

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 2 December 2010

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

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs A Harris, K Thomas, S Welch.
2. **Safety Briefing** was given to two members of the public, and six councillors.
3. **Declarations of Interest** - none.

Notices. The Chairman regretfully announced that Cllr Bennett had given notice to step down as Councillor after the April meeting 2011. He has taken on many duties as Vice Chairman, and will be much missed. We would ideally like to train another Cllr for the position in the meantime. Invitation received to Wiltshire Council Carol Service, to be held in Devizes on Dec 15.

4. **Minutes of meeting 4th November 2010** - signed and approved without amendment.
5. **Police Report** - none.

Questionnaire received for completion by LMPC, on priorities for policing. WPA happy to receive individual responses - access via web site on 'Wiltshire-pa.gov.uk', and 'click'.

J Smith, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator to be asked if she wishes to take part.

6. Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.

The Localism Bill is due to be published on 8th December, which will enhance the powers of local councils and parishioners.

At a meeting of the Overview Management and Scrutiny Liaison Board information was made available of the difficulties in balancing the various departmental budgets. Whilst it is the intention to maintain front line services, some capital projects may be delayed to cater for the expected 'front-end loading' of government funding reductions. The change to Unitary has saved £18M.

The Tourism and Leisure policy will be presented to the Cabinet on 14th December.

Waste Harmonisation policy due on 11th January. Research regarding the bins to accommodate garden waste has been undertaken in counties where the practice has been successful. It was good to note that finance to prevent skid resistance on Wiltshire roads is derived from capital budget.

Wootton Bassett School awarded 'outstanding' report by Ofsted. Cllr Groom praised the school.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

a. Question asked on why the clubhouse is now causing us a lot of expense? Answer - various groups use it and incomes from JCH & field rentals usually cover the costs. The Precept will be looked at in the next month & hopefully will confirm this. The net cost was higher before the JCH was built.

b. Re the recent attempted break-in - we have not claimed on insurance to avoid premium increases. It was agreed to review the insurance cover to see if increasing the excess may reduce the premium.

c. Question asked - what happened to the top of the Christmas tree? Reply - it was too high, and came with a split trunk, so excess could not be taken from the bottom.

8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

a. Cllr Bennett still is still trying to get the NWDC entry sign replaced opposite the Nine Elms turning. The cost has been quoted at £118. There is a difference of opinion between W/C departments as to whether or not funding has been agreed. Cllr Bennett asked if the Parish Council would fund this if we are denied funding. Cllr Groom agreed to first have another word with W/C.

b. Cllr Groom had been to watch the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' film. She said it was very good - it pans out from a fatal accident to show the impact on the lives of those left behind, and the local community. It is apparently available to the public.

c. Rev. Trisha Roberts, from the Church committee, would like to have a parish 'Fun Day' as a celebration of village life, instead of the Church garden party. One idea was to have a wheelbarrow race through the centre of the village. She asked if the Parish Council would support such an event, prior to proceeding further with the idea. The Parish Council thought it was a very good positive approach to a community event, and would in principle support the idea.

Correct stewarding would be required, especially as it was not proposed to officially close the road. CPSO Andy Singfield has also been invited to comment. Consideration for Insurance is needed.

d. Cllr Groom needs community help to complete a big map to be noted with all the flooding areas, and springs in the parish. Parishioners are asked to advise us where the wells and springs are, in their own immediate area of the Parish.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention

a. A parishioner had reported to the Clerk that their car had caught fire near their home, on Tuesday Nov 30th, between 7.30 & 9pm, and before their Insurance investigator could arrange collection, it was stolen. They are appealing for information from anyone who saw the theft on to a low-loader.

b. Sundown, Holborn, had been broken into. Please watch for further suspicious activity.
 c. Various 'egging' incidents had occurred over the past few weeks, starting from our Recreation Field, where they had been seen playing on a Friday evening, travelling as far as Hook. The driver is said to be a middle-aged man (who has been fined £80), driving around a 13yr old '5-a-side' football team. The powder blue metallic Mercedes E320 Cdi Elegance estate, reg'n D4DYS, was seen and photographed by a parishioner.

The youths concerned are to write apologies to those affected.

This group has no connection with Shaw F.C. who manage football on our Recreation Field.

10. Report on matters arising from 4th November 2010 not on the main agenda.

Item 10,7f. Gate across Lydiard Green Common. The Parish Council are taking steps to confirm the relevant regulations for this area of common land, to supplement the documents and maps in our possession. It was agreed to consult with the WC solicitor. Mr. Ian Gibbons, Democratic Services Officer may also be able to help.

Item 10,7h. 'SPIDS' in private residences. WC advised that it is not illegal, but likely to need planning permission and insurance, as landowners could be liable if it caused an accident.

W/Council will not change their policy, to try and avoid disrespect of such signs through familiarity.

Item 14. Rumble strips had been removed 2nd December, but the road will need to be resurfaced at that point, as it is now lower than the existing highway.

(The above items are for information only).

11. Planning Applications - none.

Proposed 2000 dwellings, South of Hook Street.

No application as yet. Developers requested permission to do Environmental Impact Study when Swindon BC refused the 175 houses on the North side of Hook Street. Information will be sought on whether or not the survey was carried out and if the report is to be made public. Similarly, information will be sought on the recent E.I.S. on land from Tewksbury Way to Chestnut Springs.

