

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES 3rd August 2006

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Saunders and Harris.

Present: Cllr Pepperall (Chair), Baker, Bennett, Groom, Holloway, Quartly Bishop, and Smith.

1a. Co-option. It was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Groom that Mr Simon Burley be co-opted as Councillor. There was unanimous support, and Mr Burley signed his Acceptance of Office and joined the Council.

2 Housekeeping

The Clerk issued the Fire Alarm instructions to 8 Parishioners and 8 Councillors.
Cllr Pflieger arrived.

3. Minutes of meeting 6th July 2006 Were adjusted and signed as correct.
Minutes of APM 25th May 2006 Were signed as correct.

4. Local PC report. The local PC had been invited, but was not present nor report rec'd

5. County Councillor's report and questions arising.

Cllr Groom had received the final version of the Croft Road/Hay Lane report. She has compared them with her own notes of the event and reported the inaccuracies.

'Pathways for Change' Health Conference – much work is still needed on what is practical and feasible before changes take place. Cottage hospitals have in the past taken patients who might otherwise have caused bed blocking, but they still remain at risk of closure.

Regional Spatial Strategy – this document will shape the future until 2026 and it is important that members of the public help back up local town and parish councils to protect the Rural Buffer. Cllr Groom and the Chairman had written a long report, offering helpful pieces of information for parishioners to use on the response forms, which would be delivered to all homes in the Parish by volunteers in the following ten days. See item 11 for cost of copies.
Cllr Smith arrived

6. District Councillor's report and questions arising.

Cllr Groom and Chair had attended the NWDC Area 2 meeting, and taken part in a workshop on the future of Area Committee's – see below.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

Parishioner commented on the lack of planning and forethought which has allowed two major routes in the area to be closed, one for bridge repairs to be closed for 14 weeks, and the other for major road works.

The same parishioner asked when the cemetery tap was to be repaired. The Chairman reported that the washer had already been changed and that had not solved the problem. The Council were aware that the stop cock needed replacing.

The vacancy for Councillor has now been filled; however, it was noted that the advert was not posted on our Web site, but agreed that such vacancies should be advertised there in future. P.C. had advertised the statutory NWDC notices in accordance with the current regulations.

Mr Windo confirmed that he will leave his post at Webmaster at the end of the financial year.

Parishioners agreed with a comment that the traffic speeds are getting worse and Police speed checks have not been done in the appropriate place. In this connection, the Chairman said that the Transport Sub Committee had met on the 2nd August and that the report would be ready for the September Parish Council Meeting.

Councillor Groom said that even the Dustbin men were complaining about the heavy traffic and the large vehicles they have to manoeuvre around. A Tesco lorry has again been spotted in the village, and Parishioners were asked to report such details to the Clerk.

Some village speed and traffic signs have disappeared in overgrown hedges, which need to be visible – advise WCC.

A new resident of The Beeches has been disappointed to discover that they are being woken as early as 5.30 a.m. by traffic commuting through the village and often still speeding through at midnight. They have contacted Mr. Drinkwater of WCC who said that there was no money to solve their problems until next April at the least, and that she should ask the Parish Council to come up with a feasible plan in the meantime.

Bibury have come up with an unique way of slowing the traffic by placing garden gnomes in hedges and on verges which causes amusement and does slow traffic.

It was requested that the Council enquire as to the cost of purchasing Speed humps. Cllr Groom reminded the meeting that Speed cushions require street lighting. It was also suggested that a roundabout be placed on the entrance to The Butts.

8. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

Cllr Holloway reported that he has been researching methods of speed reduction and explained that Vehicle Activated speed Signs were affordable and that they only cost around £3.00 each per year to run. P.C. need to lobby WCC to be allowed to erect these signs.

Chairman updated the meeting on the wooden sign post at the Street roundabout. WCC will fund it but the Parish Council need to employ a local tradesperson to cut new fingers for the post. The existing lettering from the old fingers hopefully can be re-used. Cllr Holloway offered to cut the fingers if no quotes are received.

Cllr Baker reported a speed limit disc missing on the road to Swindon by the Hungry Horse; the responsibility for this sign will need to be ascertained and dealt with accordingly.

Cllr Quartly-Bishop has been experiencing road rage on a regular basis as she travels within the speed limits to work.

