

**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

**Present:** Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett (Vice-Chair), B Baker, Cllr S Burley, A Harris, J Holloway, A Pflieger, E Quartly-Bishop, & N Smith.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr V Saunders, and Cllr M Groom.
2. **Housekeeping.** Fire Alarm instructions issued to 4 Parishioners, local PC, and Cllrs.
3. **Minutes of meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006** were amended on page 2, to read 'Bus Stop Clearway *Notice*', not '*Sign*'.

**4. Local PC report.**

PC Hulmes was informed on the break-in at the Store Shed adj. to the JCH, by the Chairman who had come to the conclusion it was vandalism rather than an attempt to steal. As it had been wet windy since, forensic tests were not carried out. The CCTV indicates that the crime occurred at 3 a.m. on Dec.27th. The Chairman asked for random visits to the Playing Field by Police to deter further vandalism.

The Chairman also reported to PC Hulmes that youths were making a nuisance of themselves in The Close between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Car reported to be small/medium size, dark, noisy & 'souped up', with TT Style stickers on the front window.

A resident reported a neglected bungalow's door had been seen swinging open - 18 Chestnut Springs

A Car had been stolen from the Sun Inn around New Year - PC Hulmes had been away over New Year and would review these incidents.

PC Hulmes was also asked about his comment from a previous month, that common sense was needed regarding parking of cars on the pavement outside RiffsBar. Since the December meeting a long and constant line of cars, some two-a-breadth, had been witnessed on the verge and pavement. It was hoped that this was a one off. PC Hulmes would speak to the owners. In the meantime the pub's legal maximum number of visitors will be checked and put on file, as cars in large numbers could indicate Health and Safety rules were being broken.

Matters arising from the Dec. meeting - PC Hulmes confirmed that Washpool was indeed on his 'patch'.

The PC was asked by a member of the public if anything could be done about the graffiti on traffic and road signs, in particular along the road between Common Platt and Tewksbury Way. He will look at the signs and determine if photos should be taken and compared with known graffiti artists. Graffiti on signs can be reported direct to Clarence on 0800 232323, or by Email to Clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk.

One Councillor thought that some three months ago, a list of graffiti had been recorded Cllr Bennett offered to write a new list of graffiti in the Parish, to monitor these offences.

PC Hulmes commented that several incidents had been reported recently. In order for him to trace and follow up crime that happens when he is off duty, he asked that 'Names and badge numbers' be recorded of any other officers involved.

5. **County Councillor's report and questions arising.** – No report.

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

7. **Parishioner's Question Time.**

A 'Citylink' van from Honeywood Lodge is parking inconsiderately in The Butts school parking area. The driver will be asked to park it beside the wall to aid visibility for cars exiting The Butts

**8. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries**

a. Cllr Quartly Bishop's time as a school governor is coming to an end. Cllr Smith volunteered to take over this position. The P.C. applauded both Cllrs for their involvement.

- b. A discussion took place over the missing and wrongly placed 'Lydiard Millicent' street signs. 'The Street' signs in Church Place and behind the main notice board need attention. A list of signs and their condition is needed for WCC to take action.
- c. Graffiti in the bus shelters will be dealt with by the Groundsman.
- d. 'Missing Dog' fly posters are still around many months later and the Clerk will contact the telephone number and ask them to remove them.
- e. The road dips and is disintegrating by Rose Hall, Washpool. Clerk and Cllr Harris both to contact CLARENCE separately.

**9. Report on matters arising from 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006 not on the main agenda.** No report. *(The above items are for information only).*

**10. Planning Applications -** No planning applications.

**Appeal Stable Block, Woodside End** will now be a hearing, and responses are due by 16.01.07. We can now support NWDC in their objections. A letter had been prepared prior to the meeting and was approved.

**NWDC Permission Granted**

**06/02632/FUL** Creation of alternate Vehicular Access at Radway House.

**06/02728/COU** Change of use from Residential to Commercial at The Old Methodist Chapel.

**06/02673/FUL** Bay window to front elevation and extension to side at 30, The Beeches.

**Planning Updates**

**06/02094/FUL** 5 The Elms, Old Shaw Lane is still under consideration by NWC.

**06/02909/FUL** Lydiard House, a 106 agreement is not required, as it is very close to the house. Planning permission would be required to sell it separately.

<b>11. Accounts</b> (*incl. VAT)		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	-
Inside Out Ltd	Groundsman	260.00
LMP Hall	Rental for meeting	16.00
SFC	White Lining	100.00
Avon Extinguishers Ltd	JCH Safety check	21.50*
T Pepperall	Gate catch and Xmas Lights	21.59*
SLCC	Membership Renewal	65.00

Transfer from Lloyds to B of I. SEB – 5,000.00

Electric bill for JCH - £58.90 overpaid due to incorrect automated increase of D/D.

The above accounts proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Pflieger - no objections.

It was noted that the Groundsman, had not cut back two tree stumps, from the middle of the Cemetery Hedge as he said he would. Concerns were raised – agreed that we pay him pending the work done.

The Groundsman annual fee is split into 12 equal payments and is not specific to any task.

