

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

3 August 2023

held in the All Saints Church, Lydiard Millicent
at 19:00 hrs

Councillors Present:

Cllr S Westwood, Chairman	Cllr S Chalker	Cllr D Coffey	Cllr C Hacker
Cllr M Allsop, Vice Chairman	Cllr S Hill-Wheeler	Cllr M Sharp	Cllr M Suleman

Others in Attendance: 9 members of the public, Colin Tydeman (Parish Handyman) and Wiltshire Councillor Bucknell

Meeting Clerk: Tina Jones

Public and Councillor Question Time:

- A resident in reference to Planning Application PL/2023/005939 advised that the property comprises of house numbers 2 and 3 Greatfield.
- A resident advised that although it is outside Lydiard Millicent boundaries, hedges have been removed, an unauthorised fence erected, a driveway constructed and groundworks have been started in the field next to the Bolingbroke Arms. Wiltshire Councillor Bucknell to contact Wiltshire Council Enforcement.
- Residents asked for information relating to a possible planning application for houses off of Stone Lane. The Chairman advised that a planning consultant was attending the 7th September Parish meeting to present the concept of the development. Residents are invited to attend. The residents of Stone Lane raised many concerns including speeding traffic. Councillor Sharp gave an explanation on the current status and functions of the Speed Indicator Devices and Speedwatch. The residents present were invited to join the Speedwatch team of volunteers. The Chairman added that there is still a Councillor vacancy, if anyone would like to step forward.
- A Resident asked for an update on the Community Field project. Councillor Allsop reported that the owners of land either side, have in principle given access permission for the footpath. The Council is currently focusing on the repairs to the fence.

MINUTES

23.46 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Selwood.

23.47 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensations received.

23.48 Chairman's Announcements

- The Council has one vacancy, if anyone is interested to contact the Clerk.
- The new Play Area is complete and fully open
- Following the recent spat of antisocial behaviour at the Jubilee Club House and Recreation Field, the Community Policing Team are regularly patrolling the area
- A wasp's nest has been reported in the Cemetery, and will be dealt with as soon as possible

23.49 Minutes

Members considered the minutes of the Parish meeting held on 29 June 2023. The minutes of the meetings were ADOPTED as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23.50 Co-option of a New Councillor

Members considered an application from Mrs Deborah Coffey. The matter was put to the vote and Members unanimously RESOLVED that Deborah Coffey be co-opted onto the Parish Council with immediate effect. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by the newly elected Councillor and witnessed by the Clerk. Councillor Coffey accepted the Council Code of Conduct, and the Chairman invited her to join the meeting.

23.51 Wiltshire Councillor Update

Members NOTED a report from Councillor Bucknell – Main Points:

- He had voted against his party on the Local Plan. He explained the possible planning applications for Royal Wootton Bassett and Lydiard Tregoze. Lydiard Tregoze has a current

population of circa 560, this could increase to over 2000, and the effects this would have on the area, for traffic, facilities and parish management.

- There was no update on either the Restrop Road planning application or on the enforcement case on the adjacent site.
- He is working on issues relating to parking on The Street (relating to the Car Sales Garage), School transport and street lighting, which is not switching off.
- Hedges – he advised that planning permission is required to remove any hedges, if anyone sees any such activity to contact him.

23.52 **Financial Accounts** – Members:

- a. NOTED the report regarding Old Cheques - In 2021, uncashed Cemetery cheques were discovered totalling £5,155. Since this time £375.00 was written off by the Parish Council as the account holders were not contactable and £225.00 cancelled as the plot was no longer required. In June 2023, the Council received the last refund, the total amount recovered was £4,555
- b. Play Area Tower - Members APPROVED the delivery costs of £300 (three hundred pounds) for of the replacement 4m part for the play tower costs to be met from the Play Area Budget.
- c. New Play Equipment – Members APPROVED the purchase of brackets to protect the new posts from strimmer damage and some weather damage at a maximum of £120 (one hundred and twenty pounds) Costs met from the Play Equipment budget.
- a. Members RECEIVED a verbal update from Councillor Westwood, regarding the recent meetings with the Grounds Contractor. At the last meeting Members resolved to hold the May and June invoices due to the poor standard of work and Parish areas that had not been maintained at all this was due in part to broken machinery and staff issues. Generally, work had improved through July, but not all issues have been addressed. Members discussed the non-cutting of the left-hand verge at Lydiard Green - Councillor Hill-Wheeler to flag any areas of concern. The Parish Handyman will continue to monitor, there is a planned contract and performance review for the end of September, the Grounds Contractor is also supplying an update every fortnight to the Parish Handyman. Members RESOLVED to pay the agreed 50% reduced invoices for May and June with full payment of the July invoice. The August invoice will be held back if work has not improved.
- b. APPROVED the expenditure report to 26 July 2023
- c. APPROVED the income report to 27 July 2023
- d. NOTED and APPROVED the first quarterly accounts income and expenditure report
- e. NOTED the letter from The Public Sector Deposit Fund.

