

# LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 held at LMPH 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), T Blackmore, D Cobb, S Mowbray, A Pflieger, B Quant, K Thomas.

1. **Apologies for absence** - Cllrs B. Baker, S Burley, M Groom, & A Harris.
2. **Safety Briefing** - given to 16 members of the public and 6 Councillors.
3. **Declarations of Interest** - none.
4. **Minutes of meeting Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012** - were signed as a true copy without amendments.
5. **Police Report** - no report.

6. **Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.** Cllr Groom was unable to attend and had not sent a report. Cllr Pepperall, however, brought her concerns that members of public and councillors should respond to the consultation over the Wiltshire Core Strategy, which will shape planning for the next 8 years. W/C has arranged Rural Workshops in March - the nearest being on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wessex Rooms, Corn Exchange, Devizes, 6.30 for 7pm.

## 7. Parishioner's Question Time.

- a. A resident raised concern about the amount of dog fouling found along the footpath between the cemetery and field. The address of the offending owner note was noted, and details will be given to the W/C Dog Wardens.
- b. It was confirmed that the offer for the field adjacent to The Beeches has been withdrawn.
- c. Concerns were renewed re the sunken edge of the road east of Bagbury Lane. Buses and large vehicles tilt at an alarming angle.
- d. Thanks were given to WC Parish Steward team for clearing the pavement from Greenhill crossroads to Manor Farm. A similar exercise is awaited for the path from the crossroads to Riffs Bar.
- e. Update requested regarding traffic cameras and the Community Speedwatch scheme. Cllr Pflieger is still in consultation with WC, who recommend SIDs where traffic is travelling too fast for the safe use of Speedwatch.
- f. Revd Tudor Roberts addressed the Council regarding the land for sale beside the Parish Hall, which the Church was also very keen to use as a car park. The Church will not compete with LMPC to purchase the land, but hoped that they could be involved in any joint venture with them and the Parish Hall. He had applied for Diocese funding and offered to help fund the purchase on behalf of the Church, or to help with the costs involved in creating a car park, and leasing that area of the land. Any future extension to All Saints Church is dependent on the Church securing parking facilities.
- g. Mr. Merrick asked the Council for help with W/C in resolving the flooding issues on his property. He reported that two cars had gone off road onto his property between the hedge coming down and the fence going up.

## 8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

- a. Cllrs Pflieger and Blackmore have organised a ramble (approx 3.5 miles) for the evening of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April, commencing at 6 p.m. from, and returning to The Sun, for refreshments. All are invited to join in.
- b. Thanks were given to members of the public (some of whom do not even live in the Parish) and Councillors, who turned up for the village Spring Clean. Thanks were given to Cllr Burley, Mr Taylor of The Sun Inn, and Mrs Leckie for organising the event. Approx 20 bin bags, stone, boarding and other items were collected. The Lydiard Magazine and Website will be used to publicly thank those who were involved in the day.

## 9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention – None.

## 10. Report on matters arising from 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 not on the main agenda.

- a. The Bier - the Church have confirmed that they have no responsibility for it. Mr Taylor is very interested in having it on display at the Sun Inn - he is waiting to have it weighed before confirming his interest. Alternatively RWB museum team have expressed interest.
- b. 7d of 2.2.12 - there have been no broken manhole covers reported to date. Cllrs and public can still report any that need replacement to the Chairman or the Clerk.
- c. 11.4 - The resident of 17 Chestnut Springs has acknowledged receipt of the letter requesting that he remove the rest of the fencing. He will be given a further month to comply.
- d. 8f - Road Sweepers in Chestnut Springs. WC sent a long and comprehensive response explaining the way they clean roads and pavements, but the logs on the vans show that the road sweepers did not access Chestnut Springs as reported to the Council.

## 11. Planning Applications

**N/12/00275/FUL** 18 The Street. Replacement dwelling (re-submission of 11/00386/FUL)

**No adverse comments** were raised over the plans for the replacement dwelling. However, many concerns were raised that the comment on the plan, that the party wall issues will be agreed 'on site', is insufficient. It was agreed that the up-grade of the party wall, and the rebuild of the roof of no.17, should be the subject of a condition of approval.

