

## LYDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Held in The Nicholls Hall

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2005

**78-2005 Present:**

Mrs L Cole: Mrs P Martyn: Mrs K Boyd (Vice-Chairman): Mrs S Holland:  
Mrs L Ellicott: Mr S Powne (Chairman): Mr P Fletcher  
Mr DG Evans (Clerk)

Parishioners in attendance:

Two members of the public were present and Cllr A Hosking DCC

**79-2005 Apologies for absence:**

None

**80-2005 Parishioners and Visitors time:**

None raised

**81-2005 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting:**

81.1. Before the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June were signed, Mrs Martyn asked for an explanation as to why the Standing order regarding “dual hated” PC members signed at the previous meeting had not been displayed on the notice board as the draft minutes had suggested. She said concern had been expressed to her by several people about the possibility of nepotism amongst the “dual hatted” members on the PC, although she was not prepared to name them. The Clerk explained to PC the difference between a change to Standing Orders and minuted resolutions affecting the electorate. Mrs Holland stated that anyone with concerns regarding the Parish Council should speak at the beginning of meetings during the slot reserved for members of the public. Mr Fletcher agreed, and stated that as this was the second time unknown or unnamed parishioners had made allegations concerning the good conduct of the PC he felt that Mrs Martyn should advise them to speak directly to Council and not hide behind anonymity. During discussion it was agreed that there had always been “dual hatted” PC members over many years and this was not a new situation. The Chairman proposed that the change to standing orders regarding ‘dual hatted’ members, as agreed by the members at the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May and recorded in the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> June should be displayed in the Notice Board. This was seconded by Mrs Martyn. He called for a show of hands to agree this. The ensuing vote was 2 for – with 3 against and 2 abstentions. **Resolved** not to display the notice. The Chair proceeded to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June as true and accurate.

**82-2005 Matters arising:**

82.1 Receive progress report on Notice Boards – Only the Board at the Post Office is now left to be re-sited.

82.2 Dartmoor Inn crossing improvement – Nothing to report.

82.3 VJ Day celebration – All items progressing. It was agreed to hold a separate meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July commencing at 7.00pm to enable the final details to be finalised.

82.4 Neighbourhood Watch – Mrs Holland stated that she is progressing a meeting with PC Reed and PC Frost in an effort to hold a meeting to agree

new coordinators which is not likely to be held until the autumn.

82.5 Sewage problems – The clerk reported that since contact had been made with the Camping and Caravan Club the problem of smell had diminished. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the owners of the site requesting that they must ensure that this problem is finally corrected and as owners of the site the members consider that the responsibility for this lies with them.

82.6 Hedges in Chapel Lane/Town Bank – The Chairman reported that he has had a response from English Heritage who state that the responsibility for the cutting and laying of these hedges lies with the tenant of the grazing and that they will write too them requesting attention in the autumn.

82.7 Tree warden – It would appear that Mr Stokes has resigned from this position and notification of his replacement is awaited from WDBC.

### **83-2005 Receive reports from Councillors on respective outside bodies:**

83.1 DNPA – No meetings held.

83.2 Police Authority – No meetings held.

83.3 Southern Link Committee – The minutes of the last meeting were circulated to members prior to tonight's meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for September.

72.4 Nicholls Hall Committee – Mrs Boyd reported that all was well.

### **84.2005 - Receive financial report:**

84.1 The clerk circulated balances as follows;

Current - £3071.02

Flexi - £6584.35

Petty cash - .44

84.2 The following payments were authorised for July & August:

Clerk (July) – £258.30 – Clerk (August) - £254.70 – Grass cutting £30 – Web site - £40.95

84.3 Audit – The Financial officer explained that the books for 2004/05 have been returned from the Internal Auditor with no queries. He then detailed that the Statement of Assurance was now required to be agreed by the members and read it out accordingly. It was unanimously agreed that this parish council complied fully with the requirements as listed in Section 2 – Statement of assurance of the Audit Commission annual return. The statement of accounts was also confirmed as accurate. Accordingly the return was signed by both the Chairman and the Clerk. It was also reported that the required notices enabling parishioners to view the accounts have been posted.

### **85.2005 - Correspondence:**

85.1 A letter from a Mr Wroth of Springers Vale Down complaining about the speed of traffic at this point was read out and agreed that this be placed on file to be referred to when progressing the problems of the A386 with Highways in the future. The clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Mr Wroth acknowledging his concerns. The clerk was also requested to write to Inspector Sherwood, Brian George and Cllr's Hosking and Williamson supporting the comments made by Mr Wroth.

85.2 A quotation from Adrian Hepworth to continue being the Web Master was discussed. It was agreed to place this work out to tender. The clerk was requested to organise this.

85.3 The results from the recently conducted Housing Needs Survey by WDBC were discussed. It was agreed to place this item onto the September agenda and to invite John Packer or Marion Pyle to this meeting in order to

seek clarification of the statistics. The clerk was requested to copy the survey to all members.

85.4 A letter was received from Lydford House Hotel complaining about the failure of DCC to complete the Granite Way to a totally off road track. The clerk was requested to write to Graham Cornish seeking clarification and progress on this matter and to advise the owners of Lydford house accordingly.

85.5 Recent e-mails received from Cllr Williamson – The Chairman again requested that all correspondence from this Councillor should be in the form of letters sent via the postal system. Mr Fletcher was flabbergasted that this one Councillor can be allowed to send correspondence of this sort. The Chairman proposed a vote of support for the clerk who had been cited as doing his job improperly by Cllr Williamson. This was unanimously agreed. It was further agreed that the Chairman should formally write to Cllr Williamson reiterating this councils' concerns with his handling of certain items and refuting the comments he has made in e-mails to the clerk.

**86.2005 - Planning applications:**

86.1 Office extension for Lydford Primary School – It was noted that this had been approved by DNPA.

**87.2005 - Items raised for inclusion on the September agenda:**

87.1 None raised.

**88.2005 - To agree the date of the next meeting:**

88.1 The date of **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005** was agreed commencing at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting was formally closed by the Chairman at 9.15 pm.

DG Evans  
Clerk to the Parish Council

27 July 2005

Signed as a true and accurate record.....Date.....  
(Mr S Powne - Chairman)