

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 7th April 2011

Present - Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), J Bennett, B Baker, T Blackmore, M Groom, A Harris, A Pflieger, & B Quant.

1. Apologies for absence - Cllrs K Thomas, S Burley and S Welch.

2. Safety Briefing - given to 8 members of the public and 8 councillors

3. Declarations of Interest - none

4. Minutes of meeting 3rd March 2011 - it was noted that the meeting closed at 9.55, not 10.55. The Minutes were then signed as a true copy.

5. Police Report.

PCSO Andy Singfield reported that by the Swindon based traffic team had dealt with the recent accident in Holborn - he is unaware of any further action to follow.

There have been no serious community issues in the Parish recently.

A group of youths who had been smoking cannabis locally have received verbal warnings. When asked how we would spot such activity, it emerged that such things as 'litter reported in strange places' would alert the police.

The bus stop area at the end of The Butts is reported to be a much better and safer for the children, but 'bollards' are still to be agreed by W/C to prevent vehicles crossing the area.

The Chairman answered that the bollards will be chased once the school building work is completed, because of the current amount of large lorry traffic.

It was reported to PCSO Singfield that cars are still parking on the pavement opposite the car sales. Recently three vehicles were on the pavement and two outside the Car Sales, causing a bottleneck to traffic. We were advised that calling in such incidents, on 08454087000, creates a log even if the officers cannot get to the area before the offending vehicles have moved.

A pattern would then emerge, and where number plates are quoted, follow up calls to the offending vehicles may occur. It was agreed that all the business in that area, should have a letter to warn them that police will be called in when cars are causing an obstruction.

PCSO stated they do their best to be present at all times of the day over a period of time, bearing in mind the number of other villages covered, and shift patterns.

A member of public requested the Officer to speak up and face both Councillors and public, as some are hard of hearing. It was agreed to see if we can get the loop system working.

6. Wiltshire Councillor Report, and questions arising.

a. W.C. Planning Department has issued a list of charges for seeking planning advice -

The Lydiards Magazine has kindly agreed to print the details.

b. The RBZ Task Group has made a report to W/C, to seek to re-instate the Rural Buffer Zone as per the 2001 Local Plan, following advice under the Localism Bill.

c. Cllr Groom had attended a meeting regarding the future of RAF Lyneham, at which Option One was that the Army use it for something, or that Option Two was that local commercial companies take up the space. Eddie Shah, a local businessman, had offered his plan to build, generating some 3,000 jobs on the site, if other options fail.

d. Instructions on the use of the royal title for Wootton Bassett have been received by WBTC.

e. Cllr Groom has been invited to join the Swindon Planning Forum - she asked, and it was agreed, that she be our LMPC representative, rather than joining as a member of the public.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

a. LMPC was reminded of the conditions under which Mr Peter Moody left LMPC the Recreation Field at Chestnut Springs, and that it should be administered for the benefit of the parishioners. This arose in light of the fact that the Parish Plan Questionnaire mentions the possibility of an extended car park in the grounds, and because of the unacceptable traffic conditions experienced over the past month, due to the number of football matches.

b. An update was requested on what traffic calming was planned for Holborn corner.

Response - LMPC have requested a red surface and speed roundel, as on Stone Lane.

It was reported that where the hedge has been cut beyond the Holborn bend to facilitate a footpath, a vehicle mounted the verge and turned over. It was asked if the police going to recommend anything to W/C to prevent further accidents - nothing is expected.

It was suggested that we ask also for white lines at the side of the road.

c. It was asked why there were 'diversion signs' through the village - work is still in progress on Hook Street. It was reported that there were two temporary road signs to be removed, left from previous work - one at the bottom of Stone Lane and the second opposite Casa Paolo.

d. The Parish Plan questionnaire asked about a car park, but not a new cemetery, adjacent to The Beeches. This was correct, as during the original meeting of the Parish Plan, the public was unhappy about a car park, but the Cemetery issue was not then raised.

e. On parking, it was reported that the funeral that took place during the previous week, with around 160 cars, had caused The Sun Inn car park to be full, losing them lunchtime trade.

