

**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**Present:** Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), B Baker, J Bennett, T Blackmore, S Burley, M Groom, B Quant.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs A Harris, A Pflieger, K Thomas, S Welch.
2. **Safety Briefing.** Was given to 10 parishioners and 6 councillors
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Minutes of meeting 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010.** Were signed as a true record.
5. **Police Report.** None

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

- a. £800m budget, an increase of 2.3%, £150k put aside for road repairs, £100k for youth activities.
- b. Environmental Select Committee, on affordable housing, is considering the use of empty houses. Renting them out on a 5year basis would make a viable & useful investment.
- c. There is to be a further Gypsy consultation.
- d. Flooding, A map is to be created, detailing all the flooding areas in the Wiltshire Council area, and involving the various agencies. Thames Water was reported to be not yet on board. Chairman asked for an update on involving Cllr Quant with flooding meetings - Cllr Groom will pursue. A flooding questionnaire had been received, and Chair will liaise with Cllr Quant.
- e. Cllr Groom is still awaiting reports from various experts on the Waste Strategy consultation.
- f. Proposed housing development in Purton Parish - comments on document produced and circulated by Cllr Bennett, for Cllrs and public to lobby the relevant bodies. Cllr Quant arrived at 8p.m, in time for discussion on the 800 houses proposed behind The Foresters.

**7. Parishioner's Question Time.**

- a. It was reported that the winter weather and flooding has left the road surface of the Beeches where it joins Lydiard Green in a very bad way. Flooding happens on the junction frequently with water coming out of the GPO surface box adjacent to 2 The Beeches. It is thought that both Thames Water and Highways have inspected this area. LMPC agreed to investigate which of them is responsible.
- b. Library van - a resident reported that the van is very under-used, and the village may lose it. Clerk to obtain a new set of posters to encourage it's use.
- c. The resident of 17 The Beeches was concerned regarding planning application N/10/00293/FUL, especially the disposal of the waste water from the roof, which currently runs off onto her property.
- d. Building work at rear of 'Lordswood' has caused erosion of the grass verge. It was agreed to wait to ensure the builders will put this right when the fence is repaired.
- e. Greenhill bottom - ditches blocked - Wiltshire Council to be asked to clear the pipe work under the road and clear the mud off the road surface and the turning circle.
- f. Update on the ditches in lower Greenhill - confirmation still required from some of the residents regarding the piping of the ditches prior to being filled in.
- g. As there has been no progress on clearing Clarks Yard, Clerk to ask for an update from the Environmental Agency.
- h. Road surface in Greenhill still has not been repaired by Mouchel Parkman, as agreed last year. W.C. to be chased if nothing is done in the Spring period.
- i. Update requested of verge repair at Lydiard Green, as verge overrun had not been dealt with. A further request will be made to the Highways department.
- j. Resident asked if the Parish Council had contacted Thames Water about the loss of water pressure in Bagbury Lane and The Beeches during recent water repairs. Clerk to write on behalf of the residents to Thames Water re this matter.
- k. Mulch on footpaths was not cleared last month, as it was reported that the Parish Steward tasked to clear the footpaths had left WC employment. Report still awaited from them as to whether anyone came in his place and what was done.
- l. It was asked why do the police not always attend Parish Council Meetings. Our policy is to retain an Agenda slot for meetings that they are able to attend. They usually attend when an urgent issue is raised or when they need to report to us. All the services are struggling to fund attendance at such meetings. They will be at the Area Board meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March for anyone wishing to speak to them, and also at the Parish Hall car park on 6<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am. Residents had hoped that the officer would have attended as they are anxious about the theft of the roof tiles on the church and other buildings in the area.
- m. Open Gardens - Mrs Reed asked if anyone was going to arrange for this to happen again this year. No one at the meeting was interested in doing so. However, members of the public are welcome to arrange an Open Gardens if they wish, and the P.C. will be happy to provide advice.

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

- a. Cllr Baker reported two parking issues. Firstly, a great number of cars are still parking on the pavement opposite the garage forecourts, which causes problems with the pushchairs, and visibility. It was agreed to investigate if yellow lines could be marked adjacent to the speed hump. Cllr Burley offered to have another word with the managers of the units. Secondly, parking on the corner of the Butts is still a problem at times. Police to be advised.
- b. Parish hall car park. The head teacher had been subjected to a 'heated tirade' with a parent who had been reported for parking in the Parish Hall Car Park. She had been told that she could not be stopped from parking at the car park by a hall official. The Hall committee to be informed.
- c. Many potholes in the parish have been reported.
- d. The eastern brick speed hump has deteriorated further and urgently needs inspection.

## 9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention - none.

### 10. Report on matters arising from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010 not on the main agenda.

- a. The Common Platt telephone box has not been listed for removal.
- b. Cllr Quant and Cllr Pepperall to complete the Flooding questionnaire.
- c. Prior to the February meeting, it had been agreed not to take up Mr Tapscott's offer to clean and maintain The Beeches bus stop. This should have been minuted in February.

