

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019; in the Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Dean Cobb, Andre Kayani, Vernon Montgomery, Alan Pflieger (Chairman), Mike Sharp, Richard Selwood, Phil Shepherd, Jim Stubbs. Mrs Deborah Bourne (Clerk)

Also

Present Wilts. Cllr Mollie Groom and two members of the public

### **Public Question Time**

Members of the public made comments about Planning Applications and Public Rights of Way.

The chairman of Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group gave an update on the progress, having been reviewed by a Planning Inspector who has suggested some changes. It is hoped a Referendum will be held in February.

### **118/19 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence all Councillors were present. There are still three vacant seats on the Parish Council.

### **119/19 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest made by Councillors for this meeting.

### **120/19 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the full council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and the minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were adopted and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the decisions made.

### **121/19 Notices, Reports and Updates**

*Unitary Councillor:* Cllr Groom gave an update on issues relating to Wiltshire Council.

*Chairman's Announcements:* Condolences were expressed on the recent death of Nigel Margetts, until recently chairman of the Parish Hall Trustees. He will be greatly missed within the community.

Thanks are recorded to Mr & Mrs Dodge for the donation of the parish Christmas Tree; thanks are also given to those who help generally within the community, especially the volunteers caring for the flowerbeds.

The National Great British Spring Clean campaign for 2020 will run from 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The suggested date for a community litter pick in the parish is Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2010, during the morning. Details will be available on the website or noticeboards nearer the time.

### **122/19 Planning Matters**

- a. Wiltshire Council planning decisions published since the last meeting were noted. Details can all be viewed on the Wiltshire Council website.

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Chairman

b. The Council considered the following Planning Appeal:

- i. APP/Y3940/W/19/3238188  
19/06726/FUL – Greatfield Farm, 6 Greatfield, Swindon  
Retention of Building for B1, B2 and B8 purposes, together with provision of car parking.

On discussion members were concerned as to access, it is understood this site is to be used as a distribution hub. Entrance and egress is via a small single track.

RESOLVED to write to the Planning Inspectorate setting out the Councils objections to the original application and including the access concerns.

c. The Council considered the following Planning Applications, previously published by Wiltshire Council.

- i. 19/10231/FUL – 30 The Close, Lydiard Millicent  
Erection of Front porch, timber frame carport and dropped kerb.

Although discussed briefly at the last meeting, there has been additional information which the Council now wishes to consider.

On viewing the site, trees are present but not shown on the plans and it is understood there is a pipeline which is not marked on the Planning Application. No height for the car port can be found on the plans and there appears to be a discrepancy with identifying the property boundary, shown differently on each plan. There are no details of what the ground cover will be – what will happen to any water run-off?

RESOLVED that the following comments be sent to the Planning Department at Wiltshire Council: Whilst the Parish Council has no objections to the concept of a car port at this location there are some concerns regarding this particular application. There are no measurements indicating height, the parish council respectfully asks for a definitive measurement before any permission is given. It was quite difficult to visualise the extent of the impact on the local street scene; a drawing of finished building would have been helpful. There does not appear to be any allowance made for excess water, either from the structure or run-off from the ground water.

As a general point, the Parish Council respectfully asks that Planning Officers obtain exact measurements for the height of buildings; several recent applications have not shown measurements, relying on subjective opinion as to whether a building is too high. For accuracy and consistency measurements will allow for a stable starting point.

- ii. 19/10761/FUL – 12 The Beeches, Lydiard Millicent  
Proposed front, side and rear extension.

RESOLVED to send the following comments to Wiltshire Planning Department: Whilst the Parish Council would usually object to conversions of bungalows into houses in this instance it is considered the street scene will be improved by this application.

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Chairman

A general discussion ensued as to whether the Council should have a policy for circumstances like the above for consistency in decision making. Members will consider this and return to the question at a later date.

#### 123/19 **Finance**

- a. *Accounts:* It was noted that two Councillors will sign cheques at the end of the meeting, as required by the Councils Financial Regulations.
- b. *Audited Accounts:* PKF Littlejohn LLP have completed their Limited Assurance review of the Councils accounts for the year ending March 2019, a copy of which is available on the Council website.

#### 124/19 **Annual Estimates of Income and Expenditure**

*Councillors were advised that the effect of section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is that if, when considering budgetary items, any Councillor is in arrears for more than two months with his/her Council Tax, he/she must declare that section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies and neither speak nor vote on the matter before Council. There were no such declarations made.*

The Parish Council is able to levy a precept to cover its costs for the following financial year; this levy can usually only be demanded once in any year. Wiltshire Council, as the charging authority, will collect this on behalf of the Parish Council and forward the amount in two instalments.

In order for a precept to be levied the Council must first set a budget; details of the draft budget were circulated to all members. It should also be noted that there will not be a cap on increases to Parish Council taxes for the next few years; the Government understands that Local Councils will need extra money during devolution processes, which Wiltshire Unitary Council is currently undertaking.

RESOLVED to adopt the draft budget as presented and to file a precept demand on Wiltshire Council for £54,800 (Fifty-Four Thousand, Eight Hundred Pounds). It was noted this budget anticipated employment of a part time parish warden to undertake various maintenance projects within the parish and allow for projects currently in progress to be completed.

#### 125/19 **Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School draft admission policy**

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Governors thanking them for being given the opportunity of commenting on the draft admission policy for 2021-22. Councillors had no formal observations to make on the document.

#### 126/19 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Lydiard Millicent Parish Council will take place on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Club House, Meadow Springs, Lydiard Millicent.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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Cllr Alan Pflieger  
Chairman

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Chairman