

## **WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council** held at St George's School Wembdon on **27th March 2017** that commenced at **8pm** when the following business was transacted

**Present:** Cllr N Harrison, Cllr D Gliddon, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr A Reed, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr R Webber, Cllr J Woods.

County and District Cllr A Bown.

A presentation was given by John Mason regarding the proposals for Greenway Garage.

**Parish Clerk:** Tony Jay      **Police:** None

**184.16 To receive any apologies for absence.**

Cllr M Solomon, Cllr B Webb, District and County Cllrs I Dyer, J Edney and L Duddridge

**185.16 To receive declarations of any pecuniary, prejudicial or personal interests on items relating to this agenda.**

No declarations were received.

**186.16 To receive a Police report regarding crime reports and crime statistics.**

No Police report had been received and there was no Police presence.

**187.16 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017.**

**Resolved:** To approve the minutes as a correct record.

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (2 in favour, 5 abstentions)**

The Chairman signed the minutes as being a correct record.

**188.16 To receive the Clerks report.**

Signature of Chairman

Cllr T Thake has resigned his position as Parish Councillor since the last meeting. The vacancy has been advertised and the Parish Council can now co-opt a new Councillor should they wish to do so.

Mr Thake was thanked for all his hard work as a Parish Councillor.

A request has been received from a researcher at Leeds University requesting sightings of Italian Lizards. The Parish Councillors agreed to simply respond stating that there is a small colony of lizards living in Wembdon.

**189.16 To receive an update regarding a Neighbourhood Plan from Cllrs Harrison and Reed on behalf of the steering group.**

There has been no update. This will be adjourned to the June meeting.

**190.16 To consider a request from a member of the public that the potholes in the area adjacent to the garages outside 41, 43, 45 and 47 Church Road be repaired.**

The Parish Council owns the land but receives no income from owning it.

**Resolved:** That Cllr Harrison will arrange for emergency repairs to be made to the potholes, on the understanding that this would not set a precedent for future potholes to be repaired. The Clerk will write to the householders giving them three long term options:

- i) The land could be sold to the householders for a peppercorn charge, with the householders paying the legal expenses involved.
- ii) Agree an annual rental income that would pay for a repair to the road surface every ten years.
- iii) Agree that the householders can maintain the land but it remains Council property.

A response within 28 days will be requested.

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

**191.16 To receive a report from Cllr Webber on the Footpaths and Verges.**

The usage of Moore's Lane by vehicular traffic has increased recently, and the verges, hedges and banks are being degraded and destroyed by the traffic.

The Clerk was asked to report this County Highways, although the Councillors felt that this is a matter that the resident should have reported directly to County Highways herself.

**192.16 To receive a report from Cllr Harrison on Highways and Speedwatch.**

Speedwatch has been put on the back burner recently. The team should be operating again shortly.

Signature of Chairman

We are waiting for the SID posts to be installed, but County Highways have identified posts that can be used in the interim. The SID will be operating in the next few weeks.

**193.16 To receive a report from Cllr Webb on the Playing Fields.**

Cllr Webb provided the following report to the meeting.

- i) The metal fencing has been completed by Rodway Fencing around the junior children's play area. "The green colour seems to have the approval having had comments from the public"
- ii) With reference to that fencing a report has been sent to WPC from GB sports and Leisure regarding some issues.
  - a. Thread length on some of the fixings.
  - b. One loose post.
- iii) These issues have been identified on that report as low risk but will need attention.
- iv) Four metal posts have been installed and signs fitted stating dogs to be kept on leads and clean up. However there is one additional post to install when the sports hall is completed.
- v) All the metal posts had no weather protection against corrosion however this issue has now been resolved with cleaning and painting all five.
- vi) (Observation) whilst working on the post many dogs are **not** being kept on leads as requested by the signage in the playing field areas.
- vii) There have been two concrete bases installed one for seating and a smaller one for a litter bin.

**194.16 To receive a report from Cllr Harrison on the Allotments.**

The allotment AGM took place earlier that evening. About 20 allotment holders attended. There are now two vacant allotments.

