

LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
3 April 2025
held at the Jubilee Club House, Lydiard Millicent
at 19:01 hrs

Councillors Present:

S Westwood, Chairman L Bamsey S Chalker D Coffey R Selwood
M Allsop, Vice Chairman J Sprules

Others in Attendance: 11 members of the public

Meeting Clerk: Hayley Graham

Public Question Time:

- A resident asked if there are any safety measures planned for Greenhill crossroads after another accident recently. Councillor Westwood confirmed that Wiltshire Council's Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group have scheduled resurfacing works, updated road markings and will be moving the 30mph speed restriction further from the crossroads.

Councillor Question Time: There were no Councillor questions

MINUTES

24.271 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were RECEIVED from Councillors Hill-Wheeler and Smith. No apologies were received from Wiltshire Councillor Steve Bucknell who was not present.

24.272 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

Name	Min. Ref.	Type	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr Westwood	24.276	Pecuniary	PL/2024/07482 - Planning application for neighbouring property	Left the room
Cllr Selwood	24.276	Non-Pecuniary	PL/2025/02189 – Planning application for neighbouring property	Did not take part in discussions and did not vote

No dispensation requests were received.

24.273 Chairman's Announcements

- We welcome back Councillor Chalker to the Council after a leave of absence since welcoming her son.
- Election results were published today and a total of 10 candidates have stood for election to the Parish Council.

24.274 Minutes

Members CONSIDERED the minutes of the Parish meeting held on 13 March 2025. The minutes of the meeting were ADOPTED as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24.275 Financial Accounts

Members NOTED and APPROVED the Income & Expenditure Reports and Payments List.
Members NOTED and APPROVED the Journals and EMR Movement Report.
Members NOTED and APPROVED the Asset Register as at 28 March 2025. The Clerk will obtain clarification for Councillor Bamsey around there being no requirements to depreciate asset values.
Members NOTED the EMR Balances as at 28 February 2025.
Members NOTED the report detailing Betterclean pricing changes.

24.276 Planning Applications

Members RECEIVED a report from Planning Group B. Standing Orders were SUSPENDED for public comment on application PL/2025/02470 – 3 Greatfield. The resident of a neighbouring property highlighted that they have not been notified of the application, and that

the owner of the garden centre adjacent the proposed development is currently suffering with ill health and is unlikely to be in a position to respond to the consultation at this time. Standing Orders were REINSTATED before Members discussed further, when concerns were raised about the potential for the development to be used as a dwelling, and an increased number of vehicles using a very narrow lane.

Application: PL/2025/02470 – Householder planning application	Applicant: Mr Smith
Address: 3 Greatfield, RWB, Swindon, SN4 8EQ	Closing Date: 16 April
Proposal: Proposed detached garage with accommodation above	
Members RESOLVED to COMMENT on the application to request that the list of notified neighbours be expanded, the deadline for consultations be extended, highlighting concerns regarding an increased number of vehicles and the potential for the development to be used as a dwelling.	
Application: PL/2024/05448 – Amended full planning permission	Applicant: Mr & Mrs Badhan
Address: Badhan Manor, Wood Lane, Braydon, SN5 0AH	Closing Date: 9 April
Proposal: Change of use of land to equestrian, with erection of stables and formation of a new vehicular access. Change of use of land to residential to enlarge the garden at Badhan Manor, and re-siting of the existing vehicular access.	
Members RESOLVED to make NO COMMENT	

1 member of the public joined the meeting.

Application: PL/2025/02189 – Outline planning permission; all matters reserved	Applicant: Mr Hornby
Address: Lydiard Farm, The Street, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3LU	Closing Date: 24 April
Proposal: 1 no. new build, two storey infill dwelling – with accompanying detached garage with room in roof	
Members RESOLVED to COMMENT to request that consideration is given to ensuring the proposal does not exacerbate flooding issues in the immediate vicinity.	

Members NOTED and CONSIDERED the report relating to the Strategic Planning Committee decision PL/2024/07482 – Land at Claypits. Standing Orders were SUSPENDED for public comment and Councillor Westwood left the room.

