

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes 10th May 2007

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr A Harris.
Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), B Baker, J Bennett, S Burley, M Groom, J Holloway, A Pflieger, E Quartly Bishop, N Smith
2. **Housekeeping.** Fire Alarm instructions given to 5 members of public, & 9 councillors.
3. **Co-option of Councillors.** Attended to at the AGM.
4. **Minutes of meeting** The minutes were amended at Item 5d bullet point 3 - add upgraded before GP practice, Item 12 Accounts - add In touch services £89.50 and L M Church £15.00, as the cheques were written and sent, but not recorded. Finally Item 20 APM should be 31st May 2007.
 The minutes were then signed as a true record.

5. **PC Report.** The meeting welcomed PCSO Andy Singfield 6117 to the meeting.
 - a. He was asked to clarify the 7.5 ton rules, and whether or not HGV's have to leave through the same route as they entered. Reply. No they can leave via any exit.
 - b. How best should we report HGV's suspected of using the parish as a short cut. Reply, if they are persistent offenders, take details and report to Police. He agreed to send his email address to the Chairman.
 - c. He confirmed school buses are public service vehicles, exempt under HGV rules.
 - d. He was asked if he could do random speed checks of school buses, as they are often travelling fast, in particular on their return journeys, when then return empty.
 - e. He was made aware of the various parking issues at school run times, and replied he had spoken to the Headmistress recently and was drafting a letter to the parents.
 - f. He was asked if he could walk down to the JCH occasionally in the evenings to check on youths who congregate there. Youths also congregate around an empty building at 19 Chestnut Springs and this worries the residents.
 - g. He explained to the Council that all of his areas are suffering very similar problems, with parking, and traffic issues. He also said but not in detail that he had some schemes in mind to deal with the speeding.
 - h. Speeding in Washpool on Sunday afternoons was added to the list of concerns.
 - i. Often traffic accidents go unreported to the police and he agreed that should we hear about such accidents, keeping a log would help, as statistics only cover the reported crimes.
 - j. A member of the public asked what progress was being made over the proposed Mobile Speed signs. They were told that a suitable site had yet to be agreed with police and Highways, although WCC alone would advise.
 - K. PC Singfield asked if we would like him to initiate a speed sign poster session at the school when he returned to do a road safety session. The Council agreed to this.
 - l. Parishioners also asked where police will come from if a night time incident was reported. Initially response will come from Wootton Bassett unless the officers are dealing with a custody matter then the next nearest station will send out officers. Thanks were offered to PCSO Singfield for attending the meeting.

6. **County Councillor's report and questions arising.**
 1. Cllr Groom has posted another motion against the tunnel under junction 16.
 2. Consultation is under way to discuss the pros and cons of WCC as Unitary Authority. There is a Community First meeting in Devizes 24th May, which will hopefully give unbiased information. Various other meetings and websites are available for Councillors to gain information, and help form a decision. Clerk to send the website addresses relating to this consultation to Cllrs on Email.

7. District Councillor's report and questions arising.

1. Cllr Groom was congratulated on greatly increasing her votes as District Councillor. She described the new council as lively and inquisitive.
2. Cllr Holloway asked about current car parking issues in Wootton Bassett, where cars are being parked and drivers are leaving them all day and taking the bus into Swindon. This is depriving local businesses of customer spaces.

8. Parishioner's Question Time.

- a. 3 Officials visited the lunch club from Trowbridge to take a list of members. Why could they not have telephoned or written. It was a waste of taxpayers money. Cllr Groom offered to investigate and try to prevent further unnecessary trips.
- b. The Chestnut tree in Chestnut Springs has been severely cut back, and complaints were made as it was the very last one left in Chestnut Springs and it was done at the wrong time of year. It was questioned that it should have had a preservation order. The previous owners were unable to establish ownership, and WCC refused to grant a preservation order.
- c. Somerset Parish Council has taken on two junior Councillors who have been given speaking rights at meetings but not voting rights. It was asked if our Council would wish to investigate such a scheme. It was agreed to add it to the next Agenda.

