

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 5th July 2012

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), B Baker, T Blackmore, S Burley, D Cobb, M Groom, S Mowbray, K Thomas.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Harris, A Pflieger.
2. **Safety Briefing** to 4 members of public and 8 Councillors.
3. **Declarations of Interest** - none
4. **Minutes of meeting Thursday 7th June 2012** - were signed as a true record without amendment.
5. **Minutes of AGM & APM held on 24th May 2012.** A question on the Clock Fund was raised - see Item 18. The Minutes were approved and signed as correct without amendment.

6. **Police Report.** The Clerk had been visited by the two local Community Police Officers earlier in the day, and they offered their apologies. It is harder these days to swap or change their shift patterns, and more so with the cuts in the police budget. They reported that only one crime had been logged in the past month, which was a theft from a motor vehicle. They are however, being constantly emailed by members of the public from around their various parishes, with requests for help on matters which are not crime related in the hope that they will have some sway in highway or planning matters. They can only make comments on a registered planning application or highway issue.

7. Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.

1. Staff will shortly move into the new building at County Hall, Trowbridge. The building will house Departments, but staff will not have specific desks, in order to reduce costs, as often members of departments are out and about, or working part time or from home, not requiring desk space. The building will be mainly paperless, with most business being carried out on computers. The various rooms have been designed to be fully adaptable to various functions, from the main hall to smaller meeting rooms.
2. The cost of planning applications will increase 15% in the Autumn, as part of the System Reform Act.
3. RWB Area has the highest number of claimants on benefits, and Cllr Groom hopes that these statistics will not run against the Area when reforms of the claims system are set up.

8. Parishioner's Question Time.

It was reported that a kerb edge was loose at the Butts parking area.

Parish Steward had been placed on traffic duty last Thursday after a car hit a wall in the centre of the village, and was unable to complete the tasks allocated to him.

'White Gates look good' was general consensus of the meeting. Parish Steward will be asked to keep them tidy.

9. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

1. Cllr Pflieger sent word that he thinks that the gates installed were not that as shown on plans. Previous correspondence on the matter was viewed, when a taller system was shown as an example. He also considered it was not done to a high enough standard, for the 3 day installation, and that more work is needed on both sides of the road regarding the cut vegetation. Consideration was given as to whether or not the swathe needed cutting from both sides of the gates, especially as the speed signs appear both back and front. Cllr Pflieger will check whether Broad Town's installation was to their specification.

The installation of the gates had highlighted just how far out some of the boundaries are and this is an excellent opportunity to tidy up the boundaries - land owners are requested to assist.

2. Cllr Mowbray had reported arc'ing out of electric cables to Snail Cottage, Lydiard Green, adjacent to the small area of common land. SEB had attended very quickly, and in very difficult weather conditions, to do emergency work cutting back the tree branches. The Sub/Comm now needed to inspect the trees etc to decide if further work is needed.

3. Possible Link to Thames Water sewerage - Cllr Mowbray is writing to all the residents to gauge opinion for a mains system. If a collective interest from the local residents is gained, then the residents will ask Thames Water to consider installation of a mains sewer system, presumably at the cost of the residents.

4. Cllr Baker advised the Dog Warden will not hold any more open sessions in Purton following a WC review.

However information and help can be sought at 'publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk' - telephone 01249 706425.

5. Cllr Harris sent a report that he had cut back all the stinging nettles adjacent to the public footpath opposite his house in a bid to keep the path accessible. The Chairman expressed our thanks.

10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention. Clerk reported that she would be on holiday for one week.

11. Report on matters arising from 7th June 2012 not on the main agenda.

1. No action taken yet on the Rocking Horse in the Play Area - there are various playground equipment brochures in JCH office for Councillors to look through, and choose from.
2. Clerk had not yet sought Councillor Training sessions locally from Community First.

12. Planning Applications

Sub-Committee Chairman Report (SB) - Cllr Burley reported that the S/Committee had viewed the application sites. He also reported that he had spoken to the Officer, Sally Canter, who has agreed to meet a small number of councillors and arrange a training session, as he had requested. Cllr Groom suggested that Cllrs would also benefit from reading the WC Planning Minutes.

N/12/01497/FUL. Oaklands, Wood Lane, Braydon - Change of use from Agricultural to Residential, new dwelling and stables.

N/12/01498/FUL - Oaklands, Wood Lane, Extension to Agricultural bungalow and new stables.

Ref. to 'Agricultural' is confusing. The property is very rural, and the dwellings would create a change of character. It is also outside current guidelines H4, and is development in open countryside, and change the rural aspect.

It was agreed to question of agricultural status of land. LMPC were **unanimously opposed** to both applications.

If WC were considering approval, then C/Cllr Groom would be asked to 'call in' the applications.

12/01291/FUL - Four Oaks Caravan Park - 5 additional permanent gypsy pitches.

Site has not been managed well up to now, and the transit sites rarely used. **Unanimously opposed** as previously.

12/01435/FUL - Green View, Wood Lane, Braydon - Ground floor extension to rear and side of dwelling & re-sited replacement garage with accommodation above.

The size of requested increase was questioned. Would change street scene, and character of area. Do trees or hedgerows need protection? No strong objections, but concerns re location of garage, % increase in size, and change of visual character of area. Section 106 agreement needed if approved.

As the Clerk was to be away the following week, it was agreed that Cllrs Pepperall and Cllr Burley would liaise on the replies, and send the planning responses.

13. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
R Leckie	Salary	347.85*
R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, Mileage, etc.	132.34*
LMPHall	Hire of P/Hall	24.00
Enlan Ltd	Groundsman Fee	504.00*
Auditing Solutions	Internal Audit fee 2011/2012	384.00*
RBS Software	Accounts maintenance fee	124.80*
Colin Giles Plumbing	JCH shower maintenance*	592.80*
SFC	White Lining (April)	100.00
J Hearn	BT Greenhill Telephone Box	1.00

*The plumber had been asked about future JCH maintenance - he did not think that 'legionnaires disease' was an issue, as the showers were said not to be supplied by the tanks - further information regarding the risks be sought. Shower unit failed through of lack of use - consider future prevention by running showers regularly - schedule needed.

Income - VAT refund £2,427.21, Cemetery £465.

The accounts were proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Thomas, no objections, and duly approved.

14. Approve Annual Accounts. The annual accounts were proposed by Cllr Blackmore, seconded by Cllr Mowbray, no objections, and duly approved.

15. External Audit - the Annual Return questions were completed and the forms signed by Clerk and Chairman.

16. Approve new Code of Conduct - the NALC version was approved by LMPC. Declarations of interest to be returned by all the Councillors within 28 days. Clerk thought they needed to be done on-line but had not had time to look at the new procedures.

17. Sub-Comm. Chair Reports:

Highways & Footpaths - Minutes were circulated prior to meeting.

Cllrs Pepperall, Cobb & Pflieger had attended the CATG meeting on the 28th June, and Cllr Cobb agreed to be our nominated representative in the future, with Cllr Pflieger as deputy. Cllr Pepperall will contact C/Cllr Peter Doyle. A meeting with WC's Steve Hind had been arranged for Tuesday 10th July to review our Stone Lane calming.

SIDS - Cllr Pflieger to check if there is a nominated person in highways to contact, other than Clarence, when camera batteries fail or other maintenance faults need to be urgently reported.

Salt - Highways had asked if we required another one ton delivery - no need, nor room in the shed - no action needed. Bollards at The Butts had been delayed because of the new school build, and now WC tell us that there is no funding and that we should request these on an Issue sheet. It was agreed to point out that they had agreed this project and that funding should have been ring-fenced, and to seek installation of the bollards, as originally agreed.

Rec.Field & JCH

Nothing new to report, other than the agreed replacement of the spring animal.

Weed & Feed needed on field.

Grass has been cut again by SPC.

Mr J Frost - had been asked to check the sensors for the car park lights, which are also being triggered during daylight.

Meetings on use to be arranged with Residents & SFC in 3 stages - Cllr Blackmore kindly offered his home as venue.

Cemetery & Public areas

Lydiard Green common land triangle to be looked at. Emergency work had been carried out, and more work clearly will need to be done. SEB may need to visit the site and recommend necessary work. Ditch at the side of the site needs investigation following residents' comments. S/C to review.

Spoil has now been moved - Mr Meredith needed only one journey - no charge - Letter of thanks to be sent.

Cemetery is looking good, but 8 or 9 graves need still to be levelled or raised. Quotation to be sought from groundsman and/or Mr Stone, the Gravedigger.

Ivy from field, Kershaw side, needs removing.

Hedge cuttings and turf cuttings on new Parish Council field - we need to establish who has put them there and why.

Conifers at end of cemetery will need cutting again soon.

The holly needs cutting back or down. There are volunteers - if done just before Xmas, the cuttings could be sold.

18. Other Committee Reports:

Play Areas - covered above - check done by Cllr Pepperall.

Rights of Way & Walks - next walk - July 13th 6.30.

See Item 5 - The Clock Fund is not a registered charity, used solely for clock maintenance and upkeep, and is fed by donations. The account is in the name of the Clock Fund, with Cllr Baker as the sole signatory. It was agreed that additional signatories were needed, and should come under LMPC control - discussion with Cllr Baker to be arranged.

19. Area Neighbourhood Plan - Still proceeding on course - some sub committees to be set up.

20. Parish Plan - Housing Needs Survey updated and approved. WC will fund the cost. We cannot change the standard questionnaire, but can create an additional one to be simultaneously distributed. It was agreed to start process - Chair to contact WC.

21. Holborn Footpath Project - update re lease of footpath land. Still chasing solicitors for action.

22. Purchase of 'Council' field. Now completed. August Agenda item on use of the land while seeking planning and funding. It was officially minuted that a LMPHall committee member be part of a new S/C Working Group. LMPHall to be asked to make safe the boundary gate as it is leaning.

23. Diamond 'Jubilee Mugs'. It was reported that we have only a dozen or so mugs left. About half our supply has been given to Parish children, and the remainder sold at cost price.

24. Greenhill Telephone Box - purchase completed. Meeting to be arranged to help set up the Residents Association, for the maintenance of the box.

25. Parish Steward tasks. Continue with latest list, together with any new urgent tasks reported in the meantime. Help at Lydiard Green? - see Item 17.

26. Correspondence.

Parish Hall Annual Accounts.

WALC Newsletter.

Dog Fouling task group - see Item 9.4. It was agreed not to join the Area D.F. Working Group.

27. Next meeting - Thursday 2nd August 2012, 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Meeting ended 10.15 - after a short extension agreed at 10.00 p.m.