Cllr Quartly-Bishop has also witnessed approx. 10 vehicles parked on the verges of Greenhill waiting to be let into Greensend's field to access the yard, being used as the Heatwise depot. The Chairman has again been in contact with NWDC enforcement team regarding this unofficial business and was advised to collect photo evidence with times and dates. It was also thought that a new access is being prepared beyond the hedge at Greensend, and the P.C. need to be advised of any developments.

Cllr Pflieger witnessed Domino Pizza delivery riders driving carelessly along The Street on Wed. 2nd August approx. 9.00p.m. This was reported to the Manager of the W. Swindon shop.

Cllr Quartly Bishop told the meeting that Mr and Mrs Badcott have worked tirelessly to keep the raised flower beds watered, and that they should receive a letter of thanks from the Council. A letter of thanks also to go to Mr Cooper of Midgehall Garden Centre who had donated the plants again this year.

The hosepipe that the Badcott's are using does not reach from the Cemetery tap to the beds and frequent trips across the road with a watering can are needed to complete the tasks. P.C. will investigate purchasing a longer hose, which could make the watering easier.

Cllr Burley asked if the Council have asked the Safety Camera Partnership to visit our village. It was agreed to establish how they decide where to park their camera van.

(The above items are for information only).

9. Report on matters arising from 6th July 2006 not on the main agenda.

Chairman and Cllr Groom attended the Area Partnership Meeting Workshop on whether or not Area Committees were worthwhile. This was one of about 10 meetings and the information collected will help them devolve Area Committees.

10. Planning Applications

06/01871/TPO Tree Surgery and Tree Felling Work at Manor House, Church Place, L.M.

Support.

06/01633/FUL Pitched Roof and Extension to Front Porch at 63 Chestnut Springs, L.M.

No adverse comments.

06/01628/FUL Erection of Two Storey Rear Extension, Garage Extension & Front Single Storey Extension at 1 Church Place, L.M.

No adverse comments.

06/01646/FUL Replacement Conservatory at 10 Chestnut Springs, LM.

No adverse comments.

06/01716/TCA Tree Surgery Work at The Old Rectory, Church Place, LM.

Support; except for spruce - not for safety reasons.

WCC Section 96, Highways Act 1980 – 096/044 Site in front of Parish Church.

Approval was given to sign the contract to cultivate and maintain the beds.

Proposed Name for the five new houses off The Mews – **‘The Green’**.

We already have Lydiard Green - could get confused - suggest **‘The Orchard’**.

Update on No 1 The Mews.

Land Registry documentation received - the piece of grass does belong to the property.

It does not form part of the highway areas of grass, which NWDC cut on behalf of WCC.

NWDC said the 1 mtr fence is permitted development, and that that visibility was not obstructed by the 2mtr fence. However, it is likely that no further work will take place until the Planning Appeal over the refused additional house has been heard.

A resident in The Mews is researching the continuing validity of the original covenants. This is not a ‘Council’ matter, and for which the Parish Council could not help with any costs.

Permissions Granted

06/01238/FUL Erection of single storey side extension/Granny Annexe at 7 Park View Drive.

06/01334/FUL Two storey extension to front and side at 45 Common Platt.

06/01309/FUL Extension to dwelling at 4 Chestnut Springs.

06/00906/FUL First floor extension & single storey rear extension at 38a Stone Lane

06/01098/FUL Replacement rear conservatory at 8 Meadow Springs.

NWDC Application withdrawn

06/00154/FUL Erection of five detached dwellings at Walnut Tree Gardens, L.M.

NWDC Permission refused.

06/01281/FUL Erection of triple garage with flat above at The Breeches, Greatfield.

11. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	73.53*
Inside Out Ltd	Groundsman	260.00
LMPHall	Rental for meeting	16.00
LMPHall	Key Deposit	25.00

Number of key holders to the JCH and gate: this cannot be accounted for accurately as the Cricket Club and Football Club will have had additional keys cut for the local managers.

There is a worry that this could lead to an invalid insurance claim if vandalism occurred.

Recreation Sub Committee recommendations to be brought to the September meeting.

NWDC Planning fee for Post Office Lozenge, 37.50

Offer letter from Rural Renaissance has now been received and as soon as the contracts are signed the Planning Application for the P.O. sign will be submitted.