9. Councillors reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a. The Council-owned fir trees in Forge Fields need some major tree surgery. A quote to be sought, and Cllr Bennett has offered to contact the Electricity Board for a permit to work as the trees are adjacent to the substation.
- b. A request was made that the Council take on the maintenance of the Old Cemetery. There was mixed response to this suggestion. It was agreed that the PCC be written to, asking them to clarify the situation over the cemetery closure. The maintenance cost to LMPC is estimated at £1500 to £2000 a year. During last year volunteer clean up, 5 graves were uncovered, which are now being tended. This is a very emotive subject and it is accepted that LMPC are unfairly under pressure to keep this Cemetery tidy, as most parishioners do not realise that it is still under Church control. Clerk to contact Rev. S Skinner, Old Shaw Lane - PCC, and Mr. S Rule - All Saints Church Committee.
- c. It was agreed to ask PCSO Singfield for advice with reference to the 2 Citylink vans which park in the school bus stop area at night.

10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.

- 2 (rabbit?) holes in a grave at the Cemetery. Further investigation necessary.

11. Report on matters arising from 5th April 2007 not on the main agenda.

- a. Item 7e f - it was agreed that the Transport Sub-Committee would seek funding from Swindon BC, as it forms part of the Millennium Trail. In the meantime a quote to be sought for a warning 'Care - Horseriders' sign.
- b. Item 9.7h - Water board to be asked to repair pothole at Nine Elms.
- c. Item 7c f - Some work has been carried out on the hedge. It was agreed that a serious cut be requested in August.

(The above items are for information only).

12. Planning Applications

07/00933/FUL Garage and summer house at 2 Park View Drive.

Cllr Bennett registered an interest in the application and abstained from the vote.

2 Letters of objection received from neighbours. The existing garage is part asbestos.

Oppose on grounds of size, height, position, and windows of proposed garage - replacement should be in existing position within the building line. Grossly out of character. S106 agreement needed, if permission given.

07/00924/FUL Alteration to Vehicular Access at 2 Lydiard Green.

Query if replacement, or additional, access. **Oppose** an additional access, on grounds of access on corner of dangerous narrow road. Ask if consideration by Radway House and No 2 could be given for a footpath, or space, along the road.

07/00991/TCA Fell One Oak Tree at Honeywood House, Church Place.

No adverse comment.

Late Planning

07/01051/FUL Two storey extension at 5 The Close. **No adverse comment.**

NWDC Permission Granted.

07/00469/FUL Single Storey Studio Extension at 26 The Close.

13. Accounts (*incl. VAT)		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	23.60*
Inside Out Ltd	Groundsman	267.80
LMP Hall	Rental for meeting	16.00
SFC	White Lining	100.00
IT247.Com	Replacement telephone	109.79*
Community First	Membership fee	34.00
Community First	Insurance renewal	801.39
WALC	Annual Subscription	460.22*

Sun Inn Donation Request.

The Chairman offered the Parishioners and Cllrs a chance to donate to the British Heart Foundation, as S137 rules prevented the Council from being able to reimburse a replacement pitch for the unavailability of a Rec. Field pitch on a Charity Day held in February. Councillors were strongly against this as they considered the Council had acted properly. This matter was now closed.

It was proposed to purchase another 50 copies of Arnold Richards Walking Guide, if the price was held as before. The original 100 had nearly all been sold.

The above accounts were proposed by Cllr Holloway, seconded by Cllr Baker, and approved - no objections.

13a Refund of fees on pre-purchased plots.

