

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 7th January 2010

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett, T Blackmore, A Pflieger, K Thomas, S Welch.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs B Baker, S Burley, M Groom, A Harris, B Quant.
2. **Safety Briefing.** Was delivered to 6 Cllrs and 3 residents.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Minutes of meeting 3rd December 2009.** Were amended at item 10 - last word, replace 'agenda' for 'meeting'. The minutes were then signed as a true record.

5. **Police Report** - there was no report.

6. **Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.** Cllr Groom sent her apologies, but informed the Chairman that she had called in the Planning Application N/09/02103/FUL.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

Mins. 3.12.09:

- a. Item 5. Mr Tapscott had written to Wiltshire Police re the accident with the bus and the tractor, but had not received a satisfactory response. He will continue to follow up on this incident. Chair thanked Cllr Groom, Mr Tapscott, and the relief bus driver for their traffic control on the night.
- b. Item 7d. A meeting will be held about, and at, Maggie's Cottage, on 20 Jan. 8.00pm in the church.
- c. Item 7g. Mr. Tapscott refuted that the bus shelter at the Beeches has been cleaned to an acceptable standard. He arranged to revisit the bus shelter with Cllr Bennett the following day.
- d. It was reported that snow and slush (and mulched leaves) needs clearing away from the Bus shelter at Holborn. The Groundsman to be asked to clear the shelter and check on the other shelters.
- e. Litter was reported in hedges and on verges in and around Bagbury Lane. This was echoed around the room with most of the meeting having seen litter on verges and hedges in their area. The resident was urged to report the litter in Bagbury Lane to Wilts Council, as most is in Purton parish, then Cllr Bennett will similarly report our areas of litter.
- f. Mulched leaves were also reported as being dangerous throughout village - job for P. Steward.
- g. Potholes and camber of road was reported below Bagbury Park as being dangerous, and may well have contributed to the cause of the incident with the bus. They need to be looked at by a Cllr to establish if they are deep enough to report to Clarence.
- h. It was asked whether Lydiard Green is likely to get a footpath scheme up and running in the next 10 years. It was said that residents gave up a portion of their land more than 20 years ago for such a scheme. A traffic calming update was requested - Cllr Bennett outlined the current situation. Other concerns were raised regarding the use of stones on verges see Nov. minutes – Item 8b.
- i. Update on Lorry Watch – we still await a formal response from Wiltshire Council and Police.
- j. Several residents have sent in their comments against the planning application **N/09/02103/FUL**

8. **Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries** - other than litter and leaf-mulch problems, no further reports were received.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention

- a. Complaint re poor state of pavements, 29-33 Chestnut Springs, had been received by email.
- b. Request for more salt in bin by The Beeches had been reported to Clarence. It was confirmed at the meeting that this had been done the following day.
- c. Requests also for more salt for the Mews and Greenhill.

10. Report on matters arising from 3rd December 2009 not on the main agenda.

- a. The Head teacher approved of the proposal that each Year 6 be taught the relevance of the Union Jack and shown how to raise the standard. This will be arranged around St. George's Day.
- b. Thanks were given to Cllr Pflieger for arranging this year's Christmas tree removal.

11. Planning Applications

N/09/02103/FUL Construction of access road in Bagbury Lane to serve Unit 1, Bagbury Park Industrial Estate, Lydiard Green. This application had been 'called in' by Cllr Groom.

Local residents had sent objections to this application to W. Council, bearing in mind the two serious accidents that had occurred in the past two months adjacent to this junction.

Access from the single track Lane would be impossible to vehicles over 7.5 ton, and lead to certain blockages. It would affect drainage in the area, and further damage to the road surface and verges.

The access is deemed unnecessary, as no problems had occurred since the estate was opened.

The Parish Council unanimously **opposed this application.**

Wiltshire Council Permission Granted

N/09/01912/FUL	External alterations to Lilac Cottage, The Street.
N/09/01776/S73A	Erection of Stable Barn at 30 Stone Lane.
N/09/01775/S73A	Retention of replacement boundary at 30 Stone Lane.
N/ 09/02003/TCA	Tree Felling on land adjoining Lydiard Farm.
N/09/01814/FUL	Retention of building and commercial activities, 3 yrs, at Westhills Lodge.

Appeal Decision on land adj. to 16 Lydiard Green. **Appeal dismissed** by the Inspector.

Traffic Commissioner Approval - Goods Vehicle Licence for H M Scaffolding Ltd, The Yard, Stone Lane. One of the conditions was that vehicles should not reverse on to the highway.

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	293.30
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	42.66*
Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	487.33
Parish Hall	Christmas and Emergency Lighting	10.00
SFC	White lining (Nov & Dec)	200.00
New Signs	Recreation Areas & Footpath	270.25*
SLCC	Membership renewal	82.00
Southern Electricity	JCH	290.00
Inside Out	Bus Shelter and Christmas tree removal	75.00
<i>Inside Out</i>	Replacement of lost cheque	923.80
Usual DDs	Utilities & Chairs broadband	

Update on Electric usage - the electric bill had been excessive during the summer of 2009, but no reasons can yet be found, thus the usual DD had not covered the payments. A one-off payment of £290 was needed to settle the outstanding amount. The DD has been increased to £55 per month in the meantime.