Residents commented on concerns that they felt there were several misleading pieces of information on which the Strategic Planning Committee made their decision.

Councillor Allsop clarified that only an applicant can appeal a planning decision, and a decision reversal would only be considered after a judicial review, which Greenhill residents are prepared to request.

A number of residents have logged complaints with Wiltshire Council since the decision was recommended for approval at the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting.

The residents requested support from the Parish Council by way of writing to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee highlighting the misleading indications specifically in relation to the exclusion of Core Policy 47(ii) in the considerations of the Committee members, which seeks to ensure a site “is served by a safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access”.

Standing Orders were REINSTATED before Members discussed further. Members RESOLVED to support Greenhill residents by writing to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

10 members of the public left the meeting.

24.277 **Clerk's Report**

Members NOTED the report.

24.156 Financial Accounts Members NOTED the report and APPROVED the cost for the annual inspection of the JCH play area at £150.00. UPDATE: Inspection has been booked and will be carried out in approx. 12 weeks. FURTHER UPDATE: Inspection carried out. Members RESOLVED to CLOSE this item.
PQT – 6 Feb A resident raised concerns around the retrospective planning application at Toomers Garden Centre and that they had previously highlighted activity which did not appear to align to the original planning application. Councillor Westwood advised that the application is still under consultation so if the resident has not yet added any comments to the planning portal, to do so as soon as possible. The Clerk will contact Wiltshire Councillor Steve Bucknell who the resident advised was present when the issue was previously highlighted, and contact Wiltshire Council Highways Department to establish the current weight restrictions on Stone Lane. UPDATE: Contact made with both Wiltshire Councillor Steve Bucknell and Transport Planning at Wiltshire Council, awaiting responses from both. FURTHER UPDATE: No response has been received from Wiltshire Councillor Bucknell, however, Transport Planning have advised that Stone Lane has a weight restriction order of 7.5t. The resident has confirmed they believe vehicles using Toomers far exceed this order and so the Clerk raised with the Case Officer. The Case Officer has consulted Highways who have confirmed that Toomers has an operating licence for 4 HGV's which permits the weight to exceed the restriction order of 7.5t for access. As a result, Highways still have no objection. The Parish Council have already considered and provided their response to the application which is still under consultation. Members RESOLVED to CLOSE this item.
PQT – 13 March A resident raised that there a number of rewilding projects taking place in The Springs on verges that do not appear to belong to the homeowners. The Clerk will investigate. UPDATE: The verges are owned and maintained by Wiltshire Council. The resident applied for a Section 142 licence which was granted in 2024. This allows an adjacent landowner to cultivate a highway verge adjacent to their property. Members RESOLVED to CLOSE this item.
24.255 Clerk Training Members NOTED the report and APPROVED the expenditure for the following training webinars for the Clerk: • Cemetery and Churchyard Safety and Memorialisation – SLCC • Cemetery Legal Requirements - SLCC • Post-Election - WALC • Standing Orders - WALC • Introduction to CiLCA – SLCC UPDATE: Spaces secured on all webinars. Members RESOLVED to CLOSE this item.

Members CONSIDERED the following item:

24.261 Bagbury Park Enforcement Matter Members NOTED the report and RESOLVED that the Clerk should refer the matter back to Wiltshire Council Enforcement. UPDATE: WC Enforcement have advised that they are unable to insist the hedgerow is reinstated as it would not constitute a breach of planning control. As it is understood this hedgerow was removed in nesting season, this can be reported to the Police who have a dedicated wildlife crime team. Council to CONSIDER the next steps.

Members RESOLVED for the Clerk to report the issue to Wiltshire Police.

