pflieger has written about the appalling state of the road surface in Park View Drive to MP James Gray, who has written to WCC to establish where they are on the list.

7.6 Tesco Lorry. Cllr Pflieger has visited the Manager of the Tesco Depot and all the drivers have been sent a memo reminding them not to travel through the village. *The Clerk has been asked to send a further official reminder from the Parish Council.*

7.7 August 2003 was when Cllr Pflieger first asked for the 7.5 ton sign at junction with Common Platt to be moved back one roundabout. We are still waiting for our new Lydiard Millicent Signs, which WCC are soon to install for us. We have been promised these jobs will be done concurrently. It was noted that Annual Highway review was on March 22nd.

7.8 Washpool compost barrels have now been removed; this has made a big improvement to visibility.

7.9 Magpies have been reported in very large numbers in the parish and are becoming a pest control issue as the numbers could quadruple in the breeding season. *Clerk to contact Environmental Health for advice.*

7.10 Fly tipping was reported in Greenhill lay-bys, again.

7.11 Brambles are reporting causing a nuisance in the hedge at 'Greensend's' field.

7.12 4 Electricity Generators will be brought to Lydiard Millicent 3rd March for approx. two weeks while essential repair work of the Electricity grid is made. Chairman has the Foreman's telephone number should there be any problems.

8. Report on matters arising from 2nd February 2006 not on the main agenda.

6.2 The Parish Hall's request to consider street lighting to protect the wall was unanimously rejected as not being a practical deterrent to hitting the wall as it may increase traffic speed.

6.3 Gloucestershire has Mobile Flashing Speed light signs. – *Clerk to seek information.* Truck Watch signs created interest. *Clerk to find out how to obtain them.*

8 Spring Clean – Some areas had already been picked, and other volunteers will carry out work on another day. There are volunteers for the Sunday - others still welcome.

12.9 Spoil removal. Chairman had contacted a digger driver, who had said it was not a viable operation for him. He suggested a man with a truck. *Cllr Saunders to contact a suggested possibility for a quote.*

12.12 Hole in fence had been repaired by pond when Cllr Groom inspected the fence.

9. Planning Applications

06/00225/FUL Two Storey Side Extension at 1The Mews.
Except for a request that the front building line be observed **No adverse comments.**

06/00433/FUL Alterations & Extensions to Front Elevation and Loft Conversions,
9 The Crescent, Common Platt. **No objections.**

06/00451/FUL Erection of five dwellings on land adjacent to The Mews – revised plans

1. The change in direction of the sewage pipes to the front of the houses from the back, and the consequent plan to remove the mature conifers between plot 1, and no. 33 Meadow Springs, will result in a privacy problem for no. 33, The Mews. It will enable vision from the upstairs back bedroom window of no. 33 to the new upstairs front bedroom window of Plot 1, which is unacceptable. A small change in the direction of the pipe work, by cutting in a 45 degree shortcut, as close to the corner of Plot 1 as is possible, could enable that line of trees to be saved to from the NE corner of the site, stretching south, until the sight line between the windows is left covered. Further trees southwards could then be removed to permit the sewage pipes to the east of Plot 1. Alternatively, the sewage pipes should revert to the rear of the 5 Plots, to enable the conifers to be retained, as originally promised to no.33.

2. Should this application be granted, may we remind you of the severe problems experienced over the last few years in Cherry Briar Close in relation to surface water drainage, which also forced sewage back up on to their Private Road, and has twice broken up the road surface. If you speak to the WCC Engineer, Danny Everett, he will explain further. WCC are still investigating whether they will assume responsibility for the problem, and whether further works need to be done. The problem springs from a major drain on the edge of the old Golf Course at Badgers Brook that will be common to both developments, and to Chestnut Springs. This must be reviewed before permission is granted.

06/00154/FUL Erection of 5 detached dwellings at Walnut Tree Gardens – revised.

LMPC continues to object to this application on the following grounds, in addition to our original objections:-

1. We query that more garden is to be taken from the existing house at 25 The Street to widen the access splay from The Street into the estate. Has the owner agreed, or is this a case of compulsory purchase, or payment to them from the developer?

2. Our main concern lies with the new detached garage of No 2, WTG, which is a 2 storey dwelling, and much larger than required for a garage. We query the need for, and object to, this proposal - it looks more like a 'granny annex' than a garage. If this is permitted, can we ask for a condition to be placed that no change of use, nor any occupancy, will be allowed?

3. We are aware that WCC Highways have some 12 points of concern over this application, and we would endorse their concerns, and ask for this application to be refused. Is it possible for you to send us a copy of the report?

4. Should this application be approved, we have serious concerns over traffic congestion caused by Construction vehicles. Construction traffic must not be allowed to park on The Street, Park View Gardens, or Park Lane, as this will cause major traffic congestion. We must also ask that Construction traffic movements be limited to between the hours of 10.00 and 15.00.

