

**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF 7TH DECEMBER 2006**

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett (Vice-Chair), A Harris, J Holloway, A Pflieger, L Quartly-Bishop, N Smith, V Saunders.

1. **Apologies for absence,** Cllrs B Baker, Cllr S Burley, Cllr M Groom.
2. **Housekeeping** Fire Alarm instructions issued to 22 Parishioners and 6 Councillors.
3. **Minutes of meeting 2nd November 2006,** were adjusted at section 7 item 6 'Sgt Mattis and' to be removed; the minutes were then approved and signed as a true record.

4. Local PC report.

PC Stuart Hulmes introduced the new system of policing, which has been rolled out across 91 areas in Wiltshire. He is now the Neighbourhood Team Manager of Lydiard, Lyneham, Hook, Tockingham and Broadtown, working out of Wootton Bassett; however, he does not yet have a team. The new system will be more flexible and he will have powers to bring in relevant agencies to jointly deal with situations.

Shortly he will be sending a questionnaire to each residence in his patch asking what the three top concerns are for each area. The result from the Polls will then form the nucleus of his workload for the following few months. This process will be repeated 3 or 4 times per year.

PC Hulmes was aware of an incident at Bagbury Park area where a large vehicle became embedded in the verges, and he confirmed investigations were ongoing.

He listened to concerns about traffic flow along Common Platt and Washpool, although he was unsure where his new boundary line finished. If he is not the officer for Common Platt, it will be PC Steve Harvey working out of Cricklade. PC Hulmes will let the Chairman know on Monday and would pass the matter on if necessary.

Question asked why the P.C. objected to HGV's on one hand and then allowed 'Toomers' to use larger vehicles through the village. *They are entitled to have deliveries and we will have further conversations with Toomers to alleviate the new problems.* Agreed that a preferred HGV route should be formally agreed and delivery companies would be expected to follow it. The shortest route from W. Swindon or M4 is past the 'Foresters' although this is a narrow sharp bend, and we would wish deliveries be restricted to between 10.00 and 15.00.

Cllr Saunders enquired about the rules appertaining to parking of cars on the pavement at night adjacent to 'Riffs' Bar. PC Hulmes said he had not received any complaints about this, however, should he be called it would be dealt as an obstruction, were there no alternatives.

5. County Councillor's report and questions arising.

Following the passing of a WCC motion to approve the M4 junction permission, the local protest group is raising funds to launch an official review – look out for raffle tickets to support this protest, which could reverse the projected 18% increase in traffic through the village.

Cllr Groom has been invited to represent N.C.A.P. at the Regional Spatial Strategy Examination in Exeter, along with Cllr Pepperall and the Vice Chairman of NCAP, who is liaising with Cllr Pepperall on an initial submission to the consultation paper due by Dec 15th. A flyer will not be distributed prior to this meeting, as it is mainly be to add topics not already included. Our main fear is losing the Rural Buffer Zone, which would leave the area only protected by Countryside rules which are less protective.

6. District Councillor's report and questions arising. No report.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

Prior to the question time Cllr Pepperall read out sections of a letter from a resident of Common Platt, which outlined anger and anxieties over the speeding traffic issues in the

area. He replied to the letter; *any traffic lights at the bridge would need to be paid for out of Parish precept as WCC budgets are unlikely to cover this. A 30 mph speed limit is currently being sought (these are selected annually); street lighting is not being pursued as the majority of village dwellers do so to escape suburbia; there is already a 7.5 ton weight restriction on this road; and the Police and P.C. are working on ways to combat the problems. A Transport sub-committee had been set up recently and is looking at a wide range of highway concerns throughout the village.*

Cllr Harris told the meeting that he felt nothing had been done to address the issues along Common Platt and Washpool since he became a Councillor and that he had made a presentation to the Council on 1.6.06, which had culminated in the setting up of the aforementioned committee.

He asked that conversations be had with the WCC, and Swindon over the need for a footpath on the Swindon side of the road as a large number of secondary school children use the road on a daily basis. His concerns, and that of his neighbours who attended the meeting, are that the narrow road, with an even narrower bridge, was an accident waiting to happen.

He presented the Chairman with a signed petition which asked for Speed Humps, reduced speeds to 30 mph, a speed camera/flashing 'slow down' sign at Washpool Bridge, and a pavement at the inside of the bend towards Stone Lane.

The petition is to be reviewed by the Transport sub-committee, with proposals to the P.C.

Cllr Bennett explained to the public that he was working with Wilts and Swindon Safety Camera Partnership on four areas of the village, and that speed had been measured along Stone Lane and the Beeches currently. The results are awaited, as are measurements for Common Platt & Greatfield. Activated speed sign costs would be considered as a precept item - the costs depend on the specifications required.

