



LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th MAY 2014

PRESENT: Guy Allen, Sid Bishop, Jane Howes, David Lomax, Gordon Wilson (Chair), Liz Carmichael (Clerk), Andrew Bennett (Ward Councillor) and 1 member of the public.

Due to the annual village meeting which preceded this meeting, the Parish Council meeting started at 7.15pm.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The proposal by Sid Bishop that Gordon Wilson be elected chairman was seconded by David Lomax. There were no other nominations. **Resolved** - that Gordon Wilson be elected chairman. Gordon signed the acceptance of office.

2. APOLOGIES

Vince Jones

3. CO-OPTION

The proposal by David Lomax that Jane Howes be co-opted was seconded by Sid Bishop, and agreed unanimously. **Resolved** – that Jane Howes be co-opted. Jane signed the acceptance of office.

4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The proposal by Jane Howes that Guy Allen be elected vice-chairman was seconded by David Lomax. There were no other nominations. **Resolved** - that Guy Allen be elected vice-chairman. The acceptance of office was signed by Guy Allen.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

David Lomax declared an interest in agenda item 14.2 as he is a member of the Village Hall Committee.

6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION – PART 1

- 6.1 Swindon Borough Council Library Strategy The meeting welcomed Shaun Smith (Strategic Manager: Service Delivery Swindon Libraries). Shaun explained that the Library Strategy has been updated as SBC needs to save money. Saving of £48 million over the next three years need to be made. There has been a positive response to the consultation with about 1500 questionnaires being returned. Shaun Smith advised the meeting that, although the consultation has now closed, he was very interested in receiving feedback from the Parish Council and Liddington residents who are users of the library service. He wants to know how Liddington residents would like to see the service operated in the future so that he can best shape it to meet those needs. The mobile library comes to Liddington twice a month and stops for 10 minutes at each of 3 locations in the village. At one of these locations there is a very good turnout. Shaun Smith suggested that users of the mobile library may prefer to amalgamate these into one 30 minute stop. He advised the meeting that there are currently no plans to remove the mobile library service, however the library bus will need replacing or refurbishing in 2 -3 years time and the expenditure required to facilitate this will require justification. Some parts of the borough are operating volunteer run community libraries. These schemes can give residents much more time and opportunities to access books than can be provided by the mobile library. The meeting noted that it isn't necessary to have volunteers to

manage the community library as this could be run as self service. The library service would deliver a selection of children's books, fiction and leisure non-fiction. The number of books provided would depend on the space at the community location. Chiseldon will be holding 400 – 500 books. Shaun Smith assured the meeting that the home delivery service would be maintained. It was noted that the library provides e-books which are free to download but unfortunately these can not be downloaded to a kindle. It is hoped that a nationwide agreement with Amazon can be reached to overcome this issue. Users of the library can pass on feedback on what they want from the service by speaking to Jenny on the bus.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April be approved and signed as a true record.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Actions completed

Get advice from arborist on work required to reshape Liddington clump	Action: clerk
Find out if there is a deadline for applying to the CPRE for a grant	Action: clerk
Speak to Suzanne Coles about moving the 40mph signs & putting in signs for the concealed road entrance	Action: clerk
Ask Paul Davies when he will be able to commit to clearing the path along the B4192	Action: clerk

Actions ongoing

Consider locations for trees	Action: All
Get advice on the process for obtaining evidence to prosecute dog fouling offenders	Action: clerk
Contact SBC about the scope of the maintenance work they do in the village	Action: clerk
Get quotes to reshape Liddington clump	Action: clerk
Get permission for access & reshaping of trees from landowner	Action: DL

It was agreed that the Parish Councillors would meet at 10.00am on 14th June to walk around the village reviewing locations for trees and additional planting.

Liddington Clump It was noted that David Lomax has spoken to Dennis Ford several times however he hasn't given his permission for access to his land and for the reshaping of Liddington clump. The clerk advised the meeting that George Reade (SBC) had advised that the trees were covered by a TPO (tree preservation order) and were described as a group of 12 beech trees. Mr Reade visited the clump recently and will be putting his findings in an email to the clerk. Andrew Bennett suggested that the Parish Council contact Charlotte Riggs for advice on Liddington Clump.

Contact Charlotte Riggs regarding the reshaping of Liddington clump	Action: clerk
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Highways Matters The clerk advised the meeting that Suzanne Coles believes that localities funding has been secured for the relocation of the 40mph signs. The signs will be moved towards the motorway bridge to the point where the hedge ends. This change will be the subject of a TRO (traffic regulation order) and will need to be advertised. The Parish Council will receive notification of the change. Moving the signs should increase visibility but Suzanne Coles does not believe that extending the 40mph zone will help drivers appreciate why they need to slow down. The need for a sign for the hidden road entrance to Badbury was queried by Suzanne. Drivers should be slowing down anyway as the turning into The Street is clearly marked. Suzanne was concerned that further signage could lead to rat running through Badbury.

Confirm that localities funding has been agreed for moving the 40mph signs	Action: clerk
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It was agreed that the road narrows sign needs to be moved as it is too close to the point where the B4192 narrows

Ask SBC if the road narrows sign can be placed beneath the 40mph sign	Action: clerk
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Paul Davies has stated that, as agreed at the village maintenance meeting, the footpath alongside the B4192 will be widen in the winter provided that funding can be secured.

