

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 **April 14<sup>th</sup> 2014** that commenced at **7.45pm** when the following business was transacted'

**Present:** Councillors Cllr M Solomon (Chairman) Cllr T Thake. and Cllr N Harrison, Cllr A Reed Cllr J Woods and Cllr J Riddle, Cllr L Burge There was 2 members of the public, and District District Councillor A Bown and I Dyer County Councillor J 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"*

**309/13:** To receive apologies for absence: Apologies received from Cllr T Thayer and Cllr J Jackson and apologies were accepted unanimously.

**310/13:** To Receive any declarations of interest. Personal Interest on all matters relating to the School from Cllr Thake

**311/13:** Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held at St Georges School on **10<sup>th</sup> March 2014** was accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.

Cllr Thake left the meeting at this point in respect of his declaration 310/13

**312/13: Planning Application for the extension of St Georges School.**

Cllrs attended the regulation committee decision making meeting earlier in the month and provided the meeting with the views of the Wembdon Parish Council who are opposed to the proposed plans. The regulation committee granted the application with all but one member voting in favour. The Parish Council have taken the view that this process was a forgone conclusion at the outset and that the proposal lacked proper understanding of the issues and concerns. It takes the view that the

Consultative process was poor and takes little account of the local view to maintain the schools village status. Each member of the Parish Council was given an opportunity to put their views prior to a decision being taken on the way forward. The chairman asked for comments from District and County Councillors who although appeared sympathetic to the view of the Parish Council decided to vote for the scheme on planning grounds which they felt were substantial.

It was resolved that the Parish Council will discuss the matter with SALC to ascertain the principles of a judicial review before considering further their response. The head of the school has sent a letter to the Council offering consultation on a cycle route to the school and has invited two members of the Parish Council to discuss the matter with him. Cllr A Reed and Cllr N Harrison have agreed to take part in this process on behalf of the Parish Council. The Parish Council will write to the school Headmaster to confirm the process.

Cllr Thake returned to the meeting at this point

### **Working Groups Reports**

#### **Footpaths and Land**

##### **313/13: Maintenance Contract Extension**

Our maintenance contractor has agreed to extend the scope of his contract to include the allotment track near the car parking area and to do a 4 yearly strimming on the site at an additional cost to the Parish Council of **£250.00** per annum. It was resolved by the Parish Council to make this extension to the maintenance contract.

##### **314/13: Rhyne Litter concerns**

Concerns were raised about increasing levels of litter in the Rhynes particularly now that there is little water. In particular the Crow pill Rhyne from the playing field to the NDR, and the Rhyne bordering Chilton Trinity. A give a day has been suggested in conjunction with clean surroundings and Drainage board. The 21<sup>st</sup> June has been put forward as a suggested date

#### **Action Points**

OJC to make contact with Drainage Board  
Cllr N Harrison to contact Clean surroundings at Sedgemoor  
OJC to confirm contract extension with A Sutton

#### **Highways and Speed watch.**

### **315/13: Skimmerton Lane one way**

District Councillor Bown told the meeting there has been contact with the local PC Anthony Freeman who stated that he has been monitoring the recently imposed temporary one way in Skimmerton Lane. And all motorists have been warned who are in breach of this road change and that it will continue to be monitored

### **316/13: Sandford Corner**

It was reported that this project is ahead of schedule and should be completed before July

## **Playing Fields**

### **317/13: Play Surfaces**

The condition of these are to be monitored over the next few months prior to any decisions being made regarding long term refurbishment.

### **318/13: Play Equipment**

A suggestion made that the Parish Council look into the updating of the existing equipment over the next couple of years as it is now beginning to look dated

## **Allotments**

### **319/13: Water Piping Leaks**

This problem has now been rectified and clerk to inform Cllr Burge of the meter number to confirm metering arrangements with the Bristol water authority.

## **Communications.**

### **320/13 : Parish Paper :**

Now nearing the next edition and final contributions being sought

### **321/13: Website**

All is now working well and an email will be sent to Parish.net to request the formal removal of the old site

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## **Correspondence Items**

**322/13:** Circulation File commenced at this meeting

## Finance and to Agree Payments

### **322/13: Payments**

Clerks Salary for April 2014 revised rate	<b>£404.40</b>
Tax / Ni Payments for April 2014	<b>£101.00</b>
GB Sports Inspection Invoice March 2014	<b>£18.00</b>
Somerset County Council room Hire	<b>£84.00</b>
Parrett Drainage Board Rates for Half year	<b>£14.42</b>
Money soft Payroll Subscription	<b>£67.20</b>
Clerks Expenses and allowance for Jan to March	<b>£305.93</b>
SALC Annual subscription 2014/15	<b>£786.54</b>
Holley and Steer Legal fees	<b>£600.00</b>

**323/13:** It was resolved to approve these payments

**324/13:** It was resolved to agree on a number of statutory payments to be made and therefore will not require separate agenda inclusion.

Village Maintenance Contract	<b>£6515.00</b> to include additional
	<b>£250.00</b>
Clerks Salary / Tax	<b>£6064.00</b>
GB Sports Monthly inspection	<b>£216.00</b>
Sedgemoor Waste Bin Contract	<b>£3065.00</b>
Sedgemoor Dog Bin Waste Contract	<b>£390.00</b>

All of these payments will not appear on monthly agenda's unless there is a change to the agreed figures in April but will appear on the minutes

### **325/13: Annual Accounts 2013/14**

The annual accounts were circulated to members together with an asset register of Council owned land and equipment

**326/13:** The clerk went through the accounts and asked for any questions however the finance committee has previously examined the accounts and recommended that the Parish Council accept the accounts pre audit. It was also resolved that the accrual figures as shown in the accounts should be agreed as follows

1. Legal Fees to Holly and Steer **£1000.00**
2. Contribution to new Village Hall Kitchen **£2000.00**

- |    |                                 |          |
|----|---------------------------------|----------|
| 3. | Lolicam Funding                 | £1000.00 |
| 4. | CAB Bridgwater grant            | £120.00  |
| 5. | Playing Field path re alignment | £1000.00 |

### **327/13: Rialtos Software**

The clerk identified future compliance issues that render our current non integrated use of spreadsheets for financial controls unworkable. To that end software specifically designed for Parish and Town councils has been devised by RBS Swindon. Several local parish councils already using successfully including Nether Stowey, Puriton, East Huntspill, Bleadon and Burnham Town Council. The finance committee approved the use of this software and also to share the cost with Brent Knoll but with an independent user licence. It was resolved to purchase both the finance and the Allotment software and to approve the training.

### **Matters of Consideration**

#### **328/13: Wembdon Village Hall Trust:**

No new issues raised at this meeting

#### **329/13: Persimmon Land**

This matter is currently progressing through our Solicitor Holley and Steer

### **Matters of report**

#### **Agenda Items for May 2014**

Annual Parish Council Meeting and election of officers  
Defibrillator Training updates

**The meeting ended at 9.00pm** and the next meeting on **May 12<sup>th</sup> 2014** in St Georges School Wembdon at 7.30pm

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Signature of Chairman