

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of 6th September 2012

Present: Cllrs T Pepperall (Chair), T Blackmore, S Burley, M Groom, K Thomas.

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs D Cobb, A Harris, S Mowbray, A Pflieger, B Quant.

2. Safety Briefing given to 13 members of public and 5 Councillors.

3. Declarations of Interest - none.

4. Minutes of meeting Thursday 2nd August 2012 - signed as true copy without alterations.

5. Police Report by CPSOs Andy Singfield & Andrea ?.

a) In the past month there had been 1 burglary and 1 act of criminal damage. However the bigger concern is the number of walk-in thefts that had occurred in the RWB and Purton areas, and the public were warned to be extra careful with car, shed, and home security.

b) Members of the public registered their concerns with the officers about speeding in the area.

c) 'Exchanges' have possibly been witnessed, at Greenhill in one of the lay-bys. Police confirm they also have cause for concern in that area. This prompted other residents to say that they had also witnessed possible 'exchanges', but had not considered what they had seen in that way. Residents to keep an eye out for pairs of drivers in conversation and note time, place and possible registration numbers for collation by police officers.

6. Wiltshire Councillor Report and Questions arising.

a) Cllr Groom reported that from next April, Health and Public Health Protection currently under the NHS control will be taken on by W/C.

b) Consultation over 6 weeks to take place on Community Infrastructure Levy.

c) Concerns raised over the proposed relaxation of Planning and Permitted Development rules.

7. Parishioner's Question Time.

a) There was a long discussion over a garage built on land at 11 Greenhill, and the proposed imminent occupation of the garage as a living accommodation.

Members of Greenhill had written to WC planning and enforcement regarding this, in that it now has French windows where the garage door was. It is said that it shades neighbour's light and is possibly larger than shown on the plans. The residents of Greenhill wanted reassurance from LMPC that when retrospective planning is sought we would object strongly. However, Cllr Burley pointed out that it was unlikely to be put to LMPC.

Discussion also took place over the possibility that up to 18 other residents could in effect build a similar structure to house family members, or even to rent out, and that would completely destroy the area, but may not be illegal.

This development is likely to increase the amount of vehicles parking on the road in Greenhill, and create further hazards to other residents, when, as a garage, it should have helped solve parking issues.

Cllr Groom took details from the residents and will aim to use this as a test case against the current relaxing of the Permitted Development rules.

b) Residents were also concerned about 27 Greenhill, which is thought to have had a demolition order many years ago. The current owners are said to be causing danger and disruption, with their do it themselves approach to the building work. The Planning and Enforcement teams have been informed, together with Environmental Health.

It was thought that the building may have been deemed unfit for use, rather than had a notice of demolition.

W/C appear to have no records of either, and parishioners are seeking written confirmation from older residents and from the archives of LMPC records, if any exist, to fight their case.

c) The Union Jack was reported stolen from the flagpole recently and will need replacing. Anyone with any ideas on how to secure the flag pole in the future to contact Mrs Willies.

d) Mr Wicks asked if any progress has been made over the surface water that runs down Greenhill when it rains. Cllr Burley confirmed that he was still working on it, and needed to visit the site again when it was raining.

He also reported that some hedges are growing out over the road in Greenhill, making it difficult for road users, and that the road is breaking up opposite Blackfords - LMPC to inspect.

8. Councillors' Reports of Parishioners' queries.

a) It was noticed that, during a recent heavy rainstorm, water built up at the bottom of The Mews, due perhaps to a blocked drain, thought to be on Hannick Homes land. Clerk to write and ask for the drain to be cleared.

b) Cllr Groom asked for a better sign at the junction in Chestnut Springs.

c) Weeds in the gutters in The Street and Chestnut Springs need removing.

9. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.

Clerk has received reports that the hedge in Buryfield, at the rear of Church Place, is badly overgrown and causing problems for pedestrians. Clerk to write to the residents concerned to cut back their hedges.

10. Report on matters arising from 2nd August 2012 not on the main agenda.

7.8 Caravan in Greenhill, reported last month, was not found.

8.8 When signs were replaced by W/C, there was a spare 'Lydiard Millicent' sign - no potential site found for it.

11. Planning Applications - none received.

Concerns raised over new Localism Bill legislation.

12. Accounts (*incl. VAT)

Expenditure		£'s
R Leckie	Salary	347.85*
R Leckie	Expenses - Tel, Stationery, Mileage, etc - deferred	
LMPHall	Hire of P/Hall	24.00
Enlan Ltd	Groundsman Fee	504.00*
Stratton St Margaret PC	Grass Cuts	120.00*
Avon Extinguishers	Service of JCH extinguishers	33.78*
J Frost	Floodlight replacements	185.00
Bevirs	Fees for purchase of field	520.00*
SFC	Grass seeding for goal areas	55.00*
Priory Polishes	Clock oil for War Memorial clock	7.50
Income.	Cemetery - £170.	

Accounts proposed by Cllr Groom, seconded by Cllr Blackmore, no objections, and duly approved.

13. Quotes for new Spring Horse. Prices had been found in catalogues; approx. cost of purchase and fitting from £500 upwards. It was agreed the Clerk to ask the two companies to visit and quote.

