

## **WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council** held at The Parish Centre Wembdon on **16th<sup>th</sup> May 2016** that commenced at **7.30pm** when the following business was transacted

**Present:** Cllr M Solomon, Cllr D Gliddon, Cllr N Harrison, Cllr A Reed, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr T Thake, Cllr R Webber.

County and District Cllrs A Bown and L Duddridge

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

**7/16 To elect a Chairman of the Parish Council for 2016/17**

**Resolved:** To elect Cllr Solomon as Chairman

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

**8/16 To request the Chairman to sign a declaration of acceptance of office.**

The Chairman signed the declaration of office

**9/16 To receive the Chairman's welcome to the meeting.**

The Chairman invited the public to the meeting.

**10/16 To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2016/17.**

**Resolved:** To elect Cllr Harrison as Vice Chairman

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

**11/16 To request the Vice-Chairman to sign a declaration of acceptance of office.**

The Vice Chairman signed the declaration of office.

**12/16 To receive any apologies for absence**

Apologises had been received from Cllrs Bingham, Jackson and Woods.

Signature of Chairman

**13/16 To receive declarations of any pecuniary, prejudicial or personal interests on items relating to this agenda.**

No declarations were received.

**14/16 To appoint members to serve on the following committees and working groups: Planning; Finance; Footpaths and Verges; Highways and Speedwatch; Playing Fields; Allotments; Communications (website and parish paper); Staffing and Wembdon Parkland.**

**Resolved:** To appoint the following committees and working groups (Cllr initials, leader in bold):

Planning:	<b>NH</b> ; DB; DG; TT; JW; RW
Finance and General Purposes:	<b>MS</b> ; AR; JR
Footpaths and Verges:	<b>RW</b> ; DG
Highways and Speedwatch:	<b>RW</b> ; JJ; AR
Playing Fields:	<b>DB</b> ; JJ; JR; TT
Allotments:	<b>NH</b> ; JW
Communications:	<b>DG</b> ; DB; JW
Parish Paper:	<b>JJ</b> ; AR
Staffing:	<b>MS</b> ; DB; AR; JR
Wembdon Parkland:	<b>MS</b> ; DB; NH
SID project:	<b>DG</b> ; NH
Give a day:	<b>NH</b> ; JW
NDR access project:	<b>RW</b>
Village Hall trustee:	<b>NH</b>

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

**15/16 To appoint members to serve on the following liaison groups: EDF/Hinkley Point; Quantock Cluster Group; Bridgwater Cluster Group; St. Georges School Traffic Team; Neighbourhood Plan Team and Village Hall.**

**Resolved:** To appoint the following representatives:

EDF/Hinkley Point liaison team	Anne Reed
Quantock Cluster Group	Anne Reed, Jo Jackson
Bridgwater Cluster Group	Julia Riddle
St George's School Traffic Planning Team	Julia Riddle
Neighbourhood Plan	Anne Reed
Village Hall Liaison	Neil Harrison

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

**16/16 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**

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

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

Signature of Chairman

**17/16 To approve the annual governance statement and the accounting statements for 2015/16**

**Resolved:** To approve the annual governance statement and the accounting statement.

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

**18/16 To receive the Clerks report**

All but two of the allotment holders have now paid for 2016/17. The remaining two will receive eviction notices.

Two of the roadside signs advertising tradesmen have been removed. Work is continuing to ensure that the third sign is removed. The planning enforcement team at SDC have a huge backlog of cases and Parish Councils will be asked to make initial enquiries in regard to violations of planning laws if they want the matter to be progressed quickly.

Recent incidents of disorderly behaviour at Wembdon Parklands were discussed. The culprits are youths aged about 15 to 16 years of age. Fires have been started. Youths have been climbing the barrier around the Village Hall and entering the building site. The Police have taken positive action, confiscating alcohol and making youths clear up their litter.

**19/16 To receive a Police report regarding crime reports and crime statistics.**

There was no Police presence at the meeting. The Clerk read the Police report that had been provided.

There have been some shed burglaries in the area recently.

Parking issues at Viscount Square were discussed. Vehicles are parking on pavements and on junctions. District Councillor Duddridge and the Clerk will contact the Police asking them to make periodic checks in the area, and to speak to the owners of vehicles parked carelessly.

**20/16 To receive an update regarding a Neighbourhood Plan from Cllrs Harrison and Reed on behalf of the steering group.**

There have been no developments since the last meeting. The Clerk was asked to upload the old Parish Plan onto the website for reference purposes. It was agreed to remove this from the agenda for six months.