It was asked if the JCH car park could be open for such occasions. The Chairman said such a request could be agreed, as long as sufficient notice was given, and it wasn't already booked.

8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

a. Cllr Groom asked about the building plans at 20 The Beeches, as the resident of 22 The Beeches, has complained that it is too high, and is blocking his light. The Clerk reported that the site had been viewed, and that the new build did not appear to be any higher than that of the neighbouring buildings.

b. Rumours are circulating that the Ridgeway Farm developers are to build before any approval of planning permission - nothing is known about this. The developers have not replied with any details from the queries raised by W/C Planning, and Lydiard Tregoze PC have not heard anything either. The site area is already prone to flooding.

c. Cllr Baker asked for an update on possibility of bollards on the pavement opposite the car sales. No quotations had been sought, and the Police had raised concerns, that it would just push any congestion further down The Street.

d. It was requested that LMPC consider purchasing a number of Wheelie Bin stickers with the 30mph roundel on them. The Clerk reported that this idea had been dismissed when they were originally offered to the Council, but would relocate the company for a quote.

e. Cllr Bennett asked if the second yellow grit bin that had arrived in The Close could be moved to the bottom of Forge Fields to prevent sharing the Chestnut Springs bin, which is usually to first to be empty. A new bin was also requested for Meadow Springs as they were snowed in during the winter, as were residents of Greenhill

Cllr Bennett also asked for the bin at The Butts to be moved at the same time.

The road salt and the spreader offered by W/C has not yet been received.

f. Request made that traffic calming from Tewskbury Way to Holborn be added to the Road Safety Sub-Committee's wish list.

g. The hole in the road caused by flooding at The Elms has been repaired by Thames Water.

A road sign, near Casa Paolo, reported to Clarence 3 years ago as being bent over still has not been repaired. Clerk to report this to Parish Steward team to inspect and report to W/C.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention – none.

10. Report on matters arising from 3rd March 2011 not on the main agenda.

6a. Lime Kiln, we were advised the facilities were re-opened, but the pool is not. The damage to the control room is uneconomic to repair, pending the creation of the proposed Campus.

7c. Plaque for raised beds, and dedicated Millennium trees. Samples viewed in a Timpson's brochure from within Asda. Discussion held on best material and size of plaques. Plaques on chains around the trees will need to be replaced every so often to accommodate the growth of the tree, and need to be postcard size. Cllr Burley had a Cemetery sign made up, and would be asked for contact details.

16. Community Emergency Volunteer group recommended by W/C to be 3. At least one of the volunteers would need to have good knowledge of the village, and who could be contacted for equipment. The

positions are still to be filled.

It was reported that finally new water mains were being installed in Lydiard Green.

11. Planning Applications

N/11/00932/FUL - 22 Forge Fields, second storey rear extension. **No Adverse Comments.**

The Chairman reported that the Clerk and he had attended the W/C workshop on Planning. It had been useful to us and W/C. The current planning responses are still appropriate.

Wiltshire Council Approvals

N/10/04520/FUL 9 The Moors – New Access

N/11/00527/FUL The Bungalow, Greatfield. – Barn/Workshop

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	296.25
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, Fuel, etc	91.09*
SFC	White Lining	100.00
L.M. Parish Hall	Hire of Hall	22.00
Inside Out Ltd	Final Groundsman Fee	499.51
Mr T Pepperall	Chairman's Expenses 2010/11	121.88*
BT	The Street Kiosk annual rental	360.00*
Information Commissioner.	Annual Reg'n fee	35.00
Usual DDs	Utilities, & Chairs broadband.	

The above were proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Groom and approved.

March Income – Cemetery £365, SFC £368.

13. Lydiard Plain Rental – Request for the annual grass keep from Mr Meredith. It was proposed to charge the existing amount of £750 - agreed.

14. Football Parking problems - affecting Meadow Springs, Chestnut Springs and The Mews with significantly increased traffic in the past months. This is due to catch up matches and cup matches because they are successful teams. Unfortunately there is the odd driver who will not keep driveways clear and is dis-respectful to the homeowners when asked to move.

