

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

**Present:** Cllrs Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett, S Burley, M Groom, A Pflieger, E Quartly-Bishop, N Smith

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs B Baker, A Harris and J Holloway.
2. **Housekeeping.** Emergency procedures were given to 8 members of the public and 7 Councillors.
3. **Co-option of Councillors.** No names had been put forward, and next month there would be two vacancies as Cllr Quartly Bishop had tendered her resignation from the Council with immediate effect as she had moved to Wootton Bassett. The Council will miss her and wished her well, and thanked her for her 16 years of service, including being a School Governor representative.
4. **Minutes of meeting 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007,** were signed as a true record.
5. **PC Report.** None present.

**6. Parishioner's Question Time.**

a. A 'Community Garden for the Village' was suggested by a member of the public. She hoped to find sufficient interest in the project, and asked if we would support such a venture.

The Parish Council agreed they would be interested, but support needed further details and to be an item on a future agenda. The Parishioner hoped she could use the field immediately to the side of the Parish Hall. The Chairman may have a contact address for the land owners solicitors, but believe the land is not for sale. However, they may be willing for it to be used as such temporarily. A further site was suggested in the Street. Some funding may be available to help the project, and the Parish Hall Committee and the School Governors would also be asked for their opinion prior to the November meeting. Item to be added to November's Agenda when it could be discussed more fully.

b. The pavement adjacent to the chicane was sinking and was causing a potential hazard to pedestrians. Cllr Bennett offered to contact Clarence.

c. A pothole at the top of the hill in Greenhill was reported as being approx 9 ins deep – Clarence.

d. A further request was put to the Council to seek a 20mph limit along the length of Greenhill, due to the speed of vehicles. Cllr Groom offered to contact Tim Jones and Mark Levitt, to see if it can be added to the list of roads to be considered in the spring.

**7. County Councillor's report and questions arising.**

The judicial review on Unitary status decision at Shrewsbury is expected shortly. It has been reported that Wiltshire has a stronger case.

Big steps are being made in reducing bed blocking, which is putting strain on the low number of nursing homes. Care needed to be taken to ensure that patients were not sent home to early and then having to be re-admitted later with complications.

The Highways authority is investigating the recent flooding at Holborn. The cause is thought to be that of land owners down-river not keeping their streams clear and flowing. The field where horses are kept may be an example of this. Cllr Bennett to provide details of the current land agents, who will then be written to and asked to clear the stream before the winter rains come. The lay of Holborn means that, when it rains, it takes most of the village water – an additional pipe near the bridge, which may help to carry the water away, is being considered by WCC.

It seems likely that Westbury will get the funding required to build their by-pass.

Cllr Groom had visited some of Wiltshire's Museums. Accounting practices vary across the County, and Cllr Groom suggested, for consideration, a structure of management accounting. It was also noted that some sites would benefit from having lifts installed.

Positions for One Council for Wiltshire were being advertised on the WCC extranet.

**8. District Councillor's report and questions arising.**

As for WCC - positions for One Council for Wiltshire are being advertised on the WCC extranet, and also on NWDC Intranet.

## 9. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

a. 9 yellow buses from Braydon Forest School had been witnessed travelling south before Greenhill crossroads recently at a dangerous speed. Last year a bus turned over at this spot. SBC Passenger Transport and Thamesdown buses to be reminded that buses travelling in convoy in this way is dangerous, and that a lower speed was needed to maintain safety.

An article was remembered from a recent Link magazine which was thought to have mentioned that West Swindon children would cease to be transported to Braydon Forest School in approx. 2 years, which would help reduce the number of buses.

b. A previously repaired pothole near Nine Elms corner and approx adj. to the notice board is again leaking foul water. Thames Water and Environmental Services to be informed and asked to inspect.

## 10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.

A resident having read the article in the Lydiard's Magazine regarding the list of Dog Bins rang to tell the Clerk that stickers had appeared on litter bins indicating that wrapped dog waste could now be placed in these. It appears that an Audit on bins is taking place and that underused bins in remote areas will be removed to save money. Clerk to check status with NWDC.

