

Minutes 3rd April 2008
LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

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

1. Apologies for absence. M Groom.

2. Housekeeping. Given to 10 Cllrs & 6 Parishioners.

3. Minutes of meeting 6th March 2008. Was amended at item 4, changed Swindon to Purton and signed.

4. PC Report. There was no report.

5. County Councillor's report and questions arising, + Electoral Boundaries.

Cllr Groom is campaigning to retain Lydiard Millicent, Lydiard Tregoze, and Broadtown, as her catchment area, and has asked for these Councils to write letters of support. Cllr Pepperall read out the proposed letter and this was agreed.

Cllr Harris felt it would be more logical if the catchment area had more of Wootton Bassett and areas north of Lydiard Millicent.

Northern Community Area Partnership had a successful open meeting in Cricklade, with a presentation from local police, Primary care trusts, and NWDC re the Unitary proposals for Area Boards to be supported by Community Area Partnerships, such as our own NCAP

6. District Councillor's report and questions arising.

Not much to report – NWDC are busy preparing for One Council (WCC + NWDC) in 2009.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

a Parishioner had reported the 12 drains in The Butts had been cleared, and then a couple of weeks later had to report that 8 were still blocked.

The hole in the road by the Post Box is getting worse, thought now to be a broken drain, not as previously suspected - a local spring.

b The drain cover by the roundabout signpost has not been repaired and needs to be reported again.

c There are two pot holes in the 'Forresters' junction area.

d Pot hole outside Rose Hall in Washpool.

e Water pools on the junction of Washpool with Tewksbury Way, drains or lack of them, need to be investigated by Parish Steward.

It was noted that the pavements in Chestnut Springs had a new coat of tarmac - why was the rest of the village not done. Response, this was a test case and that area was chosen not asked for.

f A Council worker, which might have been the Parish Steward had been cutting the Laurels by the bus stop, concerns were raised over cutting in the nesting period.

g A parishioner reported the blockage to the drains from The Beeches to the Butts is still current.

h A report was given on behalf of the neighbours in Forge Fields with regard to the fate of the Fir Trees around the Sub Station. He raised concerns over the loss of habitat which would take a long time if ever to recover. The fir trees are home to many of the village song birds. The parishioner raised concerns over the loss of habitat, which would take a long time, if ever, to recover. He recommended that the trees merely be trimmed.

Cllr K Thomas arrived.

8. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.

a Lunch club leaflet has now been produced to get some more helpers and volunteers. P Guest has volunteers to cover the village except Greenhill and Greatfield. The Chairman would try to find volunteers for these areas.

b A possible notice board for Lydiard Green was discussed as there is none in that area. A safe space to put it would be needed before this proposal can go further.

c Cllr Harris is having problems with cyclists who pass through Washpool and toss their empty Isotonic bottles along his boundary. He recently cleared 43 bottles in one day. It is thought to be organised cycling groups. The Clerk will write to cycling organisations and ask them not to do so.

d Cllr Bennett reported that the litter pick had gone well and each year less litter is collected. The regular members tend to do their own patches and many of them have borrowed litter picks from the Council to carry out intermediate clean ups. The local authority have a duty of care to collect litter if it is reported, parishioners are urged to report large build ups of litter.

e A Tautline vehicle, carrying Metposts was followed through the village recently, thought to be going to Blackfords. A suggestion was made that Blackfords could also send out directions for HGV deliveries in line with instructions to Toomers.

- f** Monday 31st March 10 past 5 a.m. a Nolan's' vehicle driver was parked and sleeping in the entrance to Toomers, facing the wrong way and without the correct lights on.
- g** There is no news yet on the 30mph limit due to come into force.
- h** Magpies - 9 nests in half a mile area, will become a huge problem later in the year when the numbers have tripled in size. Should we seek advice from the RSPB? Cllr Holloway informed the meeting that legally there must be a good reason to take out these birds' nests. It is thought however, that you can take away nests on private property.
- i** The Phone box along The Street has been vandalised, Clerk to report this to BT.
- j** Cllr Holloway had witnessed and recorded a Rigid and Drag lorry travelling through the village. He has reported the incident to the police, and the company.
- k** It was asked if Parishioners need planning permission to raise domestic chickens. None was known, however some deeds have covenants preventing such activities.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.

The Clerk reported that she will be on holiday for the next two weeks.

10. Report on matters arising from 6th March not on the main agenda.

- 7b The Bus Shelter was brushed out during the Spring Clean.
- 8b Tipper lorry is thought to be accessing a turfing business.
- 8d No further action to be taken by the Parish Council
- 10 9b Christmas tree suggestion will be put to the Parish Hall meeting on the 19th May.

11. Planning Applications

08/00543/FUL 6 The Crescent, Common Platt. (revision of 07/02738/FUL) Erection of single storey rear extension and erection of dormers in roof space for loft conversion. This application had been **withdrawn** before comments could be made.

08/00644/TCA Honeywood Lodge Tree surgery to Ash, Beech, & Lime Trees **Support**

08/00633/FUL 59 Chestnut Springs, Double detached garage following conversion of existing integral garage to kitchen. **No adverse comments.**

07/02947/S73A Barretts Yard review. We opposed this application at the NWDC Committee meeting on the 2nd April, but D/Councillors **approved** the application. The approval comes with many conditions which will enable future activity on the site to be monitored, and was welcomed by local neighbours. As with Toomers, an advisory letter to go to Barretts Yard, stipulating the correct HGV routes for their delivery drivers.

