

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting of 5th April 2012

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), B Baker, T Blackmore, D Cobb, M Groom, A Harris, S Mowbray, A Pflieger.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs S Burley, K Thomas.
2. **Safety Briefing.** Given to 8 members of public and 8 Councillors.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Minutes of meeting Thursday 1st March 2012,** and future distribution.

BB and AH had apologised but not recorded on the draft minutes.

Correction made at Item 8 - distance to walk should be 3.5 miles. Minutes were then signed as a true copy.

It was agreed that the draft Minutes will be sent out to Councillors as soon as they are ready in future.

A closed meeting, on policies, meetings and planning responses was set for 17th April, time and place to be agreed.

5. **Police Report.** No report.
6. **Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.**
 - a. W/C figures for 2011/12 show an under spend of £185K on a budget of M£830.
 - b. New and successful initiatives are reported including investing M£350 over the next 3 years, particularly targeted at improving lives and opportunities for the young, the old, the vulnerable and those that need help and creating jobs for young people as well as our own County apprenticeship scheme. The budget for roads and transport will improve 32% more road miles than in 2010/11, and fill 11% more potholes.
 - c. Investment in superfast broadband will be via The Wiltshire On Line Programme. This aims to achieve 85% of all premises having such access by 2015, as well as all other premises being able to access a minimum speed of 2 mgb. To make the ambitious aims a reality, W/C has invested M£16, as well as the Government's M£4.66 plus the telecommunications industry's expected M£10.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

- a. Drains in The Butts are not only very full, but are now growing sapling trees. WC to be chased again for action.
- b. Update on stile behind The Sun Inn requested. Cllr Blackmore had been recommended 3 companies, two of which did not want to quote, 3rd one to send an estimate shortly. He also had a few other possible contacts.
- c. Update on missing Common Platt sign. W/C fix signs in batches, and a sign run is expected shortly.
- d. Update on missing and dead shrubs by Greenhill crossroads. Enlan had not responded, and it was agreed to try other suppliers - Greenhill Nurseries were suggested.
- e. When will W/C move the second grit bin? W/C has not responded to recent reminders.
- f. A fallen tree at Holborn, chopped up and left on the side, is preventing the WC grass contractor doing his job. They are between 'Sundown' and the bus stop. The Parish Steward or Enlan to be asked to move it.
- g. There are some overgrown graves in the Cemetery, and some that need to be levelled. Also, there is ivy on the wall of the old cemetery to be removed. The Clerk and Cllr Baker are arranging to do a site meeting within the next month to decide on appropriate action.
- h. Mr. Merrick, from 'Round the Bend', Common Platt, again asked if there has been any response from WC to stop his drainage problem. Cllr Groom reported that she has heard from WC that they had done work that they need not have, and the broken drainage is now his responsibility. He replied that WC had not responded to him and that he should not be responsible for all the water coming off the highway into his property. He was reluctant to bring in his MP for the area, and preferred to work locally to resolve the matters. Cllr Groom offered to speak again to W/C.

8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a. Cllr Harris reported a broken highway sign at Washpool/Tewksbury Way junction on the right hand side as you approach from Swindon. Sign in Common Platt still waiting to be re-erected (see 7c).
- b. Cllr Harris reported that, along the Bridleway to the rear of his property, two gates had been vandalised, and the barbed wire fence had been cut. He asked what he can do about the vandalism. The information needs to be given to the Police, and Rights of Way Steward. Request mention be made in the Lydiards Magazine to establish if other landowners are suffering similar problems.
- c. Cllr Cobb reported that there had been another vehicle hit the bank on Holborn corner, which, looking at the evidence, would have narrowly missed the bridge, and likely shattered window glass on the vehicle. He suggested that the Bridge would benefit from repair before more accidents require a bigger repair job.
- d. Cllr Baker asked the Clerk to check the plans of N/11/01260/FUL, new garage at 'Rudlers', to see if it showed that mains water and drainage was to be installed, and to confirm the boundary.
- e. Cllr Baker requested permission of the Council to purchase some clock oil for the Memorial Clock - agreed.

9. **Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.** The Clerk was pleased to report that she had finally passed her Certificate in Local Council Administration. Chairman congratulated her on her achievement, which raises

the profile of the Parish Council, and confirmed that this will automatically trigger a salary increase.

10. Report on matters arising from 1st March 2012 not on the main agenda.

Item 6. Wiltshire Core Strategy – A response has been sent on behalf of the Council.

Item 10c Resident had been given a month to remove his fence. It is still there and LMPC will advise the landowners for appropriate action.

11. Planning Applications

N/12/00787/TCA Honeywood Lodge, Church Place. Tree work on Lime, Accacia and Horse Chestnut.