**12/00540/FUL** 38 Stone Lane. Basement/store room for games added, in place of prior use of the roof space. (revision of 11/02637). **No adverse comments.**

**WC Approval.** **N/11/04167/FUL** 23 Chestnut Springs - Front and Rear Extensions.

<b>12. Accounts</b>		(* incl. VAT)	
<b>Expenditure</b>		£'s	
R Leckie	Wages		333.25
R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, Fuel	67.48*	
	Do - Cartridges for Parish Plan	39.48*	106.96*
LMPHall	Hire of Hall		22.00
Enlan Ltd	Groundsman Fee		504.00*
Shaw Football Club	White Lining fee		100.00
Cotswold Tree Surgeons	Hedge Cutting Forge Fields		450.00* - figure to be confirmed.
T Pepperall	Web Hosting Fee	27.95*	
	JCH Keys for Youth Club	37.50*	
	JCH emergency strip lights	7.45*	72.90*
Usual DDs	Chairs broadband & Utilities		

The cheque for Cotswold Tree Surgeons was not written as the invoice had not been received. To be written and signed during the month, if invoice received prior to next meeting.

The above accounts were proposed by Cllr Pflieger, seconded by Cllr Blackmore, and duly approved.

#### **14. Fee increase - Cemetery and JCH - deferred to April.**

#### **15. Holborn Footpath - new proposed lease - update re strip of footpath land.**

The sub-committee had met with Mr Croucher who has offered to lease the necessary strips of land between The Paddocks and the Nine Elms junction, for £500 p.a., for a term of 10 years, with a rent review after 5 years.

Mr Croucher will continue to maintain the hedging, and boundaries, throughout the period. He is happy for the fences to be Post and Wire, instead of Post and Rail, which will be adequate and cheaper.

The Chairman was hopeful that the paths in Phase 1 could be built for less than £2000, with the help of a team of volunteer Community workers. It was resolved that the Parish Council agrees to Mr. Croucher's terms, and that our Solicitor be instructed to draw up the necessary draft agreements for approval by the lessor and ourselves.

#### **16. Purchase of field adjacent to L.M. Parish Hall.**

There was a unanimous wish from Cllrs and parishioners, the School, the Parish Hall, and the Church, that LMPC should purchase this land for the benefit of the Parish. This wish is underpinned by the mandates of the Parish Plan and the P.P. Update. Our original offer of £27,000 was declined, the Estate Agents advising that if the full asking price of £30,000 was offered, then that offer would be accepted, and the land withdrawn from sale.

The Chairman of the Parish Hall was asked if they have any concerns over this proposed purchase. The Hall Committee are concerned about wear and tear of the Parish Hall's car park, which will be used to access the land, but agreed that that should not prevent LMPC from securing the purchase. The terms and conditions over the land use can be confirmed at a later date, together with the Parish Hall and the Church.

Councillors sought assurance that W/C support change of use to car park on the front area. It was agreed that the Chairman seeks W/C opinion, prior to completion of purchase.

WALC had given advice regarding the purchase of the land. We considered their criteria are generally met, but they mentioned that cemetery guidelines are much tighter than when the existing cemetery was commissioned.

No costs had been projected for the proposed car park, and the time-scale can be considered after the land is acquired. The previous offer of a field adjacent to The Beeches for a cemetery and car park has been withdrawn.

It was unanimously approved that LMPC offer the full £30,000 to secure the land, and that a Working Party will need to be set up to discuss any shared purchase or use of the field. Our Solicitor will be instructed act on our behalf.

**17. Youth Club - update.** There has been a mixed number attending, but not always the same young people. W/C will decide later this month whether or not to continue to fund the youth leader. Cllr Cobb, who is a scout and explorer leader, has offered to give advice. We believe we could independently hire a Youth Leader if necessary. An increase in the number of volunteers would be required if we continue without the W/C youth leader, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the group.

**18. Financial Regulations Policy -** a working group, consisting of Cllrs Blackmore, Mowbray, Pepperall, and Thomas, is sanctioned to review this document for approval at the April meeting.

#### **19. Other Committee Reports -**

Rec. Field - will need a weed and feed this year. Cost approx £1500 - quotes to be sought - agreed.

No cricket forecast for this year as they have gone up to the 1<sup>st</sup> division, and the wicket and field are too bumpy.

Also their numbers are very small, and they cannot find enough players for weekend friendly games - they can hire much cheaper than costs & labour here. Grass cutting in the summer will need to be costed - quotes needed.

Cllr Thomas offered to look into the possibility of cricket teams swapping sites for the season. He will talk to Purton Council, which is a potential site for LMCC this year, to see if one of the lower teams could play here instead. SFC have asked if they can train more on the field in the absence of any Cricket. It was agreed that all avenues to secure some summer cricket will be looked at first.