Amended Plans

08/00165/FUL 44 Chestnut Springs Two new dormers and two storey extension. Despite our opposition at the NWDC Committee meeting on the 2nd April. D/Councillors **approved**. Various groundwork, and grubbing out of hedges, has taken place recently at 'Greensend'.

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	249.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	62.96
L.M.P.H.	Hire of Hall for meeting	20.00
S.F.C.	White Lining of pitches	100.00
Mr TH Pepperall	Expenses 2007/8	152.06
Inside Out	Rubbish clearance	48.00

Income – Rural Payment Agency (Lydiard Plain grant) £779.06 (est. at £850), S.F.C. £408.50, Millennium Maps & Walking Guides £28, Cemetery £150

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

13. Electricity at JCH - no changes will be made to our supplier.

14. Committee Reports:

A Meeting had been held with SFC re their propositions for next year in accordance with new guidance for FIFA. The future may include a girls' team on a Saturday from 2009. There may be some Saturday and or evening games to catch up before the end of the season. SFC are applying for 'Charter Status' which means provision of different size pitches for different ages, we need to agree

the extension of next seasons pitches, and to ensure that they do not impinge too far on the area previously earmarked for a tennis court, which needs to be organised by a tennis club. A suggestion was made that the Carpark could be extended to the end of the field; this is too costly at present. SFC have been asked to take better care over the parking in future

A Rugby Club request to train on a Sunday morning had been declined as this is the busiest day for the Football Club when parking is already a problem. A further suggestion of a local gala of Rugby with three other schools may be considered by Parish Council and the Cricket Club for May or June, provided the ground is not too wet.

It was agreed that the Council would look at amending the fees charged for the Jubilee Clubhouse and Recreation field at its May meeting. The clubs to be advised in the meantime.

The April Play area report was carried out by Cllr Baker and will be made by Cllr Thomas next month.

The old Cemetery closure has now reached public consultation and is being advertised in the press. The wording is to be checked as it mentioned (Church Yard), which could infer the Church grounds. Cllrs Baker and Pepperall to check the legal wording.

15. Christmas Tree – to be deferred to May. See above item 10.

16. Fir Trees, Forge Fields

A letter went out to 10 houses with view of fir trees; these letters asked the residents to vote for removal or reduction of the trees, or cutting them back. 9 replies were received of which 5 supported removal, and 4 reduction.

Further quotes have been received. NWDC planning department confirmed that no permission is needed. The comments from Parishioner's Question Time were noted and a debate followed, with the Councillors being equally divided in their opinions. It was agreed that it would be deferred until May, and that a post removal plan be put forward with costs, prior to a decision being made.

17. Groundsman.

The Groundsman's contract began 1st April 2008 and has started satisfactorily.

18. Parish Steward's next visit 22nd/23rd April 2008.

The previous months list to be sent together with checks on Grips or drains at the junction of Tewksbury Way and Washpool.

19. LM Primary School "Extended Services"

Local Schools nationally are being encouraged to open to more parishioners, encouraging village groups or new facilities (and in our village without detriment to the village Hall) benefits to the school may also be an increase in volunteers from group members.

A Letter surveying opinions was read out; this will be responded to by the Chairman but not completed. The school could be open from 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. if there is a demand.

The Chairman has already contacted the school with names of Parishioners who may wish to use the extended school. e.g. for a community garden or a table tennis club.

It was suggested that the survey could be amalgamated with a Parish Plan survey, but it was agreed that these two should be kept separate. It was agreed that the current Parish Plan needs updating and would be placed on the May Agenda to discuss the way forward and Grant Options.

20. Risk Assessments – JCH, and Cemetery.

A risk assessment carried out on the Jubilee Clubhouse 4 years ago is still considered adequate.

The Cemetery and the Butts pond were identified as needing an assessment.

Information to be brought to the May meeting as to the Parish Councils responsibility for the pond, the Church will also be asked to look at where its responsibilities lie as landlords.

21. Correspondence.

WCC Slipper Exchange events 27th March and 8th April.

WCC e-newsletter. – see Clerk for details.

Wiltshire Wayfarer – Rights of Way Newsletter Spring 2008 – see Clerk for details.

WALC Newsletter March 2008. – see Clerk for details

Rural Payments Agency – Application form for year 2008, to be returned by 15th May 2008.

Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2008 magazine. – see Clerk for details.

NWDC Travel Scheme 2008 – application forms now available from Clerk.

NWDC – Info on stages of the Boundary review.

WCC – formal consultation on proposed electoral divisions for new Unitary Wiltshire Council.

Late correspondence

WCC – annual highway maintenance meeting 30th April 2008 @ 2.pm Cllrs Bennett and Burley.

WCC Review of working with the voluntary and community sector – consultation.

The Parish Council were asked if any of them had an interest in the Council Auditors, which are Mazars of Southampton and Ross Brooke of Newbury and Swindon. There were none recorded.

- 20. Date of next meeting: Thursday 1st May 2008 is also the AGM.
Date of Annual Parish Meeting 29th May 2008.**

Meeting closed 10.00

Signed by Chairman 1st May 2008.