

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 4th November 2010

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

1. **Apologies for absence.** A Harris, (B Quant?)
2. **Safety Briefing.** Carried out for 9 members of the public plus 8 councillors.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** Simon Burley knew well the neighbours of the gypsy site.
4. **Minutes of meeting 30th September 2010.** Signed with no alterations. One item was added to the evening's agenda - 12a Precept considerations.
5. **Police Report** - no report.
6. **Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.**
 - a. Cllr Groom reported that the Reform bill included a paragraph 3.3, which covers protection of not only green belt land, but also areas of green land around towns and cities, which are important to local communities.
 - b. 2000 houses South of Hook Street - where, although no official planning application has been submitted, SBC and Wootton Bassett TC have given support to Lydiard Tregoz's opposition, because they are concerned about such a development. Cllr Groom was also seeking the support of LMPC. It is pointed out that Iffley Road from the Northern Expansion to GW Way was never built as promised. Additionally, Westlea residents are objecting, as they would get flooded more often. This was noted - an item to be added to December agenda.
 - c. The Environment Select Committee has passed to Cabinet their thoughts on Climate Change and Carbon Management.
 - d. The Leisure Report, delivered to the Area Board, confirmed differences between areas - such as Malmesbury, who have a campus, and Wootton Bassett, who do not.
7. **Parishioner's Question Time. –**
 - a. A resident of Greenhill had noticed the new 'Greenhill' sign, which is welcomed, but questioned why it was not placed nearer the crossroads. Response, this was the site chosen by WC, who have erected the sign without charge to the Parish Council.
 - b. Mr and Mrs Stuckey who live opposite the new rumble strips recently installed along Stone Lane came to report that the new scheme is very noisy and can be heard through the double glazing and requested it was re-sited. WC informed them it could be removed, but the Parish Council needed to give its permission. They requested LMPC that it be removed because of the noise - the rumble strips were not slowing traffic down, but simply making their lives a misery. The Chairman had visited them prior to the meeting and agreed that it was intrusive. Mr Wilkinson of WC admitted that they have been removed from sites for noise reasons. Cricklade TC has red paint only at a similar calming area. It was also suggested that the 30mph sign be moved, however changing speed limits takes time, and was only considered annually by WCC. Cllr Bennett offered to find out when the next program will take place and current guidelines.
 - c. Mr Stuckey said he would be willing to form a village Speed Camera team if suitable areas could be agreed with Highways & Police. The Chairman questioned whether they could be used on Stone Lane, as it was not recognised as a Highway 'Area of Concern'. LMPC will check its eligibility. In response to being asked what else can be done, LMPC is still awaiting recommendations for various traffic calming measures for the village from Mr Drinkwater of WC Highways, per his July visit. The Police had also done speed checks along both Stone Lane and Bagbury Lane in the past month.
 - d. Mr and Mrs Taylor, who live in Braydon adjacent to the Gypsy site at Four Oaks, asked questions regarding the application. Why do they need a community centre? - it is a possible requirement when a site reaches certain levels. Will it be residential or transit site? - the plans show an area for transits, despite the owners' insistence that it will be residential. Why will the warden not live in a caravan? The plans for the community centre looks like a domestic dwelling. Do they pay rates? - Answer yes. The Council had asked the Planning department these and other questions prior to the meeting, but had not yet received an answer.
There are currently 5 permanent sites, 4 transits and a Wardens home. The application is for a further 5 permanent sites, plus the community centre, which would more than double the number of residents. This was considered that to be unacceptable.
Concerns were raised about the possibility of the owner selling off the sights off individually. It was asked if WC would stipulate that it remains as one site, if planning permission was agreed.
 - e. The flyer to residents of Lydiard Green re Thames Water apparently did not reach everyone - the Chairman agreed to resend them.
 - f. Gate on Common Land, adjacent to No 11 Lydiard Green. A neighbour spoke on behalf of the resident who had erected the fence. The item had not been included on the agenda, as LMPC needed

firstly to see the Deeds, to establish whether or not there were any relevant covenants or agreements. The neighbour offered to show LMPC her deeds showing the Common Land and their easement. It was agreed to compare the various sets of deeds and add this matter to the December Agenda.

8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a. It was noted that some trees had been felled at Badgers Brook. Confirmation was being sought that they did not need permission. This may be the case if they are outside the village boundary line.
- b. A people carrier had been witnessed parked on a footpath facing the wrong way on the previous two nights in front of Lydiard Farm. Clerk, and or the Police, to be informed if an incident re-occurs.
- c. The Car Sales firm was reported for washing cars on the pavement opposite their forecourt. It was suggested that LMPC ask the Neighbourhood Team, to have a word with them about this practice.
- d. Some residents have been approached by persistent double glazing teams in the past month. They insist the residents accept a quotation, and then turn up in the next half-hour, 'as the rep is parked further down the road'. To prevent this and subsequent abuse of vulnerable residents, it was suggested that LMPC apply to Trading Standards for a 'No Cold Calling' Zone - next Agenda.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention

The Clerk briefly explained about a course she had attended in September on Common Land. Councillors were given a summary of this event to read. The report is available for the public and the Lydiards Magazine, via the Clerk.