## 11. Report on matters arising from 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 not on the main agenda.

Item 5.1 Posters done by school children for road safety purposes, will need signed permission from parents, and correct risk assessment carried out prior to the exercise.

Item 5.3 One Stop had been logged travelling through the village Oct 2, details handed to the Clerk.

Item 8.3 Drain report (Beeches to Butts) still not available.

Item 2.1 Sufficient agreement had been received for the Chairman to send out letter to District Auditor - there was only one objection.

Cllr Burley asked that similar letters come with an interpretation of all of the abbreviations.

Chairman and WCC Highway engineer D Everett had met & looked at:

Finger posts on The Street roundabout, there is a long waiting list.

Warning sign, top of Stone Lane, Pond House.

Church layby, laurels and dead elms.

Warning sign & interactive warning signs at Lydiard Green.

Seat bench, top of Mews.

Flooding at Holborn.

## 12. Planning Applications

**07/02427/FUL** Erection of four detached and two semi-detached dwellings with garages and parking. Revision to 07.01227.ful. at Walnut Tree Gardens.

This application is the same as the previous amendment which was withdrawn. **OBJECTION** to be made as previously. However, it is reported to us that the garage at No 2. is for use as a granny annexe, and if so, a 106 agreement would be appropriate.

The application has not properly taken into account the guidelines on adequate low cost housing. Information has also come to hand that any low cost housing developed must be of the same standard and style as the higher priced properties and must also be sold to a housing association. These facts need to be confirmed with the Planning Dept.

**07/02471/COU** Change of use of land to the open storage/display for sales of caravans, and extension to existing workshop, Swindon Caravan Centre, Greatfield. **No adverse comment, except** for care that the permission does NOT allow the additional usage to be visible from the road, and that . Although this application is actually in Tregoze Parish, it is on the edge of LMPC Land.

Comments only that we would wish to ensure that the development is not visible from road, and confirmation required of the new boundary. Will it encroach behind Walfins Building?

**07/02477/FUL** Erection of triple garage and workshop following demolition of existing garage and workshop block, The Firs, Common Platt. **No Adverse Comments**

### Amended Plans

**07/01754/COU** Conversion of existing stables and hay loft to create additional residential space for cottage at Stables Cottage. Addition to include Bat Loft. **SUPPORT**

### Applications Withdrawn

**07/02097/S73A** Use of caravan currently sited, as office, restroom and occasional overnight accommodation to tend to welfare of animals at Stable Block, Woodside End, Greenhill.

### NWDC Planning Permissions

**07/02008/FUL** First floor extension above flat roofed double garage at Manor Hill, Purton.

**07/02087/FUL** First floor extension, garage conversion, at 17 The Willows, Common Platt.

<b>13. Accounts</b> (*incl. VAT)		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	16.00
NWDC	Election 3.5.2007, fees and charges	19.00
NWDC	Dev. Control Agenda and Minutes 2007/8	28.50
Mr S Trott, Earthmoving Serv.	Grass Cutting in Cemetery/Play area	140.00
LMCC	Grass Cutting Recreation Field	50.00
SFC	Line Marking	100.00
Ross Brooke Accountants	Internal Audit Fee for y/e 31.3.07	293.75*

Cllr Bennett proposed, Cllr Smith seconded accounts be accepted – approved, no objections.  
 Received from NWDC 2<sup>nd</sup> half precept £7,000  
 Other Receipts for Sept – SEB wayleave £6.90, LMCC field hire 2/2 £300, Cemetery £150.

**13a Ross Brooke** - our internal auditors had sent us a Standard Contract for approval. It was thought that any alterations to the contract may mean the Council would suffer higher fees. Risk assessments were. It was agreed to sign Contract letter but point out that written Risk Assessments had not yet been undertaken. In the meantime, to seek free advice from our Insurance Company and other Councils and agencies.

**13b Church bus stop roof** - Chairman's attention had been drawn to the some missing tiles. It was thought that the laurels had broken them over a period. To prevent further damage, Mr Crouch had been instructed to proceed with the repairs and to paint the weather boards.

