

Timeline for consideration of a Lydiard Green Footpath

Background: The Parish Plan surveys of 2005 and 2011 revealed considerable demand for safe pedestrian access at both Eastern and Western ends of the village of Lydiard Millicent.

1. Following publication of the 2011 survey at the end of 2012, and its acceptance by the Parish Council. Councillor Mowbray agreed to survey Lydiard Green (LG) residents and to establish their views.
2. During September 2013 he carried out the survey speaking to 19 of the 21 households fronting on to the proposed full length path and he reported to Councillors that the result appeared positive
3. The Chairman subsequently received a call from an LG resident expressing concern that the Councillor had been less than diplomatic in his doorstep conversations.
4. On September 21st the Chairman was given the survey results and agreed to meet with LG residents. The survey showed that:
 - 11 households were supportive of a path
 - 8 households were opposed
 - 1 was neutral
 - 1 was unavailable but reported to be selling the property
5. On October 1st the Chairman met two concerned residents from LG and subsequently received letters from three other LG residents and two phone calls. As only one of these was supportive of the plan he asked the Highways Committee to reconsider the proposal.
6. On October 17th as a direct result of residents objections, the committee recommended a more modest proposal utilising only land that was already available ie: not requiring anyone to give up any of their property. This abandonment of the original plan was recorded in the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on November 7th.
7. On November 21st The Chairman of the Highways Committee asked the CATG meeting to confirm that funding might still be available were the Council to propose building only the first 3 or 4 stages of the original plan. This was agreed with a proviso that at least stages 1-3 are completed, that Bagbury Park be approached for a contribution and that LMPC agree to support the project with at least £3,000 of their own funding. The Chairman agreed to put this before LMPC.
8. On November 27th following representations by three LG residents, the Area Board deferred ratification of the allocation until their January meeting. This was on the grounds that the proposed scheme was effectively a new proposal and required a further survey of the level of support. The Chairman agreed to put this proposal to LMPC.
9. On December 5th LMPC passed motions committing to the Area and CATG Board's requests
10. In mid-December 2013 a full survey of Lydiard Green was conducted by pairs of Councillors