A parishioner asked why they could not have a version of sleeping policemen; *a Councillor replied that they normally require street lighting, and WCC have no such funding.*

A resident requested that the road be returned to a rural country lane.

Residents also requested that the road be closed off as happened at the Nine Elms corner. Request made for the Council to establish what criteria were used to have that road closed, and whether a similar procedure could be used on their road.

One member of the public's son will be attending Secondary School in September and she was very concerned that he would become the statistic needed for action to be taken.

A bus clearway sign has appeared at The Butts lay-by, proposing a standard no parking 7am – 7pm, 7 days per week. Chair to contact WCC & Ringway Parkman to remind them of the village's proposal as per the 'Safe routes to School' grant application, which was sent by the School. LMPHall, Pre-School, and the Church are also concerned about this parking area.

The Old cemetery - It was thought that up to 7 plots may not have been used. Mr J Ricketts had examined the burial register and confirmed that it had been closed since 1952, and that the last cremation took place in 1992. Reverend Knight explained that the official closure of the Cemetery was a long process, which may be nearing conclusion.

He thanked members of the public who had helped clear the cemetery recently. He also thanked the Parish Council for their help and support in his time as Minister to the Parish, which was reciprocated by the Chair who also offered their grateful thanks to Rev Knight.

Neville Stone reported that since the Post Office had opened, he was getting a steady core of regular customers, and seeing new people daily - this week's tally was 139. Mr Stone thanked the Chairman and Council for their moral and financial assistance in setting up the P.O. He is in negotiations with 'Toomers' over the possible opening of a Coffee Shop.

Precept – One item raised by a Parishioner was that The Butts drains needed clearing out, to prevent further flooding.

8. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

Cllr Pflieger had received a copy of an interesting letter from WCC who explained that the water in Downs View had 'flowed uphill' into Park Lane.

Cllr Pflieger had discussed with the Drain Brain Company a simple method of drainage, which would solve the flooding problems. He had brought a copy of the plans to the Council for their approval; this will now be passed on to the Highway department.

Cllr Saunders had witnessed a tree down opposite to where she lived but before she could report it to an authority, a man in a yellow van had arrived armed with a saw cleared the problem. He is believed to be a Parish Steward, who may have been summoned by Clarence.

9. Report on matters arising from 2nd November 2006 not on the main agenda.

7.4 Paint for the Church Bus shelter to be purchased by parishioner and then refunded.

11a Flower beds - Mrs Badcott will arrange for any fertilizer required – and to be refunded.

12 Webmaster, Miss C Holloway has declared an interest and will begin training shortly.

12c The Post office counter is proving too small to handle packages - Chair to check cost of extension may be met with remaining Grant money – to be reviewed after Christmas.

15g 'Keep Clear' markings Park Lane - WCC have agreed to re-examine the area.

The NCAP Transport meeting, attended by the Chairman was attended by 9 delegates from local Councils & other organisations, and it is hoped some future joint actions by some of the delegates will prove useful.

A reminder was given on NWDC training sessions on Planning and Local Framework, 19.12.06.

The Area Community meeting had covered the threat of closure of three Leisure Facilities, including Wootton Bassett and Cricklade. NWDC had pledged £0.5M to see them through until the end of the financial year, and give time for the Town Councils to come up with rescue plans. L.M. School will not be able to have swimming lessons next year if they close. It was agreed to send a letter of support to the Lime Kiln leisure centre from the P.C. *(The above items are for information only).*

10. Planning Applications

06/02910/CAC Demolition of Existing Garage/workshop at Lydiard House, Lydiard Green.
No adverse comment.

06/02909/FUL Erection of Garage, Workshop and Ancillary Accommodation, Lydiard House. This building is in a Conservation Area - alterations should add to the character of the area.
P.C. requests a Section 106 agreement be attached, as this 2 storey Garage will have WC and other facilities which could enable this to become another small dwelling.
The existing driveway will need to be narrowed for pedestrian use only.

06/02893/FUL Det. Double Garage and Creation of new Vehicular access at 5 The Butts.
No adverse comments.

06/02950/FUL Alteration to roof at 27 Stone Lane (& 06/02032/FUL) **No adverse comments**
Amended Plans (Information only)

06/02094/FUL 5 The Elms, Erection of two storey side extension.
The applicant was present and he confirmed that a 106 agreement had been signed. He also confirmed that there was still a problem with the sewage, but NWDC Planning had not been in touch. There are no extra vehicles involved, but NWDC to be reminded that future owners may have extra vehicles.

