

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
5 February 2026
held at the Jubilee Club House, Lydiard Millicent
at 19:00 hrs

Councillors Present:

S Westwood, Chairman L Bamsey D Coffey S Hill-Wheeler
M Allsop, Vice Chairman J Neighbour R Selwood J Sprules

Others in Attendance: 4 members of the public and Wiltshire Councillor Andrew Matthews

Meeting Clerk: Hayley Graham

Public Question Time:

- A resident saw a Facebook post from Purton Parish Council regarding road closures in Common Platt, for 3 weeks from 23 February and asked what works were being carried out. The Clerk confirmed the closure was to carry out pedestrian safety improvements delivered as part of the Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) substantive scheme but have been delayed. The revised date will be shared once confirmed.
- A resident highlighted that the Parish Hall car park has recently been closed before 9am, resulting in those parking for school causing congestion and safety issues by having to park elsewhere in the area. It was suggested that the Parish Council should mandate that the car park is open for school traffic, but the Chairman clarified that the car park is private land and as such, the Parish Council has no authority to do so. Councillor Neighbour who represents the Parish Hall advised that solutions to address the conflict between the need for school parking and provide parking for hall hirers are being explored and he would report back to Council in due course.
- A resident asked if the Community Speed Watch initiative was still in effect. The Chairman advised that it isn't due to those who co-ordinated the group no longer being on the Council. Councillor Neighbour agreed to take the action to investigate the possibility of starting the initiative again.
- A resident highlighted that the weight restriction signage for Lydiard Green at the Greenhill crossroads is faded and barely visible. The Clerk will raise this with Wiltshire Council.
- A resident asked if there is currently a community litter picking group. The Chairman confirmed there isn't but suggested an ask for volunteers would be considered for inclusion in the next Parish Council newsletter in the spring.
- A resident advised that a dog walker in Greenhill is collecting their dog waste in yellow bags and leaving it in a hedge.
- A resident wanted to highlight that a streetcleaner had visited Greatfield some months ago and had done a substandard job. The Clerk will contact the resident for further information.
- A resident asked for an update for the land at Greensend where the partially built dwellings have recently been demolished. The Chairman confirmed they were demolished in accordance with a Wiltshire Council enforcement notice and that no further information was known.

Councillor Question Time:

There were no Councillor questions.

MINUTES

25.166 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were RECEIVED from Councillor Roberts.

The request from Councillor Cole for a further leave of absence was withdrawn.

25.167 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

The following declaration of interests were made:

Name	Min Ref	Type	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr Neighbour	25.172b	Non-Pecuniary	PL/2025/00542 – application made by a friend	Did not take part in discussions and did not vote

Cllr Neighbour	25.172c	Non-Pecuniary	PL/2025/00588 – application made by a friend	Did not take part in discussions and did not vote
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No dispensation requests were received.

25.168 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Parish Council currently has one vacancy and anyone considering becoming a Councillor is encouraged to apply.

The community emergency awareness training in January was attended by 14 members of the community, and the feedback was that the session was very useful. The Council will consider hosting the training annually and advertising earlier in future.

25.169 **Minutes**

Members CONSIDERED the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 8 January 2026. The minutes of the meeting were ADOPTED as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

25.170 **Wiltshire Councillor Update**

Wiltshire Councillor Matthews advised that Wiltshire Council have renegotiated with Hills and so, the Household recycling centre at Purton will remain open for a further 3 years with the possibility of a further years' extension, whilst Wiltshire Council explore options for a new facility.

A new Lidl opened in Royal Wootton Bassett today. The proposed BMW dealership at J16 is awaiting determination, and the proposal for a new motorway rest area will be considered by Wiltshire Council's strategic planning committee on 10 February.

25.171 **Financial Accounts**

- a. Members NOTED the Payments List reference "Finance Report 5 February 2026 – Expenditure" attached as Appendix 6a in the amount of £7,336.66 (ex. VAT).
- b. Members APPROVED payments reference "Finance Report 5 February 2026 – Payments for Approval" attached as Appendix 6a in the amount of £132.90 (ex. VAT).
- c. Members NOTED the Income Report to 31 December 2025 reference "Finance Report 5 February 2026 – Income Summary" attached as Appendix 6a in the amount of £96,514.45.
- d. Members APPROVED the Cash and Investment Reconciliation statement for the Unity Trust Bank as at 31 December 2025 with a closing balance of £25,559.39.
- e. Members APPROVED the Bank Statement for the Unity Trust Bank as at 31 December 2025 with a closing balance of £25,559.39.
- f. Members APPROVED the Cash and Investment Reconciliation statement for the Public Sector Deposit Fund as at 31 December 2025 with a closing balance of £72,001.12.
- g. Members APPROVED the Statement of Account for the Public Sector Deposit fund as at 31 December 2025 with a closing balance of £72,001.12.
- h. Members APPROVED the Cash and Investment Reconciliation statement for the Lloyds Charge Card as at 31 December 2025 with a closing balance of £0.00.
- i. Members APPROVED the Charge Card statement for the Lloyds Charge Card as at 26 November 2025 with a closing balance of £277.65.
- j. Members APPROVED the following changes to the regular payments list:
 - change JCH water supply from Castle Water to Everflow
 - include a bi-annual bank payment of £36.00 to DM Payroll Services for pension administration
 - increase the monthly direct debit to Microshade for hosting fees to £219.38.
- k. Members NOTED the completion of the 3rd quarter bank reconciliations verification by Councillors Hill-Wheeler and Selwood.
- l. Members NOTED the 3rd quarter income and expenditure summary and detailed reports as at 31 December 2025.

