

MINUTES 6TH December 2007
LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), B Baker, J Bennett, S Burley, A Pflieger, and A Harris.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs M Groom, J Holloway, and N Smith.
2. **Housekeeping.** The 6 Parishioners and 5 Councillors all knew the emergency procedures.
3. **Co-option of Councillors.** The second vacancy is now being advertised, co-option can take place after 15th December if no names are put forward to NWDC. The Chairman is in discussion with a possible candidate at present re the 1st vacancy.
4. **Minutes of meeting 1st November 2007** - 14g, final sentence was amended to read 'The Council decided to discuss further with WCC and Thamesdown other suggestions'. The minutes were then signed as a true record.
5. **PC Report** - No report received.
6. **County Councillor's report and questions arising** - No report received.
7. **District Councillor's report and questions arising** - No report received.

8. Parishioner's Question Time.

Two letters in favour of the seat in the Mews had been received, one from a 94 year old. It was asked if the Council had received any other letters regarding the proposed seat - they had not. It was asked if WCC would maintain any seats after installation - no - it would be P.C responsibility.

It was asked if the young people can play on the Recreation Field. Yes they can, provided they avoid the cricket square, or football is in progress.

The large pot hole at the top of Greenhill has still not been filled. As the Clerk has written to WCC Highways, it was suggested that she also report it via Clarence direct.

Very long eight-wheeled vehicles are still managing to reach the bottom of Greenhill and discover that they cannot turn around. Signs have previously been requested to indicate that beyond Blackfords the road is unsuitable for these vehicles. Clerk to write to the landlords of Blackfords, Peter Blackford's trustees, and explain the need for a sign. A further sign to be requested from WCC at the entrance to Goff's Farm as this is the very last point at which a long vehicle can turn around.

Drainage of ditches in Greenhill – discussions are ongoing with WCC on ways to re-instate them.

Cllr Pflieger arrived 8.00 p.m.

It was asked at what distance new homes need to be from a road. It used to be 35ft - Planning Department to be asked as the P.C. did not know.

9. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

Cllr Bennett brought a plea from the Luncheon Club who need volunteers to do escort duty, and to lay tables, etc, beforehand. It was agreed that if the Luncheon Club wish to print a leaflet advertising their needs, the Parish Council would help to distribute them. It was further agreed that the current Councillor vacancies should also be advertised on the leaflet.

Cllr Burley asked if a larger set of slabs would help the application for a bus shelter at Greatfield. No - this would not help, as WCC say it is an unsafe site for a shelter with or without the slabs. Cllr Bennett has enquired if it is allowed to build a path to join the slab waiting area with the Greenhill pavement, as it would be safer to walk to the site off road. The school bus and the No. 53 to Purton use this stop. It was agreed to query the WCC reply as the stop has been there 10 years at least.

Cllr Baker again requested a 'No ball games' sign for Buryfield - agreed - to be arranged.

A 'Nolan Transport' artic was parked overnight in Buryfield on Monday 2nd Dec. Chair to write, again, with copy to the police.

Objection was made to the letters in the Lydiard Magazine that indicated the P.C. called the local children 'Vandals'. No such remarks were made by P.C. – however, confirmation was made that damage was caused to property by balls.

10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention. None.

11. Report on matters arising from 1st November 2007 not on the main agenda.

9c, Keep clear sign, now installed at Park Lane.

16, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust were offered the AGM and have agreed, date to be forwarded when set.

12. Planning Applications

07/02864/FUL Single and two storey extensions at 46 Chestnut Springs.

3 residents have objected directly to District.

Object:

Over-development of site, to within one metre of footpath, taking up most of garden, and visual detracting by two storey ext'n of street scene on this corner of estate, where adjacent dwellings are all single storey.

07/02838/FUL Detached double garage/store at 11 Greenhill.

Neighbour asked for rear of garage not to extend beyond dwellings, otherwise **No adverse comment**

07/02883/FUL Conversion and extensions to bungalow to form chalet bungalow, and erection of double garage in front garden of Masefield, Common Platt.

Objection to double garage, taking light from neighbour's lounge. Extension - **No adverse comment but Object** to garage on grounds that it must be behind the building line.

07/02805/FUL General purpose agricultural store at Plain Farm, Braydon. **No adverse comment**

07/02608/FUL Riding Arena at Brockhurst Farm Stables, Greenhill.

Arena sited too close to brook, not ditch as stated, which is an upper tributary to RiverThames - environmental review recommended.

Additional reservations regarding the poor condition of the access road.

07/03017/FUL Single storey rear extension at 22 The Mews.

No adverse comment

07/03129/FUL Replacement rear conservatory at Brecklands, The Street.

No adverse comment

07/03099/FUL First floor dormer extensions at 29 The Beeches.

No adverse comment

NWDC Permission granted

07/02477/FUL Erection of triple garage and workshop at The Firs, Common Platt.

