

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
27 July 2022
held in the All Saints Church Lydiard Millicent
at 7:00pm

Councillors Present:

Cllr S Westwood (Chairman) Cllr P Cole Cllr C Hacker
Cllr M Allsop (Vice-Chairman) Cllr S Hill-Wheeler Cllr R Selwood Cllr M Sharp

Others in Attendance: Four members of the public and Wiltshire Councillor S Bucknell

Meeting Clerk: Tina Jones

Public Question Time:

- a. A resident asked if the maintenance work at Lydiard Green would be starting soon, as the brambles by the pill box have become very overgrown. Clerk to contact contractors regarding clearance.
- b. A resident asked that as the newly formed footpath group have started work on LMIL38, would they be continuing on a regular basis. Councillor Cole reported that way markers have been put in place but he ran out before he reached Lydiard Green. He has ordered more-Volunteers have started from the Greatfield end of the footpath and they are working their way through to Lydiard Green.
- c. A representative of the Church spoke regarding the Church roof appeal, the Friends of All Saints would like a community member on the panel. The Clerk requested more information for the next agenda.

Three Members of the public left the meeting.

MINUTES

22.53 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors Curtis and Gregory.

22.54 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

No declarations of Interest made, and no requests for dispensations were received.

22.55 Chairman's Announcements

There are two Councillor vacancies and the Council continues to advertise.

22.56 Minutes

Members considered the minutes of the Parish meeting held on 22 June 2022. The minutes of the meetings were ADOPTED as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

22.57 Wiltshire Councillor Update

Members NOTED the update from WC Councillor Bucknell – Main Points:

- PL/2022/00239 - Land East of Restrop Road Lydiard Green. Reports have been requested but not yet submitted.
- PL/2022/00943 – The Claypits, Greenhill. The application was refused, as the application did not meet the requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment.
- Hilldrop Farm – Planning application withdrawn, only family dogs there now, the problem regarding barking is now a public nuisance issue and a log must be kept.
- Regarding planning application delays, some Officers are able to expedite applications, it all depends on the complexity of the applications and their caseloads.
- Councillor Bucknell has spoken with and is to meet with the Swindon Borough Council Councillor who covers Washpool, to discuss the joint road issues.
- Councillor Bucknell was asked if he would contact WC for an update on the land at Lydiard Green.

22.58 Clerk and Handyman Reports

127.21 Painting of Telephone Kiosk

Resolved an amount of up to £100 to cover the cost of the paint, brushes and other cleaning materials purchased by the Council. Clerk to obtain materials. Ongoing

183.21 – Dogs on Playing Field Agreed to revisit the current signage (relating to dogs) and to investigate further how to manage dogs on the playing area. Ongoing
Clerks Report covering all previous requests for action - with current status
28.20 Parish Resilience Plan Clerk to locate the Parish Resilience Plan circa 2007, Plan to be updated. Ongoing
39.21 Office Equipment A budget of £1000 was set to purchase: Office 365, Laptop, Monitor, Full Size Keyboard and Mouse, quote for chair required. Ongoing
PQT – 7 April 2022 - Item A A resident asked if a blind spot mirror could be placed opposite the Greenhill crossroads bus stop, Clerk to contact Wiltshire Council regarding this request.
PQT – 7 April (b) and 22 June 2022 (b) A resident asked if a footpath could be put at Lydiard Green, drivers are impatient, the resident has been nudged by a car and hit on elbow by a car mirror. UPDATE: The creation of a footpath at this location was originally agreed in 10 phases by CATG. Phases 1 -4 were completed in 2017-2018. The Clerk has contacted CATG regarding the instigation of phases 5 – 10, which would connect Lydiard Green to the rest of the village.
280.21 Jubilee Club House - Health and Safety Members resolved to purchase and install a blind spot mirror at a cost of up to £75.00 from the JCH maintenance budget. Ongoing
22.38 Jubilee Club House a. DELEGATED to Clerk to investigate the provision of CCTV, an intruder alarm, the installation of pir sensors in changing rooms, toilets and hallways b. ACCEPTED Quote A for the provision of a safe to store historic and legal documents etc) cost met from General Reserves –received – Members AGREED to close. c. ACCEPTED Quote B, office flooring. Cost met from EMR JCH repairs. completed Members AGREED to close. d. ACCEPT Quote A, (Legionella Assessment recommendations) Update: too hot for loft work at present e. to complete the purchase of the plates, costs met from JCH small equipment renewals budget.- ongoing
22.41 The Mews - RESOLVED: - to instruct Solicitors involved in the process to apply for title absolute for the Recreation Field and to apply to have the address of current titles updated to the Parish Office address Councillor Hill-Wheeler to work with the Clerk to take this forward - to set a budget of a maximum of £350 met from professional fees - Councillors to visit the site, to be arranged, following visit to obtain feedback residents
22.46 Parish Noticeboards RESOLVED to set a budget of £2000 funded by CIL Funds, to relocate and replace noticeboards DELEGATED to Councillor Allsop, the Handyman and Clerk to take forward.
PQT from 22 June - A resident of Greenhill asked if house plans from 17 years ago would be still be held by Wiltshire Council. Clerk to contact WC Councillor Bucknell for advice. Councillor Bucknell and resident contacted – plans located by resident. CLOSED - A resident asked if action had taken place regarding the overhanging branches by bus stop at Bagbury Park. Letters sent - ongoing - A resident raised concerns over the state of the ashes section of the Cemetery, the grass has not been strimmed or mown. The Clerk advised that a complaint had been raised with the Contractor and photographs sent, waiting for comment and action. The Contractor has undertaken the work to tidy the Cemetery, this work has been checked by the Handyman. CLOSED