14. Cllr Training meeting - possible dates had been supplied. It was however agreed not to go ahead with training at present and wait instead until after the elections in May 2013. Clerk to inform Community First and Purton PC.

15. Grass Seeding of Recreation Field - request by SFC had been received in respect of re-seeding of goal areas - it was agreed to recompense them.

Stratton PC is now unable to offer a Weed and Seed of the Recreation Field, as they do not have the capacity.

SCS can be asked to quote, but they would need a field survey prior to any spiking.

When the Chairman investigated such a survey using on-line sites, it appeared that each individual utility company would charge separately for the information. More investigation needed on this matter.

16. Registers of Interest - the clerk had spoken to WC to establish what needed to be put on the web site, and was told Councils whose Councillors had not completed the register of interest would be advised at the end of September. It was thought that most if not all of our Councillors had submitted their interests. The Clerk is to visit the site and confirm if any are still to complete this process. It was agreed that the new NALC revision of Code of Conduct be adopted - clerk to bring to next meeting for approval.

17. Sub-Comm. Chair Reports:

Highways & Footpaths Minutes forwarded by Cllr Cobb were summarised. The Minutes recommended that Enlan be asked to do a weed kill around the new white gates separate to their contract, but that this task is incorporated into their Schedule of Work at the next review of the contract.

A report on SIDS had been received by W/C, who admit their stock does not work as efficiently as they would like, but no change to the equipment was likely in the immediate future.

CATG meeting, Steve Hind's proposal for Stone Lane road calming was approved in principle. Cllr Burley offered to consult with affected residents, before we request the work at the CATG meeting on Sept 13.

White Lining at top and bottom of Stone Lane - Clerk asked to contact Malcolm Beavan of W/C to request new lines.

Rec. Field still being cut every two weeks or so by Stratton P.C.

Residents meeting had taken place, but Chair still trying to negotiate a time and date with SFC who are seeking support from Wilts FA. & the F.Foundation. The R.Field Sub-Committee will meet again prior to meeting SFC.

Jubilee ClubHouse. Water Test - inspection has taken place at the JCH - report awaited.

Mr Frost has replaced the floodlights, and some guttering.

A Play Area fence panel has been repaired and secured by Cllr Pflieger, with the thanks of LMPC.

Cemetery Inspection took place today with Cllr Baker, Clerk and members of Enlan team. The verbal quotation for the work needed was £15 - £20 per grave, but dependent on whether or not grave gravel was needed.

Public Areas - no S/C Chairs report received.

18. Other Committee Reports: Play Area inspection (BB) - not yet received, Rights of Way & Walks - no report.

19. Area Neighbourhood Plan - update on meeting of 4th September with the Area Plan co-ordinator and Broad Town PC representatives. It was agreed that we proceed with a drop-in, a workshop or two, and perhaps a separate questionnaire to be enclosed with the Housing Needs Survey when approved. Also, as many ways to seek public opinion as possible will be sought, through our web site, Facebook page, Lydiards Magazine article, and perhaps a flyer distribution. LMPC and Broad Town PC are first to undertake this new Plan, which will have legislative backing. The Chairman concluded that it had been a very useful evening, though poorly attended by PC and PP. Apart from the 4 reps from Broad Town, only 3 members of LMPC & the P.Plan, and only a handful of residents were present.

20. Parish Plan - update, incl. Jubilee mugs - no report, but only about 12 still remain unsold. Details to follow re LMPSchool & Sun Inn mug presentations.

21. Holborn Footpath Project - update on Legal Agreements. Chairman had spoken to Mr Croucher recently, who has received his document for signature, and will meet us for a further discussion shortly. There is still a need for a Land Registry Compliant plan, but this need not hold up the proceedings further. It was thought that a plan can be purchased on-line for £35 - cost agreed in principle. Cllr Blackmore to investigate.

22. Parish Council Field - update on progress. The Chairman had met with Simon Chambers, who felt the WC options were the best plan. It was agreed to engage Mr Chambers himself, rather than a colleague at a lower hourly rate. It was thought that such costs could be up to £2000, or more, but it was essential to hire professional help. A further meeting with the Parish Hall Committee to be arranged as soon as we have Mr Chambers recommendations. A draft agreement has been offered to the potential tenants, for their approval and completion.

23. The Butts Parking Area - discussion held regarding a free-standing planter installation instead of bollards. We need to agree on a design, and obtain quotes to accompany a licence application to W/C.

24. Greenhill Residents Association & Tel. box - nothing further yet to report.

25. CLARENCE - telephone number for mobiles, 01225 777234 - Clerk to arrange to update web site.

26. Parish Steward tasks.

Grass/weeds on side of the kerbs.

Gulley holes along the side of The Street.

Clean highway signage.

Finish work along The Butts.

27. Correspondence.

Community First AGM - 12th September 5.30p.m. at Devizes

Rural Services newsletter

E-Bulletin & Grow Wiltshire - newsletter

Local Council Tax Support Scheme

Election of Police Commissioner - November 15th.

28. Next meeting, Thursday 4th October 2012, 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.40 pm.