5. Finally, we are still very unhappy about the lack of consideration given to the running off of surface water from the estate. This will inevitably run into the existing ditches to the south and into Park Lane, where we have already highlighted the existing surface water problems. The developers must be made to address these concerns, and tackle this problem with WCC Highways, who are well aware of the flooding.

NWDC Permission refused

05/03200/S37A Change of use from agricultural to residential garden at Greensend, L.Green

NWDC Permission granted

05/03233/FUL Front and rear ext'ns and rooms in roof at 5 Greenhill

05/03279/FUL Single Storey ext'n to front and rear, ext'n to garage, at 2 Chestnut Springs.

05/01885/FUL Vehicular Access on land at Stone Lane.

05/03148/FUL First Floor Ext'n to rear, at 8 The Beeches.

06/00084/FUL Erection of two storey front ext'ns, at 10 Forge Fields.

10. Accounts (*incl. VAT)			£'s
10.1	Mrs R Leckie	Salary	230.00
10.2	Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	nil
10.3	Mr R Nicholas	Groundsman	123.33
10.4	L M Parish Hall	Hire of Hall for meeting	16.00
10.5	SFC	White Lining	100.00
10.6	Blackfords	Timber for Cemetery Spoil area	214.16*
10.7	The Link Magazine	Groundsman Advert	62.28*
10.9	Mr P Windo	Hosting Fee for Web Site	15.00*
10.10	T.H. Pepperall	Head Cleaner Tape, JCH	9.99*
	T.H. Pepperall	Broadband	14.99*
10.11	Citizens Adv.Bureau	Section 137 Donation	25.00
10.12	Splash	Section 137 Donation	25.00
10.13	BT	Telephone JCH	12.58
10.14	Lydiards Mag	Subscription	5.00

Direct Debits

Thames Water	Cemetery	11.00
Thames Water	JCH	31.00
Southern Electric	JCH	20.00
British Gas	JCH	11.00

Received

SFC	Fees for January's matches	360.00
NW & District F.C	Hire of Hall First Aid Courses	45.00
Rural Payments Agency	+Single Payment Scheme - Lyd. Plain	261.98

+This payment will be shared with the tenant, Mr D.E. Meredith.

These accounts were proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Holloway.

11. School Travel Plan

Both the Chairman and Vice Chairman have concerns over some points in the travel plan, especially the bus turning parking space, which is needed for the residents, out of school hours. However, the School Travel Plan Committee has been informed that they will not get funding this year. This will give further time for an agreement on the changes needed.

It is clear that a meeting of all interested parties is needed regarding the Bus Stop/Turning Space – *Chair to arrange.*

12. Committee Reports

Boules bookings can still be made through Mr I Church.

Cemetery phase 111 complete, remaining tidying up jobs will be done when weather permits.

Cemetery - spoil removal – still not resolved.

13. Groundsman's Contract

The Link advert had been delayed until the March issue, and to give further time for new applicants, a deadline was set at 31st March 2006. The Parish Council agreed for a sub-committee to choose a suitable candidate to begin in early April 2006.

The Parish Council agreed that the candidates needed to be walked through the job specification as part of the interview system to judge their reactions to the tasks. It is understood that the existing groundsman would do an extra month if necessary.

14. Parish Plan

The use of the verge outside the golf course is WCC Highway land and does not require permission from the owners.

Mr Croucher's consent to be sought on the two possible proposals adjoining his field.

Westlea Housing is agreeable to the plans, but would need to advise their tenant.

The next stage is to begin grant applications, when all permissions obtained.

It was concurrently discovered that WCC Highways own the grass area where the bush beds are situated, approaching Greatfield Crossroads from the village.

15. Correspondence

- W.A.L.C Newsletter February 2006 - includes new pay scale wef 4/06 and new telephone number for non emergency police calls.
- NWDC Spatial Planning, Consultation document. Replies between 8.2.06 – 5.4.06.
- Application form for the Best Kept Village Competition. Closing date 1st April 2006.
- WCC – Revising the Strategy for Wiltshire – Draft for review by 21st April 2006.
- NWDC – Review of District Wards – Preferred scheme comments by 10th April 2006.
- Wiltshire Highways Partnership – Lengthsmen's next date 22nd March 2006.
- NWDC – Area 2 Committee meeting on 12th April 2006 – Items for agenda welcome.
- Swindon Dial a Ride – Request for donation. **Agenda next month.**
- NWDC – Development Control Committee – Agenda 22nd Feb 2006 – no items for LMPC.
- NWDC – Planning Training Sessions. 19th April, 9th May.
- NWDC – Public Spaces & Local Plans Panel Agenda 28th Feb 2006.
- Community First - Advert on a Rural Affordable Housing in sustainable communities conference to be held on Friday 24th March 2006, 9.30 – 3.00, £25 + vat.

16. Date of next meeting – Thursday 6th April 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

10.00 p.m. meeting closed.