

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Council
Owen J Cullwick
IONA
32 Oak Tree Place
Burnham on Sea
Somerset
TA8 2LH
01278 794463
clerk@wembdonpc.co.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Annual Parish Council meeting that was held at St Georges School Wembdon on **May 14th 2012** that commenced at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted'

Present : Councillors M Solomon (Chairman) Cllr J Riddle (Vice Chairman) Cllr T Thayer, Cllr N Harrison Cllr A Reed, and Cllr A Brown, Cllr J Jackson Cllr A Bown the clerk and 2 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"

01/12: Apologies for absence received from Cllr L Burge, Cllr T Thake and Cllr D Bingham. The apologies were accepted by the meeting

02/12: To Receive any declarations of interest. There were no recorded declarations at this meeting.

03/12: The Clerk made a formal apology on behalf of the Parish Council for a matter raised at the February 13th meeting at the Victoria Park Community centre. An item minuted as 44/12 implied that the former owners of the Allotment field had failed to notify the council of a water feed that had been installed with the implication that this had been done without notifying the Parish Council. It later became clear that this was not in fact the case and that a communication error due to the change of clerk had resulted in this misunderstanding.

Election of Officers

04/12: The current chairman relinquished the chair and Vice Chairman Cllr J Riddle took the chair to preside over the election of Chairman.

Signature of Chairman

05/12: Election of Chairman: One Nomination received as Cllr M Solomon this nomination was proposed and seconded and unanimously accepted as the elected person to serve as Chairman for **2012/13**.

06/12: Election of Vice Chairman : One Nomination received as Cllr J Riddle this nomination was proposed and seconded and unanimously accepted as the elected person to serve as Vice Chairman for 2012/13

07/12: Election of Planning Committee: Nominations, proposed and seconded and unanimously elected for the planning committee to remain as currently
Cllr N Harrison, Chairman, Cllr D Bingham, Cllr T Thake, Cllr L Burge
Cllr A Brown.

08/12: Election of Finance Committee: Nominations proposed and seconded and unanimously elected as Cllr M Solomon (Chairman)
Cllr L Burge, Cllr A Reed and Cllr J Jackson

09/12: The two Committees elected by the Council will have full delegation powers to make decisions and bring those decisions before the full council. The exception being the finance committee will not have delegated powers to agree a precept but may only recommend to the full council

10/12: Working Groups It was unanimously agreed to appoint the working groups as follows to serve the Parish Council for the year 2012/13

11/12: Playing Fields and Common: Cllr J Jackson, Cllr D Bingham and Cllr T Thake.

12/12: Highways and Speedwatch: Cllr J Jackson, Cllr T Brown, Cllr T Thayer and Cllr A Reed

13/12: Footpaths and Verges: Cllr N Harrison, Cllr J Jackson and Cllr T Thake.

14/12: Communication and news letters: Cllr J Jackson Cllr D Bingham and Cllr T Thayer.

15/12: Allotments: Cllr T Thayer, Cllr N Harrison.

16/12: Land acquisitions: Cllr M Solomon , Cllr N Harrison and Cllr T Thayer.

17/12: The working groups **do not** have any delegated powers but should be regarded as discussion forums for ideas to bring to the Parish Council for decisions and further discussion.

Signature of Chairman

18/12: Further responsibilities agreed

Cllr Jackson to represent the Parish Council at the Quantock Cluster meetings

Cllr L Burge to continue with all Jubilee projects

Cllr Reed will represent the Parish Council in respect of all matters relating to Hinkley Point Power Stations A, B and C

19/12: Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held at the Parish Centre on **10th April 2012** the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

20/12: Action points circulated paper on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda of the [14th May 2012](#)

Working Groups Reports

Footpaths and Land

21/12: Lighting issue still unresolved but owner is now identified for further correspondence from clerk. The Sedgemoor Strimmer project offer will be taken up by Cllr N Harrison and paid for by the Parish Council. It was reported that 57 acres of land sold near Sandford Corner will be used for strawberry cultivation but more importantly the Parish Council need to be aware of land nearby and keep a watching brief on any potential change of use applied for. It was also resolved to consider in June the scope of any new contract for maintenance once the tendering process has commenced. An advert will be placed after the next meeting seeking applications for tender of this contract.

Action Points

1. Clerk to Contact Owner of land adjacent to the Crowpill Rhyne running as a footpath and public right of way from Church Road to the new Churchfields estate (previously known as Crowpill Lane)
2. Arrangements for Cllr Harrison to attend the Strimmer project Training.

Highways and Speedwatch

Signature of Chairman

22/12: The email received by Chris Betty of Somerset County Council was considered and it was resolved to ask Chris to continue with the project as a matter of some haste. The chairman will also discuss the crossing issues with Cllr Edney. Some confusion over a replacement lamp post in Wares Lane, The clerk indicated that it had been fixed but members not so sure this will be investigated. A member of the speed watch team informed the meeting of 3 outings in the village at varying times have identified fairly large volumes of traffic and recorded higher than permitted speeds on all occasions. The meeting decided to inform PC A Freeman of the results. Bus Shelters along the NDR. First bus to be informed of a need for additional shelters along the NDR Route to encourage the use of Public transport.

