

**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING  
15 September 2025  
held at the Parish Hall, Lydiard Millicent  
at 18:30 hrs**

**Councillors Present:**

M Allsop, Vice Chairman   S Hill-Wheeler   J Neighbour   R Selwood   J Sprules

**Others in Attendance:** 27 members of the public and Wiltshire Councillor Andrew Matthews

**Meeting Clerk:** Hayley Graham

**Public Question Time:**

A resident asked Councillors to introduce themselves which they duly did.

Wiltshire Councillor Andrew Matthews introduced himself, explained the planning process in detail including Section 106 (S106) agreements and took questions from members of the public.

A resident asked why the meeting wasn't publicised more. Wiltshire Councillor Matthews explained that the meeting was called with urgency as the determination date for the application had been set for Friday 19 September and that time did not permit more extensive publicity.

A resident asked what the outcome would be if an S106 agreement was not determined. Wiltshire Councillor Matthews advised that should the application be approved, the Parish could receive up to 56 houses without any provisions to offset any harm the development may cause. He clarified that putting forward considerations for an S106 does not demonstrate a willingness to negotiate, but an aim to achieve the best possible outcome for the community. Without input from the community, an S106 could provide provisions that are neither needed nor welcome.

A resident asked when items for consideration within an S106 agreement are put forward, if there is an opportunity to restate objections. Wiltshire Councillor Matthews confirmed that the Parish Council will later be discussing adding further information that has come to light since its original objection was submitted as a further representation on the Wiltshire Council planning portal.

A resident highlighted that as part of an S106 agreement, a developer can be requested to provide land or provide funds for the Parish Council to secure land to increase the buffer between Lydiard Millicent and West Swindon and this may be an item for the Parish Council to consider putting forward.

A resident raised concerns around the volume of parked cars around Meadow Springs when football / cricket teams are using the Recreation Field and the danger it poses to other road vehicles and pedestrians. Traffic calming measures to mitigate the risk should be considered.

A resident was concerned that many residents have written representations but feel that they are not read. Wiltshire Councillor Matthews confirmed all representations are read by the planning officer but stressed that planning is a very technical matter and that not all representations will offer technical reasons as to why an application should be refused.

A resident asked Wiltshire Councillor Matthews to detail his position in the planning process. He explained that after election, he made the decision not to become a member of a planning committee in order to be able to make representations on behalf of communities. He clarified that at a planning committee, 3 parties in support of an application can each speak for 3 minutes, 3 parties against an application can each speak for 3 minutes, a Parish Council Member can speak for 4 minutes, and thereafter he can speak for an unlimited duration.

A resident asked if they were to make further representations on the planning portal, which are the key points that would be most likely to result in the application being refused. Wiltshire Councillor Matthews suggested they could be:

- road safety in the close vicinity of the proposed site,
- the infringement on the local gap in line with Lydiard Millicent's Neighbourhood Plan policy LM3

- flooding concerns
- Lydiard Millicent's designation as a "small village" in Wiltshire Council's Local Plan requires development to be limited to infill only.

A resident highlighted that at the proposed access point to the development, there is a dropped kerb to their property's egress along with a bridlepath, and access here would pose a hazard to road and bridleway users. Residents were encouraged to make any further representations straight after the meeting.

A resident highlighted that the current proposal makes no provision to maximise privacy for any affected existing dwellings.

A resident stressed the importance of addressing the ineffectiveness of the roundabout at the junction of The Street and Chestnut Springs which causes near-misses frequently, and higher volumes of traffic turning at this roundabout increases the risk of an accident.

A resident highlighted that extensive flooding at Badgers Brook and Holborn is a known issue and that the current plans do not go far enough to mitigate the increased risk this development would present.

The Vice-Chairman informed those present that suggestions for S106 consideration from other residents and community groups included:

- Construction of a footpath from Holborn to link with existing infrastructure in West Swindon
- No requirement for an additional play park but funding for an extension of the existing play park to provide additional facilities for older children would be a viable alternative
- Construction of a footpath behind the wall at Church Place to ensure safe travel for increased volume of pedestrians accessing the Parish Hall, School and Pre-School.
- A provision for increased speed awareness technology around Church Place / The Butts.

Residents present agreed that additional street lighting would not be welcomed.

Other resident suggestions for S106 considerations were:

- introducing more shelters at bus stops around the parish
- increased accessibility at bus stops for those with limited mobility
- funding to increase the size of the car park at the Recreation Field
- a responsibility to implement storm sewers and a retention tank to hold overspill.

**Councillor Question Time:** There were no Councillor questions.

## MINUTES

### 25.89 Chairman of the Meeting

In the absence of the Chairman Councillor Westwood, the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Allsop presided over the meeting.

### 25.90 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were RECEIVED from Councillors Bamsey, Chalker, Coffey, Roberts, and Westwood.

### 25.91 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

| Name           | Min Ref | Type          | Nature of Interest                                         | Action                                    |
|----------------|---------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Cllr Neighbour |         | Non-Pecuniary | PL/2025/03211 – Planning application for neighbouring land | Took part in discussions but did not vote |

No dispensation requests were received.

### 25.92 Planning Applications

Members CONSIDERED the discussions had in public question time and after further discussions:

|                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Application: PL/2025/03211 – Outline planning permission – some matters reserved |
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Address: Land off Meadow Springs, Lydiard Millicent    Applicant: Greatworth Property Mgrs Ltd  
Proposal: Outline planning application with all matters reserved except access for residential development to provide up to 56 dwellings, public open space, and associated access, drainage and landscaping works

Members RESOLVED to make a further representation on the application to include:

- Housing density
- Impact on the safety of users of the adjacent bridleway
- Egress of property adjacent to the site access posing a risk to road users and users of the bridleway
- Lack of privacy provision for existing dwellings
- Insufficient mitigation of flooding issues to neighbouring land / property
- Ineffectiveness of the roundabout from the main highway onto Chestnut Springs and the increase risk to road users with higher volumes of traffic
- Section 106 items to be considered of:
  - Construction of a footpath from Holborn to link with existing infrastructure in West Swindon
  - No requirement for an additional play park but funding for an extension of the existing play park to provide additional facilities for older children would be a viable alternative
  - Construction of a footpath behind the wall at Church Place to ensure safe travel for increased volume of pedestrians accessing the Parish Hall, School and Pre-School.
  - A provision for increased speed awareness technology around Church Place / The Butts
  - Traffic calming measures and a speed reduction of 20mph along Meadow Springs
  - That adequate green space should be allocated either onsite or offsite to maintain the integrity of the village and its demarcation from Swindon and to preserve its open countryside characteristics.

Meeting Closed at 21.00 hrs