

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting 11th July 2007 at JCH

Attendance: Cllrs T Pepperall, B Baker, J Bennett, J Holloway, E Quartly Bishop, N Smith.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Harris, M Groom, and A Pflieger.
- 2. Housekeeping:** Emergency evacuation instructions were given to the meeting.
- 3. Co-option of Councillors:** No names had been proposed.
- 4. Minutes of meeting 7th June 2007** were signed as a true record.
- 5. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 10th May 2007** signed as a true record
- 6. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 31st May 2007** were signed as a true record.
- 7. PC Report.**
 - a. PC Singfield had further looked at the anti-vandal products provided by the Bobby van, for the JCH but the product was not suitable. He will continue to explore further options.
 - b. Further speeding checks had been done by both the Camera Safety Unit and their own beat bobby's. 3 surveys had been taken at Washpool with the result of less than 5% speeding. We were reminded that the Camera Safety Unit had 198 minor sites to cover.
 - c. A Pedestrian had nearly been knocked over whilst walking their dog near the school approx 8.30 in the morning by a perceived speeding car.
 - d. The Butts parking area is continually driven over - higher kerbs would not prevent this. Bollards are being considered as part of the safe routes to school initiative, and these might make parents feel less anxious about walking children across this area.
 - e. Cllr Baker had recently had to try passing six cars parked beside Rectory Cottage on a school afternoon, expecting to meet an oncoming vehicle which would not have seen him until they rounded the corner. PC Singfield and the school are constantly explaining to parents about the danger, and pointing out designated parking areas. Double yellow lines are a WCC concern, but would need enforcing, which would be a further problem.
Parents are worried about children's safety and crossing the road.
 - f. PC Singfield had emailed questions from Cllr Groom and would reply direct to her.
 - g. Nolan Transport, who had a vehicle stuck at Washpool bridge in June had sent a letter of apology to the Police, said they would look into the incident.
 - h. Mr. D. Poulton has been appointed as new Area Co-ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch.
- 8. County Councillor's report and questions arising.** There was no report.
- 9. District Councillor's report and questions arising.** There was no report.
- 10. Parishioner's Question Time.**
 - a. Church Bus Shelter – a dead tree was reported in the hedge adjacent to the shelter and needs removing. Add to Parish Steward list.
 - b. A Manhole cover on the pavement near roundabout top of The Street is reported as being rusty and disintegrating. WCC Clarence to be advised.
 - c. Laurel bush at the end of Buryfield footpath cut back, thanks to Parish Steward.
 - d. The Lydiard Magazine, had printed an article from Lydiard Tregoze regarding their position over the Unitary Authority Scheme. It was suggested that Lydiard Millicent do a similar article stating their stance on the situation. This would be difficult as there are many different opinions on the matter. It was agreed that something would be written for the Magazine and a similar article placed on the Website.
 - f. Drain between The Beeches and The Butts blocked for two years. Vans had been in the area this week examining other drains. Chairman to investigate.
 - g. Update requested on the Sun's football charity match. The June meeting had concluded that nothing more need be done on the particular incident. Any further requests to use the pitches would hopefully come with a longer period of notice and should the pitch not be available or playable, an alternative date be offered.

h. It was asked why the Cemetery has not been maintained well recently. Apparently the Groundsman's young assistant had quit with minimal notice at the end of May. There was consequently insufficient time to carry out all his contracts to the usual standard on his own.

He has given his three months notice to quit the contract. Consultation is taking place between the Council and the Groundsman to find an acceptable way forward. The cemetery was the flagship of his contract and he is very upset about the situation he finds himself in.

- i.** The request for him to take on the contract for the old cemetery, which Mr. K Manning has recently been helping on, has therefore had to be deferred.
- j.** The Solicitors bill for the Post Office licence was queried. The Solicitors had left sending their invoice out very late, but the amount is covered within the budget set for the project.
- k.** Ratepayers along Greenhill and Greatfield are considering withholding their rates if the road surfaces are not dealt with very soon. Other roads in the area are having money spent on them, and they want their share. Chairman to appraise Highway engineer of concerns.
- l.** A request was made to join with Lydiard Tregoze and request some form of barrier to prevent another fatal accident off of the J16 motorway bridge. Lydiard Tregoze P.C. and The Highways Agency would be written to.
- m.** A large amount of police activity took place recently along Greenhill, with a break-in, joy riding in Land Rovers, and the retrieval of some stolen goods. Local residents are not updated on such matters. Some matters are still under investigation, and members of the public do not always wish to have their stories recorded in the newspapers.

11. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a.** Quotes are being sought to cut back the trees in Forge Fields.
- b.** The finger post sign to Purton is missing at Greenhill crossroads and the finger post sign on the roundabout adjacent to The Street still has not been repaired. WCC to be asked will be asked how much longer the contractor will keep us waiting.
- c.** Fly tipping was reported at Bagbury lane where 'Wheels and Rim' had been by a gateway, and ivy and other vegetation at junction to Nine Elms. Report to Clarence.

12. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention. No items to report.

13. Report on matters arising from 7th June 2007 not on the main agenda.

- a.** June minutes item 5 – letter and map detailing preferred routes for HGV's given to Councillors. Toomers had denied any knowledge of the off-loading of an artic whilst still on the highway. They will be contacted again as the continental lorry has been seen again since, therefore must be a regular delivery. Any further fork-lift activity on the highway will be reported to the police.
- b.** A local business had been advertising on lampposts in the area and would be asked to cease this activity.
- c.** The agreed police leaflet drop is ready and Cllr Pepperall would be giving out the bundles ready for delivery shortly.