**12. PRECEPT Proposal of £14,000 approved.**

Agreed that the Community needs to know what our reserves are held for, i.e. Village Green or Cemetery etc. There are a number of outstanding commitments, a usual 12m reserve, plus projects. Such large projects were discussed, and even when sufficient grants are received to cover the majority of a project, it is normal to expect to pay 10% of the project cost, not to mention the need for cash-flow support..

The proposal to maintain precept at £14,000 will enable the LMPC to do what is needed, including £2,500 for a Vehicle Activated Sign, and still maintain a reserve for large projects.

It was asked what happens if the Council decided to do two Vehicle Activated Signs.

The costs of a second sign could come out of reserves, if the Council agreed.

Precept proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by J Holloway - there were no objections.

**13. APM – Discussion.**

It was agreed to seek a guest speaker and refreshments to boost numbers at the APM.

Ideas for a speaker please to February meeting - on any matter interesting to parishioners.

The APM date is changed from 24<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2007, dependent on Hall availability.

#### **14. Committee Reports**

- a. Recreation Field** - Football games are due to restart on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007.
- b. JCH Shed** had been broken into at 3a.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> December at about 3am. Repair will probably be in region of £50 - A new handle set is required; however, it has been made safe in the short term. No insurance claim will be made as our excess is £250. A discussion was held on better locks and bolts for the door, including Bollards and Bars. It was decided not to change the existing appearance, to avoid drawing extra attention to the door. The equipment therein is owned by Cricket and Football Clubs respectively, and is well protected therein.
- c. Play Area**, Cllr Baker to do January report shortly. A new catch has been purchased for the gate, and needs to be fitted.
- d. Cemetery** - Tree stumps sticking out of the hedge need to be dealt with.
- e. Webmaster** - Two volunteers have been interviewed by Mr. P Windo, and it was agreed that they should share the workload; Miss C Holloway will be offered the day to day maintenance of the site, and Mr. C. Paulton will do the upgrades and major site changes.

#### **15. Highway Sub Committee Report**

Contact on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. from Wiltshire and Swindon Partnership confirms that a speed cameras will be set up in Greatfield and Lydiard Green - warning signs have been erected in anticipation of our first visit. The other two areas we asked them to check, Stone Lane and Washpool, did not reach the criteria necessary. Lower speed limits will still be pursued on these two areas.

Some damage had occurred to the black bollards in the speed calming area, which brought other items to the fore. New illuminous strips will be requested on the bollard, and more visual warning will be sought in the form of kerb paint or red cats-eyes adjacent to the kerbing. Cllr Bennett to write to WCC.

#### **16. Parish Plan Report**

The Chairman had given out a list of Post Office Income and Expenditure to date, which was circulated to the Councillors. It was noted that we had not been allowed to reclaim VAT on some Post Office Expenditure, as The Post Office would claim it themselves. Cllr Smith asked to see the grant application and would then investigate this issue over VAT further.

#### **17. Parish Steward – next monthly visit 16/17<sup>th</sup> Jan**

More leaf sweeping from Roundabout to Parish Hall, and The Street into Church Place on both sides.

Sweep path from The Street into Forge Fields, where the Parish Council conifers drop.

Although our Steward was doing a better job than the lengthsman he had been seen manhandling the leaves twice, thereby taking longer than necessary over the job. The Stewards working methods will be monitored where possible.

#### **Other maintenance tasks in the Parish.**

The third lay-by in Greenhill is filled with mud and debris - this may be a Clarence or Groundsman job.

Fly-tipping was also reported in the Greenhill lay-bys. Cleansing Dept will be asked to attend to this.

A land-owner had cleared culverts along Bagbury Lane - however, the silt was deposited onto the verges. The land-owner (Mr. Griffin of Radway House) will be thanked for his efforts, and asked if he could finish the task and clear the silt away.

#### **18. Christmas Tree.**

The Christmas tree had been a great success. The electrics will be disconnected at 8.30 on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2007, and the tree removed shortly thereafter. Grateful thanks were expressed to Steve our Groundsman who supplied the tree, and to Callcut Electrical who supplied the cables and set up the electricity supply.

**19. Parish Notice Boards.**

A quotation for a Solid Oak Board with Doors has been received at £495, supply only. Oak Posts can be supplied extra. It was agreed to order the notice board at this price. Our Cemetery Sub-Comm. has kindly offered to erect the board.

**20. Correspondence.**

Wiltshire Forum of Community Area Partnerships Annual Conference 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2007 – Chair to attend.

In an effort to make the NWDC Area 2 meetings more PC- friendly, a small questionnaire was passed around the Councillors to tick off their top 5. The Chairman will collate the information and send to NWDC.

WALC Newsletter December 2006.

WCC Highways, re transport improvements - we were requested to check the Highways list and add items that were not included. The chairman will add from the Parish Plan top 10 items, including road calming and a footpath for Washpool and Common Platt.

NWDC Development Control Committee Agenda 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007 – no items for LMPC.

**21. Date of next meeting Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in Parish Hall.**

**Minutes approved 1.2.2007.**