

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 1st July 2010

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett, T Blackmore, S Burley, M Groom, A Pfleger, S Welch.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Baker, Harris, Quant, Thomas.
2. **Safety Briefing** - given to 4 member of the public, 7 Councillors, & CPSO Singfield.
3. **Declarations of Interest** - none.
4. **Minutes of meeting 3rd June 2010** - approved.
5. **Minutes of AGM** - amended - War Memorial Clock Rep. to read Cllr Baker - then approved.
Minutes of APM 13th May 2010 - approved.
6. **Police Report.**

The Chairman was pleased to welcome PCSO Singfield, and to say that the police were going to hold another Street Briefing in the Parish Hall car park, on the 14th July at 3 p.m. These and other events are advertised a couple of months in advance on the Police's new web site www.wiltshire.police.uk. Andy Singfield summarised the Neighbourhood News Leaflet for the W/B Rural area - crimes include a stolen vehicle from Holborn; damage to a car in the street; 13 cautions for cannabis, burglaries - private 3, commercial 3, 3 assaults, and a couple of minor highway issues, such as no seat belts. We have had no more tile thefts recently in our area but Gloucester police have caught some tile thieves, and it is hoped that they will admit to some of the local thefts.

7. Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.

- a. Cllr Groom reported that on the 5th July another exhibition on the Ridgeway Farm development would take place at the Purton Village Hall. She is organising various ways for everyone to write to Wiltshire Council to ask for the rural buffer to be re-instated, amongst other environmental issues.
- b. Cllr Bennett reminded the Council that we have evidence in our 2005 Parish Plan that the top key issues were Rural Buffer Zone retention, and Boundaries. Details from our Parish and Area Plans could be used as part of the evidence to save the Rural Buffer Zone and our current boundaries.
- c. Swindon Core Strategy - has been given a further consultation period before approval at Committee.
- d. Sustainable Communities Act - Cllr Groom would provide information.
- e. Cllr Groom updated the P/Council on last month's minutes in that the reported fines for litter, etc., will not be effective until the 14th July, as they had still to be ratified at W/Council.
- f. Waste Consultation - Cllr Bennett reported that in the 'Your Wiltshire' magazine, which was delivered to all households by Wiltshire Council, there were consultation details on Waste and Recycling management. What was not apparent was that W/Council are proposing to change to fortnightly collections in the area. This is contrary to the Government's Waste Policy, and to what most residents want. He urged Councillors and residents to send their comments to WC by August 20th - access to the proposal is on the W/C web site.
- g. Following the change of Gov't, and the abolishment of the previous housing numbers guidance, there is a need to renew the Rural Buffer Zone around Swindon, recently highlighted by the Ridgeway Farm proposal to build 800 houses behind the 'old Foresters Inn'. Urgent action is needed from parishioners to write and underline this need, to Wiltshire Cllr G. Clampitt-Dix at W/C, Trowbridge, and to Cllr D. Potter at Swindon B.C. We need to ask these Councils to take notice of the new directives, and prevent areas such as the 'West of Swindon' from unnecessary expansion, which will create big problems in the Parish with traffic, water, sewage, and other services.

8. Parishioner's Question Time.

- a. A relatively new resident to the village asked what the Council are doing to slow down traffic at the top of Stone Lane. She claims that she takes her life in her hands every time she crosses the road. The Chairman explained that measures to install traffic calming were being looked at by the Highway Committee and that a further meeting was to take place on the 21st July with a representative of WC. When the Parish Plan was first issued, a footpath for Stone Lane was highlighted and was 2nd on the wish list after Holborn, as we had at the time a Post Office at Toomers. Since the Post Office was removed this was downgraded in priority. He explained that the Parish Plan was due to be updated, and that volunteers were needed. It is then hoped that the new committee would be able to access funds not available to the Parish Council to help with traffic calming and footpaths.
- b. A resident reported they were upset about the amount of dog fouling along The Butts, and the lack

of a Dog Bin. LMPC will ask the Lydiards Magazine to include this note, to ask dog owners to be more considerate. LMPC will also send a letter to the W/C Environmental Dept to notify them of the problem - this is a health and safety issue on the route to School.

9. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a. The Chairman sadly announced the death of Mr Peter Windo, who will be sadly missed by the whole community of Lydiard Millicent, and beyond, and not least by this Council. His expertise created our web site and our computerised accounting system.
- b. A question was asked of the Council regarding the money being held for footpaths and traffic calming issues. If these projects are not viable, can the money be used on other smaller traffic calming issues? Answer, Yes, subject to priorities - the new updated Parish Plan will help. The Parish Plan Committee's proposals will eventually be discussed by LMPC.