06/02503/FUL (& 06/0152/FUL) 1 Church Place, Erection of two storey rear extension.
No additional comments.

06/02503/FUL Erection of extension, attached garage and front dormer at 1 Church Place.
No additional comments.

NWDC Planning Approvals

06/02356/FUL 9 The Willows, Single Storey Side Extension.

06/02394/FUL 2 The Butts, Erection of Double Garage.

06/02466/FUL 5A Greatfield, Ground Floor Side Extension.

06/02409/FUL Tree Felling at the LMP School.

Appeals

06/01051/FUL No 1 The Mews – appeal dismissed.

NWDC to be reminded that an ownership dispute on the land is still unresolved. and to request clarification on the decision re the extension, in view of the appeal dismissal.

06/00971/CLE The Stable Block, Woodside End, Greenhill, Notice of appeal has been received. Submissions will need to be sent one month prior to the hearing. NWDC Enforcement will continue to oppose permission.

Geminid Organisation – a new business promoting local twinning had invited the Parish to endorse their scheme - request to be denied, as 'Lydiard's Twinning' are not interested.

11. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

	£'s	
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses - two months	53.74*
Inside Out Ltd	Groundsman	260.00
LMP Hall	Rental for meeting	16.00
SFC	White Lining Rec. Field	100.00
WALC	1 each Councillor/Clerk Packs	18.80*
Office C&W (N.Stone)	PO Chair	104.58*
T H Pepperall	PO Flyers and Ink Cartridge	46.99*
Mrs M Badcott	Flowers for raised bed	12.00
Lydiard Plumbing & Heating	Repair & service of JCH Boiler	85.00*
Crown Display	PO shop fittings (ratification)	758.21*
Lydiard Millicent Pre-School	Grant	1,000.00
J.Toomers	PO rent - New monthly S/O	75.00**
Gas and Electric Bills – payments OK		

Last month's Income

N. Stone	PO rent – New monthly S/O	75.00**
----------	---------------------------	---------

SFC £881, Cemetery £25, Post Office £2,371.61(PO).

Agreed that the P.O. costs be minuted every month for twelve months.

Accounts proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Pflieger, and approved.

12. PRECEPT considerations from Parishioners and Councillors.

A Vehicle Activated Sign may cost £2,500 which could result in a 10% increase in precept.

The Parish Plan should form the basis of any precept increases for the next 4 or 5 years.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk will meet on 18th Dec. to formulate a budget proposal, to be posted on the Website and discussed at the January P.C. meeting.

13. Pre School Board – 4 independent local custodial trustees required.

14. Committee Reports

Recreation Field The roller boots are still unclaimed. By March 2007 we will arrange disposal.

Grass cutting - it is proving difficult to contact the SBC officer.

Play Area - The catch for the gate had been found on the opposite side of the field.

JCH - Key record still to be done.

Cemetery - Gates now repaired and painted.

A History of Lydiard Millicent lives, lost in World War I and II, has been beautifully produced by Mr New - agreed to publish it on the Web site - our webmaster has kindly offered to do so.

15. Highway Sub Committee Report No further items - see PQT (section 7).

16. Parish Plan Report

Holborn Footpath still ongoing - when the quotes are available it should be possible to use them to estimate the cost of further footpaths. There is a Community Area grant which can be applied for, which may cover the cost of the feasibility study for the Stone Lane path.

17. Christmas Tree

A tree has been donated by 'Toomers', along with the stand. Teds' Electrical, Wootton Bassett, have offered to donate the cables, etc, and fit the electricity supply. Thank you Posters will be placed on our Notice Boards, Website and the Lydiard's Magazine.

18. Verged chewed up at Bagbury Park.

Cllr Holloway had no response from company concerned - PC Hulmes has taken up the case.

19. Parish Notice Boards. Quote not yet available.

20. Elections May 2007

All Councillors are due for re-election on 3rd May 2007, our usual meeting date.

PC meeting & AGM to be on 10th May, and APM 24th May, 2007

21. Correspondence.

Community First – Parish Plan Impact Survey – by 20th December 2006 – Cllr Smith taken.

NWDC - Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 - Briefing session on 16.1.07.

WALC - Website www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk - see Clerk for password.

WCC - Reply to our 2nd request for Keep Clear box at Park Lane exit – new site visit awaited.

Wiltshire Emergency Planning Handbook – reference only.

WCC Parish Steward Scheme – Winter Programme.

Swindon B.C. Central Area Action Plan – Issue and Options Paper – see Website.

22. Date of next meeting Thursday 4th January at 7.30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

23. Minutes approved 4.1.07.