

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Thursday 5th June 2003

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall Ch, J Bennett, P Cole, M Groom, D Revere, 9.30 E Quartly-Bishop.

1. Apologies: Cllrs B Baker, Brimacombe, J Holloway, V Saunders.
2. Confirm Minutes.
Annual General Meeting - Approved and signed
Annual Parish Meeting, - removed Chairman's Report and inserted full version, as read on the night, also 5. amended to 'Armistice' Sunday, then approved & signed.
Parish Council Minutes approved and signed.
3. County Councillors Report and District Councillors Report
Cllr Groom had presented a shield to two special officers at Police HQ for 50% crime reduction. Extract from citation: Two years ago there was such a problem of youths anti-social behaviour, drunkenness, and under age drinking in public places in Malmesbury that many local residents were afraid of visiting the centre at weekends.
Two 'Specials' established regular foot patrols in Malmesbury, talking to youths and initially advising them about behaviour. Some youths, found drunk in town were taken home and presented to their parents rather than being arrested for drunkenness. Alcohol found in possession of under age youths was poured away. A firm but fair regime was established in the town centre, which the youths came to understand and respect. The Specials are now so well known in the town centre that youths use their names. The outcome of their work over two years has been to stem a rising problem, and reduce anti-social behaviour. Fear of crime has reduced, with a safer town centre for residents on weekend evenings. Thanks were given to them by Cllr Groom and hopefully such an excellent precedent can be used elsewhere. The Community Health Council have a stay of existence until 1st December, so that they can continue to monitor the delivery of Patients' care.
Thanks to NWDC Environmental Dept. and the Police for their prompt action re 'Riffstock'.
5. Parishioners Question Time.
 - a. Mrs Mallard of Park View Drive is concerned about the rubbish building up in the ditch at the rear of her back garden. It causes a back flow to her Septic Tank and Toilet when it rains. The ditch is thought to belong to Mr Marklove who no longer clears the ditch twice a year.
 - b. Mrs Tye thanked the P.C. and Cllr Groom for all the work involved in ensuring their weekend was not ruined by 'Riffstock'. The event had taken place with few problems.
 - c. Mr Dark requested a second T junction sign at the entrance to Buryfields, as the first one is not visible to traffic approaching from Church Place.
 - d. Mr Wicks said the potholes had been filled in Greenhill, but they only spent approx. 10 mins., and had not addressed the hump near the bottom of the road.
 - e. Mr Wicks is upset that Mrs Morse's hedge had still not been cut back.
 - f. Now would be a good time of year to have the brook cleared at the bottom of Greenhill - owned by Mrs Moore of 8 Greenhill.
 - g. Mrs Mallard had asked the Chairman prior to the meeting for advice on her neighbours hedge as they were unwilling to cut back the overgrowth. Her son-in-law had since helped.
 - h. Mr Wicks queried why Council Tax is not levied on Caravans as he is fed up with paying his Tax, when others in Greenhill live in their caravans 'scott free'. The Parish Council will ask NWDC enforcement officers for an update on the situation.
 - i. Mr Dark commented that a new Give Way sign had appeared at Greatfield Cross roads, but they have put it behind a bush. Also that a 40 mph sign in Greenhill has been hidden by the hedge.

6. Councillors reports of Parishioners queries.
 - j. Further request for a new road layout ahead sign from Church Place to the Chicane.
 - k. Horse riders are regularly having trouble with fast travelling traffic East of the Forresters Arms. Could a 'Caution Horses' or 'Caution Riders' signs be placed both sides of the highway?
 - l. A resident of The Mews had complained of the intrusive helicopter noise whilst the Lydiard Balloon Festival was taking place during the bank holiday weekend; also it was noted that the Millennium Trail, on Swindon side toward Lydiard Park was closed. Clerk to ask why.

7. Matters Arising

- a. Report awaited from Cllr Brimacombe in relation to the ditch adj. Park View Drive and Forge Fields. PC to ask Mr Marklove to clear the ditch, and residents to respect its purpose.
- b. Cllr Bennett had received notification of an Emergency Planning meeting on either 16th, 21st or 23rd of October. It will take place over the telephone in the format of a scenario, but more members required to take part. Further training days in September. July Agenda - Emergency Planning.

8. Planning Applications

03/01193/FUL - S/Storey Extn Rear and Side, 80 Chestnut Springs - **No Adverse Comments.**

03/01267/OUT - Outline application for residential development (two dwellings) land adj. Lydiard Farm, The Street. -Outside the Boundary line, Conservation Area and RBZ.

PC would like it to be reinstated as meadow. Chairman had produced a full objection comment - in anticipation of an objection, - this was read out and fully supported. It will form the letter to go to NWDC. **Object.**

03/01356/FUL - 8 Forge Fields. Erection of new boundary wall, Garage Conversion to dining room. Two verbal objections received by Cllr Bennett on the P.Cs behalf, and a personal objection from Cllr Bennett to be sent. Oppose on grounds of highway safety, loss of amenity, and aesthetic value. The garage conversion is likely not to be a planning matter, however, we would point out that this will be the fourth such conversion in Forge Fields, and could lead to parking space deficiencies and access problems. **Object.**

2 cemetery headstone applications for R.Thomas & E.Potter - **Approved.**

Planning Consents

03/00757/TCA Tree Surgery Work at L M C of E P School.

03/00765/FUL Side and Rear Extn and part garage conversion at Brace Bridge, Braydon.

9. Accounts

000888 Mrs R Leckie - Wage £190.00

000889 Mrs R Leckie - Expenses £ 75.00

000890 BT - JCH £ 13.72

000892 Mr R A Nicholas - Groundsman £215.83

000870 Mr K Manning - Notice Board £ 20.00

Mr Nicholas is paid extra £35.83pm to cut the grass in the old cemetery, until it is determined whose responsibility it is, i.e. P.C. or Diocese, as G Saunders had been cutting the site.