Two requests had been received to return pre-purchased plots in the cemetery. Initially the Clerk had asked Cllrs Baker and Pepperall for advice. It was agreed to cancel the bookings on return of the relevant certificates - no refund was offered. The persons involved, having sought legal advice, have since requested a refund, subject to a reasonable administration charge. It was agreed to charge £10 such costs, and refunds of £65 will be sent, once the certificates have been cancelled. Agenda item - a new clause needs to be added to the Cemetery rules for future reference.

14. Committee Reports

Recreation Field is now being cut by LMCC.

JCH - a Spring Clean for the Clubhouse was arranged for Saturday 2nd June, 10am to 4pm. Cllrs, Parishioners and field users will be invited to assist. Lunch will be provided, and the event advertised in the Lydiard Magazine, and on Parish Notice boards. Details of tasks to be arranged.

Play areas - more wood chippings required. A matting product for play areas has been sourced from B&Q - this will be considered; quotes from commercial companies still have not been received. It was questioned whether or not shredded rubber can be used in play areas- Clerk to ask RoSPA.

NCAP Public meeting in Lyneham 12th June - Marion Rayner of Community First to speak on Parish Plans – Planning. Cllrs from local Councils invited.

15. Highway Sub Committee Report

Councillors were supplied with a copy of the latest Sub committee report. A brief resume was given, highlighting the following points:

- a. WCC have confirmed a proposal for a 30mph limit will be assessed this year for the Washpool /Holborn road.
- b. A request for permission and placing from WCC Highways for a Vehicle Activated Sign between Bagbury Lane and Stable Cottage facing west, has been made.
- c. Park Lane will have some resurfacing this summer.
- d. Approval is still being sought for diversion of the footpath around The Butts school bus parking area, to be against the wall of Honeywood House, but parking arrangements are unlikely to be affected or formalised.
- e. The Sub-Comm is to review the necessity for a cemetery, while the financial assistance of LTPC is still available. A report for the main Council will be prepared.

16. Parish Plan Report

- a. Some items covered in item 15.
- b. Post Office and shop - the Postmaster, Mr. Stone, now has an employee to run it, and the hours are 9.00 to 12.30 and 13.00 to 16.00, with Fridays 9.00 to 13.00.
- c. Holborn footpath – WCC asked to validate final plans.
- d. Stone Lane footpath – Feasibility study funded (incl. £750 from LMPC) & awaited.

17. Parish Steward - next visit 19th & 20th June 2007.

Path between Buryfield and Chestnut Springs needs sweeping.

Strim and flatten verge, from oil company in Common Platt towards and around the corner by the 'Foresters' roundabout.

Perrins Piece, bark chippings for spreading, once received.

18. Correspondence.

1. Statutory Doc. 2007 No.1159, Local Authorities (Code of Conduct) - Legal info.
2. Local Government Reorganisation - debate on Unitary Authority for WCC.
3. WALC newsletter April 2007 - and invitation for seminar on Unitary Status 24.5.07.
4. Community Area Highway Information
5. SBC Core strategy issues and options paper.
6. The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust - request for donation - Agenda June.
7. Public Bodies and Biodiversity, Conserving Wildlife in Wiltshire - invitation to attend Conference 27.06.07, Science Museum, Wroughton
8. Area 2 Community Awards Scheme - deadline dates for applications.
9. Transport Times and Telegraph Newsletter - info only.
10. Wiltshire News - one copy printed from email - info only.
11. Annual WCC Highways Report 2006/7.

Late Correspondence.

12. Letter from Lydiard Park - response to 'litter' letter forwarded on to them.
13. WCC - One Council for Wiltshire - Consultation.
14. WCC - Speed Limits 2007/8 - includes C70 Washpool/Holborn.
15. NWDC - Play Facilities Audit.

19. Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 31st May 2007 at 7.30 pm in LMPH.

Refreshments, V Bennett had volunteered and S Pepperall would be asked.

20. Date of June meeting Thursday 7th June 2007 at 7.30 pm in LMPH.

Meeting closed at 10.10 p.m. Minutes approved on 7.6.2007.