

**WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council meeting** that was held at Parish Centre Wembdon on **September 20<sup>th</sup> 2012** that commenced at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted'

**Present:** Councillors M Solomon (Chairman ) Cllr J Riddle ( Vice Chairman) Cllr A Reed, Cllr L Burge, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr D Bingham, Cllr T Thake. There were 4 members of the public, Cllr J Edney, Cllr A Bown

There were 3 representations prior to the meeting

*"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"*

**96/12:** Apologies for absence received from Cllr T Thayer and Cllr A Brown and Cllr N Harrison and these were accepted by the meeting. Also at the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting apologies were not recorded for Cllr A Bown which are recorded at this meeting

**97/12:** To Receive any declarations of interest. There was one personal interest recorded from Cllr M Solomon on Correspondence item 112/12 ( b)

**98/12:** Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held at the Parish Centre on **16<sup>th</sup> July 2012** the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

**99/12:** Action points circulated paper on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda of the **20<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

**Working Groups Reports**

**Footpaths and Land**

**100/12** Footpath behind Gypsy lane has become overgrown and is being attended to by Cllr Harrison on his return from holiday. A new path on the edge of Oak Apple Drive is causing some concerns with overgrown scrub. This has been described as an urban Footpath and is the responsibility of the owner Persimmon Homes who will be written to. The Track leading to Allotments has already become untidy with grass growing up through the scalping surface. Andrew Sutton will be asked to quote for this and to spray with weed killer. The entrance to the playing fields from Crossacre is to be dealt with by WCA. Some piping work is to be undertaken on part of the Liddall land by Drainage authority with piping supplied by the Parish Council.

### **Action Points**

1. Clerk to write to Persimmon Homes PLC regarding urban path issues near Oak Apple Drive
2. Cllr Solomon to provide the drainage board with appropriate piping for Liddall Land drainage improvements.
3. Cllr Harrison to follow up behind the Gypsy lane footpath overgrown issue

### **Highways and Speedwatch.**

**101/12:** The meeting was updated on the significant improvements been made in the Wembdon Rise area with new road markings and lines and new signage as a result of the previous discussions with SCC. The Chairman thanked Cllr Edney and asked him to relay the Parish Councils appreciation of the work undertaken.

**102/12:** Clerk is asked to write to Mr Crowley of Crossacre updated information on the previously agreed contribution from the Parish Council to road improvements in the road. The Parish Council have allocated £ 500.00 in the annual budget for this work.

### **Action Points :**

1. Clerk to write to Mr Crowley of Crossacre regarding contribution

### **Playing Fields**

**103/12:** The new rubbish bin to be placed to the right of the bench near the far bridge adjoining the Liddall Land. Thanks were given to Cllr Thake for erecting the new binoculars on the playing fields. And the new signage on the green is now in place. Concerns still be raised about the issue of dog

fouling around this area in particular and a request for Dog warden to attend our October meeting will be made.

### **Action Points**

- 1.** Clerk to arrange for Dog Warden to attend October meeting

### **Allotments**

**104/12:** All is running smoothly at present and the Parish Council want to encourage a meeting of the allotment holders as previously discussed, the water Troughs in place but still need connection

### **Action Points**

- 1.** None from this meeting

### **Communications**

**105/12:** The October newsletter is now being prepared and all items of interest very welcome to keep up the momentum for this publication. It was suggested we include in the minutes some financial data to ascertain how we are doing on income from the newsletter and this will be provided

**106/12:** Cllr Bingham told the meeting that a local contact had agreed to look at the possibility of preparing a new website. and a meeting will be held with a small group led by Cllr Bingham to identify the issues and move the project forward

### **Action Points**

- 1.** Cllr Bingham, Cllr Thayer Clerk and Cllr Burge to meet with John Richards on Website upgrade.

