

## LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**Present:** Cllrs T Pepperall(Chair), B Baker, J Bennett, T Blackmore, S Burley, M Groom, A Harris, B Quant, K Thomas, and S Welch.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr A Pflieger
2. **Safety Briefing** delivered to 9 members of the public and 10 Councillors
3. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr S Burley had two planning applications for discussion.
4. **Minutes of meeting 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009** amended at 9d - change 'exasperate' to 'exacerbate'.  
11.7a - delete 'call', add 'inspect and report'. The minutes were then signed as a true record.
5. **Police Report.** No report

#### 6. Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.

Cllr Groom had attended the Wiltshire Assembly, which was attended by all Wiltshire associations. Partnerships are being worked on and good initiatives are coming forward. NHS and Wiltshire Council are ensuring that adequate funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau continues and that the necessary information is available to the public. On a visit to Wilts and Berks Canal, Cllr Groom saw a dedicated group of volunteers working on a section between Chaddington Lock and Bincknoll Lock. All the links in the Canal are reported in the Dragonfly booklet.

**Wiltshire Core Strategy** - There are many meetings planned, including 30<sup>th</sup> November at Wootton Bassett and workshops to follow, where issues can be discussed. Mollie requested that the the Enforcement Meeting planned for 30<sup>th</sup> November should be given another date so that it did not clash with the Wiltshire Core Strategy meeting; also that a venue more suitable for residents from the North should be provided.

Andrew Kerr has been appointed as the New Chief Executive.

#### 7. Parishioner's Question Time.

**a.** Objection was raised as to the new rules regarding flowers in the Cremation area of the Cemetery. The resident was in agreement to having a couple of little fir trees removed but was adamant that she was not removing the flower urn sank into the ground beside the tablet. She was also spokeswoman for other residents who are not happy with the new rules which are designed to keep the area clear of clutter and dead flower arrangements. It was confirmed at the meeting that wreaths were acceptable at the relevant times of the year. These would be removed after a suitable period of time. The new regulations are aimed to clean up after visitors who visit rarely, and are not intended to specifically target parishioners who attend on a regular basis.

**b.** Residents of Greenhill have received a letter from 'Mouchel' (the Council's main contractors, regarding the experimental road surface which was used last summer. They admit that the surface did not take properly on this stretch of road and that the road will need to be re-surfaced. The road was badly torn up in the heat of the summer, shortly after being laid. It will be re-laid in 2010.

**c.** An update was requested on the letter from LMPC regarding ditches along Greenhill. The resident explained that WCC put the pipes in 30 years ago, and did not ask permission, and is baffled as to why LMPC or Wiltshire Council are not getting on with the necessary works. Response - LMPC are still discovering who have pipes and who have filled theirs in. Information from the residents has at times been contradictory. The lack of drainage is major contributor to the road damage.

It may be necessary to probe for some pipes, to get an accurate picture.

**d.** Update was requested on Hill Farm, where asbestos has been dumped along with a good deal more rubbish. **Response** - the Environment Agency is looking into this. Parish Council to contact them and ascertain the current situation. The delay may be due to a query over ownership.

**e.** Request was made for The Butts to be thoroughly cleared of leaves, as they are mushy and will block the drains and cause flooding, if not cleared.

**f.** The turning circle at the end of Greenhill is reported as having 1ft deep potholes, which will need filling again with a suitable material. **Response** - the Highways Engineer will be asked view the area.

#### 8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

**a.** Cllr Welch brought more concerns about road safety along Stone Lane after another reported accident outside 'Perrins' this week. He asked if the statistics could be proven, to underline the problem, and asked what more the Council can do. Response - Cllr Groom reported that the Neighbourhood Policing scheme has highlighted Stone Lane as a priority site. However, Cllr Burley reports from the Safety Camera Partnership that they do not recognise that this is an Area of Community Concern, which it needs to be, to ensure the necessary action. This discrepancy, and the lack of statistical evidence, needs to be resolved urgently.

- b.** Residents of Stone Lane have for many years used stones along the front of their property to prevent the erosion of their boundaries. Concerns were raised as to where they stand should an accident be caused by a vehicle hitting one of these. **Question** was raised as to whether LMPC could press for some kerbing in vulnerable areas of Stone Lane to negate responsibility from the owners. Cllr Bennett said that this could be a topic for highway workshops - he would expand in Item 13.
- c.** Quote had been received for cleaning the perspex on the bus shelter at The Beeches at £30. The Groundsman's contract covers bus shelters only for brushing out and strimming around them.
- d.** Sub-Contractors hired by the Groundsman have been working on the 'Dogwoods' on the stretch of highway in Lydiard Green. Cllr Bennett has obtained a quote to replace some of the Berberis - £25 for 5 plants. This purchase was approved in Item 12.
- e.** It was agreed that reminders to cut back hedges would be sent out for the area of Park View Drive and from the junction of Tewksbury Way to Holborn.
- f.** Thanks were given to Cllrs Blackmore and Pflieger who have been working on the Kissing Gates, and had cleared the whole of footpath 70, also rubbish spotted in the field adjacent to the Sun Inn – enquiry of source, and request for removal has been made to the Landlord.