## 11. Planning Applications

**N/10/00293/FUL** 15 The Beeches. Rear and side single storey extensions.

Overflow of waste water, and boundary wall were discussed.

Planning Dept to be asked to ensure that all of the waste water from the roof remains within the curtilage of the building concerned. Otherwise -

**No adverse comments.**

**N/10/00308/FUL** The Glen, 7 Wood Lane, Braydon - Change of use for showroom

**No adverse comments.**

**N/10/00456/FUL** 30 Park Lane - First floor ext'n and single storey rear ext'n

**No adverse comments.**

**N/10/00549/FUL** Badgers Brook - The Street - Erection of Porch

**No adverse comments.**

**N/10/00563/CLE** Badgers Brook - Additional roof dormer and conversion of garage to living accommodation.

**No adverse comments.**

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

### Expenditure

		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	293.30
Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	487.33
SFC	White Lining	100.00
Mr A Pflieger	Christmas trees bulbs	14.99
The Lydiards Magazine	Annual subscription	5.00
K Manning	Notice board - Greenhill	140.00
Usual DDs	Utilities & Chairs broadband	

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

Income for February 2010 - Cemetery £175, SFC £161.

**12a Southern Electric** - contract renewal by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 approved, as there is a 90 day notice period. Therefore it was agreed to review contract in 8 months time, when enquiries will be made as to whether a dual fuel tariff is available.

SEB will also be contacted by the Clerk to query the 'spike' in the electric usage last summer, as all the equipment has been checked, and no cause has been found.

## 13. Committee Reports:

**Recreation Field** - tree trimming should be done shortly. Hedge to be done late in the summer.

The Chairman was considering the need for a services plan at the entrance to JCH before installing the new sign. Cllr Burley assured the meeting that, as all services need to be a minimum of 18 inches deep, we can proceed without reference. SB offered to install all 3 signs with Chairman.

**JCH** - PAT testing has been carried out by an electrician at SFC. He had no explanation for the spike in the electricity usage.

**Play Area** - Cllr Bennett had carried out the check this month. Only outstanding task is the broken grab handle. Clerk is obtaining quotes now she has a photo of the item to send to contractors.

**Cemetery** – a few areas to be attended to, prior to sending out the cheque.

A few graves without surrounds have had plantings - grave numbers to be given to the Clerk who will contact the relatives regarding removal.

Some wreaths and mementos are still there from Christmas. Groundsman is not happy to do this task. Cllrs Bennett and Baker will clear the area ready for Easter.

Purton has a scheme of recycling the grass in their cemetery, whereby new turf taken off is added to the next one to be levelled. The usage of our cemetery is likely to be too low for this scheme to work. The spoil pile is very high - Mr Smith has been tasked to clear this as soon as possible.

**Highways sub committee** - awaiting Highways department to visit our area.

**14. Holborn Footpath** - It is hoped that this will be helped by the setting up of a new Parish Plan committee, who will update the existing Parish Plan under new guidelines

It was agreed that we could launch this new committee at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> May. This to be advertised well in advance. In the meantime as much information as possible is to be gathered about the task ahead and the process of updating a Parish Plan (Brad Fleet).

**15. Village Spring Clean** - 25<sup>th</sup> May was agreed, in two sessions. Cllr Bennett to produce posters.

**16. WiFi Access for SFC** – request for a line installed at their cost - agreed.

Clerk to advise that it must not interfere with the 999 phone, and must be an additional line for which they will be wholly responsible for the contract, and cost..

**17. Parish Steward** - next visit **16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> March** 2010. Clerk to establish what was done previous month and continue with current list. Wiltshire Council to be asked to do a litter pick through the village, as Parish Steward does not do this.

**18. Provision of Services questionnaire.** Questionnaire was completed, ready to return.

**19. Correspondence:**

Grit Bin at the Close – complaint by person who lives opposite the bin. As this decision has been taken by Highways, the complainant is to be asked to consult with his neighbours and report back, for us to approach Wiltshire Council to have the siting changed.

Best Kept Village Competition 2010 - it was agreed not to enter the competition.

Wiltshire Air Ambulance - request to place a recycling clothing and shoe bank in the village.

The Parish Hall and the Sun Inn to be sent a copy of the request. No other suitable sites available.

Victim Support - request for donation - application declined.

WALC Newsletter - New Councillor Course - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010. This was offered to Councillors, who must advise Clerk shortly if they are interested.

Grass roots projects - grants for small groups - this is available for small local charitable groups.

**20. Date of next meeting: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010**

Speaker for APM? - it was agreed not to have a speaker this year other than to launch the Parish Plan Up-Date and seek volunteers to take part in the new committee.

**Meeting closed at 10.05**

**Minutes signed by Cllr T Pepperall on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010**