The above accounts were proposed by M Groom and seconded by D Revere, - no objections.

Receipts during month - Shaw F.C.,4/02 £210.00

NOTE Whilst the cheques were being signed, the Chairman reminded the Councillors that any one of them can nominate subjects for the Agenda, with the deadline for items 10 days prior to a meeting.

9a. Presentation of year end accounts for approval.

The accounts had been circulated to Councillors and visitors prior to the meeting. The Chairman briefly went through the figures, and resolved a couple of queries. The accounts were proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Cole - no objections. The Accounts will now be presented to the Internal and External Auditors.

10. Future of the Post Office - delayed until Cllr Quartly-Bishop Bishop arrived 9.30 p.m. The Post Office Ltd had made very little effort to find a replacement Postmaster/mistress, and had only placed a small ad. in our and 2 other local post offices, for just two weeks. The owner of the property had expressed a willingness to Lease the property to any prospective Postmaster, but was unable to attend the meeting. The term Community Post Office was discussed, but Cllr Quartly Bishop advised that they are only part time offices. A more suitable possibility could be a Co-operative, with a registered Postmaster to oversee operations and to take responsibility.

P. C. to ask advice from Howard Greenman of the Post Office Federation, James Gray MP., or Rural Transfer Advisor for P. O..s. An appropriate ad. could possibly be paid for by the P. C.

P.O. need not be in present premises, nor does the shop have to remain or sell the same goods.

The Clerk suggested Local Produce Groups may wish to have an outlet for their goods. Question was raised about payment of Pensions by Book or Account - no change to P.O. income if they still use P.O.

11. NWDC Small Community Grants 2003/2004.

A decision was made to put a piece in the Lydiards Magazine.

12. Co-option nominations - there were no nominations.

NWDC will need to be notified, and the vacancy advertised in the usual manner.

13. Report on Riffstock - Went off quietly and enforcement notice had been placed against any possible future noise pollution.

14. Parish Plan - No members of the public had registered an interest in the topic. Cllr Bennett commented that it was quite a task and would take more like 18 months in his opinion, but he still felt he would like to help initiate this project. As it would require a large representation of the general public, it was proposed that another public meeting be arranged, but with specifically invited representatives of the various denominations which represent the parish as a whole. Posters to be placed. School Fete could be used as an information point. Letters or flyers to go to all the residents of the Parish. Proposed meeting date in July. Cllr Bennett and Chairman to draft the posters and letters, and Mr R Nixon who prints the Lydiard Magazine to be approached to print them.

15. Committee Reports

The Millennium Committee had met at the JCH, the first meeting to be held in the Club House. Minutes as follows:

1. 3 Mature Trees. To proceed in the autumn: Blissett - Flowering cherry at LMPHall; Woolford - Lime opp. * or adj to 28 Stone Lane; Payne - Rowan (or Almond) in Buryfield.
2. Saplings. As no response received from residents, the 'Foster Parent' idea seems lost. The trees will have to be planted and monitored by the Mill. Comm/P. Council, sitings at: Lydiard Green, Beeches to field gate, hedge approach to Greatfield Xroads (opp. existing bushes), & Moors to Barretts Yard*
3. Bushes. Recreation Field (to be discussed with SFC & LMCC), in preference to trees.

4. Benches. It is agreed no bench was ever at Chestnut Springs entrance. Therefore, a better site was suggested - inside the Bus Stop in the Church layby, - to be fixed on the long wall, after painting by volunteers - quotes to be arranged by LMPC.
5. BBQ's. Agreed not to be pursued, following advice from LMPC.
6. Perrins Piece. Quotations to be obtained for clearing, then membrane covered by bark or wood chippings, and replanted with more bushes. Supplier needed for chippings.
7. Flower beds opposite LMPHall. Agreed to obtain quotation for replacement of logs with railway sleepers (with approval of Pond Group if still in existence).
8. AO Ideas. Flagpole suggested for LMPHall (to be discussed with LMPHall).

No further ideas were discussed, as it was felt there were already more ideas and costs than funds available of £1150. Some further monies will dribble in from Millennium map sales, Walking guides, and events such as Open Gardens, but that will be for the future.

Store Shed well under way - John Dustin to inspect the CCTV equipment ready to install.
 J.C.H. Maintenance period is up - P.C. to pay the remaining 5% when repairs completed.
 Recreation Field - SFC is looking at possibility of an additional pitch, space allowing.
 Play Area - D Revere has fixed the wobble log.

| J.C.H. Charges | Parish | Non Parish |
|--|--------|------------|
| Use of the Field only for childrens Football Parties | £5.00 | £7.50 |
| Use of Community Room, & Toilets p.h. | £3.00 | £5.00 |
| As above - including Kitchen facilities p.h. | £5.00 | £7.50 |
| Childrens Parties (including all facilities) | £30.00 | £40.00 |
| Deposit £25.00 | | |

Open Gardens. Still set for 20th July, 2.00 - 5.30pm, 6 so far, more desired please.

16. Correspondence

WALC Circular was available - no specific items of interest.
 Zurich Municipal, was offering a seminar at £60.00 on risk assessments and safety issues.
 NWDC Local Cultural Strategy Stakeholders - No takers.
 Countryside Agency - reported that as the Common Land at Lydiard Green is not Registered Land, they will not be including it on their map of Common Land areas.
 Solar powered bus and street lighting - clerk has applied for more information.
 Forestry Commission - Data Monitoring - clerk sent nil return.
 MAZARS - External Audit form. - to be completed by Clerk and Chairman.

17. Date of next meeting Thursday 3rd July 2003

Meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.