10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention

The Clerk showed the meeting a photo of the damage to Mrs Dudley's car, which had occurred at the weekend. Mrs Dudley had asked the Clerk about the possibility of local residents collecting data on strange and unexplained events, which individually do not amount to anything, but collectively may point to a trend in criminal damage. The Clerk had advised Mrs Dudley that this was the remit of the local Neighbourhood Watch scheme, and suggested a new scheme be set up in her area. Volunteers are needed to start a new scheme for The Street, and several other areas in the village.

11. Report on matters arising from 3rd June 2010 not on the main agenda.

- a. Thanks were given to Cllr Pflieger, who had voluntarily installed the two new grab handles in the play area. During the installation he had fallen from a height and had received an injury from the slide, and was consequently severely bruised. This is minuted for future reference.
- b. The 'slow children' sign had been vandalised yet again, during the month, despite having been screwed more securely to the post.
- c. Thanks were given to the 'Wheelers' and the 'Rapsons' for organising the Open Gardens this year - it was a lovely event enjoyed by many, and raised nearly £350 for the Church Clock Fund.
- d. Thanks were also given to Midgehall Nurseries, who have again produced an outstanding display in our raised flowerbeds. As in previous years, it has been minuted that the Council is willing to 'plant' a small plaque to show that Midgehall Nurseries sponsor the beds. This will be offered again this year.
- e. Item 6. Cllr Groom is pursuing the lack of dog bins in Lydiard Park. She is to send the wardens copies of the new fines to be imposed by Wiltshire Council. It is possible that in the wake of W/C producing these fines, other Councils will follow suite.
- e. Volunteers for the bush beds at Lydiard Green - no further information was available at the meeting.
- f. Cleaning the bus stop panels - Cllr Burley agreed to try and grind down the panels. The Parish Council then discussed the possibility of employing a window cleaner for the bus stops to keep them clean. Currently the bus stop at Chestnut Springs is cleaned by anonymous volunteers, for which the Council is very thankful. It was agreed to obtain a quote for cleaning the bus stop windows at The Beeches and Holborn, two or three times a year. Cllr Pflieger offered to clean Holborn bus stop if volunteer found for The Beeches.
- g. The hedge south of the bridge at Washpool had been cut back since the last meeting, and it was now easier to pull over to let traffic pass.

(The above items are for information only).

12. Planning Applications

N/10/01675/FUL 'Greensend', Lydiard Green. Change of use from horticultural packing shed to retail for sale of agricultural and horticultural produce.

Further comments from the earlier notes were that there had never been permission as a horticultural packing shed, so how could a change of use be granted. If the application were to be approved, W/C would need to limit the permission, in order to prevent the business expanding out of proportion.

The size of delivery vehicles to this site should also be limited, in this 7.5 ton zone.

The Parish Council moved to **Object** to this application, and these comments together with those of the previous month would be submitted.

Cemetery plot in Garden of Rest approved for T. Trussell, dec'd.

N/10/01711/FUL 63 Chestnut Springs. Erection of single storey front extension. **Supported.**

N/10/01926/FUL 20 The Beeches, Conversion of Bungalow to Chalet Bungalow. **Supported.**
Proposed residential development of 800 - 840 dwellings at Ridgeway Farm - a further public exhibition is to be held on 5th July 2010 at Purton Village Hall, 4 - 8p.m. See also Item 7g.

Wiltshire Council Planning Approvals

N/10/01493/FUL Selbrook Villa, 19 Washpool. Change of use from C2 to C3.

N/10.01524/FUL Endley, 7 Park View Drive. Replace Conservatory with Orangery.

13. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages plus arrears	340.50
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	69.29*
L.M. Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	499.51
Community First	Annual Membership	36.00
Jamie Mills	Boiler Service - invoice awaited.	
RBS Software Solutions	Annual maintenance fee	104.58*
Mr J Bennett	Cemetery rules handbooks (100)	23.00
Usual DDs	Utilities & Chairs broadband.	
BT connection box at JCH - vandalised - quote to repair £127.99, invoice to come.		
Church Clock Fund - £1000 to Parish Council - received and banked.		
June 2010 income: SFC £644, Church Clock Fund re Gilding £1,000.		

Jamie Mills has been asked to quote for updating the cooker for safety. To meet current regulations it should be chained to the wall and the lid should cut off the gas supply when closed. It was suggested that removing the lid could solve the problem.