Several of the trees are adjacent to The Butts, and the work will reduce the leaf drop this autumn. **Supported.**

APP/Y3940/A11/2166277/NWT

Ridgeway Development Appeal will be held from 9th May 2012 for 8 days. Cllrs Pepperall and Groom will attend on the first morning to register their request to object, and will then be allocated a time to speak.

Cemetery request

Request received from Mrs Clarke, grand-daughter of the late Lilian Alstowe, for a pre-purchase plot. **Approved.**

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
R Leckie	Wages	333.25
R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, & Mileage.	49.92*
LMPHall	Hire of Hall	24.00
Enlan Ltd	Groundsman Fee	504.00*
Shaw Football Club	White Lining fee	100.00
T Pepperall	y/end expenses	157.47*
A Pflieger	re-issue cheque no 1766	13.45*
Mr Meredith	Repair to Lydiard Plain Gate	108.00*
Bevirs	Land Search fee, Holborn corner	120.00
Usual DDs	Chairs broadband & Utilities	
Wiltshire Council	Holborn White Gates, approved 2.2.12	485.00
Cotswold Tree Surgeons	Hedge cutting Forge Fields approved 1.3.12	450.00*

The above accounts were proposed by Cllr Groom, seconded by Cllr Baker, no objections, & approved.

13. Fee increase - Cemetery, JCH and Rec. Field increases agreed (based on 5%), copy to be attached to minutes.

14. Lydiard Plain rent renewal to Mr Meredith - £750 - approved.

15. Holborn Footpath - update re lease of footpath land. A draft of the proposed licence had been received from solicitors, and a meeting will be arranged with Mr Croucher for his comments and approval.

16. Purchase of field adjacent to LMPHall - update. Our offer had been accepted, and the land taken off the market. The Chairman had been trying without success to obtain guidance from W/C on our wish for change of use. This indication is needed before proceeding with the purchase.

Much debate was given to the role the Church will be playing regarding this land. It was noted that Councillors were concerned about the possible joint ownership of the land, but assurances were given that the Church wants to be able to park on it, but had not wished to compete with LMPC for the purchase of the land. The Chairman had arranged a meeting with all the interested parties for the 19th April, where all such concerns can be looked at.

17. Financial Regulations Policy - The Financial Regulations, and the Grant Awarding policies were approved.

Further amendments were suggested to the Standing Orders policy, and the amended document will again be circulated to Cllrs for adoption in the coming months.

The above decisions were proposed by Cllr Burley, seconded by Cllr Harris, and approved with no objections.

18. Youth Club up-date. A meeting with W/C, Youth Club Leaders and Parish Council to be held on April 24 at JCH to consider the future of the club. Funding / training may be needed.

19. SFC meeting up-date, and request for renewal of summer training facilities -

Cllrs had received a copy of the Sub-Committee minutes briefly outlined below:

The meeting had begun with a presentation on the history of their club, and how highly they are regarded in the area, and how they their Respect Programme results in fewer problems than most other clubs.

They asked for an increase in matches on Sundays, subject to a car park extension, for which they will investigate a Football Foundation grant. They agree that greater monitoring may be needed on busy days.

Summer training sessions to be 6.30 to 8pm, Mon, Wed, Fri., at £10 p/h per team.

The Chairman had since received a request for Tues, Wed, Fri instead. The use of Tuesdays will be put on the Agenda for the Youth Club meeting on April 24.

SFC will advise of all training and matches in advance, in order that the LMPC can identify any unauthorised use of pitches. LMPC will need to monitor as well as possible such occasions.

A new 3year rolling draft contract has been produced, and circulated to relevant parties.

Further to this draft; an extra clause is to be added, indicating that a structured form of designated stewarding will be needed from SFC to reduce the impact of extra games. Extra use and longer sessions will not be allowed without the prior approval of the Sub-Committee of LMPC.

It was further suggested that the current Boules Area be tarmac'd over, and a Basketball net erected - to be discussed.

20. Update on cricket opportunities 2012. LMCC will not be using the square this season on grounds of cost and preparation time. With the loss of LMCC, LMPC will need to make arrangements to have the field cut regularly, and SFC are willing to keep their pitches maintained in between main cuts.

No other cricket clubs have yet been found that are willing to undertake the roll that LMCC provided - they just want to turn up, play and go. If LMPC were to offer such services, substantial funds would be required to keep the square in acceptable condition, and much time spent in pitch preparation, and organising the schedules and the visiting clubs. Information will be sought from senior groundsman of other Councils, for an estimate of work needed.