### **Jubilee Celebrations 2012**

**107/12:** Now signed off as a working party and thanks once again given to those who worked hard to make it a great success

### **Correspondence Items**

**108/12:** The following items were made available pre meeting

- ( a ) New External Auditor arrangements for the end of this financial year
- ( b ) Friends of Wembdon Road Cemetery grant request
- ( c ) Somerset Waste Action conference on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Signature of Chairman

- ( d ) Sedgemoor Forum 18<sup>th</sup> October
- ( e ) Sedgemoor planning session 25<sup>th</sup> September will be attended by Clerk and Cllr Burge.
- ( f ) Big Lottery Fund invitation by Liddell Granger ( MP)

### Finance and to Agree Payments

#### **109/12: Payments**

Clerks Salary for July 2012	£ 388.90
Tax and NI Payments for July 2012	£ 97.20
GB Sports June 26 <sup>th</sup> inspection	£ 18.00
A Sutton Contract for August	£ 463.50
Victoria Centre room hire Feb 2012	£ 52,50
SCC School hire	£ 235.20
Sedgemoor Dog Bin Contract Oct- March	£1337.86
Purnells Newsletter printing costs	£ 410.00

**110/12:** It was resolved to make the above Payments

**111/12:** The budget and cash reserves sheets sent out prior to the meeting the budget showing 39% of annual budget after 5 months which is on target. The Parish Council now in receipt of 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of the precept for 2012/13 of £ 17,500 .00

**112/12:** Grant request from Sedgemoor CAB. The Parish Council resolved to place this request along with others for consideration as an agenda item on Finance and general purposes committee in December once the extent of the finances for the current year can be ascertained

### Planning Committee

**113/12:** A planning summary for 2012 was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no further applications to consider by the planning committee at this meeting.

**114/12:** Enforcement notice and subsequent appeal at 5, The Oaks in Wembdon was notified to the Parish Council by Sedgemoor Enforcement officer. The issue arises from the use of the said property for purposes that contravene the planning under Class 3 of local planning restrictions. This is a matter that has perpetuated for some 10 years and the Parish Council fully support the enforcement Officer at Sedgemoor in bringing this property into line with its correct use.

### Matters of Consideration

Signature of Chairman

**115/12: Notice board placement in the village.** As previously identified there is a need to consider the placement of notice boards in the village and to replace the 3 small units with two larger ones. A small group including the clerk, Cllr Jackson and Cllr Reed will meet on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to look at the various site opportunities.

**116/12: Contract and scope of maintenance for 2013 :** A draft scope of the proposed contract was read by the chairman and notice boards in the village have been updated with tender requests. Once the Parish Council have received bids they will be considered by working group in sealed envelopes to maintain fairness and transparency.

**117/12: New Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils.** A new code of conduct must be adopted by Parish Councils this autumn and there are two models for the Council to consider. The first drawn up by NALC ( National Association of Local Councils) and a District Council model supported by the District Council. The District Council model is the one that was unanimously adopted by this meeting and new register of interests documents were given to all members for return within 28 days. All codes will now be lodged with the District Council and member's interests will form part of an open transparent process by the District Council

**118/12: Finance Committee date** this date is fixed for the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 and to be attended by Clerk, Chairman, Cllr Jackson Cllr Burge and Cllr Reed.

**119/12: Newly Launched Allotment Management Software by Colony,** the Clerk is currently trialling this software to assist the Parish Council in managing its allotment resources. It covers invoice and financial controls, Waiting Lists, Agreements and Policies and legislation updates more on this at the next meeting

**120/12: Additional Matter of Consideration:** In view of the recent application for Village Hall and associated facilities for the village it is important for the Parish Council to ensure that any issues affecting public land and the long term future should be looked at by a lawyer expert in the field of land security issues. To that end the clerk will make enquiries for a suitable person to be considered by the Parish Council

### **Matters of Report and October agenda item**

**121/12:** News letter changes to printing supplier in the future

**122/12:** Dog Warden to present at meeting

**123/12:** Police representation

Signature of Chairman

The meeting closed **at 9.30pm** and the next meeting on **October 8<sup>th</sup> 2012**  
in St Georges School Wembdon at 7.30pm