After a discussion over the type of posts to use on the signs, the proposed plans were accepted.

The above accounts were then proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Pflieger, and approved.

Income for December: Cemetery £250, SFC £322.

12a Precept Approval

The reserves were questioned, and explanation was given that we will need all of this and more, if the Holborn project goes ahead, or any alternative capital use is approved.

The precept was approved with no objections. WC application forms requesting precept duly signed.

13. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - no soccer for a few weeks, new signs to be ordered as agreed.

Two quotes for tree surgery around the field has been received, one from the groundsman and one from Cotswold Tree Surgeons. One tree is diseased and may need to be removed. The Cotswold quote of £750 was proposed by Cllr Pflieger, seconded by Cllr Thomas, and approved.

JCH - no report, except for electricity usage - see Item 12.

Play Area - Report by Cllr Pepperall - no further problems other than the frayed rope - to be photographed and measured for quotes. Cllr Thomas to report next month.

Cemetery - levelling has been completed and needs approval prior to payment - Cllr Bennett & Baker.

Church Clock Gilding - a grant was applied for but has been declined. Deposit cheque sent.

Highway & Road Safety - reply from WC re areas of concern - to be discussed by Sub Committee.

Wiltshire Core Strategy - LMPC response sent by Cllr Pepperall.

Kissing Gate proposal adj. Cemetery denied by landowner - to be re-appraised.

14. Removal of metal bar at Buryfield end of footpath, to facilitate use by wheelchairs.

Discussion held over the options to remove, raise or amend the bar. Concerns over disability access and our duty of care. It is thought that as it was there before the Disability Act came into force, therefore only when it is changed do we need to comply. It was agreed to return to this next month when quotes for raising or adjusting can be sought.

15. **Parish Steward** - next visit **19th/20th Jan 2010**. Remove mulched leaves - The Beeches to the Garage, and elsewhere in the Parish. W.Council to also be asked to do a litter-pick in the parish.

16. **Adoption of BT Boxes**. Parishioners' opinions were sought at the P.Hall 'Mince Pie' event. Opinion was unanimous at keeping the box on The Street, especially as it is the listed emergency box for the P. Hall. It will be a 'card only' phone, but can still be used as a 999. To keep this will involve entering into a 15year contract at £300 per annum but it will be possible for either side to pull out after a period of notice. This to be actioned before 23rd January to meet the deadline. There seems to be little justification to hold on to the boxes at Greenhill and Greatfield. Simultaneously, seek confirmation that the phone box at Common Platt is still in use and has not been listed for removal under 'Swindon'.

17. Discussion on Holborn footpath.

Both Cllrs Pepperall and Bennett presented reports on the current situation, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. A full report on the current situation and initial proposals will be printed in the February Lydiards Magazine, and also exhibited on the Parish web site and Notice Boards.

We are advised by W.Council that we are unlikely to access sufficient funding to build the currently proposed footpath, under the current financial situation, and are recommended to review the plans. They recommend that we consider as Phase 1, a rural path from the village to Holborn, behind the hedge, to meet up with the Millennium Trail, which crosses the road at that point, creating a rural circular walk - this would meet funding criteria.

Concerns were raised as to whether or not the rural path would be used - human nature is often to take the shortest straightest route, even if more dangerous.

Landowners' permissions would again, of course, be required.

Also, is the Council forgetting the needs expressed in the original Parish Plan?

In the meantime, hedges could be severely cut back, allowing walkers to better access the verges.

Access to the Holborn bus stops were a point of concern.

It was agreed to look at Phase 1, which would necessarily involve some roadside kerbs, and Phase 2 from Holborn to the Washpool Road as a separate task, funded solely by LMPC.

It was suggested that a revived Parish Plan Committee, may be able to access grants better than the Parish Council, and volunteers are now needed to help and take part. This committee could then tackle Phase 1, alongside the Parish Council's Phase 2.

This topic will now have a regular monthly discussion on progress.

18. Correspondence:

A LMPSchool letter to residents was read out, seeking parishioners help in not taking their dogs on their playing field. They are advised that dog droppings encourage foxes to remark their territory, thereby exacerbating the problem, A copy of the letter will be offered to the Lydiards Magazine.

First News - Newsletter Winter 2009

Wiltshire Council - newsletter

DVD from Mouchel - speed limit review on A and B Class roads - it has a brief reference only for us.

Area Board forthcoming meetings list - next meeting Jan 27, Purton V.Hall.

Parish Steward programme for next 3 months.

WALC December 2009 newsletter.

W.C. Just a Minute December Newsletter – info only.

Wilts Council Enforcement seminar 19 Jan. - Cllrs Pepperall & Bennett to attend.

North Wiltshire Citizens Advice Bureau is recruiting new volunteers for April. 10 hrs per week - anyone interested – please contact Ali Hender on 01249 443054, or ahender@northwiltscab.org.uk

19. Date of next meeting: Thursday 4th February 2010.

Meeting closed at 9.45.