It is agreed that the Parish Council need to update the contract between themselves and SFC with clear agreement on the number of games, and a reasonable gap in between. It is agreed we need to review our control over the frequency of matches.

It was mentioned that the original agreement may well have stated that matches could not be played on a Sunday. This will need to be checked and reviewed. LMPC is aware that the field must be available for parishioners and sporting activities, and it is suggested that SFC may have outgrown our site.

15. Holborn Footpath

The legal format is now agreed with Westlea Housing, and Mr. Croucher's approval is being similarly sought. Contractors are ready to proceed with Phase One of the path, once the legal documents are signed.

It was asked if there will be access to the bus stop from path above. This will be covered in Phase two, but it is more likely to have a footpath along the road, because of the 6foot drop.

16. Committee Reports:

Recreation Field - a sub-committee meeting is to be arranged as soon as possible.

JCH - no problems to report. SFC has vacated the kitchen and done the end of season clean. .

Play Area check was completed by Cllr Pepperall – no problems to report.

Mews Play Area, When it was originally set up, there was a green mesh fence around the perimeter, most of which has been removed. One resident still has the green mesh in front of his fence, and has asked permission to remove it - permission given.

Play Area in Common Platt. This area is maintained by Swindon B.C., but thought may be in our Parish.

It was discussed as a possible project for the QE2 trust. This new trust offers to parks and vulnerable spaces,

a protection of permanency. LMPC decided against any change, as we do not considered it to be vulnerable, and ownership would need to be confirmed.

Cemetery - informal border - Clerk has the details to write to family. Clearance of Christmas wreaths is still to be carried out.

Road Safety - The new crossing at The Sun may now be carried out around Easter time. When it is finished, a letter via the school to be sent explaining that it is part of the Safe Route to School, and encouraging parents to use it.

Gel bags - further to last month's minutes the Council considered whether or not to purchase a number of bags on behalf of the Parish. It was agreed that it would not be possible to accommodate all who may want a bag should an emergency occur, neither would it be practical to hold a supply that may never be used, and would have to be kept dry. It was agreed that parishioners must have personal responsibility for their own properties. An article would be put in the Lydiard Magazine to establish how many residents would like to have some, which LMPC could purchase in bulk - cost £2.50 each to residents.

17. Spring Clean – update - Thanks given to Clerk for her help in organising this event. She reported that the number of volunteers were into double figures, and that the Spring Clean had occurred over several days. Unfortunately the black bags had not yet been picked up from The Sun Inn, but she was to ring WC again for collection.

18. Grit for bins - update. We have asked for the 1 ton bag, but no delivery date as yet.

19. Close Hedge - no update from Cllr Thomas - apologies given.

20. Parish Plan - The Chairman has been encouraged by W/C to claim the money set aside for parish plan costs, and skill sharing, of up to £1800. Costs will need to be substantiated. We would need to declare our budget reserves, but as they are earmarked this should be OK. It was agreed that the Chairman should send in a claim, and we will refund any unused funds.

21. Parish Steward Tasks - Road sign opposite the Casa Paolo, road signs and Church bollards to be cleaned. The repairs to the brick hump had been delayed as WC had offered only a tarmac solution rather than a proper repair. This to be chased again for a brick repair.

22. APM Speaker - James Gray, MP, was offered as a suggestion, but was unlikely to be able to attend as it is a weekday. Cllr Groom asked to seek the new Police Inspector at WB.

23. Correspondence:

Proposed changes to Bus Service, routes 51A, 55A, 30, C2W does not affect us.

Letter from Mary Voaden saying hello to those who knew her as a past Cllr, was received after her Parish Plan questionnaire was forwarded to her by the new owners.

WALC newsletter March 2011

Swindon Core Strategy and Swindon Development Management Policies have been published in draft format - consultation 24.3.11 - 19.5.11.

A grateful thank you to Cllr Bennett, our retiring Vice Chairman, for 8 years of solid service was given and a card. He is planning to remain on the Parish Plan Committee, and will continue to support and help LMPC.

24. Date of next full meeting: Thursday 5th May 2011 at the Jubilee Club House.
The meeting closed at 9.57p.m.