**13c Precept** - Items from Public and Councillors put forward, and at November meeting:  
 Flashing Speed light as agreed last year.  
 Funding for new pavement to reach the proposed bus stop at Greenhill crossroad.  
 Gulley work to prevent further damage to Greenhill road may need funding.  
 Continue to account to parishioners on Capital Plan project spending, as per Parish Plan.

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

Recreation Field - cut by LMCC, more likely.  
 JCH - several bookings for committee rooms from SFC & NWFL.  
 Play area - strimmed. Rubbish bins emptied by Clerk and Chairman.  
 Someone needed to do sundry tasks through winter.  
 Cemetery will need another cut soon before winter.  
 Hedge needs trimming and a weed spraying.

#### **15. Request for seat at the beginning of The Mews,**

Replies had been received from WCC and NWDC allowing the seat in principle. However, it may require NWDC planning permission, and WCC would need the seat to be approved by them, and installed by WCC approved contractors on a hard standing and securely fixed. The Council were reminded of the controversy caused by children playing ball games on the land in the past, and the damage to the roof of an adjoining garage. A letter of objection from a neighbour was read out, which had the backing of 4 other residents who had not written. The Council then decided that the site recommended by the WCC engineer was not safe for all, being on the corner of The Mews and Chestnut Springs. A motion on the proposed bench installation was defeated, 1 for, 5 against. A letter informing the applicant of the Council's decision will be sent.

#### **16. Groundsman**

The Chairman presented a set of names of potential contractors who may be willing to undertake the Groundsman's jobs (Messrs. S Trott, P Osborne, S. Keye, J Harley, M Ayres, N Ritchens and D. Robinson). It was agreed to postpone an advertisement campaign for a month and in the meantime send an invitation to tender to all of the above. Cllr Bennett agreed to organise the information they will need.  
 In the meantime, jobs over the winter will continue be monitored and contractors employed as necessary. The Council gave the Chairman permission to manage the ad hoc jobs as they arose.

#### **17. Highway Sub Committee Report**

Ms. S. Linham of WCC had responded to our letter re grants for bus shelters and whether they included the installation of a footpath for access. Whilst, she agreed that it does, we can still only receive the maximum of £2,500 for the project. Cllr Bennett will be meeting her on site on 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. It was suggested we could precept, if needed, to improve the stop opposite Bagbury Park.

**18. Parish Plan Report**

- a. The plan to install a footpath along Holborn has now been approved in principle by WCC Transportation and Development, and the tender procedure may now begin, prior to fund raising. Friday 12th of October set for impromptu sub-committee meeting (*now November, tba*).
- b. Butts bus stop area - WCC have agreed a plan to move the footpath to the wall and place bollards at the edge. This should have a coloured surface. The School will be asked to ensure this is included in their next bid for 'safe routes to school' funding.

**19. Parish Steward's next visit 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October,**

Trim laurels to side of Church bus shelter and remove all cuttings. Remove any loose dead elm. Washpool turning, on footpath, mud to be cleared away, map to be sent. Church chicane - mud & debris to be removed. The Butts - any leaves to be cleared away.

**20. Correspondence.**

- a. Reply from A Papa re 31 Stone Lane (footpath) seeking meeting prior to his planning application.
- b. Wilts & Swindon Countryside Access Forum – Re Rights of Way and Local Walks.
- c. County Local Studies Library – re LMPC Walking Guides.
- d. Email received re World War 2 Roll of Honour. Proposed missing name was a Purton resident and was therefore not included. A reply will be emailed back.
- e. Modification orders to Definitive Map and Statement - no items for LMPC.
- f. SBC - Further draft revised parking standards - consultation period 5.9.07 - 15.10.07.
- g. Swindon and Marlborough Trust - re plans for Foundation Trust Status - response required.
- h. Community First AGM, Annual Report and Accounts y/e 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - info only.
- i. The Skylark Newsletter Summer 2007 - info only. Cllr Groom taken.
- j. Great Western Community Forest, update newsheet summer 2007 - info only.
- k. Big Lottery Playful Ideas Programme - grant opportunity.

**21. Date of November meeting - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007.**

**Meeting Closed 9.45.**

**Minutes approved 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2007.**