



LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs E Carmichael  
Baydon Cottage  
Ermin Street  
Baydon  
SN8 2JP

Tel. (01672) 540942  
Email: [liddingtonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:liddingtonpc@yahoo.co.uk)

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2014

**PRESENT:** Guy Allen, Sid Bishop, Jane Howes, David Lomax, Gordon Wilson (Chair), Liz Carmichael (Clerk), Andrew Bennett (Ward Councillor).

### 1. APOLOGIES

Vince Jones

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

David Lomax declared an interest in agenda item 10.2 as he is a member of the Village Hall Committee.

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**Resolved** – That any references to ‘reshaping’ Liddington clump should be altered to ‘maintenance of’ Liddington clump and that, subject to these amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May be approved and signed as a true record.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### Actions completed

Contact Charlotte Riggs regarding the reshaping of Liddington clump	Action: clerk
Confirm that localities funding has been agreed for moving the 40mph signs	Action: clerk
Ask SBC if the road narrows sign can be placed beneath the 40mph sign	Action: clerk
Complete asset register and renew insurance policy	Action: clerk
Send Parish Council’s response WEC Limited	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 maintain Liddington clump	Action: clerk
Get permission for access & maintenance of trees from landowner	Action: DL
Find out where funding can be obtained to widen the path alongside the B4192	Action: clerk

The clerk advised the meeting that Charlotte Riggs had stated that whilst she understood the Parish Council’s concerns regarding Liddington clump, the TPOs (tree preservation orders) only protected the trees from being removed and that owner was not obliged to maintain their shape. Consequently that there was nothing that she, or Swindon Borough Council, could do. She had likened the situation to a property owner trying to tell their neighbour what to do in their own back garden.

### 5. PLANNING

5.1 Planning application S/14/0654JABU (single storey rear extension and 1<sup>st</sup> floor balcony at 37 Purley road) was considered by the Parish Council. **Resolved** – That the Parish Council had no comments on planning application S/14/0654JABU.

5.2 It was noted that no planning decisions had been received since the last meeting.

## 6. FINANCE

- 6.1 Account Summary It was noted that a VAT column had been added to the transactions page. The clerk stated that going forward, when re-imbursing Parish Councillors, the receipts should only have the items purchased on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 6.2 The annual return was reviewed and discussed. **Resolved:** that Part 1 and Part 2 of the Annual Return be approved and signed accordingly.
- 6.3 The invoice from Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, Swindon Area Committee for the annual subscription was presented for payment.

## 9. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- 9.1 Andrew Bennett advised the meeting that there had been 1144 votes (about 30%) in the recent European elections and there were a few changes. Brian Ford from Wroughton is now covering StreetSmart. It was noted that there is currently no funding from the Highways Agency for changes to J15 of the M4. The Police have stated that the restricted access at Covingham is not needed and consequently it is being removed. Andrew updated the meeting on the enquiry into the Local Plan 2026. It was noted that Councillor Bennett is still on the AONB and Police committees but is no longer on the Planning committee. The Parish Council was advised of Councillor Bennett's new contact details.

Andrew Bennett left the meeting.

## 7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 7.1 Asset Register The meeting reviewed the draft Asset Register prepared by the clerk. **Resolved:** that the Asset Register be approved.
- 7.2 Grass Cutting It was noted that the quality of the work done by Swindon Borough Council (SBC) in cutting various grassed areas around the village was poor and the Parish Council was dissatisfied with the service being provided. **Resolved –** To investigate using another contractor to cut grass areas around the village and to obtain the necessary quotes. **Resolved –** That the clerk should send a letter of complaint to SBC after the next cut, if the quality of work does not improve.
- 7.3 Village Maintenance It was noted that a number of other Parishes such as Wanborough employ a village lengthsman to undertake general maintenance tasks (including grass cutting) and that Liddington Parish Council should consider employing a village lengthsman .

Speak to Gary Sumner about Wanborough's lengthsman

Action: GW

- 7.4 Broadband It was noted that a Superfast Broadband meeting was held on 16 May with Robert Buckland MP and Paul Coles, SW Regional Manager BT Group. The meeting was advised that Swindon Borough Council is seeking funding for broadband so the matter is in their hands to progress if/when funding can be obtained. The Parish Council noted that BT is putting fibre cables into the new development at Commonhead.
- 7.5 Lytch Gate It was noted that the post placed in front of the Lytch gate to stop vehicles from parking there had been removed. Rev O'Connell had suggested that, instead of the post, a flower trough be put on each side of the gate with a sarsen stone cemented in the middle. **Resolved –** That the Parish Council had no objections to the proposals to use flower troughs and a strategically placed sarsen stone to prevent vehicles from parking in the Lytch gate.
- 7.6 Swindon Local Plan 20206 Public Inquiry This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- 7.7 Jubilee Gardens and New Footpath The meeting noted that the path needed to be finished and the bench installed. Fruit trees could possibly be added later.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 The meeting noted the following correspondence for information.
- Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust, request for donation

- CPRE, North Wiltshire & Swindon Group AGM 4.30pm on 23 June at Derry Hill, 'What future for Chippenham' presentations on 27 June
- CPRE , Wiltshire Annual Report 2013-2014, Wiltshire AGM 6.30pm on 18<sup>th</sup> June at Wilton House, Salisbury, The Moonraker newsletter
- Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter for April & May

**Resolved** – that the request from Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust for a donation be discussed at the next meeting.

## 10. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- 10.1 Playing Field – Sid Bishop advised the meeting that he had carried out his fortnightly safety inspections of the play equipment on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May and that there were no issues to report.
- 10.2 Village Hall Committee – It was noted that there were plenty of hall bookings for this year and the skittles evening made good money.
- 10.3 Neighbourhood Watch – There was no report as Vince Jones was unable to attend the meeting.
- 10.4 Community Speedwatch – It was noted that courses are held in Devizes every few months and the latest volunteers are still waiting to be trained.

## 11. PARISH MAGAZINE

**Resolved** – that the following items should be put in the Parish magazine:

The Parish Council is aware of the poor quality of grass cutting and is taking the matter up with Swindon Borough Council.

The Parish Council is continuing to work with our local MP and with the South West Regional Manager at BT to see if it can progress broadband.

## 12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

None.

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_