Handyman's Report – Main Points

- completed redecorating of the office in JCH.
- repair and re-tensioning of the wire fence bordering the footpath at Holborn, a new post is to be installed
- the public footpath at Claypits has been re- established. Stiles at each end to be cleared
- telephone-box at Greenhill cleaned and washed
- a survey of the existing notice board locations and fixtures was undertaken to assist in establishing requirements for updating and took part in discussions for the height restrictor

22.59 Financial Accounts

Members:

- a. APPROVED the expenditure report covering June – July 2022
- b. APPROVED the Income report covering 1 June – 22 July 2022
- c. AUTHORISED the list of outstanding payments
- d. NOTED the 1st Quarter's Income and Expenditure Cost Centre report

22.60 Lydiard Park - Dog Control Orders

Members NOTED the letter received regarding the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) at Lydiard Park relating to dog control in the park. Due to the success of ~~the~~ it Swindon Borough Council is considering renewing the Order

22.61 Jubilee Club House Entrance and Field Access

Members NOTED the report and considered the specialist quote received. After discussion, Members RESOLVED to accept the quote for £2,103 (two thousand, one hundred and three pounds), met from CIL funding.

Members considered the recommendation to replace the missing bollards outside the players entrance. After discussions, Members RESOLVED to install two removable bollards using the remaining funds set aside from CIL funding for the project. Members DELEGATED to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk to complete the project with the agreed specifications. The Clerk was instructed to obtain quotes for a CCTV system for consideration at the next meeting.

22.62 Planning Applications

Members NOTED the following Wiltshire Council Decisions

Application: PL/2022/03659 Address: The Bungalow, Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LD Proposal: Alterations to existing dwelling, including a single storey side extension and flat roofed rear addition. This application was for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed development. This type of application is only to confirm whether or not planning permission is required for the proposed works and therefore no consultations are carried out. WC Decision: Approved	Applicant: Messer's Bird
Application: PL/2022/00943 Address: The Claypitts, Greenhill, SN4 8EH Proposal: A mixed use application for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes and the keeping of horses, with dayrooms; stable and hardstanding ancillary WC Decision: Refused	Applicant: Mr M McDonagh
Application: PL/2021/08660 Address: 3 The Butts, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LR Proposal: Proposed Annex over existing garage WC Decision: Refused	Applicant: Mr S Bennett
Application: PL/2022/02984 Address: 7 Chestnut Springs, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3NA Proposal: Rear kitchen, bedroom extension, front porch enclosure WC Decision: Approved with conditions	Applicant: Mr C James

Members CONSIDERED the following applications:

Application PL/2022/04837	Address: The Old Rectory, Church Place, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LS Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area Applicant: D Cole
Proposal: Fell 2 dying Ash trees, Fell 1 Irish Yew	

Members RESOLVED to make COMMENT only for the following reasons: The application contains insufficient information to allow the group to properly comment. The application appears to be contradictory, in that the ash trees are referred to as “dying”, however the applicant states that the trees are not diseased. There are no valid reasons given for felling the Irish Yew (the only reason given is that it is unsightly), and as these are slow-growing, historic trees that are typically a favourite with local wildlife, the application to remove this to support more ornamental trees does not seem particularly environmentally friendly.

