

**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2006.**

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

**Public attendance:** 10.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Baker, Harris, Holloway and Saunders

**2. Minutes of meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006** were amended at  
7.5 'spoken' replaced 'written', and 'Park View Drive' for 'Park Lane'.  
7.6 delete word 'Depot' after Tesco. They were then signed as a true copy.

**3. Local PC report. The PC** had visited the Chairman recently. He has been very busy, and his duty schedule has prevented him from attending Council meetings.

**4. County Councillor's report and questions arising.**

**Health.** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April - M Groom to attend the Pathways for Change launch, where they will also hear the cuts to take place. An email from W.C.C. on Monday had indicated that certain groups of patients were going to lose services to the tune of £4m.

**The Northern Community Area Partnership [NCAP]** meeting was scheduled for Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2006 and needed all the public support it can get. Cllrs kindly agreed to help deliver relevant flyers over the weekend, along with some new Link Scheme leaflets.

**Police re-organisation,** Wiltshire may be last to see the Minister, and the outlook is not good.

**WCC Overview & Scrutiny Committee** was attended by M Groom and the Chairman, when various inconsistencies over the M4 tunnel project were raised, and an investigation agreed. However, this will be the first time that the originator of the request to the Scrutiny Committee will not be allowed to be a part of the panel, and a 'whitewash' is feared. The M4 tunnel project is a serious threat to the Parish and MP James Gray is helping to oppose this scheme.

**5. District Councillor's report and questions arising.**

M Groom has requested that the Planning Department produce a Short Guide to Planning, to enable home owners to submit plans without costly basic planning errors which could lead to planning refusal, or the need to withdraw the plans.

The Rates for 2006/7 have been increased by about 4.84%. This includes a 5% increase from WCC (74% of total), 3.4% from NWDC (9.7%), 7.9% from LMPC (1.5%) and 4.9% from Fire & Police (14.8%).

**6. Parishioner's Question Time.**

**6.1** Question was asked why the Parish Council needed a 7.9% rise in precept this year?

Reply, more funds were allocated this year to the Groundsman's duties and building up funds for Parish Plan Projects. Inflation and higher public expectations of the Council are a cause.

**6.2** The Parish Plan was accused of causing the public to ask for services which were expensive. This was defended as it is necessary to know what the public need and expect. Also the Parish Plan is incorporated into the Area plans, which are taken into consideration in future District and County plans for expenditure in this area.

**6.3** Was a response given to complaint re lengthsman. Yes – see 8.6.2 below.

**6.4** Pathways for Change meeting – M Groom was asked if there was provision for elderly parishioner's spouses health care. M Groom agreed to mention this.

**6.5** It was noted that some parishioners were unhappy with paying nearly 8% more (*approx.£6*) for their precept, and tried to blame subsidising the JCH, Football, and Cricket. The higher cost of the new Groundsman was questioned, and whether it will be offset by higher charges to Football and Cricket users. The P.C. reviews charges regularly, and will increase fees in accordance with locally comparative costs. However, only a very small part of the Groundsman's duties relate to the Recreation Area, and none to football & cricket.

## **7. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.**

**7.1** A thank you has been received about the improved state of the cemetery.

**7.2** The Coroners report from the road traffic accident near The Beeches on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2005, revealed that the driver had died as the result of a chronic lung condition, and a verdict of accidental death was given.

**7.3** A response to MP James Gray's intervention into the condition of Park Lane has been received from WCC. Viewing of the drains with CCTV and high pressure jetting to clear the blockage will take place in early May 2006. Any resurfacing work will be considered with any necessary drainage works.

**7.4** 7.5 ton sign at Common Platt/Holborn junction has now been moved back one lamp post.

**7.5** New 30 mph limit is up and running at Lydiard Green but the promised temporary speed signs were not installed as promised. Clerk has emailed them accordingly.

**7.6** One of the Welcome to Lydiard Millicent signs has been placed at Lydiard Green, - Cllr Bennett has asked when the other signs will be put up. No response to date.

**7.7** MP James Gray would be interested in meeting up with Councillors – time and date to be arranged.

**7.8** A member of the public in Aldbourne has purchased his own speed gun, but without the backing of the local police can merely only frighten the offending drivers and could be at personal risk if drivers took offence to his actions.

**7.9** Further to the comment earlier about our rise of 7.9% in precept, an opportunity was lost in not having the chance to explain why it had gone up and where it would be spent. Other Councils had been able to have their explanation printed. *Diarise for next precept.*

**7.10** Vehicles parking on pavements in the Parish seem to be on the increase and an article for the magazine will be written, reminding the general public that this is illegal and that a visit from the Police will occur if this practice is continued.