Telephone contract with BT - the phone box in The Street is in need of re-painting. BT will continue to maintain the box as per the Agreement. It was agreed to again request that they paint the box.

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

14. Approve 2009/10 Accounts. Duly approved and forms completed and signed.

The name of 'General Reserve' should read 'General Account' - this is one of the minor alterations to be made to the new 'Accounts package'. The Chairman confirmed that, in addition to the £20,000 in reserve for projects, the £36,000 was partly an accumulation of budgeted expenditure not yet spent.

15. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - An application from the Primary School 'after school' football club, who meet twice weekly, had been received with a request to use the Recreation Field until their field becomes free in Summer 2011. Consultation had taken place with SFC and LMCC prior to the meeting, and they had no objections. LMPC agreed to the clubs proposal that they will pay us the same as the school - a percentage of their takings. Their use of the clubhouse would initially be limited to the use of the toilets on this basis. Sight of their insurance would be requested.

The Signpost has again been vandalised, despite having added extra bolts.

Jubilee Club House - the Fire Extinguishers have been serviced, and an invoice will follow.

BT have repaired the connection box & Cllr Pflieger has kindly offered to fit a protective wire cage.

Play Area - report carried out by Cllr Bennett - bin needed emptying and spring hen was grimy.

Cllr Pflieger has kindly installed the new rings on the Play item.

Cemetery - shed roof has been repaired, and the gates now been taken away for repair.

Church Clock - £1000 has been paid in from the Church Clock Fund towards the cost of repairs.

Personal safety and identity of Cllrs - Cllr Thomas asked the Council to consider the consequences.

He recently had 'googled' his name, and was astonished to find out how much information about him was there. He asked if it was really necessary for his full details to be available on the website and whether or not other Councillors felt the same way. It was agreed that we could edit any Cllr detail on the web site, as requested. Most Cllrs were happy for their contact details to be shown.

16. **Report on Meeting of the Highways and Road Safety sub-committee 10th June.** The minutes will be issued shortly, and sent directly to Cllrs. It was a very useful meeting. Mr.Drinkwater of W/C Highways Dept will also be meeting us on 24th July at 3 p.m. to look at areas in the Parish that would benefit from traffic calming.

Parishioners present urged LMPC to consider a traffic calming scheme for Stone Lane, and in particular to look at the access to Toomers and Perrins, along with the camber in that area.

A meeting has been arranged at JCH for the 13th July at 7 p.m., for W/C to brief this Council, Lydiard Tregoz, and Purton on a pilot 'Lorry Watch' area for Wiltshire. This will be run in a similar manner to a successful scheme ran by Gloucestershire Trading Standards Office, which enabled the residents to report large vehicles going through their villages. Refreshments will be provided.

Speed Indicator Devices - LMPC has received a response by W/C on the criteria for installing them. If more sites are identified and resources are stretched, then W/C may have to ask Parishes to help fund them. However they remain firm on Parish Councils not purchasing their own, to maintain a fair distribution of resources.

17. **Holborn Footpath** - to be progressed by the new P/Plan committee.

18. **Parish Plan.** The draft flyer was discussed, and the format amended to be punchier.

The Chairman would shortly be contacting Councillors and associates to deliver them door to door.

Extra copies of the flyer, and a poster, would be delivered to the garage, and the Sun Inn.

Soon after the Committee is formed, a questionnaire will be produced, and distributed door to door.

The inaugural meeting will be on 29th July, 7.30pm, at the Parish Hall, with Community First expert Marion Rayner. Chair to confirm if hall is available on that night.

19. **Parish Steward - 21st/22nd July**, none in August, then re-start in September. Suggestions include:
Path from the Parish Hall - overhanging hedge.

Two road signs need cleaning.

Church Place sign is very muddy.

The Steward had weed-sprayed the gutters in Chestnut Springs, but other areas need attention.

Pavements outside 'Horseshoes' 32, Chestnut Springs are disintegrating.

20. Correspondence:

Your Wiltshire Magazine - June/July 2010 - information only.

NALC Newsletter - July 2010 - information only.

The Clerk - May 2010 - information only.

Email from local syndicate to purchase Central Heating Oil - previously advertised in the Lydiard Magazine two months ago.

Concerns over Cancer rates in the area of Studley Grange are to be investigated.

21. **Next meeting** - 5th August, 2010, 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 9.50 p.m. Minutes amended & approved 5.8.2010.