It is hoped that item 3.3 of the Localism Bill will prevent these applications proceeding.

Four Oaks Caravan Park. A third of the site was originally set aside for paddocks. It is likely that planning will be refused, as there seems to be no policy to support this extension. Much will depend on the Wiltshire Core Strategy, which is awaiting the passing of the Localism Bill. No further response is needed from LMPC.

Wiltshire Council Approvals

N/10/03469/FUL 31 The Close, Erection of single storey rear extension.

N/10/03848/TCA All Saints Church, Tree surgery and felling of fir tree.

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	296.25
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, Fuel, etc	59.64*
L.M. Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	21.00
Inside Out	Groundsman Fee	499.51
Shaw Football Club	White Lining fee	100.00
J E Frost	Repair of door and lead flashings - stored	189.00
J E Frost	Maintenance – JCH	209.00
Mrs J Redford	Winter bedding	58.75*
Mr A Pflieger	Xmas Lights and Tree	60.99*
Usual DD's	Utilities & Chairs broadband.	

Thanks were recorded to Cllrs Alan Pflieger, Simon Burley and his friends from Barratts Yard for erecting this year's Christmas tree, which is delightful to look at when returning home in the evening. Accounts proposed by Cllr Groom, seconded by Cllr B Baker, and approved - no objections.

12a. Groundsman Contract additions.

The existing contract, with the two amendments, was approved.

Tenders will be invited from the current groundsman, Mr. Trott, and Allied Cem's, who quoted before. It was agreed the Clerk will place an advert in the Link Magazine for January, and will confirm the cost with the Chairman and Vice Chairman prior to submission. Details also to be published in The Lydiards Magazine, and our Web Site. Closing date for tenders will be set for the 22nd January 2011. Cllr Baker was concerned that we cannot hand pick applicants for tender. All tenders will be opened on the same day to ensure fairness. These quotations to be discussed at the February meeting. In the meantime an averaged estimate will be needed to set the precept figure.

12b. Consider quotations for Fence Posts in Rec. Field car park.

Linden Fencing will be asked to do the job at £60 as per their quote. The remaining two firms will be notified they were not successful.

12c. Add and remove names from Bank Mandate.

Cllr Blackmore was asked if he would like to be added to the bank mandate. This was confirmed and the appropriate forms will be provided for him. Cllr Thomas to be asked at the earliest opportunity. There were no objections to these two proposed additions. Mandate forms are awaited from the bank.

13. Precept - final input.

Bollards appear to be the only way to prevent parking on the pavement by the garage. Ascertain cost.

14. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - request for rugby sessions for school received - SFC asked to accommodate.

JCH - Shower has broken in Referee 1 room. Mr. Frost had been to isolate the water supply to the shower and prevent further water loss. Cllr Burley offered to look at the shower unit to confirm that spare parts could not be purchased prior to the Clerk researching a new domestic shower unit.

Play Area Report (T Pepperall) - reported that the bolt gone on the wobble log. Cllr Burley offered to look at this while he was at the Clubhouse.

Cemetery - nothing to report

Road Safety - It has been confirmed that 'Speedwatch' can only be carried out on roads designated as an area of community concern via the data collected from the Golden River strips. Chairman to let Mr Stuckey know that regretfully Stone Lane had not been designated as such.

A request for a reduction of speed limit in Stone Lane's 40mph area was asked of Wiltshire Council. Response - they need to deal with A & B roads first. C roads may not be reviewed until 2013.

15. Disabled access from Buryfields to Chestnut Springs

The quote of £98.50 considered last month was not unreasonable, and it was agreed to try the Swing bar idea with the key option, as numbers are hard to remember.

Cllr Groom proposed this and Cllr Burley seconded this motion. There was a majority in favour, with one abstention. A dropped kerb for the same site was discussed many years ago, but NWDC had said it was too expensive to install. It is thought most potential users could cope as it is.

16. Parish Plan - following the recent meeting, it was reported that the questionnaire is proceeding. It is hoped to ready by early February, with the analysis done soon after.

17. Christmas Tree - removal plans. Lights to be turned off by the 12th night of Christmas, and the tree to be removed on the 8th January. The 'High AB' borrowed from Mr Barratt to be used to take it down, and the tree removed.

18. 'No Cold Calling Zone' under Trading Standards.

Officially this can only be set up for small sections of the community. Alternatively parishioners can help themselves using No Cold Calling stickers. The Parish Council to consider looking at the problem from alternative angles, and liaise with Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and the police.

Consideration to be given to purchasing 'No Cold Calling' notices for 'at risk' residents.

19. Sign for flower beds. Mr Cooper to be approached again, regarding a 'thank you' sign.

20. Parish Steward's next visit - December 14/15th.

Under a new system, we will not be limited to 2 days per month. Advise Clarence(0800232323) on any highway matters that need attention, but also the Parish Clerk (to avoid duplication).

21. WC Parish Elections Letter from W/C confirming that local elections will NOT take place in 2011 but May 2013 - deferred, to bring them in line with the Unitary Council elections.

22. Correspondence:

Affordable Rural Housing: a practical guide for Parish Councils

WALC Newsletter, November 2010 - information only

WALC Annual report 2009-2010 - information only

The Clerk Magazine, November 2010 - information only

23. Date of next full meeting: Thursday 6th January 2011

Closed 9.40 p.m.

Approved 6.1.11.