

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council meeting that was held at St Georges School Wembdon on **14th January 2013** 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 J Jackson, Cllr D Bingham, Cllr T Thake. Cllr T Thayer Cllr N Harrison and Cllr L Burge

There were 4 members of the public, and District Councillor A Bown and County Councillor John Edney

"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"

Statement read by chairman from the police: Police report an increase in the number of burglaries and attempted Burglaries in the Wembdon area recently. The areas affected are Wembdon Rise, Northfield and Durlough Road. As of the date of the meeting two individuals apprehended but the public are asked to maintain vigilance.

209/12: No apologies at this meeting

210/12: To Receive any declarations of interest. There was one from Cllr A Reed on item 10.4.

211/12: Dispensation Having full regard for section 33 of the 2011 Localism act the Parish council unanimously voted for a resolution to allow the Parish Council to set a precept level for 2013/14 and to give members dispensation in view of their pecuniary interest as recipients of any Council Tax decisions made by this meeting.

212/12: Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held at St Georges School on **10th December 2012** the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

213/12: Action points circulated paper on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda of the **14th January 2013**

Signature of Chairman

Working Groups Reports

Footpaths and Land

214/12: There were no new issues raised on this working group

Highways and Speedwatch.

215/12: Speed Watch: The local speed watch group were thanked for their continuing efforts with their activities. Speed watch group have requested the re introduction of the permanent signs informing of the speed watch activity. The speed watch group wish for these signs to be permanent. It is envisaged to locate 3 of these signs in different locations and the Parish Council resolved that these signs should be re instated. A further point was also noted regarding the time delays on the pedestrian crossing lights on the NDR at certain times of the day and a request for the County to investigate this.

216/12: Highways: Concerns over a very over grown hedge between 89 and 101 Wembdon Hill will be taken up with the owners by Cllr Reed.

Action Points:

1. OJC to County re Traffic Light delays NDR
2. Cllr Reed to contact owners of the hedge issue on Wembdon Hill

Playing Fields

217/12: Graffiti has been Sprayed on the children's play area equipment and we understand that James Presdee at Sedgemoor may have suitable solvents to deal with this and Cllr Thake will attend to it

Action Points

1. OJC to contact James Presdee for suitable solvents
2. Cllr Thake to attempt to remove graffiti on the Playing field

Allotments

218/12: Just to report that an AGM is to be held 15th January in the Parish Centre

Communications

219/12: Website : Good progress is being made in the developing of the new website. Information to update local organisations is being requested so that the new site has up to date and relevant information

220/12: Newsletter : The next edition now due any further additions welcome before next week.

Correspondence Items

221/12: Sedgemoor letter regarding Parish Council Vacancy

Finance and to Agree Payments

222/12: Payments

Clerks Salary for Jan 2013	£ 388.80
Tax / Ni Payments for Jan 2013	£ 97.20
GB Sports inspection for December 2012	£ 18.00
A Sutton Contract for December 2012	£ 367.50
Glasdon Manufacturing (Salt Bin	£ 172.75
Somerset County Council (Room Hire)	£ 201.60
Bristol Water Company	£ 48.23
Tom Thayer December 12 Refreshments	£ 20.99
Clerks Allowance/ Office Expenses Oct- Dec 12	£ 305.21

223/12: It was resolved to approve the above Payments

224/12: Precept 2013/14: The finance committee met on the 7th January to consider the budget for the period **April 2013 to March 2014**. The suggested budget was agreed by the finance committee and resulted in a proposal at this meeting for a precept of **£ 42,500.00** this figure takes account of proposed expenditure and income and reflects both the Council's aspirations for village improvement and its compliance with holding of reasonable reserves for future contingency. The meeting unanimously resolved to set the precept level for the year **2013/14** at **£42,500** having taken full account of the dispensation clause to members as outlined in section **211/12** of these minutes

Planning Committee

225/12: Planning application **51/12/00024 Wembdon Orchard three storey dwelling:** The Parish Council supported this application on the grounds of appropriate use of existing plot

Signature of Chairman

226/12: Planning application **51/12/00025. Greenacre Single Storey Extension** :The Parish Council supported this application on the grounds of enhancement to the property and surroundings.

227/12: Planning application **51/12/00026.** Wembdon Hill Change of use of the property and under changes to Core Strategy at the District Council this application has been re submitted for barn conversion, The Parish

Council support this application but with a proviso that the outside walls are retained in keeping with Dutch Barn features.

228/12: Planning Application **51/12/27:** Perrywood Farm two storey extension. The Parish Council supported this application on the grounds of no nearby properties affected and enhancement to existing arrangements.

229/12: Planning Application **51/12/00029:** Brantwood Road Single Storey extension. The Parish Council supported this application on the grounds of improved facility that does not impede neighbouring properties.

230/12: A Planning summary was produced for members of the Parish Council. And all responses to the planning applications to me made electronically on 15th January

Matters of Consideration

231/12: Parish Council Vacancy. A period of notice of 14 clear days excluding bank holidays and Saturday and Sundays was given during the latter part of December and the early part of January. During this period the Sedgemoor District Council received no applicants for the current vacancy leaving the way forward for a Co-option of a suitable person who in the first instance should come from the Victoria Ward of Wembdon if that does not result in a suitable applicant then it will be open to the Parish Council to select a person from within the village of Wembdon. It is hoped to have a suitable person in place before March 2013

232/12: Flooding Issues in the Village: It was resolved at the previous meeting in December to set up a multi agency meeting in the village with the Parish Council to highlight the various concerns on Rhynes, Water and Drainage matters. This meeting will be set up to take place in February and more on this at the next meeting in February.

233/12: Cllr Thake declared a prejudicial interest in the following matter and therefore left the meeting at this point.

233/12: Recent Parking Concerns in the Countess Avenue area of the village: Resident has communicated with the Parish Council on concerns over parking in the area this has resulted in some bad feeling in the road and the problem is exacerbated by limited spaces available and the increasing number of two or three car households. One suggestion put forward is to investigate the possibility of tarmac of a nearby green area but this is unlikely to be universally popular. The Parish Council resolved

to contact Chris Betty who may have some alternative suggestions to this ongoing issue.

234/12 Cllr Thake returned to the meeting having taken no part in the discussions.

235/12: Wembdon Village Hall Trust : The Chairman pointed out that this development is a significant and exciting phase in the history of the village and the Council need to be aware of progress and any implications for the Parish Council. To that end some items of ongoing interest are identified

Legal matters now being finalised between applicants and District Council
Access to the site will be the first priority

Land drainage works will begin with hedge removal and re alignment

The site will be properly fenced during all construction activities

Parish Council support this application

236/12: Slurry Digester Proposals.

Active work on the above project has now been stopped by the enforcement department of Sedgemoor District Council. A successful planning application will be required before this work can continue. There are significant concerns in the area of Straight Drove about heavy plant and vehicles using a very unsuitable route to this projected development and all of the associated issues surrounding it including the smell that would be transmitted. Once the planning application is before the Parish Council it will make its observations on the merits or otherwise of such a scheme.

Matters of report

Defibrillator training on 22/12/2013 with 5 volunteers. This is a 4 hour session in the daytime with a public briefing session in the evening between 7 and 8pm for awareness. This will be held in the Parish Centre Hut centre next to the coffee shop

The meeting ended at 9.55pm and the next meeting on February 11th 2013 in St Georges School Wembdon at 7.30pm.

Signature of Chairman