07/02554/FUL Conservatory at 2 Park View Drive.

07/02582/FUL Roof Lights at Unit 4 Bagbury Park, The Street.

07/02603/FUL Erection of barn, field shelters, pens and riding arena at Blackfords, Greenhill.

07/01865/LBC Conversion of stables and loft to residential accommodation at Stables Cottage.

07/01754/COU Conversion of stables and loft to residential accommodation at Stables Cottage.

NWDC Refusals

07/02427/FUL 6 dwellings at Walnut Tree Gardens.

07/02471/COU Change of use of land to open/display and extension to workshop at Swindon Caravan Centre, Greatfield.

NWDC Application Withdrawn

07/01151/COU Change of use Cottage from residential to meeting room, at the Lodge, Church Place.

WCC Public notice of speed changes to C28 Holborn, C70 Washpool, C16 Stone Lane and UC108601 The Crescent, Lydiard Millicent - Official Notification.

13. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	23.69*
L.M.Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	16.00
SFC	Line Marking	100.00
Mazars	External Audit Fee for 2006/7	334.88*
Thames Water	JCH Water supply	64.00

Accounts proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Baker, no objections - approved.

13a Lloyds Bank Signatories - the document was completed and signed by Cllrs Pepperall, Bennett, Burley, Groom, Holloway, and Pflieger. Cllrs Harris and Smith declined to become signatories at this time. P Brimacombe, D Revere, J Vincent, M Voaden, E Wiltshire, and J Woolford were removed from the list of signatories.

Signing instructions to be any three signatures, one of which must be the Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

13b. Precept - After a lengthy discussion over the Cemetery figure, it was agreed to set the precept at £15,000, £1,000 higher than last year. The Precept forms for NWDC were duly signed. Details to be added to the end of these Minutes.

14. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - cut and spiked by Swindon B.C.

JCH - bookings continue to be received from Shaw F.C.

Play Area - Cllr Burley was thanked for fixing the gate and the spring. The Chairman and Clerk are continuing to remove litter from the bin.

Cemetery - nothing to report.

WCC are to improve 1245 square metres of pavements in Chestnut Springs with 'Rubber Crumb' surfacing, as a pilot exercise.

Question asked whether fertilizer is applied to field - yes, a 'Weed and Feed' was done 2 yrs ago, and the next application will be agreed after discussion with Shaw F.C. - spiking will be sufficient this year.

15. NWDC - Invitation - The Future of Local Democracy in the Area and Unitary Authority Bid.

Cllrs Pepperall and Smith attended this meeting on Council's behalf. The Unitary bid is approved by Gov't. A plan to change the NWDC Area 2 committee into one of the new 'pilot' Area Boards, manned by elected councillors, is to be offered to NWDC & WCC.

16. Seat in The Mews. Two comments received this evening, but any decision to defer for a further month as the magazine article had only been distributed for a few days.

A site on the opposite side of the road further away from the corner was suggested as a better site for a communal bench, as it would be in a safer place with better all-round visibility and views.

17. Memorial request (Cemetery) update. The Clerk reported that legal advice had been sought and it is permitted for such a memorial to be placed. The onus for upkeep/removal in the future lies with the plot owner. The family will be asked to submit a diagram of the proposed memorial for approval.**18. Christmas Tree.** Electrician needs a weeks notice, additional lights to be purchased. Tree donation to be followed up.**19. Groundsman**

5 quotations and 2 refusals received. Some proposals were considered unsuitable by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk. As the Council is likely to have to take over the old cemetery in 2008, the remainder will be asked to quote for the extra work. When the up-dated quotes are received, a group of Councillors will make a decision and bring a proposal to council in January.

It is considered the Old Cemetery will continue to be kept in a good state meanwhile.

Long discussions took place over the proposals, hampered by the fact that current quotations were not specified, to avoid any unfair adjustments of the quotes for the extra work.

It was felt that should the final figure for the Groundsman's contract differ from that on the proposed budget, any difference could be catered for from Reserves.

20. Highway Sub Committee Report. Holborn footpath - next task is to have a further sub-committee meeting with Richard King, then return to P.C. with a proposal.**21. Parish Plan Report - no other items.****22. Parish Steward's next visit** January 22nd and 23rd.**23. Correspondence.**

WALC newsletter November 2007, Clerks and Councils direct - November magazine.

First News - Community First Magazine, Winter 2007 - info only.

The Clerk - November Issue.

NWDC Views sought on transition to One Council for Wiltshire.

Leaflets for everyone, on helping you to drive safely in adverse weather from WCC.

'Continuous professional development' - A National Training Strategy booklet.

WCC - County Council's Corporate Plan 2007 - www.wiltshire.gov.uk

NSPCC Quiz night 13th Dec. - extra teams needed, 6 per team, volunteers contact Chair or Mrs Reed.

22. Date of next meeting: Thursday 3rd January 2008.

Minutes approved 4.1.2008.