JCH - no report.

Play Area - no issues reported by Cllr Pflieger.

Cemetery - no report.

Stile Repairs/Kissing gate installation - Mr. Bedwell to be asked if his team wish to work on the stile, otherwise Cllr Blackmore has two other companies in mind. Enterprise Works was also mentioned as a possible supplier.

Highways - minutes of the highway sub-committee had been circulated prior to the meeting - these were approved.

Matters arising from the meeting were:

3a. School buses - Mr Bennett - following up with schools, bus companies, and W/C.

3c.SIDS - telephone number to use if un-operational is Clarence 0800232323, or 01225777234 - 8.30-5, M-F, Urgent out of hours service 01722423834. Clarification needed from W/C that traffic is too fast for Speedwatch.

3e - Speed humps have been inspected by W/C, who are not recommending further action at present. Rubber Speed Humps to be considered if W/C will not repair brick humps.

8 - Lower Greenhill drainage - a meeting with Mr Wicks is to be arranged, together with a site visit.

### General

Road Signs around Holborn cleaned - thanks given to Cllr Dean

Washpool - graffiti has been looked at by W/C.

Mr. Merrick's problems at Common Platt also reported to W/C.

Lack of white lines reported by Cllr Baker. The white lines at both ends of Stone Lane are very faint, and a request could be put in for renewal. It is not known if Lydiard Green ever had lines in the middle of the road, nor Holborn - the modern approach seems to be 'Less signs - less paint - more thought'.

Salt - Most bins OK, except the one in Holborn which needs topping up. It was agreed that local Councillors will be responsible for collecting and distributing a bag of salt to be kept 'in case of need' in their area, for urgent use.

Weight limit sign at the Nine Elms junction have been re-fixed.

7.5 ton Sign on corner of Common Platt is partly hidden by the hedge. Land owner to be asked to trim back the hedge, or to allow permission for Parish Steward to work from their garden.

Wiltshire Core Strategy - Councillors urged to read and comment; also to attend the W/C meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **20. Parish Plan Working Groups** - update from 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan.

Retail W.Group to meet on 6<sup>th</sup> March at Sun Inn. Housing WG, 8<sup>th</sup> March, JCH.

Community Area Transport Group (CATG) - neither Chairman or Vice Chairman able to attend on 15<sup>th</sup> March, and Mr J Bennett is authorised, and has agreed to represent us.

Young Peoples WG - currently deferred following start of the Youth Club.

School and bus parking at The Butts - the proposed signage is with W/C to be agreed.

P.Plan Updates to be sent to Community First, W/C, Church, School, and Lydiard Tregoze and Purton Parish Councils.

### **21. Diamond Jubilee and Olympic** - event suggestions.

No quotes for mugs had been sourced and no potential sites for trees had been identified.

Following February Parish Council meeting, the Parish Hall have met and are going to hold a Parish Tea.

Contributions towards this and entertainment (possibly Morris Dancers) roughly estimated at £350, and agreed.

Cllr Blackmore proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded that we set aside £350 to support the Hall in this venture.

### **22. Parish Steward Tasks.** Footpath clearance from Greenhill Crossroads to Riffs Bar; Hedge cut at 7.5 ton sign on corner of Nine Elms junction (part of Swindon BC); ask W/C. if they will restore the finger post at Common Platt.

### **23. Correspondence**

Engaging the Communities Workshop 15<sup>th</sup> March and 26<sup>th</sup> April.

A/B Intelligence Networking meeting, 28<sup>th</sup> March, Cricklade TH, 6.30 - 9pm. interested parties must register interest.

Consultation on Aggregate Minerals from 30.1.12 - 12.3.12

Consultations on Wiltshire Core Strategy from 20.2.12 - 02.4.12

CATG meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm. - Issue sheets need to be filled in.

Best Kept Village Competition - no interest in applying this year.

**Late correspondence** - letter of complaint regarding the way the Chairman has handled complaints regarding SFC received from Mrs Blakey - Councillors had the opportunity to read this during the meeting. Response - LMPC are still trying to arrange a meeting with SFC, when we will be in a better position to respond to her concerns - letter of acknowledgement to be sent meanwhile.

Renewal of rent of Lydiard Plain - agreed to be renewed on same terms as previous year.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012, 7.30pm, LMPHall.** Meeting ended 9.30pm.