Action Points :

- 1.** Clerk to give go ahead to Chris Betty for improvement work
- 2.** Clerk to contact first bus regarding Shelters on NDR
- 3.** Clerk to Write to A Freeman local PC speeding matters
- 4.** Cllr M Solomon to follow up on the crossing with Cllr Edney

Playing Fields

23/12: Signage to be completed for the Playing field. Concerns raised about older children using play equipment. PC Tony Freeman will be asked to investigate. The Binoculars are missing and will be replaced.

Action Points

- 1.** Cllr J Jackson to arrange appropriate signage
- 2.** Cllr M Solomon to re order new Binoculars through Sutcliffe
- 3.** Clerk to write to PC Freeman

Allotments

24/12: Considerable work has now been completed to improve the allotment site and a successful day assisted the process. There is a requirement for Water Troughs x3 and a sum of £ 500.00 was authorised by the Parish Council to include new padlocks and doors for one of the water feeds. The track will need 120 tons of gravel and G Works have been contacted so far with little success this will be pursued. The letters and new policy will go out in May and also invoices for new allotment holders. The Parish Council are keen to ensure that the 8 week rule of the policy is enforced when allotments are left un tended.

Action Points

1. Clerk to send out Policy documents, agreements and letters
2. Cllr T Thayer to arrange water troughs and gravel for track
3. Cllr N Harrison and Cllr T Thayer arranging identification posts

Communications

25/12: Newsletter update and an offer of assistance from Jane Loxton will be gratefully received to assist with the compiling of the news letter. There will also be further discussions in due course regarding the Website and potential for improvement in presentation and content.

Jubilee Celebrations 2012

26/12: A list of published events and time table now available from Cllr T Thayer and Cllr L Burge that incorporate all of the activities over the Jubilee weekend. A decision to purchase 5 jubilee Oaks from trees direct was taken and we have two kind offers of purchasing 2 of them and the Parish Council invite other local residents to sponsor the other 3. These will be purchased by the end of May. Consideration will be given later to the placement of the trees. Janette Burton of Sedgemoor DC Will be approached for advice on planting and positioning. It is also confirmed that the Beacon is registered.

Action Point

1. Clerk to arrange the purchase of the Jubilee Oaks

Correspondence Items

27/12: A circulation file of relevant papers is being circulated around members of the Parish Council.

Finance and to Agree Payments

28/12: Payments

Clerks Salary for May 2012	£ 388.90	
Tax and NI Payments for May 2012	£ 97.20	
GB Sports inspection for March	£18.00	Vat reclaim
Sedgemoor District Council Contract	£1337.86	Vat reclaim
A Sutton Contract March/ April	£735.00	
Wembdon School Hire SCC Jan – Mar	£168.00	
Internal Audit Richard Young	£ 20.00	

Signature of Chairman

New Insurance Provider Zurich 2012/13	£ 725.37
Public Works Loan Board part 1	£ 1345.66
Jubilee Flyers (L Burge)	£ 149.36

29/12: New Insurance provider: The Parish Council have previously insured with AON. As a result of improved cover and lower premiums negotiated the Parish Council have unanimously agreed to transfer the business to Zurich Insurance on a 1 year agreement.

30/12: The annual accounts are approved by the Parish Council and ready to submit to Moore Stephens appointed by the Audit Commission to examine the financial compliance of Parish Councils. The chairman signed the appropriate papers..

31/12: A statement of the Parish Council finances was presented at the meeting and questions invited. The Parish Council have now made provision under the new budget which should ensure adequate funds are allocated and start to build reserves in the next financial year 2012/13

Planning Committee

32/12: There were no planning matters for discussion at this meeting and a summary of 2012 applications was presented to members.

Matters of Consideration

33/12: Planning Inspectorate Open Floor hearings.

Thanks were expressed by the Chairman to the considerable work that was done by Cllr Reed and Cllr Burge in the preparation of the document that formed the basis of the Council response at recent open floor hearings. The Parish Council supported and resolved to agree on the use of this document for this and other matters that may arise in the future on matters relating to the impact of traffic caused by the development of the Hinkley C Project.

34/12: Quantock Cluster meeting 22nd May. Cllr Jackson will as previously represent Wembdon at the forthcoming meeting.

Matters of Report and May agenda items

Signature of Chairman

35/12: The Chairman reported that the Cokerhurst Enquiry will be reporting back by 28th August. Following determination by the Secretary of State

36/12: Item proposed for June agenda is the scope and tender process of the village maintenance contract

The meeting closed at 10.00pm and the next meeting on June 11th 2012 in St Georges School Wembdon at 7.30pm