- m. Members NOTED the 3rd quarter ear marked reserves balances as at 31 December 2025.

Planning Applications

Members RECEIVED a report from Planning Group A.

25.172a	Application: PL/2024/10741 – Full Planning Permission Address: Toomers Garden Centre, Stone Lane, SN5 3LD Proposal: Retrospective change of use of agricultural to storage and distribution (B8) and dog training / agility field (Sui Generis)	Applicant: Mr J Toomer Closing Date: 9 February
	Members RESOLVED to make NO COMMENT	

25.172b	Application: PL/2025/00542 – Consent under a Tree Preservation Order Address: Manor House, Church Place, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LS Proposal: T1 White May - Fell to ground level. T2 Acer - Crown reduction of up to 30–35%, biased towards the side placing tension on the existing cable bracing system. T3 Lime - Crown reduction of up to 40 % to rebalance the canopy. T4 Horse Chestnut - Re pollarding in line with previous management.	Applicant: Mr Trowbridge Closing Date: 19 January
	Members RESOLVED to COMMENT on the application to request that the Tree Protection Officer is satisfied with the need to fell trees.	

25.172c	Application: PL/2025/00588 – Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area Address: Manor House, Church Place, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LS Proposal: T5 Goat Willow - Fell to ground level with stump treatment to prevent regrowth. T6 Liquid Amber - Carefully lift and relocate the tree within the garden using appropriate machinery, with immediate replanting in a suitable new position. T7 Yew - Fell to ground level. T8 Yew - Crown reduction of up to 40%.	Applicant: Mr Trowbridge Closing Date: 19 February
	Members RESOLVED to COMMENT on the application to request that the Tree Protection Officer is satisfied with the need to fell trees.	

Members NOTED the following Wiltshire Council decisions:

25.172d	Application: PL/2025/09156 – Householder Planning Permission Address: 17 Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LD Proposal: Single-storey rear extension, front porch, installation of rooflights, and erection of detached outbuilding	Applicant: Miss Theobald WC Approved with Conditions
25.172e	Application: PL/2025/08765 – Householder Planning Permission Address: 13 The Beeches, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LT Proposal: Extend house to include a side extension, and 1st floor. (resubmission of PL/2025/03078)	Applicant: Mr & Mrs Dubey WC Refused
25.172f	Application: PL/2025/09044 – Permission in Principle Address: Woodside End Stables, Greenhill, SN4 8EH Proposal: Erection of 1No new dwelling in lieu of existing stables and welfare facilities	Applicant: Mr & Mrs McCormack WC Refused

Clerk's Report

- 25.173a Members NOTED the report and RESOLVED to close the following items:
25.156m – Financial Accounts (tree works at Recreation Field)
25.162b – Closure of Purton Household Recycling Centre
- 25.173b In relation to 23.204 Footpath Working Group (Lydiard Green), Members RESOLVED to give delegated authority to the Clerk and Footpath Working Group to purchase up to four trees, up to a maximum budget of £717.00 to be met from the ear marked reserve for footpaths.
- 25.174 **Communications**
Members NOTED the communications and in relation to “Help Strengthen Wiltshire Communities with Digital Wiltshire”, AGREED that the Clerk should share the information and reporting mechanism on the Council's Facebook page.