**9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention - no report**

**10. Report on matters arising from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 not on the main agenda.**

- a. Goods Vehicle Licence application for Scaffolding Co, The Yard, Stone Lane - still awaiting decision
- b. Road Crossing, and mobile library. New location is better for driver. The pub will look at a more economical coffee following a visit by Cllr Bennett and the Clerk.

**11. Planning Applications**

**N/09/01645/FUL** Land at Greenhill - Erection of agricultural building for livestock.

**No adverse comments.**

**N/09/01776/S73A.** 30 Stone Lane - Erection of Stable Barn (re-submission).

The Planning Officer has visited the site and is reported as being concerned about the layout of the stalls inside, but may overlook the extra 2.5 metres oversize of build. She was considering conditions, which will restrict usage solely for equine purposes. LMPC Chair & Vice-Chair had also visited the site, and, despite the confusion of 6 or so different plans, thought the oversize of build was only marginally larger than the plan forming the basis of the previous approval.

The Parish Council resolved to **support** the Planning Officer in applying appropriate planning conditions which will resolve any local concerns about business being carried out on the site.

**N/09/01775/S37A** 30 Stone Lane - Retention of Replacement Boundary Wall (retrospective)

The only concern on this application was that LMPC thought the access from the road was different to that previously approved, and had gone unnoticed. Otherwise -

**No Adverse Comments.**

**N/09/01814/FUL** Westhills Lodge – 3 yr Temp. retention of building & commercial activity.

The Planning Officer had been communicated with prior to the meeting. She had confirmed that the **LMPC** could and do **request conditions** be placed on the applicant that this temporary permission be granted on a solely personal basis and that no precedence be set for future applications to retain a business in the Countryside. Also that the temporary permission be granted on the current circumstances, and that growth of the business in situ would not be permitted. One Cllr lodged his protest that business use should not be approved in the Countryside area, this being especially pertinent, for reasons of coalescence, in the narrow strip between our village and Swindon.

**Late Planning.**

**N/09/01912/FUL** Lilac Cottage, The Street - Conversion of garage to a residential room.

**Concerns** were raised re the reduction of available parking space. **No other adverse comments.**

**Wiltshire Council Planning Refusal 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

**N/09/01638/FUL** 43 Common Platt, Demolition of bungalow and erection of 2 storey detached dwelling. Planning application was refused at the Planning Committee 4.11.09.

**Wiltshire Council Planning Permission**

**N/09/01065/Reg3** Construction of a new 7 class School, including demolition and external works at Lydiard Millicent School, The Butts. The School have issued a newsletter outlaying the next stages and dates. These details are available on the School web site or via the Clerk.

**12. Accounts** (\*incl. VAT)

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>£'s</b>
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	293.30
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	52.17*
Do	do	18.17
Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	487.33
RoSPA	Playground Inspection	144.90*
SFC	White Lining (Sept & Oct)	200.00
Mr T Blackmore	Repair to JCH Store shed guttering	11.44*
Usual DDs	Utilities & Chairs broadband	
Extra items added on the night -		
Mr A Pflieger	Xmas Tree Lights	89.94*
Mr K Manning	JCH Cleaning	40.00
Inside Out	Recreation Field - paint & repair fence & posts	923.80
Mrs J Redford	Raised Gardens - plants & compost	60.00
Approvals for purchases -	Cleaning of bus stop (Beeches)	£30.00
	Berberis plants (five)	£25.00
	Christmas Tree	£40.00 approx

**Income** for October - 2<sup>nd</sup> half of precept, £7,000.00, SFC £414.00, Cemetery £430.00.

The above accounts, proposed by Cllr Groom and seconded by Cllr Baker, were approved.

**13. Committee Reports:**

Recreation Field - Posts etc completed, spring animal repainted.

JCH, Play area - Ropes on one play item need replacing as per RoSPA report and confirmed by Cllr Bennett. There was no bag in bin, and between Area and hedge, a sheet of corrugated iron needs to be removed. New sign required for Mews Play Area.