(The above items are for information only).

13. Planning Applications

07/01488/FUL 5 Holborn. Two storey rear extension. Comment on ext'n guttering from no 4 Holborn, otherwise **No other adverse comments.**

07/01465/FUL 1 The Beeches. Single storey side and rear extensions to provide new kitchen and garage. **No adverse comments.**

07/02398/FUL 22A Chestnut Springs. Conservatory. **No adverse comments.**

07/01807/FUL 25 Meadow Springs - Rear Canopy. **No adverse comments.**

NWDC Planning Permission

07/01051/FUL 5 The Close, Lydiard Millicent. Two-storey extension.

07/01245/FUL 27 The Street – Side garage and rear extension.

NWDC Refusal

07/01129/COU Springfield, Greenhill. Change of use of to garden.

Planning Appeal Stable Block, Woodside End, Greenhill. **Appeal dismissed.**

13. Accounts (*incl. VAT)		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	78.98*
Mr T Pepperall	JCH Spring-clean and Battery for Church Clock	18.18*
Inside Out Ltd	Groundsman	267.80
LMP Hall	Rental for meeting	16.00
Thring Townsend Slrs	Post Office Licence preparation	587.50*
In Touch Services	2 ^{nd/3rd} print walking guides	44.75
Mr S Burley	Notice board legs and installation	47.82*
PFA	Stone Lane footpath design	2937.50*

Cllr Holloway objected to the cheque for the Groundsman. It was agreed to write a letter to go with this cheque asking him to advise us of his plans for the next two months, and to report what tasks he undertakes in July & August, so that the next two cheques can be adjusted accordingly. It was clear that Councillors felt he was not keeping his contract with us.

Reducing his work load or paying him more was not an option that all the councillors could agree upon. They asked would we be asking the other contractors who quoted to lower their quotes. Many agreed that he was responsible for his contract and must find a way to honour it, even if it meant sub-contracting to another groundsman.

Income for June: Cemetery £25.00, Stone Lane footpath £1,750, SEB refund £100.

The problems experienced with the Accounting system had now been resolved and had the printer not run out of toner, copies of I&E, & B/S would have been available.

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

Cllr Baker questioned the legality of the second Agenda printed for the meeting on which additional items had been added, for the clarity of Cllrs.

14. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field. More white lining material is needed for 2007/8. This will be from our previous supplier, as an alternative quote was higher with a minimum £500 order. **JCH** no report.

Play Area. Rubber chips instead of bark had been compared. Wood chips top-up (after 3yrs) will be approx. £500. A local supplier's quote was higher. Rubber chips approx. 2ins deep would cost in the region of £2,400. It was agreed to order more woodchip.

Spring horse in Mews: quotes had been obtained for rubber matting but were not available at the meeting. A rubber kerbing system to be looked at rather than the existing planks, which when the chips are kicked or blown away leaves a risk. Thanks were given to Cllr Baker for making safe the Mews area the day after the previous meeting.

The Gate catch and Spring closer is being dealt with by Cllrs Baker and Pepperall.

Cemetery. A notice requesting that planting is not to take place without a surround on the left hand side and not at all on the right hand side. Spoil needs emptying, Pete Smith to be asked, by Cllr Holloway.

Cllr Groom had left details of more challenges required against Swindon's latest **J16 tunnel** proposal, it was agreed to allow Cllr Groom and Cllr Pepperall respond on the Council behalf.

NWDC Local Plan core strategy. LMPC to endorse the ENCAP response. Email details to Cllr Smith.

Open Gardens. Sunday 22nd, at the last count 10 gardens on the list, tea in 4 properties, to be charged separately to entrance fee.

15. Groundsman – see 14. Accounts, above.

16. Highway Sub Committee Report No report.

17. Parish Plan Report

Stone Lane footpath, plans ready and costings expected soon. Next meeting - display plans.

18. Parish Steward - next visit 17/18 July 2007, Aug painting & weeds, 18/19 Sept.

Path between The Close and Buryfield needs weeding.

Footpath from Stable Cottage to Greatfield needs weeding, and hedge cutting.

Washpool bridge railings need painting.

19. Correspondence.

Victim Support Wiltshire - Annual Review & request for donation. Send details to Nigel, Agenda for August.

NWDC - Letter regarding the finishing up of election procedure, including Cllrs Expenses, which need to be recorded even if they are 'nil'. Forms to be sent to Cllrs for urgent action.

WALC June 2007 issue - includes new mileage rates.

WCC - Food waste digester sales events.

NWDC - Local development framework: core strategy issues and options consultation details.

The Clerk July 2007 - available to read from Clerk.

Clerks and Councils Direct July 2007 - available to read from Clerk.

NWDC re Parish Council vacancies.

NWDC - proposed closure of Post Offices in Rural Areas.

Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service, Annual Plan 2007.

SBC Backland & Infill Dev Supp Plan Doc and Sw.Sust. Bldg and Constn Draft.

Date of August meeting - Thursday 2nd August 2007.

Meeting closed 21.52.

Minutes approved 2.8.2007.