

**Minutes 3rd January 2008**  
**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Present:** Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), Bennett, Groom, Harris, Holloway, Pflieger, Smith.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Baker, Harris, and Burley.
2. **Housekeeping.** 9 Parishioners and 9 Councillors were advised of the emergency procedures.

Condolences on her husband's death were expressed, with best wishes, to Mrs Reed, who acknowledged these and issued an invitation to all who knew her husband to attend the funeral on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 1 p.m. and afterwards at the Parish Hall.

**3. Co-option of Councillors.**

Two prospective candidates for the position of Councillor were present, observing the meeting.

**4. Minutes of meeting 6<sup>th</sup> December 2007.**

Minutes were amended on page 2 item 12, 46 Chestnut Springs. Remove 'Cllr Groom has asked for this to go to committee'. The amended minutes were duly approved and signed.

**5. PC Report.**

a. Our PC, who had been asked to look up speeding incidents along Stone Lane, was unfortunately only able to find 2 reported incidents (which involved personal Injury & their attendance) in the last 5 years. There is no doubt that many other incidents have happened, and residents are urged to report all such accidents to the Parish Council, to enable us to build a log of such incidents.

No information was available as to the condition of the young driver who had been injured outside Toomers before Christmas, except that it was not a fatality, as this is being dealt with by the Traffic Officers. Likewise there was no information regarding an accident in Forge Fields.

b. Our officer was asked whether or not the refusal for Tregoze to have a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign, would be repeated when we apply for ours. The Officer was unable to answer this but hoped that the use of the school travel plan may help the application.

c. The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Mr. David Poulton, was also present at the meeting and reported that there were no issues as present. He was asked about the time between reports - this is due to lack of news, when there is nothing to report. It was agreed that links to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme should be set up on the Parish Website.

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

Although we considered we had won the battle over the J16 tunnel dispute, Swindon B.C., and the developers are still trying to push the permission through.

An article based on a developer's submission to the EIP in May 2007, which appeared in Link Magazine, recently stated that it was not inconceivable that the 12,000 houses planned in the draft RSS could be switched from the East to the West of Swindon. However the editor has agreed that he will publish details of the NCAP submission to the EIP to balance matters.

Concerns were raised that Biffa, who own Studley Grange Landfill site (due to close in 2011), may be applying for an extension, and had already approached a parishioner to purchase his home and land.

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

The transition of the District Councils into WCC is still proceeding.

**9. Parishioner's Question Time.**

a. When will it be possible to Cycle safely between Lydiard Millicent and Lydiard Park? Reply - Holborn Footpath project plans will hopefully be implemented this year.

b. Why were salt bins removed from two areas in the Village. Answer not known, this matter will be followed up as it is not the right time of year to be losing salt bins.

c. Clarence has been getting holes filled within the month.

d. Natural spring surfaced again outside the old post office - this will be an ice rink if it freezes.

e. Manhole cover, on the pavement near roundabout, is GPO's - Cllr Bennett is still chasing this.

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

a. A developer has proposed a western development of 12,500 homes for West Swindon, with some in Washpool. Suspicions are based on SWARMS Option 2. Cllr Holloway had a web document on this issue. This would seriously affect the Rural Buffer area.

b. A further Post office reply had been received, as was added to item 14 Committee Reports.

c. Christmas Tree - unfortunately the Safety Switch was tripping the lights, which had to be re-set several times until the fault was identified. The strong winds 3 days after Christmas blew the tree down

and broke the footings. It was not possible to re-instate the tree at that stage. It was agreed that the installation of any Xmas 2008 tree would be dealt with by one nominated representative of the Council, who would oversee all the work involved. October 2008 agenda.

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

The Clerk wished everyone a Happy New Year.

#### 12. Report on matters arising from 6<sup>th</sup> December not on the main agenda.

An adjustment was made to the response for item 8, re public playing on the Recreation Field. Football games cannot be held without permission from LMPC and SFC. A Magazine item will be issued, with brief rules to using the field. SFC would be reminded that they need to be responsible for the rubbish that occurs during match days.

#### 13. Planning Applications

**07/03202/FUL** Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling with associated landscaping and re-sited vehicular access at The Glen, 32 Stone Lane, L.M.