**7.11** Water pouring out from under 84 Chestnut Springs – Thames Water cannot find the problem and have concurred that it must be a natural spring. Consideration is ongoing to pipe the water away. Cllr Groom offered her dousing services to source the spring.

**7.12** A blocked culvert at the edge of Badgers brook is to be jetted in the near future.

**7.13** A detached house in Park Lane is suffering the 8<sup>th</sup> water leak in 7 years. Thames Water will be asked to repair it more carefully this time, as previous repairs have been damaged when the pavements have been re-instated.

**7.14** Hedge thought to be 4 Lydiard Green needs cutting back, as it is being brushed by buses and larger vehicles. *Clerk to write.*

## **8. Report on matters arising from 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006 not on the main agenda.**

**6.2.** Complaint was sent to WCC and an apology received, an extra day was offered in lieu, in writing, for the 24<sup>th</sup> March, Cllr Bennett telephoned to say he would meet them to be told they had been the day previous. A further letter will be sent to establish why they did not come on the 24<sup>th</sup> and what was done on 22/23rd. Some improvements had been noticed to the pavements along The Butts and The Street.

NWDC and WCC have arranged for litter to be removed from verges prior to grass cutting,

- new white NWDC vans will be eagerly watched for in our Parish.

**6.3** Flashing signs – Clerk had not found information to date, and was told that Haydon Leigh in Swindon had just installed some. *Swindon to be contacted*

**7.1** Drum in Bagbury Park. The drum had fallen through the hedge and has been retrieved.

**7.2** 4inch hole - this was an unused drainage sump which has been filled and covered, - no further action required.

**7.3** Speed of buses. No report this month.

**7.4** Picking up Comp.School children – a resident further explained that it was a house to house pick up and that the children were at risk from being hit by the fast buses whilst checking if theirs was coming. Clerk will write to John Owen at Thamesdown Transport re speed and WCC re the method for collecting the children.

**7.12** When the generators were removed the drivers neglected to put planks of wood down first and this has resulted in large indents in the verges which will need repairing by the company concerned (Chestnut Springs & Forge Fields). *Clerk to write.*

**12.9** Spoil removal. No contractor found yet. Alternative would be a skip every so often or on a permanent basis. A further suggestion on 1 ton bags, collected by Travis Perkins when full, will be investigated. Cllr Pflieger to obtain further information.

*(The above items are for information only).*

#### **9. Planning Applications**

**06/00607/FUL.** Erection of 4 Dwellings on land adj to Lydiard Towers, Lydiard Green.

**Objection** to be on the same grounds as before, to include the lack of mains drainage.

**06/00673/FUL.** Erection of Bungalow at the rear of 4 Lydiard Green, Lydiard Millicent.

**Objection** on similar grounds to that of the request for a house on the site previously.

**06/00697/FUL.** Erect new storage building and replace existing sales area, new entrance area and relocate local post office facility within existing building at Toomers Garden Centre.

This application is **supported**. However, note to be made that less traffic movement may mean larger traffic movement, and to remind planners that the site is within the 7.5 ton area and we would wish to continue to restrict all unnecessary large vehicle movements.

**06/00682/FUL** Raise roof and convert loft at 9 Chestnut Springs, Lydiard Millicent.

**Objection** - out of character, and against planning policy to raise original roof levels.

#### **Amended Plans for information**

**06/00154/FUL** Five detached dwellings on Walnut Tree Gardens. Small changes not for Parish comment. Cllr Pflieger has lodged his own personal complaints over the changes.

**06/00433/FUL** 9, The Crescent, Common Platt.

Size of a dormer window reduced from double to single.

#### **NWDC Permission granted.**

**06/00177/FUL** Single Storey Side Extension to 1-2 The Elms, Shaw.

<b>10.</b>	<b>Accounts</b> (*incl. VAT)	<b>£'s</b>
<b>10.1</b>	Mrs R Leckie Salary	230.00
<b>10.2</b>	Mrs R Leckie Expenses	62.20*
<b>10.3</b>	Mr R Nicholas Groundsman	123.33
<b>10.4</b>	L M Parish Hall Hire of Hall for meeting	16.00
<b>10.5</b>	SFC White Lining	100.00
<b>10.6</b>	Mr T Pepperall Broadband and years expenses	377.39*
<b>10.7</b>	S.B.C. Rec. Field cuts x4	376.00*
<b>10.8</b>	Avoncrop Products White Lining Materials 2006/7	296.82*
<b>10.9</b>	LM Playschool <i>Discuss donation towards new building 2007/8.</i>	1,000.00
<b>10.10</b>	W.A.L.C Annual Subscription 2006/7	438.70*
<b>10.11</b>	Information Commissioner - Annual fee, Data Protection 2007/8	35.00

#### **Received**

SFC Fees for February 2006. 180.00

SFC Fees for March 2006. 300.00

The above accounts, excluding item 10.9, were proposed by Cllrs Brimacombe and seconded by Cllr Bennett.