- 24.278 **All Saints Church Re-Ordering Appeal Grant Application**
Members CONSIDERED the grant application. After discussions, Members APPROVED the grant under s137 of the Local Government Act and RESOLVED to award a grant of £200.00 (two hundred pounds).
- 24.279 **Parish Meetings**
Members NOTED the following scheduled meetings: 15 May, 5 June, 3 July, 4 Sept, 2 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec 2025, 8 Jan, 5 Feb, 5 Mar, 2 Apr 2026.
- 24.280 **Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council**
Members NOTED the date of 15 May for the Annual Meeting of the Council and the Annual Parish Meeting.
Members CONSIDERED the Annual Parish Meeting content, and it was suggested that a display board focusing on the VE Day 80 commemorative events could also be displayed. Councillor Chalker volunteered to serve refreshments at the meeting, and Councillor Coffey volunteered to purchase the refreshments. The Clerk will invite Cake Break, Bell Ringers, Scouts and All Saints Church to attend with reports.
- 24.281 **VE Day 80 Working Group Update**
Members NOTED the report and were asked to contact Councillor Westwood if they are able to volunteer for the staff roster.
- 24.282 **Annual Play Area Inspection Report**
Members NOTED the report.
- 24.283 **Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) Common Platt Substantive Bid**
Members NOTED the decision notice. Thanks were given to Mo Suleman for his work in progressing the substantive bid.
- 24.284 **Council and Community Representatives**
Members RECEIVED the following updates:

Community Carers Group – Councillor Allsop

Notes from the meeting held on 12 February have been published and are available on the Wiltshire Council website or from Councillor Allsop.

There is a new service called Carers Together: AGEUK Wiltshire, Community First, Alzheimers Support, Wiltshire Service Users Network, Citizens Advice Wiltshire and Wessex Community Action. This is tailored to support unpaid carers across Wiltshire including young carers (5-25 years). <https://carerstogetherwiltshire.org.uk/>

SLP Independent Living offer wearable devices, watches and pendants where users press the button to call for help. This can be diverted to a service provider or friends/family. Based in Swindon but are available as far out as Devizes.

Community Safety Group – Councillor Allsop

Councillor Allsop attended the last meeting in Councillor Hill-Wheeler's absence. A presentation was given on a youth advisory group for people aged 11-25 which works with the Police and provides the group with 1-2-1 support, skill development and assistance with CV writing. No meetings have been scheduled for April and May.

Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG)

An email has been received from Wiltshire Council to request that Parish priorities for 25-26 be submitted by 14 May. The Clerk will request an extension to this deadline so the priorities can be considered in the next Parish meeting on 15 May.

Parish Hall

Next meeting scheduled for 14 April.

Speed Indication Devices – Councillor Allsop

The SID at Greenhill recorded a maximum speed of 78mph. 37% of vehicles were travelling over 30mph, 1.76% were travelling over 40mph. The SID at Common Platt recorded a maximum speed of 52mph, with 20% of vehicles travelling over 30mph.

Operational Flood Working Group

Next meeting scheduled for 16 April.

Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Allsop

Standing Orders were SUSPENDED for Patrick Cole, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to update the Council. 191 survey responses were received which are with Master Land and Planning for analysis. Thanks were given to Paul Kohn for producing the collection boxes for surveys, and for collecting the boxes once the survey deadline had passed. Survey analysis and a report on the current Neighbourhood Plan is expected on 9 April and will be circulated to the Steering Group ahead of the next meeting on 16 April which Councillors are invited to join. It will then need to be agreed what the next steps are for Master Land and Planning so a grant to cover the work can be applied for.

An open forum for the community has been planned for 15 June at the Parish Hall which will be an opportunity to meet the Steering Group and Master Land and Planning and to ask questions.

There has been a response to the “Call for Sites” request from each area of the Parish.

Standing Orders were REINSTATED before Members discussed further.

24.285 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.

2 members of the public left the meeting.

24.286 Land Matters

Members NOTED the report. After discussions, members AGREED a way forward which the Clerk will communicate with the resident.

24.287 Community Field Working Party Meeting

Members RECEIVED an update from Councillor Selwood. The Preliminary Ecological Survey is scheduled for 11 April, and the field will have its first cut on 28 April. A draft lease agreement is being prepared and will be brought to the next Parish meeting in May for approval.

Meeting Closed at 20.47 hrs