Application PL/2022/04801	Full Planning Permission Applicant: J Buckland	Address: 8a Greenhill, SN4 8EH
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Proposal: Proposed wooden clad single storey building to serve as a farriers forge and workshop to provide space for the applicant's study and a place to provide further education to other farrier apprentices. Change of use of the yard area (that has been in existence as a yard, but has recently been hard-cored as a parking area by the applicant) to a general purpose car parking area both for his private use and for visitors to the workshop building.

Members RESOLVED to OBJECT and REQUESTED Call in – by WC Councillor Bucknell – for the following reasons:

- The application requires a change of use from agricultural to industrial, sits in open countryside and will have a detrimental effect on neighbouring properties. The change of use is contrary to Wiltshire Core Policies 1, 2, 51 and 57. The application site is on the periphery of Greenhill, a hamlet in Lydiard Millicent, a small village, and does not sit within the areas defined for employment in the Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood plan. It does not support the “existing character and form of the settlement”, will have a detrimental effect on the landscape and has no regard to compatibility of adjoining buildings and uses, or the amenities of existing occupants.
- The application fails to meet the criteria for Wiltshire Core Policy 34, as referred to in the application, because it would adversely affect nearby buildings, have a detrimental effect on the character of the settlement and the local infrastructure would struggle to support it.
- The location and close proximity of the proposed site to the neighbouring properties, which it fronts onto, would result in an unacceptable degradation of residential amenity in terms of noise, emission, vibrations. This is contrary to paragraph 174 of the NPPF which states development should not contribute to “unacceptable levels of...air or noise pollution” and paragraph 185 which stresses the need to preserve and protect “tranquil areas which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise” and to take account of the impact on “health and the quality of life”. The potential negative impact on the residents’ quality of life outweighs any benefit which would attach to the development (which could be better accommodated elsewhere).
- It is not clear which use class the application would fall into and this should, if possible, be clarified, however the applicant refers to a change of use to category B2 General Industrial, which is for uses that would not typically be allowed in a residential area. This in itself indicates that this is not suitable for an area that is entirely residential, but also raises concerns about the likelihood of further applications of this type in the area if this was approved, which would negatively impact the entire hamlet.
- Whilst the Council applauds the applicant’s desire to develop his business and wants to support local businesses, this location is unsuitable for the proposed application. We request that the hardstanding and car park that has been implemented without planning permission is restored to a paddock. We hope that the applicant finds a more suitable alternative in the near future.
- The application refers to the area impacted as a “yard area”, however it is a field that was previously used as a paddock for donkeys and horses. The planning application also states that the “yard area” currently has parking for 5 vehicles, meaning that the applicant has changed the use of the field from a paddock to a car park without obtaining planning permission.
- The planning statement says that forge will be used as a private workshop and for training purposes, for the owner to study for a degree, and to train apprentices. It states that it is

unlikely to generate much additional traffic, and any additional traffic will be during the day when the lane is at its quietest as the residents are at work. In fact, the majority of residents are retired or work from home, and with three working farms on the lane and the increase in deliveries from suppliers such as Amazon, the road is at its busiest during working hours.

- The total size of the building is 67.27m² (equivalent to approximately 5.5 x 12m, or the size of a small bungalow) and consists of a workshop area plus kitchen and toilet facilities.
- The planning application states that the ground was previously pressed earth. It was grass and was used as a field for donkeys by the previous residents. The following picture is a view from Google Earth from 2021, superimposed with the approximate size of the hardstanding based on the plans, along with the potential size of the development and the house numbers.

22.63 **Footpaths**

Members NOTED the report from Councillor Cole, Main Points were:

- The Footpath Coordinator has made an excellent start, and has already organised the clearance of a number of ROWs.
- The first path to be cleared was LMIL100 (part of route from Stone Lane to Washpool).
- The Coordinator has written an article for the Lydiards Magazine, she also asks for any interested parties to contact her for future projects.
- Paths cleared to date: LMIL100/123, Stone Lane to Nine Elms, LMIL80, Meadow Springs to Holborn, with additional general clearing around stiles and gates within the area of the village.
- Planned work: LMIL38 Lydiard Green to Greatfield, LMIL50 The Butts and stile opposite Lydiard House, LMIL70 Forge Fields onwards SSE and LMIL37, clear stiles at Lydiard Green and Greatfield ends.
- The Lydiard Millicent Volunteers Group will remain an independent, autonomous group dedicated to the upkeep and improvement of ROWs in the parish. They will continue to manage their own work load and decide what to do and when. They remain responsible for their own safety, training where necessary and generic risk assessments. A training session on stile construction and repair is being arranged with the North Wilts Rights of Way Officer and LM volunteers. This will ensure that future repairs and replacements will conform to relevant national standards.
- Contact established with the volunteer coordinator in Great Bedwyn, where a group has been established for some years. The LM Coordinator proposes to liaise with them to selectively introduce any best practice elements that may be appropriate as time progresses.

Members thanked the Coordinator and volunteers for the time and hard work they have put in to get this project up and running.

Following discussion, Members AGREED to insert a dedicated page on the Council website to show work completed, work planned and to ask parishioners to advise the Group of any footpath problems.

Members AGREED there was no requirement to hold a list of landowners, preferring landowners to be contacted, as and when as issues arises.

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, WC Councillor Bucknell, advised that the Environmental Forum Group, that the Area Board would welcome grant applications from the Group, especially when they are looking at changing existing accesses for those with mobility issues, to provide access for all.

22.64 **Councillor Surgeries**

Members considered holding monthly surgeries, after discussion, it was AGREED not to hold them, but to hold two 'Meet the Councillors' events in Spring and November. WC Councillor Bucknell to attend. Format for November inclusion to be discussed at next meeting.

22.65 **Parish Newsletter**

Members considered distributing a newsletter with the delivery of the Jubilee coins. Members AGREED the proposal to produce a newsletter and that, dependent on its success, two newsletters may be produced a year. Councillor Allsop to co-ordinate input, with Councillors Hill-Wheeler and Westwood assisting the process. Those Councillors present were asked to give feed back on content within 24 hours. Draft newsletter to be considered at the next meeting.

22.66 **Training**

Members APPROVED website training for three Councillors at a cost of £100 (one hundred pounds) met from the Training Budget.

22.67 **Office Equipment**

Members considered the request and RESOLVED to purchase an office cupboard at cost of £344 (three hundred and forty-four pounds) met for the office equipment budget.

22.68 **Council and Community Representatives** - Members RECEIVED the following updates

Area Board (Cllr Westwood) - Nothing to report.
Local Highway & Footway Improvement Groups (Cllrs Curtis/Gregory) - No report provided.
Community Carers Group (Cllr Hacker) The Carers booklet has been completed, looking at ways to supply to communities
Community Safety Forum (Cllr Sharp) – Next meeting 2 nd week of August
Environmental Forum (Cllr Gregory) – No report provided. During a Suspension of Standing Orders, WC Cllr Bucknell reported that an online meeting had taken place and the next one was in September and would be online too. WC Cllr Bucknell agree to notify the Clerk to ensure that the Council is represented. One of the focuses of the group is Access to the Countryside. Cllr Cole to discuss the possible attendance of the Footpath Co-ordinator.
Neighbourhood Watch (Cllr Sharp) – Nothing to report
Parish Hall (Cllr Allsop) – AGM two weeks ago, the Wi-Fi is popular with users following its free installation by Gigaclear. The Treasurer is stepping down at the next AGM but will remain Bookings Secretary if required
Speed Indication Devices (SID) (Cllr Sharp) - SID moved from Greatfield to Washpool 30 vehicles doing 36-40mph in 30 mph area
Speedwatch and Lorry Watch (Cllr Sharp) – Nothing happening, nowhere to report to
Website (Cllr Curtis) - No report provided

22.69 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Members RESOLVED – That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items in Part 2 of the Agenda, due to the confidential information nature under the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960.

WC Councillor Bucknell and one Member of the Public left the meeting

22.70 **Parish Meetings**

Following discussion, Members RESOLVED to make a payment of £28.00 per session to the Parish Church for use of its facilities for meetings.

22.71 **H & S Consultants**

Members NOTED the Health and Safety agreement is in place until July 2023 and the access issues to the website and content. Following discussion, Members AGREED for the Clerk to discuss the issues with the company and report back at the next meeting.

22.72 **HR Consultants**

Members NOTED the information received from the Consultants, and following discussions AGREED not to take forward.

22.73 **Land Issues**

Members NOTED the Solicitors response and actions.

Meeting Closed at 9.00pm