The owner has been approached by the Council for a metre of land for the footpath project. Original building is thought to have been prefabricated. Fears were raised that as this was a '1st World War home' it may still contain some asbestos, which will need careful removal. Roads to be kept washed to prevent accidents along Stone Lane from muddy patches. Otherwise **No adverse comments.**

##### NWDC Consents granted

**07/02783/TCA** Crown reduction of evergreen oak tree at The Manor.

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

**07/02805/FUL** General purpose agricultural store at Plain Farm, Braydon.

##### NWDC Refusals

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

**07/02733/FUL** Erection of extensions and alterations to existing bungalow to create chalet bungalow with integral garage at 6 The Crescent, Common Platt.

##### NWDC Void application

**07/01415/LBC** Change of use of cottage from residential to meeting room and disabled toilets and internal alterations, Maggie's Cottage.

##### Withdrawal of application

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

##### Late Planning

**07/02947/S73A** Continued use of site for mixed use as dwelling/office, builders yard, kennels, storage, bagging and sale of aggregates ancillary to the manufacturer and sale of concrete slabs and related products and the parking of commercial vehicles at Barretts Yard, Stone Lane.

Objections have already been raised to District Councillor, who has asked for this to go to committee. Agreed to defer to next month, to enable proper notice. More information required on any current planning permissions. Each facet needs to be considered carefully, and local views sought. An extension of time will be sought from NWDC or a separate meeting will be called prior to 31<sup>st</sup> January.

#### 8.40 Cllr Smith left.

#### 14. Accounts (\*incl. VAT)

		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	243.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	37.55*
L.M.Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	16.00
SFC	Line Marking	100.00
InsideOut	Christmas Tree, erection & disposal	67.99*
T Pepperall	Christmas Lights for tree	24.95
J Bennett	Photocopying – Holborn footpath	30.84*
Soc.Local C'I Clerks	Membership renewal 2008	70.00

Accounts proposed by Cllr Groom, seconded by Cllr Holloway, no objections approved.

December Income – Nil.

#### 15. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - no games played in December due to wet weather.

JCH - nothing to report

Play area - nothing to report.

Cemetery - .New fees to be proposed in February to start in April 2008.

Re closure of old cemetery, letter received from Ministry of Justice. If LMPC declines to take on the maintenance, then NWDC must take this on. Some parishioners may prefer LMPC to have this responsibility, rather than NWDC. An article in the Lydiard Magazine would help to establish local feelings on this issue. Time scales to be established and legal advice to be sought. NWDC may have an efficient and cost-effective scheme, with their own grass cutting team. Regularity of NWDC cuts need investigation, and site visits to NWDC-run closed cemeteries might be useful.

Holborn footpath proposal, circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting, was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Groom, all in favour. Proposal to be formally available to parishioners.

Application for Vehicle Activated Sign in Tregoze refused by WCC Highways. Chair to investigate viability of our proposed VAS.

Post Office Closure - 13 replies received from 400flyers - 8 for and 5 against saving it. Comment made that parishioners may not have had time to send responses before the deadline. The closure notice arrived just in time for flyers to go out in the Lydiards Magazine, in time for a January decision. If we were to be successful in saving ours, another will close. Closure may affect the Stone Lane footpath plans. With such a small mandate, and in light of previously unsuccessful appeals, it was regretfully decided not to fight the Post Office closure.

#### **16. Bench seating.**

Only two responses had been received in support of the original plan. It was agreed to send a letter to the original applicants and suggest a different site on the other side of the road and clearly mention the costs that would be involved.

#### **17. Groundsman.**

LMPC met 'in camera' before the meeting to discuss the quotations. Present – all Cllrs at main meeting, except Cllr Pflieger. Cllr Bennett proposed, and Cllr Smith seconded, that that 'Inside Out' be awarded the contract at £6683 for 12m, wef 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008.

**18. Parish Steward's next visit 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January.** Strim corner verge by The Forresters, and under rubbish bin by phone box at Common Platt; Clear mud and debris at school bus stop, The Butts; Trim grass & vegetation from the path from The Beeches to end of wall at Manor Farm.

**19. Date for APM. Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2008,** with guest speaker from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

#### **20. Correspondence.**

W.A.L.C Newsletter December 2007, info only, see Clerk for details.

Meeting Skills Courses available through WFCAP in Jan, Feb, & March, for anyone interested.

Ministry of Justice – re Closure of Old Cemetery. Cllr Groom to seek advice from WCC Legal Dept.

#### **Late Post**

Request for funding from Footpath group. It was agreed to add this to February Agenda.

WCC - reply re Greenhill road surface.

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust - Re Biodiversity as a Parish Council. Duty to be 'Bio Diverse' on projects undertaken, e.g. Holborn footpath. Questionnaire to be returned by the Clerk.

**21. Date of next meeting: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008.**

**Minutes approved 7.2.2008.**