10. Report on matters arising from 30th September 2010 not on the main agenda.

- 7a. Crumbling walls - Cllr Blackmore cleared up what was left of the debris on the pavement and verge, as someone else had cleared the worst prior to his arrival. Cllr Blackmore reported that although the wall at Manor Farm is deteriorating faster than his own, the wall is not dangerous. No further action required, other than keeping the pavement clear at present.
 - 7a. The Conifers mentioned had been cut back as high as possible, without taking the tops off.
 - 7c. Speeding at Greenhill, - It was thought that there was no deterrent available at present that would persuade speeding drivers to alter their behaviour. There are 30mph repeater signs all the way down.
 - 7d. Brook at the bottom of Greenhill - very overgrown - a letter requesting clearance to be sent to WC.
 - 7f. Gate across the Lydiard Green Common to be deferred to December, to fully assess the situation.
 - 7g. Quotes for a slide in The Mews Play Area - all over £1000. Proposal dismissed.
 - 7h. SPIDS - Cllr Bennett offered to speak to Highways, to establish if it is legal to install them privately.
- Item 10 - The den had been emptied of rubbish ready for the groundsman to remove, since when it has been dragged back in - clearance to follow soon.
(The above items are for information only).

11. Planning Applications

N/10/03848/TCA - All Saints Church - Tree surgery to 2 Yew Trees and fell 1 Conifer Tree. **Approved.**

N/10/03709/FUL - Four Oaks Park, Lydiard Plain. Five extra caravan pitches and Community Hall.

See Item 7, PQT. There were a number of questions, to which there were few answers.

It was known that Councils do have to find more land for gypsies and that allocation is difficult.

However, it was felt to be an unfair distribution in North Wiltshire for our site to be doubled in population. If it was agreed then the temporary site on Wood Lane should not be made permanent.

Concerns were raised that only gypsies from their own denomination should be allowed. Suggestions were made that if WC was minded to approve that they start with a temporary permission. Whether or not the entire proposed site was green or brown land needed to be established. The Community Hall was a major source of concern in that it more resembled a home than a Community Centre - could the bedrooms be removed, and the warden live in a caravan as before. However, it does show that they are concerned about their own futures and welfare, by putting resources in place.

At the end of the discussion the Council remained split on a decision, and had many concerns which need to be answered. It was hoped that further consultation time could be given once the answers were provided.

The Parish Council is to seek confirmation that the development is within the bounds of the existing approved site, and state reservations about doubling the occupation.

WC Planning Approvals

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| N/10/03107/FUL | 3 Holborn, First Floor Rear Extension. |
| N/10/03169/FUL | Greenacres, Greenhill. Single Storey Extension. |
| N/10/03163/FUL | 5 Park View Drive, Single Storey Extension. |
| N/10/03599/TCA | Priory Cottage, 6 The Butts. Fell 1 Willow. |

11a Temporary closure of footpath Midgehall Bridge, Lydiard Tregoze - info only.

11b Open spaces study. – This was a survey on where our Open Spaces are in the Parish. Chairman and Clerk to complete and return the form on behalf of the Council.

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

		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	296.25
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	Deferred
L.M. Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	499.51
Shaw Football Club	White Lining fee	100.00
Avoncrop	White Lining materials	362.85*
Playsafety Limited	ROSPA report for 2010	148.05*
Mazars	External Audit fee y/e 31 st March 2010	158.62*
A Pflieger	Christmas tree lights	39.97*
Mr D Cobb	Parish Plan – postage	11.48
Usual DDs	Utilities, & Chairs broadband	

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

Income for October 2010 - none recorded.

12a Precept considerations - Although it is hoped to keep our precept at the current level, this is the time for Cllrs and public to put forward their wishes for future spending. Items for consideration to be given to Clerk or brought to the December meeting, after which the Chairman and Clerk will meet to draw up a draft precept for consideration in January.

13. Committee Reports

Recreation Field - cut by SBC yesterday. SFC now have their own mower, which they will use when conditions permit. They would like the car park in the Recreation Field to be extended. This area was originally set aside for a tennis court, but is now used in the summer for cricket nets, and is the only spare area in the field. The problem occurs only a few times in the year, and the cost would be high.

JCH - attempted break-in last week to storshed door. Police did not find anything to go on. J Frost has repaired the door, repaired the guttering, replaced the spotlights, fitted a lock to the disabled toilets, and renewed the fire alarm batteries. On repairing the guttering he noticed that the lead flashing was missing on the join between the main building and the storshed. He will repair with a replacement material, not lead.

Play Area - thanks to Cllr Burley for fixing the gate with bolts. Cllr Bennett had done the monthly check

Cemetery - There are a few planting matters to be dealt with. Chairman asked if there was there a bill from K Manning to come re Shed roof. It is thought not, but confirmation would be sought.

13a. ROSPA Report - received and read, some minor matter to be dealt with.

14. Rumble strips on Stone Lane - Highways did not advise us of when and where they were to be installed. It is disappointing that the calming is neither suitable nor effective.

WC to be asked to remove it but retain the red road markings, to eliminate the noise.

15. Disabled access at Buryfields to Chestnut Springs - quote for £100 to have a lock on the movable top to the bar. Both wheelchairs and electric buggies were measured, as a wheelchair user had requested a solution. The proposal was met with little interest, and concerns were raised that having a mechanical lock to deal with would discriminate against more physically impaired wheelchair users. Decision deferred to next month, to gather opinion and investigate any legal implications.

This model could be used for other similar areas.

16. Parish Plan Update

Holborn Path. Discussions have taken place with Westlea Housing Association, and Mr Croucher, who will both need to give up a piece of land. Plans need to be drawn up and legal agreements made, before it can be put to tender. Mr D Hobbs and Mr R King may have contacts. Hedges need to be cut back by March in order to avoid delays in the project. Quotes needed.

17. Christmas Tree - to be installed on 27th November at 10am. Cllr Pflieger to produce a Project Plan, and Clerk to liaise with LMP Hall, prior to tree being installed.

18. Correspondence

WALC Newsletter October 2010, - information only.

Lawson letter – thanking us for our appreciation of the men who stopped to move the fallen tree.

19. Date of next full meeting: Thursday 2nd December 2010.

Meeting ended at 10.05.

Minutes approved 2.12.2010.