

MINUTES of the Ordinary meeting of Lydiard Millicent Parish Council held on Thursday 3rd December 2020 at 7.00pm. Due to COVID 19 restrictions this meeting was held remotely.

PRESENT : Cllrs Richard Selwood, Mike Sharp, Phil Shepherd, Jim Stubbs.
Officers : Mrs Deborah Bourne (clerk), Mr Colin Tydeman (handyman)

Also Present : Twenty Seven (27) members of the public

074/20 **Election of Chairman**

Cllr Shepherd, as chairman at the previous meeting, resigned his position asking for nominations for a new chairman.

RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Mike Sharp as chairman for this meeting only; and to continue with monthly nominations to the position until May 2021 when a new administration will commence.

075/20 **Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Mike Sharp accepted the office of chairman for this month only.

076/20 **Election of Vice Chairman**

As each Councillor will be accepting the position of chairman for one month at a time, there will be no vice chairman elected.

077/20 **Suspension of Standing Orders**

RESOLVED to suspend this meeting in order for members of the public present to address the Council on matters relating to items on this agenda.

Public Question Time

Various questions were raised by the members of the public present.

078/20 **Recommencement of Standing Orders**

The Chairman called the meeting to order, explaining that members of the public would not be able to speak for the remainder of the meeting although they were welcome to stay and listen to the debate.

It was also announced that because of the great interest in item 12 (Red Telephone Box) this would be discussed directly after Declarations of Interest.

079/20 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Andre Kayani, his reasons for absence were accepted at the last meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Vernon Montgomery; he had been called to his place of work urgently.

080/20 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda.

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Chairman

081/20

Red Telephone Box

It had been reported that some residents are concerned about the Red Telephone Box in The Street.

Cllr Phil Shepherd had given notice of the following motion which he requested be put before the Council:

- i. The books to be removed, and the phone box to be returned to the council in its original state so that the Christmas decorations can be installed.
- ii. The phone box is not to be used for books again because of the difficulty of maintaining it and the potential safety hazard it creates for pedestrians.
- iii. The council to consider a better idea of a book exchange, suggesting the main room at JCH with shelves erected professionally along one wall and to be the subject of agenda item for discussion next month.

Cllr Shepherd explained he was speaking as a Councillor and not as a neighbour of the Red Telephone Box; he is concerned for the safety of residents and the Councils assets.

After discussion at the meeting Cllr Shepherd requested that i and ii above be removed and that a decision relating to iii be deferred. Councillors all agreed to remind residents to keep the kiosk tidy and for users to be considerate to other pedestrians when visiting the library. The chairman also directed the suggestion to members of the public present. Encouraging everyone to be careful when walking around the parish.

RESOLVED to make users aware of the possible dangers around the phone box, asking users to be especially mindful of pedestrian safety while choosing a book, particularly if the door is ajar.

082/20

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED to accept as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th November 2020. Cllr Sharp, as chairman of this meeting was instructed to sign the minutes to confirm this resolution. Due to the meeting being remote the minutes will be signed during the next week.

083/20

Planning Matters

- a. The Council noted recent planning decisions made by Wiltshire Council for properties within the parish since the last meeting.
- b. The following Planning Appeal was considered:

APP/Y3940/W/20/3261179 Wilts Ref: 20/05796/FUL
Brockhurst Farm Stables, Greenhill, Swindon
Erection of Replacement Dwelling (Revised Plans), erection of detached outbuilding and change of use of land to residential.

RESOLVED to send no comment to the Planning Inspector concerning this appeal.

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Chairman

- c. The following planning application was considered:

20/09199/FUL – 85 Chestnut Springs, Lydiard Millicent
Proposed dormer window to front elevation.

RESOLVED to send no comments to the Planning Authority regarding the above application.

084/20 **Suspension of Standing Orders**

RESOLVED to suspend this meeting in order for representatives of the two cricket teams present to address the Council.

Public Session:

Swindon Cricket Club are looking to extend – they have invested effort, expertise and machinery into the ground. Swindon Super Strikers are a new team starting up – unhappy that previously agreed Saturday bookings are now potentially being taken away from them.

085/20 **Recommendation of Standing Orders**

The Chairman called the meeting to order, explaining that members of the public would not be able to speak for the remainder of the meeting although they were welcome to stay and listen to the debate.

086/20 **Cricket Season 2021**

Members, prior to the meeting, received details about use of the cricket square on a Saturday. A new club had approached the council in October 2020 to nominate the Recreation Ground as their home ground with the Wiltshire Cricket League. Subsequently Swindon Cricket Club requested they book every Saturday throughout the next season.

Cllr Selwood gave a brief outline of how the council has arrived at this position; explaining that Swindon Cricket Club had helped with the maintenance of the square after a previous club were unable to continue helping out.

Discussions included:

- Swindon Cricket Club have been lots of help
- Concern that Swindon CC will charge for loaned machinery
- Concern that the new club will not thrive
- Players from new club are within walking distance of LMPC square
- Aware that clerk has tried to find alternative grounds – RWB CC may be able to accommodate?

RESOLVED that Swindon Cricket Club will now have two teams at the Recreation Ground.

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Chairman

087/20 **Parish Noticeboards**
Three Parish Council noticeboards have been purchased. One has been placed on the wall of the Jubilee Club House, one is in the Cemetery, replacing the old rotting one. Minute 089/19 shows authorisation, however there was confusion as to the large noticeboard; some members had assumed it was to be moved from its original position to Parish Hall land. Cllr Sharp advised that the Parish Hall Trustees were happy for the Noticeboard to be positioned on the grassed area in front of the hall.

RESOLVED that the Parish Hall is the new venue for the main noticeboard.

088/20 **Date of Next Meeting**
The next meeting of Lydiard Millicent Parish Council will take place on Thursday 7th January 2021. It will be a virtual meeting, using the zoom platform, commencing at 7.00pm.

089/20 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**
RESOLVED to request that members of the press and public be removed from the meeting to allow for discussion of establishment, property and finance matters; discussion of these matters could be prejudicial by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

090/20 **Staff Matters**
The Clerk was asked to leave the meeting. Staff matters were discussed.

RESOLVED to progress in correspondence.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

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Chairman

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Chairman