Cemetery Quote now received for maintenance work on the grave levelling at £1016.14.

The groundsman would like to start next month. This quote was accepted, proposed 50% payment in advance and the remainder on completion.

New Area Board meetings. Cllrs Burley & Bennett will represent the Council.

Church Clock Gilding - Cllr Baker now has confirmation from both companies that the quotes will be valid until April 2010, and they both needed roughly one third deposit with order. It was agreed to accept Gillett and Johnsons quote of £3549 and place the order. Grants would be sought in the meantime to offset the final cost. A donation from the Clock Fund of no more than 50% was suggested by Cllr Baker to help fund the project. It was suggested that the British Legion may be aware of grant providers. Payment proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Thomas, with no objections.

Highway & Road Safety - A meeting with Mr. A Feist, W.C. Highway Officer, Cllrs Bennett, Groom, and Pepperall had been convened to find out what could be done to obtain grants for the Holborn Footpath project, after rejection by the Area Board. Other outstanding issues were also aired while the opportunity allowed. Mr. Feist will try to arrange a series of workshops on the individual requests, to enable residents to have a say on the proposals. Cllr Harris was concerned that he was not invited to the meeting, which could have been a Highways Sub Committee meeting.

Cllr Burley also would have wished to attend the meeting, but through his recent dealings with the Highways Agencies, felt that they respond better to 'one to one' situations. He also reported that the police are planning a number of speed checks in the next 3 months.

Parish Stewards may soon be trained how to erect and use SIDs, but P/Councils would not be allowed to purchase their own SIDs, to avoid discrimination against those with small precepts.

Minutes of 1.10.09 -

9d. Highways have asked that initially the P/Council should ask the landowner to re-instate the pipe work - they will support them, and a suitable letter is to be drafted for their approval.

9g. Traffic from Recreation field. It was proposed & agreed that we erect a suitable sign.

19. Wilts. Council have felled the trees at Greenhill Crossroads. No work has been carried out on the trees in front of The Close or The Beeches.

The dead elms at the crossroads now need to be removed - WC to be asked to do so.

The Parish Steward will be asked to remove the debris left after the hedges were cut.

**14. Provision of a Kissing Gate** into field from the track by the closed cemetery - defer to December, as Mr. Marklove has been asked to approve the site first.

**15. Parking at the Butts Bus Stop**- no report

- 16. Replacement and Renovation of Parish Boards** - Greenhill board replacement. Cllr Bennett met Mr Cross, Highways engineer, and agreed a location on land at 17 Greenhill, but the resident thought it could be a traffic hazard. 2nd option is on Mr Meredith's land - owner to be contacted.
- 17. Parish Steward** - next visit 11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup> November 2009 - Clearance of cuttings at the Crossroads - pothole by The Foresters - large pothole outside Rose Hall in Washpool. Cllr Baker finds it more efficient to report such potholes directly at the Wootton Bassett office.
- 18. Christmas Tree** - quotations varied from over £70 to £40 or under for 20ft tree. Cllr Pflieger aims to erect tree on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. Mr. Hoare has offered a tree for under £40 - agreement to spend approx. £40 approved. Clerk to let Hall Committee know the time and date for lighting the tree as they may wish to use the occasion for a carol singing session.
- 19. Precept** - Considerations by Public and Councillors for next year's budget. Clock Guiding and traffic calming were suggested.
- 20. BT** - Adopt a payphone scheme - consultation - response by 23.01.10. Common Platt telephone not shown in the statistics provided. It was agreed to put a notice in The Lydiards and in the meantime ask the Post Office the cost of keeping them.
- 21. Correspondence:**  
 Letter re dangerous corner in Greenhill. Resident was present and explained the situation. LMPC to request Highway Engineer to suggest appropriate road calming.  
 SLCC Regional Conference at Cotswold Water Park for Clerks & Cllrs, Dec 3, £49 - Dec Agenda.  
 Wiltshire Council - Poster - 'Planning for the Future' policies - exhibition dates.  
 Record RSS Ltd - Advertising material offering to quote for playground inspection and repairs - to be asked to quote for next September; also quotes from our current Insurance provider.  
 NALC - Final salary award for Clerks 2009/2010 - applicable from 1.4.09. Clerk to check details.  
 NCAP - AGM - 12<sup>th</sup> November 2009.  
 Link AGM - November 19, JCH, 7.30pm, with speaker & free book raffle.  
 Letters from 2 children at LM Primary School, who apologised for messing with the flag pole - Hall Committee to be made aware of incident.
- 22. Date of next meeting: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009.**

**Meeting closed 10.12.**