25.175 **2026/2027 Meeting Dates**

Members RESOLVED to set the following meeting dates for 2026/2027

Meeting	Date
Annual Meeting of the Council and May Parish Meeting combined	Thurs 7 May 2026
Annual Parish Meeting	Thurs 21 May 2026
June Parish Meeting	Thurs 4 June 2026
July Parish Meeting	Thurs 2 July 2026
September Parish Meeting	Thurs 3 Sept 2026
October Parish Meeting	Thurs 1 Oct 2026
November Parish Meeting	Thurs 5 Nov 2026
December Parish Meeting	Thurs 3 Dec 2026
January Parish Meeting	Thurs 14 Jan 2027
February Parish Meeting	Thurs 4 Feb 2027
March Parish Meeting	Thurs 4 Mar 2027
April Parish Meeting	Thurs 1 Apr 2027

Spring Newsletter

25.176a Members NOTED the report. Members RESOLVED to include the following content with volunteers for drafting the content assigned:

Neighbourhood Plan update	Cllr Allsop
Precept update	Cllr Hill-Wheeler
Community field	Clerk
JCH hire information	Clerk
Dates of 2026/2027 meetings	Clerk
Annual Parish Meeting	Clerk
LHFIG update	Cllr Allsop
Flooding update	Cllr Westwood / Clerk
Community Directory	Cllr Hill-Wheeler
Speed indicator device solar upgrade	Cllr Westwood
Parish hall events	Cllr Neighbour
Wiltshire Councillor interview	Clerk
Play area	Cllr Selwood

Newsletter needs to be ready for print by the end of March.

Cllrs Bamsey, Coffey, Selwood, Sprules and the Clerk volunteered to assist with distribution, and Cllr Allsop will seek support from volunteers who distribute for the Parish Hall.

25.176b Members AGREED to defer the decision on print options and cost until the next meeting pending further investigations.

25.177 **Lydiard Green Registration**

Members NOTED the official copy of the register of title and title plan for Lydiard Green.

25.178 **Holborn Bicycle Trough**

Members NOTED the report and RESOLVED to install a bicycle trough on the steps at Holborn, subject to confirmation from Wiltshire Council that no planning obligations are to be met. The maximum budget is £206.75 (two hundred and six pounds, 75p) (ex. VAT) and will be met from:

£200.00 from the street furniture budget line

£6.75 from the equipment and repairs budget line.

Defibrillator at Common Platt

25.179a Members NOTED the report. Standing Orders were SUSPENDED for public comment on

25.179b defibrillator battery capacity and were REINSTATED before Members discussed further.

Members discussed concerns around the risk to the availability of the defibrillator in

25.179c sub-zero temperatures and the vast difference in cost between insulated cabinets and a solar and wind powered cabinet. After discussions, Members AGREED to defer the decision on which option should be taken forward, pending further investigation.

25.179d Members RESOLVED to give the Clerk the authority to make a grant application to the Hills Landfill Community Fund on its behalf, acknowledging that 10% of any grant awarded would be payable to the landfill operator as a Contributing Third Party payment.

25.180 **Lydiard Plain Tenancy**

Members NOTED the report and CONSIDERED both agreement options. After discussions, Members RESOLVED to proceed with a grazing licence, accepting the quote from agent 1 at a cost of £200.00 (two-hundred pounds) (ex. VAT) and to reserve the right to review rental fees on an annual basis. Costs to be met from:
£192.00 – Lydiard Plain professional fees budget line
£8.00 – General Reserves.

25.181 **Community Governance Review Response**

Members NOTED the formal response of the Council sent to the Community Governance Review Committee.

25.182 **Council and Community Representatives**

Members RECEIVED the following updates:

Area Board – Councillor Allsop

An extraordinary meeting of the Area Board took place on 20 January for residents to raise their concerns around the proposed closure of the Household Recycling Centre in Purton. The next meeting will take place on 4 March.

Community Carers Group – Councillor Hill-Wheeler

A representative from the Alzheimer's Society did a talk at the last meeting in January. A Techie Tea Party is taking place on 2 March in Cricklade.

Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group – Vacant

Next meeting will take place on 11 February which Councillor Hill-Wheeler will attend.

Parish Hall – Councillor Neighbour

Events coming up are: 21 March – Murder Mystery, 28 March – Bingo and 18 April – Wine Tasting. The date of the village fete has been changed to Saturday 4 July. There are plans for a Christmas lights switch on event on 5 December. There will be changes to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Hall trustees in the near future.

Speed Indication Devices (SID) – Councillors Coffey and Neighbour

Data from the SID at Stone Lane recorded:

Towards Common Platt – av. speed 32.52mph, max. speed 79mph

Towards Lydiard Millicent – av. speed 33.93mph, max. speed 89mph

Data from the SID at Common Platt recorded:

Towards Stone Lane – av. speed 27.10mph, max speed 54mph

Towards The Elms – av. speed 26.45mph, max. speed 52mph

Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Allsop

Last meeting held on 14 January, next meeting will take place on 18 February at which key views, green spaces and non-designated heritage assets will be reviewed.

25.183 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

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

4 members of the public and Wiltshire Councillor Andrew Matthews left the meeting.

25.184 **Land Matters**
Members NOTED the Order.

Meeting Closed at 20.35hrs