Find out where funding can be obtained to widen the path alongside the B4192	Action: clerk
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13. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- 13.1 Andrew Bennett brought to the meeting's attention the consultation being carried out by the AONB into priorities for the LEADER funding. He gave out questionnaires from Thames Water on sewer flooding and encouraged the Parish Council to complete them. He advised the meeting that he will be starting as Deputy Mayor for Swindon on 6th June and will become full Mayor in a year's time.

Andrew Bennett left the meeting.

9. PLANNING

- 9.1 Planning applications S/14/0655RM (single storey front extension at 19 Purley road), S/RES/14/0596 (28 dwellings at Commonhead) & S/RES/14/0222 (73 dwellings at Commonhead) were considered by the Parish Council. **Resolved** – That the Parish Council had no comments on planning applications S/14/0655RM, S/RES/14/0596 and S/RES/14/0222.
- 9.2 It was noted that planning application S/RES/13/1772NISM had been approved and that application S/14/0397/SASM had been granted planning permission.

10. FINANCE

- 10.1 Account Summary The payments between meetings of £260 to Mark Reynolds for cutting the hedges and trees on the playing field, and £46.91 to David Lomax to re-imburse him for the fencing were considered. **Resolved:** that the payments between meetings be approved.

- 10.2 **Resolved:** to approve payment of the following

- Stratton St Margaret PC inv.2589, dog waste service Sept 2013 – Mar 2014 £42.00
- Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, annual subscription £135.53
- Broker Network Ltd, Aviva Insurance renewal £559.83

11. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION – PART 2

- 11.1 Asset Register The clerk explained that the Asset Register was being changed to reflect replacement costs rather than nominal values, and that this would be used to ensure that the level of insurance cover was adequate.
- 11.2 Insurance The clerk advised the meeting that the insurance premium would only be increased by £4.56 per additional £1,000 of cover and by £23 for an extra £5,000 of cover. **Resolved** – That the asset register be completed and the level of insurance cover be amended as necessary to reflect the replacement values on the new asset register, and that anything with a replacement value that is less than the policy excess should be removed from the insurance policy. **Resolved** – That the Parish Council would delegate to the clerk the task of adjusting and renewing the Aviva insurance, with revised levels of cover if required.

Complete asset register and renew insurance policy

Action: clerk

- 11.3 Best Kept Village Competition It was noted that judging starts in mid-May and that amongst other things the judges will be reviewing the website and checking the notice board for out of date notices. **Resolved** – That the Parish Councillors would individually carry out a pre-judging inspection and that something should be put on the website and in the Lyden magazine to ask resident to keep their areas tidy.

- 11.4 WEC Limited It was noted that whilst individual Councillors may be personally interested in renewable energy it was not appropriate for the Parish Council to promote one company over another. **Resolved** – That WEC Limited be advised that Parish Council can not back any public meeting promoting their product, and that they should contact the Village Hall Committee if they wish to hire the hall and the editor of the Lyden magazine for advertising any event that they may wish to organise.

Send Parish Council's response WEC Limited

Action: clerk

- 11.5 Village Maintenance **Resolved** - that due to time constraints this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 **Resolved** – that the Parish Council would take no further action regarding the Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Core Strategy – Consultation on: Schedule of Proposed Modifications (including Sustainability Appraisal & Habitats Regulation Assessment Updates); Inspector’s Proposed Modifications; and Implications of National Planning Practice Guidance

Resolved – That the Parish Council respond to the North Wessex Downs LEADER Grant Programme survey

12.2 The Parish Council noted the following correspondence for information

- Update from Robert Buckland regarding M4 J15 improvements
- Notification of M4 J14 to 15 Westbound road closures
- Copy of letter sent by Swindon Borough Council to Mr Peploe
- Wilts & Berks Canal Trust, Dragonfly Magazine issues no.131 & 132

14. COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

14.1 Playing Field – Sid Bishop advised the meeting that he had carried out his fortnightly safety inspections of the play equipment on the 6th March, 20th March, 3rd April and 24th April and that there were no issues.

14.2 Village Hall Committee – It was noted that the skittles evening went well and that it raised a good sum of money.

14.3 Neighbourhood Watch – There was no report as Vince Jones was unable to attend the meeting.

14.4 Community Speedwatch – It was noted that the latest volunteers are waiting to be trained.

15. PARISH MAGAZINE

It was agreed that the following items should be put in the Parish magazine:
Best Kept Village Competition judging due to take place. Please keep your area tidy.
New Councillor Jane Howes. Still have 1 vacancy on the Parish Council.
Shaun Smith attended the meeting. Users of mobile library service can still give feedback to Jenny on the bus of how the overall service can be changed to serve them better.

16. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

It was noted that SBC should be advised that the standard of the cutting of the green at Spinney Close was unsatisfactory.

It was noted that the next steps for the landscaping project is the surfacing of a new path alongside the B4192, with weed suppressing mat underneath, that ends at a bench.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm

Signed : _____

Date : _____