Dial-A-Ride Donation £250.00

Requested information on accounts has not been forthcoming, deferred to September.

Water Bill statements were read out.

11a. Lydiard Pre School -Donation 1,000.00

Confirmation letter to be sent to Pre- School, funding not to be released until needed.

Rural Buffer Zone flyer. It was agreed to spend up to £250 on printing, and recycled paper would be used if practical. Cllr Smith abstained from this matter as he is concerned over the legal implications of sending out personal opinions.

Chair to arrange distribution via councillors and residents by the 18th at the latest.

The above accounts were proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Baker, & approved.

12. Committee Reports.

Recreation Field: camping occurs around now, and is not allowed for health and safety reasons; neither are motorised bikes permitted. Much discussion was held over whether or not to add extra signs and various wording. It was agreed to ask the Recreation Field Committee for a proposal at the September meeting.

JCH: CCTV has captured pictures of two lads on the shed roof on Sunday 23rd July.

A great deal of discussion was held over what to do if the lads could be identified.

It was agreed in the event of a positive identification to advise the parents.

In the meantime a 'no trespassing' item to be included in the Parish Magazine, reminding parents and children of the danger. Sportsfield sub committee to discuss by September.

Cemetery: Stop cock to be replaced.

Two tree stumps in the recently cut hedge to be removed.

Garden of Remembrance needs marker posts with the letters A-K and numbers 1-12.

Mr Leckie has been helping the Clerk to mark out new Cremation plots. The materials will cost approx. £25.00 and £25.00 labour was agreed. Expenditure approved.

It is not known what progress has been made by the Church in closing the Old Cemetery - currently volunteers from the Church are cutting and maintaining the ground.

13. Report by Highway Sub Committee.

A meeting was held of the Highway Sub Committee on the 2nd August and a further meeting will be held on the 17th August. A report will be made to the September meeting.

The meeting had covered the following issues:

Rat Run traffic, Fun Riders in Common Platt, School Buses, HGV's, Truck watch.

Speed of traffic, various means to slow traffic down, Pavements and Verges.

Greenhill Crossroads bus stop, School crossing Sun Inn – tied in with Safe Routes to School.

General Drainage, Buryfield to Chestnut Springs disabled ramp, Cemetery gates.

Footpath - Stone Lane to Toomers, through Lydiard Green, and at Washpool.

Possible 30mph Elms to Washpool, Vehicle Activated and general road signs.

14. Parish Notice Boards This item was deferred as the quotes were not ready.

15. Parish Plan update

Holborn Footpath - ProHelp was to try and find a Highway Engineer to prepare plans, as they do not currently have one on their books.

Post Office tenancy licence almost agreed, and funding in hand for a November launch.

Vehicle storage and loading bay worries - the Director at Toomers believes their lorry traffic will be similar to now, but he will instruct drivers not to drive through The Street.

16. Complete Lengthsmen Requisition Form.

Last visit by lengthsmen on 14th and 15th August. They are to be asked to clear gutters and pavements from The Beeches to the old Post Office, and Greatfield pavements to Riffs Bar. Also to remove weeds etc adjacent to the hump by Millicent House.

17. Correspondence

Community First - Invitation to AGM on 4th October 2006 - see Clerk for details.

WALC Newsletter, July 2006 - Item of interest, new External Audit fees from 2006 -2011.

WCC Statement of Community Involvement - adopted 11th July 2006. Copy - see Clerk.

Clean Neighbourhood Act 2005 - NWDC has now set the fixed penalty fees at £75 each for Dropping Litter, Graffiti, Fly Posting, and Breaches of Dog Control Order. It was agreed not to take over the duties and responsibility from NWDC.

WCC - Information sheet on the Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement from 4.9.2006.

NWDC Local Plan 2011, & SBC Local Plan 2011 adoptions.

NWDC Town and Country Planning Act - Leaflet on Unauthorised Development - see Clerk.

NWDC Development Control Meeting - 2nd August 2006.

WCC - Emergency Planning - Rest Centres - Review.

Wiltshire Police Authority community consultation group - Mollie.

18. Date of next meeting Thursday 7th September 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

Meeting closed 10.00pm.

Minutes approved 7.9.06.