**195.16 To receive a report from Cllrs Jackson regarding communications.**

A new magazine should be produced in May or June. Criticisms have been received that some people did not receive a magazine, even though it had been delivered to all areas. It could now be the case that a delivered magazine may be viewed as a luxury. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

**196.16 To receive an update on the Village Green and Village Hall project from Cllr Solomon.**

The work on the hall is progressing well, and the official opening is set for July 21<sup>st</sup>. The Cricket Club are very active and will be using the hall facilities from April 15<sup>th</sup>. The first hall booking will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Signature of Chairman

The base for the new waste bin has been installed and a bin has been delivered and will be installed shortly. The same applied to the new dog bin. A base for a new bench has been installed by the Trust, and the bench is being funded by donations.

**197.16 To consider possible actions by the Council to maintain and generally improve the “Wembdon Streetscene”.**

The work to the walls at 1 Church Road has been agreed, and the work will be carried out.

The bus stop and telephone box are eyesores. As the phone box will be removed at some point in the next 18 months it will no longer be maintained or cleaned by BT.

The bus stop can be cleaned as part of the next Give a Day.

Some of the streetlights in Church Road, Crossacre and Greenacre only work sporadically. This will be reported to SCC street lighting department.

**198.16 To consider the Parish Council’s response to Sedgemoor DC’s initial consultation document for the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders**

**Resolved:** To respond as follows:

1. Wembdon Parish Council would like to include within the list of “dog exclusion areas” the fenced children’s play area located within Wembdon Playing Fields.
2. Also to include within the list of “dogs are to be kept on a lead” the whole area now named as “The Green at Wembdon” but excluding the area known as Wembdon Parkland.
3. Also that the following areas to be generally covered under the public space protection order (because of problems with illegal drinking and drug taking) “the whole area now known as The Green at Wembdon, including the area as previously known as Wembdon Playing Fields and also the area now known as Wembdon Parkland”

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

**199.16 To consider a financial update and to approve payments:**

- (a) Statutory Payments as per agreement under minute no 324/13
- (b) Non Statutory Payments List:

Cheque no	Payee	Detail	Amount
300607	Wembdon Village Hall and Playing Fields Trust	Donation	£2,000.00
300608	Wembdon Parish Centre	Donation	£2,000.00
300613	RT Signs	Dog signs clips	£103.99
300614	Sedgemoor DC	Dog waste bin and litter bin	£253.20
300615	Rodway Fencing**	Fencing for children’s play area	£4,800.00
300617	Wraxall and Failand Parish	Reimbursement of	£33.00

Signature of Chairman

	Council	fees paid for Clerk to attend training events	
300619	The Welding Supplier	Supply of posts	£283.20
300620	B and Q	Paint for posts	£43.00
300621	Sedgemoor DC	Dog bin emptying	£388.27

\*\* This sum will be reimbursed by SDC

**Resolved:** To approve the statutory and non-statutory payments.

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members

**200.16 To consider matters of report:**

- (a) Agenda items for the next meeting
- (b) Chairman
- (c) Clerk
- (d) Members

**201.16 To consider the three tenders received for the maintenance contract**

Four tenders were received. One arrived after the closing date for tenders, and so it was decided that this could not be considered. The other three tenders were considered.

**Resolved:** To award the contract to the contractor who had submitted the lowest tender.

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

**202.16 To consider the following planning application:**

51/17/00004/DT. Erection of single storey conservatory to rear (North) elevation. Greenway Farm, 5 Skimmerton Lane, Wembdon, Bridgwater, TA5 2A

**Resolved:** To make no objection to this application

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

51/17/00006/LE. Retention of the change of use of land to site two caravans. Land to the North East Of, Moor-hen Farm, Perry Green, Wembdon, Bridgwater, TA5 2BA

51/17/00007/LE. Change of use of land from equestrian to agricultural. Land to the North East Of, Moor-hen Farm, Perry Green, Wembdon, Bridgwater, TA5 2BA

It was decided that the above two applications should be considered together, as they both relate to the same piece of land.

**Resolved:** To object to both applications as this is in an area that has been developed to full capacity. This area has been earmarked for no further

Signature of Chairman

development. The land in question is too small to be considered for agricultural use. The Parish Council objects to the presence of the caravans as it is clear that a Class Q application will follow if the retention of the caravans is allowed, which the Parish Council would strongly object to.

**The resolution was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)**

**203.16 Date of next meeting:** 24th April 2017 at St. Georges School, Wembdon.

Please note that this is a change from the published date of 17<sup>th</sup> April. The Parish Council meeting will commence at 7pm followed by the Annual Parish meeting at 8pm.

The meeting concluded at 9.45pm.

Signature of Chairman