Three members of the public left the meeting

23.53 **Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG)**

Members NOTED the paperwork from the last LHFIG meeting and NOTED a report from Councillor Suleman, following his attendance at the meeting. Main Points:

- The LHFIG budget is massively underspent, with approximately £64k still to be committed.
- In 2023-2025, there will be changes regarding the allocation of funds, discussions planned for the next meeting on the new process and priorities.
- There had been lots of requests for kerb drops, but it was unclear if this was across all Parishes. The Chairman asked Parishes to assess the demand for kerb drops in their respective parishes.
- Greenhill Crossroads is now Priority One. No news on the metro counts.
- The Elms/Washpool, work has not yet been completed.
- Common Platt Safety - Councillor Suleman is meeting LHFIG's new Principal Engineer in Lydiard Millicent on the 8th August, to visit the areas of concern.

Members considered the draft Highways Improvement Request for Greatfield. Following discussions, Members APPROVED the form with the addition of data from the Speed Indicator Device located at Greatfield, supplied by Councillor Chalker.

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 WC regarding the instigation of phases 5 – 10, which would connect Lydiard Green to the rest of the village. Further information and details of the scheme to be found, the resident who originally made the request was present and he will look at the information he has. Update: Cllr Hill-Wheeler supplied information from CATG archives and a LMPC report regarding phases 1-4, no information for phases 5-10 has been found. Council minutes of 3 Jan and 4 July 2013 there is mention of the project, further background information is being looked for.

22.41 The Mews and Recreation Field

- Solicitors involved in the process have been instructed to apply for title absolute for the Recreation Field. Land Registry is being chased in respect of the application.
- Councillors Allsop and Westwood have visited the site, feedback received from residents. Further visit to be arranged, notifying residents via Facebook or the visit and inviting them to attend. Councillor Allsop to lead.

22.82 Footpath Working Party

WC has been contacted regarding land management and the sowing of seeds. The Head of WC Natural & Historic Environment Department has given advice to be discussed at WP meeting. Clearer signage and additional signs have been requested – WC to drop off at JCH.

Working Party to move forward with information for notice board content, feedback requested from residents on Lydiard Millicent WW2 history.

22.107 Community Emergency Plan

Members agreed to write a new Community Emergency Plan with all Members contributing to the document, Councillor Hill-Wheeler leading on the updating process.

23.19 Lydiard Green Trees

Quote accepted, Tree Surgeon advised that the removal of the trees should not take place until August, after the trees have been checked for nesting birds. Clerk to liaise with Wiltshire Council regarding the replacement trees to be planted, replacements for approval by Committee, before the planting season. Meeting Update: Clerk has contacted WC, follow up mail sent 21 July. Tree Surgeon to attend to trees on 22 August.

23.23 LHFIF

The Clerk was requested to contact WC regarding the installation of the poles for the speed indicator device at Greenhill Crossroads and SH regarding the Parochial Parish Council's request for traffic calming. SH and MC emailed.

23.23 Speedwatch and Lorry Watch

June Update: WC confirmed the requests are now in the hands of our contractor, but due to work load they will not be until September. Councillor Sharp to contact PCC regarding the delay. See Minute Reference 23.61 - CLOSED

29 June – Question Time

- A Resident asked if the entrance to the Industrial Estate could be tidied up, recently a large lorry had to unload outside the Estate, causing traffic issues. There is ample parking within the Estate, but unit owners do not encourage it. Resident to send further information to the Clerk. Letters Sent
- A Resident asked if the Council knew what was happening with the land by the car sales area, as it has become very overgrown, with some of the trees having low branches that overhang the bus stop. The Clerk was asked to investigate - A resident has given the Clerk some information
- Councillor Allsop asked if the owner of the property on the right of the entrance to the Parish Hall car Park, could be asked to remove the low branches overhanging the footpath too. The Clerk was asked to write to the property owner - Letter sent.

22.39 Play Area Tower

Members RESOLVED to purchase bark for the Play Area, bark in place, CLOSED.