**21/16 To receive a report from Cllr Webber on the Footpaths and Verges.**

SCC have offered to give the Parish Council a free petrol strimmer, but anyone who uses it has to complete a half-day training course. We have to pay half of the cost of the course. SCC would pay the other half. A training session will be arranged for any interested Councillors.

The paths are looking very good at present. The hedge at the top of Wembdon Hill opposite Cokerhurst has been cut back, which is a great improvement.

**22/16 To receive a report from Cllr Reed on Highways and Speedwatch.**

Signature of Chairman

The NDR speeding reports have shown that vehicles are travelling slower than in the past.

**23/16 To receive a report from Cllr Thake on the Playing Fields.**

It was proposed that one of the benches from the allotments should be situated on the vacant concrete slab near the litter bin.

**Resolved:** To approve the placement of the bench.

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

EDF money is available from Somerset Activities Sports Partnership for the purchase of play equipment. The Clerk was asked to contact Julie Cooper at SDC regarding this.

**24/16 To discuss the areas of Wembdon Parkland where dogs will need to be kept on a lead.**

Cllr Gliddon will consult with Fiona Dixon the dog warden to see what she suggests with regard to the area of The Green comprising of the playing fields and the new Village Green and what she would be prepared to enforce. He will report back to the next meeting.

**25/16 To consider the repair or replacement of the fence surrounding the children's play area at Wembdon Parkland.**

This will be adjourned to the next meeting to enable the Councillors to inspect the fence prior to making any decisions.

**26/16 To approve the appointment of GB Sports and Leisure to carry out the annual playground inspection.**

**Resolved:** To approve the appointment of GB Sports.

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

**27/16 To receive a report from Cllr Harrison on the Allotments.**

The Clerk was thanked for tightening up the arrangements for allotment payments this year.

**28/16 To receive a report from the Communications Working Group, Cllrs Jackson and Bingham.**

There was nothing to report.

**29/16 To receive an update on the Village Green and Village Hall project from Cllr Solomon.**

Cllr Harrison will be providing the update in the future. Tenders for the completion of the project are being analysed, which is a complicated process. The project should be completed in around 24 to 26 weeks' time. Tenders for the new road entrance are slow in coming in. The contractors recommended by SCC have not submitted

Signature of Chairman

tenders. SCC have recommended further companies so hopefully tenders will be arriving shortly.

Cricket matches are now taking place on the square, which bring a lovely 'village feel' to the area.

**30/16 To consider possible actions by the Council to maintain and generally improve the 'Wembdon Streetscene'.**

Cllrs were asked to examine the posts on the raised footpaths and report back to the next meeting. The phone box is getting dirty again. The Clerk will ask for it to be cleaned. The bus shelter needs tidying up. The Clerk will find out who is responsible for the maintenance of the bus shelter.

**31/16 To approve the renewal of the insurance contract with Zurich Insurance PLC.**

**Resolved:** To approve the renewal of the insurance contract with Zurich Insurance for a five year term.

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

**32/16 To approve the grant of £2,000 to St. George's Parish Centre when the Parish Centre project is completed, and an invoice for this sum is received**

**Resolved:** To confirm the previously made commitment to donate £2,000 when the project is completed and the invoice is received.

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

The Clerk will enquire with Julie Cooper of SDC to see if a letter of commitment will suffice at this stage.

**33/16 To consider a request for a donation from Home Start**

This will be adjourned to the June meeting.

**34/16 To consider a financial update and to approve payments:**

(a) Statutory Payments as per agreement under minute no 324/13

Clerks Salary for April 2016	£724.96
HMRC Tax for April 2016	£222.52
GB Sports for April 2016	£18.00
Andrew Sutton Contract for April 2016	£664.00

(b) Non Statutory Payments List:

SCC	Room Hire	£28.00
SDC	Dog bin emptying	£1505.09
Parish Centre	Room hire	£34.00
SALC	Annual subscription	£823.96
Harris and Collard	Excavator hire	£212.40

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

Signature of Chairman

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

**35/16 To consider matters of report:**

Cllr Thake said that Cavanna Homes have contacted the Primary School to enquire as to pupil availability should they obtain permission to build a major housing development in the village.

**36/16 Date of next meeting:** 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7pm in St. Georges School, Wembdon.

**The meeting ended at 9.15pm**

Signature of Chairman