21. Other Committee Reports:

Rec.Field - Grass cuts will be approx £60 a time, possibly 6 cuts, by 3 or 4 possible candidates. A Cllr may need to be appointed to oversee maintenance of the field. Dog fouling is still a problem - parishioners are needed to advise us if they see incidents happen.

JCH - no report.

Play Area - Report from Cllr Pepperall awaited. The 'No Dogs' sign at The Mews play area has been broken. W/C say no incident with the grass cutters has been reported. New sign to be ordered.

Cemetery - graves to be levelled. Cllr Baker and Clerk are arranging to do an inspection.

Stile Repairs - Quotations still being sought. Several contractors have not been interested in the project.

Highways - Holborn White Gates - W/C report a delivery and installation delay until May.

Grit Bins - We have again asked when W/C are to move The Close bin to Forge Fields.

Lorry Watch - Cllr Pflieger is still receiving and reporting Lorries. Cllr Baker reported that the 'Nolan' lorry is again parking up on the lay by outside of 'Toomers'. Cllr Pflieger advised this is not illegal, as long as the vehicle parks with its lights on.

22. Parish Plan - Mr Craig Scott, Chairman of the Parish Plan Update Steering Group, formally LMPC to accept their findings and recommendations. LMPC formally accepted the plan and thanked the Committee for their hard work, and was pleased to say that volunteers are busy with many of the issues presented. More volunteers will be required to organise the second stage of the Holborn footpath, once Stage 1 is complete.

Mr Bennett, Secretary, presented a report from the Steering Group on the number of School buses, which had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. The recommendation of this report was to seek a meeting with the Headmaster of Braydon Forest School and Ellison's Coaches to:

- a. Present the concerns of the village,
- b. Propose that buses to and from North and West Swindon are routed via Common Platt, the B4553 along the Pry and
- c. Packhorse Lane.
- d. That the number of empty buses is minimised.

The report had also looked at restricting buses through the Parish, but this would require a Traffic Regulation Order, which could take up to a year to obtain and could cost up to £3,000.

Preliminary work has shown that Purton P.C. they may raise strong objections to changes of the bus route.

Retail and Housing working groups have started to meet to pursue plan wishes.

23. Diamond Jubilee and Olympic update -

Mugs - Cllr Pflieger agreed to order Jubilee mugs for Parish children, care to be taken that the correct Queens crown is ordered. The parents will need to register their interest with LMPC, who will present them at an event to be organised.

Trees - It was suggested that some British Black Maple trees be purchased as they are rare and under threat.

This project may need to be delayed to coincide with the purchase of the field and installation of car park.

Grants - £350 had been agreed last month to LMP Hall for their afternoon tea. This event had turned into a coffee morning event, as the Hall was booked for the afternoon.

A further request had been received by the Lunch Club for a grant for a free jubilee lunch open to all. This will be added to the Agenda for next month. In the meantime, it was suggested that they could try for a grant from the Area Board, as Cllr Groom was keen that LMPC should get a share of the available funds. The two members of the Lunch

Club who were at the meeting, were not impressed with this suggestion, and said they would need to confer with other members of their committee. They were under the impression that the Council had £1000 to spend and was offering grants to local groups for their celebrations. Cllr Mowbray offered to work with the Lunch Club on their application.

There was concern amongst some of the Councillors that the £1000 set aside should be spend on the children first, and that there would not be enough for all of the projects.

It was noted that regardless of the £1000 put aside on the precept for celebrations, that local organisations could still apply for a grant from the Council under S137 in the normal way.

Olympic Scarecrows and Open Gardens – Mrs Rapson is kindly organising this event to be held on 24th June 2012, as a great family event with an Olympic theme.

Meeting continues following approval of Cllrs for a further 15 Minutes.

24. Parish Steward Tasks - Pot holes this month, but also ask Parish Steward to clean up the corner of Park Lane, and to look at gates along the bridleway behind Cllr Harris's property (see 8a).

25. Correspondence

Wiltshire Link Scheme named as Community Group of the year 2012.

Review of Polling Stations - Cllr Groom reported that no action is needed.

Wiltshire Diamond Jubilee event - Tuesday 1st May 2012. Medieval theme, local councils showcases. No interest.

Donation request by St John Ambulance - No proposal.

St John Ambulance - letter re purchase of Defibrillator, suggestion of demonstration at one of our meetings - No.

WALC Newsletter - information only.

26. Next meeting: Thursday 3rd May 2012, 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

27. AGM and APM - Thursday 24th May 2012, 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, with speakers and refreshments.

Speakers: Presentations from - Messrs Blackmore & Taylor - head to head for 5-10 minute, Mr. David Poulton, North Wiltshire Area Tree Warden, and Mrs M. Rivers - Shaw FC presentation.

Meeting closed 10.15.

Approved 3.5.12.