Members RESOLVED the repair of the Play Tower. See Minute Reference 23.52

- 23.55 **Grant Guidelines and Grant Application**
a. Members APPROVED the draft guidelines
b. Members considered the grant application from Carer Support Wiltshire. As there were a number of queries with the application, Members AGREED to defer the decision until the next meeting. The Clerk was requested to ask a representative of the organisation to attend to answer questions.
- 23.56 **Jubilee Club House**
Members NOTED the report – Main Points
- Planning permission is required for replacement windows, double doors and veranda
 - Internal works may require a building regulation application
 - A local Architect has offered his services free of charge – he will draw up plans for the Council to use to looking at the best possible use of the space available
- Following discussions, Members ACCEPTED the services offered by the Architect, Officers and Group to look at the design options once received.
- 23.57 **D-Day 80**
Members AGREED to light the beacon on 6th June 2024. A Working Group was AGREED and formed, Councillors Allsop (also as Parish Hall representative), Chalker, Hacker and Westwood volunteered. The D-Day80 Working Group to contact the school and consider a parish evening event of commemoration. The Parish Hall trustees are considering holding a fish and chip event at their regular Light Lunch, to be held on the previous day. – as this is the official food event for D-Day80.
- 23.58 **Community Field Fencing**
Members considered the quotes received or replace the part of the fence that has collapsed. Following discussions, Members RESOLVED to accept quote A for £1870.00 excluding VAT (one thousand, eight hundred and seventy pounds) costs met from General Reserves.
- 23.59 **Correspondence**
Members NOTED the correspondence received:
- a. Great Western Hospital - new service environments survey – added to website
 - b. Great Western Hospital - carer support passport – added to website
 - c. Age UK Wiltshire – July newsletter
 - d. Wiltshire & Swindon Tree Warden Scheme
 - e. Air Quality Action Plan & Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document Consultations
- 23.60 **Planning Applications**
Members NOTED the following Wiltshire Council Decisions
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| Application: PL/2023/04098 - Full planning permission Decision: Approved with Conditions
Applicant Names: Mr Jones & Ms Romadina Address: Mulberry House, Greatfield, SN4 8EQ
Proposal: Erection of garden room for use as make up studio |
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- Members considered the following application:
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| Application: PL/2023/005939 - Full planning permission Applicant Names: Mr & Mrs Reno
Address: 3 Greatfield, SN4 8EQ
Proposal: Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding and erection of a replacement dwelling, detached annexe (class c3) and associated works |
| Members RESOLVED to make the following COMMENT :
Section 2.9 of the Design and Access Statement states that the property "benefits frontage onto Greatfield". The property is on a narrow side road off the main Greatfield Road (from Coped Hall roundabout to Purton) to the rear of Greatfield Garden Centre (as shown on the plan in section 4). The existing building has space to the side of the house for cars to access the rear of the property for parking. The replacement building does not allow for this access which leaves a maximum of 3 car parking spaces for effectively a 5 bedroom house. Although this meets WC guidelines, parking on the verges on the main Greatfield Road already causes problems and safety issues for people accessing houses fronting onto the main road. Any additional cars forced to use this very limited space would likely exacerbate the problems. We would also respectfully ask what arrangements are being made during the demolition and construction to ensure that vehicles do not block this narrow lane and do not add to the parking problems on the main road. |

Section 6.4 of the Design and Access statement says "Foul drainage to discharge into existing main sewer". Other buildings in this side road have septic tanks and are not connected to the main sewer.

Following Discussion, Members AGREED to review the existing Neighbourhood Plan.

23.61 **Council and Community Representatives** - Members RECEIVED the following updates:

Speed Indication Devices (SIDS), Speedwatch and Lorry Watch Cllr Sharp reported:
Speedwatch - the metro counts will not be completed until September, as they are not conducted during school holidays.

SIDS – Roll out for submitted data is due now, however no information has yet been received. Councillor Chalker reported on recent data results from the Greatfield position – 11.2% are speeding over 30mph. At The Beeches, the top speed recorded was 91mph, this was between 5-6pm midweek.

Parish Hall – Councillor Allsop reported: At the recent AGM, Mike Sharp was appointed as Chairman and Treasurer, Alan Pfleger appointed as Vice-Chairman and Cath Sharp as Secretary. The Secretary and Treasurer roles had been advertised for some time but no volunteers have come forward. If anyone is interested in either role, please could they contact Mike Sharp."

Six members of the public, the Parish Handyman and Wiltshire Councillor Bucknell left the meeting.

23.62 **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 of Meetings) Act 1960.

23.63 **Land Issues**

Councillor Allsop reported: A letter has been received from the Solicitors. Members AGREED for a discussion to take place with the Council's Solicitors and for information to be sourced, which is to be considered at the next meeting.

Meeting Closed at 21.06