**10.9** The figure of £1,000 was a suggestion by the Pre School group. They have to raise £75,000 to build a new purpose built pre-school building. They have to leave their classroom following an Ofsted inspection of the Primary School - the situation is not of their making. They looked at the JCH as a temporary measure, but the room is too small, with no storage space.

The Pre-School is a registered charity run by a committee, and has been in existence for some 20 years. It was agreed that further information was required and they would be asked to give a presentation at the 4<sup>th</sup> May meeting between the AGM and the Council meeting, when a more informed decision could be made.

#### **11. NCAP Public meeting 10<sup>th</sup> April 2006.**

This organisation is in existence to further community projects in N. Wiltshire. If the public, or local organisations, have projects they wish to promote, then they need to attend this meeting. Without public participation, nothing will be achieved.

## **12. Committee Reports.**

**Recreation Field.** 12<sup>th</sup> May football ends and cricket begins.

A recent inspection of the play area, and a litter pick by Cllr Bennett disclosed some 200 bottles and cans dumped in a crate in the ditch behind the Boules area. It is thought that they were placed there fairly recently - not thought to be caused by children, or by SFC.

Thanks were minuted for Cllr Bennett's continued efforts to keep the parish clear of litter.

Gate Latch has been purchased and requires fitting by Chairman.

Inside the play area three of the horizontal boards separating the chippings from the grassed area are missing, this has left the vertical pegs, which held the missing boards in place, sticking up as trip hazards. Action required.

Chain between the ambulance bay and the field was tripped over in the dark by a dog walker - two reflectors have now been added to the posts.

Assembly point sign purchased and will be erected on the fence with the owner's permission.

Clerk requested a Notice board for JCH – this will be considered on Agenda in May - initial thoughts were that it would be abused by youngsters, and would be better placed at the gate.

**Cemetery** - new groundsman prefers dustbins to wheelie bins, therefore the loaned wheelie bins will be returned. Thanks given for the offer.

Old floral rubbish sign needs affixing to the new gate. *Cemetery working party to deal with this.*

## **13. Groundsman Contract.**

Quotations have now been considered, and Mr Steve Keyes of Inside Out was chosen as the best and the cheapest quote. He currently is the groundsman for the school and comes highly recommended. The decision was proposed by Cllr Quartly Bishop and seconded by Cllr Smith. Cllr Bennett to write a short piece for the Magazine.

## **14. Parish Plan.**

**Holborn Path** - April's minutes indicated that the next job was funding - this was incorrect - the plans need discussion with WCC, then full plans need drawing up before quotes can be sought, then leading on to funding.

Mr. Croucher has agreed the proposal, and prefers the road path version.

**Post Office** - Rural Renaissance is about to put the application before the board. Their answer hopefully to be received in next 3-4 weeks. The Post Office should open in 6-7 weeks, following the alterations to Toomers.

## **15. Discuss format of APM.**

Agreement to keep to usual reviews - it is too late to book a speaker. Hopefully the full accounts will be available under the new computer system for the **APM on 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

## **16. Correspondence**

a. Travel Scheme 2006 for Senior Citizens and the Disabled.- Application forms for free Bus Passes or £18 of National Transport Tokens will be available through the Clerk.

b. W.C.C. - The new 30mph Speed limit order will be operative from 17<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

c. NWDC - Development Control Committee 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006 - no items for LMPC.

d. Wiltshire Highways Partnership - Parish Lengthsmen Programme 2006/7.

e. Wiltshire Highways Partnership - letter re extra visit, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

f. LaMIS - Arial photography and O.S.mapping service - disc to be viewed after the meeting.

- g. NWDC Development Control Committee 5<sup>th</sup> April 2006 - no items for LMPC
- h. Society of Local Clerks - SE Regional Conference - 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006.

**Late correspondence**

- i. NWDC Statement of Community Involvement.
  - j. NWDC Review of Parish Electoral arrangements.
  - k. Mazars - Notice of audit of accounts for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.
  - l. Rural Payments Agency - application pack for the 2006 single payment scheme.
  - m. NWDC Area 2 Committee 12<sup>th</sup> April 2006.
  - n. DEFRA - Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005. – do we want the guide? No.
  - o. Wilts and Swindon Waste Dev. Plan. Issues and Options report,
- 17. Date of next meeting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in the Parish Hall. to include AGM 7.00, presentation by L.M. Pre-School Group 7.15 and P.C. meeting 7.30.**

***Minutes amended and approved following meeting of 4.5.06. T.H. Pepperall, Chairman.***