

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council that was held at St Georges School Wembdon on **March 12th** that commenced at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted'

Present : Councillors M Solomon (Chairman) Cllr J Riddle (Vice Chairman) Cllr J Jackson, Cllr L Burge Cllr T Thayer, Cllr N Harrison Cllr A Reed, Cllr Thake, Cllr D Bingham Also Cllr I Dyer and Cllr J Edney the clerk and members of the public

"Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal opportunities (race gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability) Crime disorder and Human Rights"

73/12: Apologies for absence received from Cllr Brown and accepted.

74/12: To Receive any Declarations of interest. Declaration statement prepared by the Chairman and read out to the meeting by the clerk as follows.

"My involvement with the project to provide Wembdon with a Village Hall and improved recreational facilities was initiated by The Parish Council on 13th July 2009 when I agreed (with Cllr Bagg) to liaise with a group of volunteers in the village to evaluate the feasibility of providing improved facilities and amenities in Wembdon "by expanding the Village Green, building a Village Hall and improving the sports and games facilities". That group became the WRDG and I worked closely with it. Once the feasibility was established and fund raising became the objective of the group, an independent charitable trust was established to receive the proceeds of any fundraising and carry the project forward. I am not and have never been a member of that Trust. Once the fundraising was successful in raising monies, the work of the feasibility study group was deemed completed and it was subsequently disbanded. The project is now carried forward by the Trust"

There were no other declarations at this meeting.

75/12: Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held at Victoria Park Community Centre on **13th February 2012**. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

Signature of Chairman

76/12: Action points circulation paper on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda of the [12th March 2012](#).

Working Groups Reports

Footpaths and Land

77/12: Wares Lane to NDR footpath to be completed very soon. The Rynes clearance identified at last months meeting and arranged with Phil Ham has been completed to a high standard , some residue has been left on the edge of Rynes but this will disappear in time. Concerns still being raised about the church road to NDR section (the subject of a previous drowning incident) and this will be further investigated. A proposal to install some lighting on the section has been made and costings will be sought once the land owner has been approached to gain permission.

Highways and Speedwatch

78/12: On the 28th March Chris Betty from highways will meet members in the village to discuss a number of road safety issues raised at the two previous meetings. A white minibus has been reported in a lay by in Church road that does not appear to have moved over a long period, the local PCSO will be asked to make enquiries.

Playing Fields

79/12: A notice is to be prepared to request that football should not be played close to the houses on the playing field, and the Council resolved to set a budget of **£250.00** for members to source a suitable sign.

Allotments

80/12: Invoices issued to all allotment holders and so far £670.00 has been received from the project, the AGM was attended by 22 people and allotments policy to be formulated at the next planning meeting. In general the Parish Council favour the allotment to be provided for local residents living in Wembdon. BAM will be completing the allotment track very soon but will require some labour to assist the project

81/12

Communications

March 31st deadline for material for next Parish News letter and a request made for local organisations and groups to contribute items of local interest

Signature of Chairman

Jubilee Celebrations 2012

82/12: There are 100 registrations for Jubilee coins but 500 ordered as it is anticipated that a lot more requests will be forthcoming nearer the time, arrangement still being organised for a bonfire , a further meeting on April 4th to firm up ideas and suggestions for the celebrations. Also further considerations in respect of tree planting will be made

Correspondence Items

A number of items of correspondence were viewed by members to include

83/12: SCC Rights of way issues (to be circulated to members in file)

84/12: SALC Meeting North Area

Finance and to Agree Payments

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|---|-----------------|
| 85/12: Clerks Salary for March | £ 398.90 |
| 8612: HMRC Tax and NI Payments March | £ 97.20 |
| 8712: GB Sports invoice for February | £ 18.00 |
| 88/12 : Parish Centre Hire | £ 24.00 |
| 89/12: Insignia Jubilee Coins (WCA to Contribute) | £ 604.08 |

90/12:It was resolved by the Parish Council to make the above payments in accordance with the Council budget and financial controls.

91/12: budget paper was circulated prior to this meeting for information along with a cash reserves statement showing a likely end of year out turn of finance **of £ 1600.00**

Planning Committee

92/12 Application No **51/12/0003 to erect Solar panels to Orchard Barn Sandford Hill Wembdon** was considered by the planning committee at it was resolved to make no observations

Matters of Consideration

93/12 **Decision to change Banking arrangements.**

A proposal to change the Parish Councils banking arrangements to Unity Trust Bank was considered in the light of this bank offering non profit

Signature of Chairman

making bodies a more streamlined service and with full capability for internet banking at some future point it was resolved to make the change.

94/12: The Parish Councils response to the recent Parish Poll and what action if any should now be taken.

The PC noted that the result of the poll was that a significant majority were in favour of accepting the proposed enabling development of housing on the LEAP triangle and that a majority were also in favour of amending the playing field boundaries. The Parish Council decided not at this stage to make any further comments other than to propose that any planning application that is subsequently submitted be considered by the Parish Council under the normal protocol and by the planning Committee.

95/12: Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish meeting will be held prior to the next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 10th April at 7.15pm. This will be held at the Parish Centre owing to the School being closed for Easter.

96/12: SALC Meeting 1st March on Neighbourhood planning

The Clerk attended the meeting at Somerton and the localism bill and how it related to planning was the major topic. Neighbourhood planning is a key feature of the localism bill and the main aspects are as follows

Neighbourhood planning can only be carried out by Parish and Town Councils unless neither exist in which case it is the responsibility of a neighbourhood forum

The Plan has to have due regard to the strategic development framework set in place by Sedgemoor District Council and recently ratified

The plan can go beyond what is contained within the LDF but cannot take from it. It is therefore a positive proposal rather than a negative one. A process has to be gone through a 10 point plan with the end result being submission, approval and referendum before it can be adopted. Some elements of the previously prepared Parish Plan could be used but it would need to be processed through a statutory process as outlined.

97/12: Cokerhurst Farm Enquiry

The Chairman and other members of the Parish Council along with some 30 members of the public went to recent phase of this enquiry. The Parish Council and residents are optimistic about a positive outcome in the light

Signature of Chairman

of the very good representations that were made both by residents and Council. The Sedgemoor representations were highly regarded and again it is hoped that the quality of these representations will prove a positive outcome for the village of Wembdon. The final phases of this enquiry to be on 14th/15th March

98/12: Quantock Cluster Meeting

There have been concerns raised about the selling off of land around the Quantocks for little financial gain this includes Great wood more on this at further meetings

Matters of Report

The Clerk read out an email from Cllr A Bown in connection with Scrutiny meeting on the 27th February. This email will be circulated in the Councillor files for reading in due course

No other matters were reported

The meeting closed at 9.40pm and the next meeting planned for 10th April at the Parish Centre and will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15pm