

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Clerk
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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at St George's School Wembdon on **17th October 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, L Duddridge

One member of the public was present.

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

93/16 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Bingham, Jackson and Wood.

Also from County and District Cllrs I Dyer and J Edney.

94/16 To receive declarations of any pecuniary, prejudicial or personal interests on items relating to this agenda.

No declarations were received.

95/16 To receive a Police report regarding crime reports and crime statistics.

No Police report had been received. Photographs of the young people who have been causing problems on the village green have been circulated to the Police.

96/16 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th September 2016.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record, with one amendment. The bus shelter needs to be 'smarted up' with a thorough cleaning, rather than needing a 'lick of paint'

The Chairman signed the amended minutes as being a correct record.

97/16 To receive the Clerks report.

The Clerk said that everything that he wished to comment upon will be covered later in the agenda.

98/16 To receive a report from Cllr Webber on the Footpaths and Verges

Signature of Chairman

No problems have been reported. The paths have been cut and are in good condition. A request was submitted to SDC for a caravan in the field between Blakes Lane and Moores Lane to be removed. This has now happened.

99/16 To consider the tarmacking of the bottom part of the footpath between the end of Wares Lane to the NDR.

This was brought to the attention of SCC, who were supportive of the concept but would not be able to contribute to it financially.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would support this proposal, in principle. The cost of this work should be investigated. Cllr Webber will contact Avalon Surfacing, Gerald Doble, Charlie Lynch and Pete Phillips to get rough ideas of the costs involved. Cllr Webber will report back to the next meeting.

100/16 To receive a report from Cllr Reed on Highways and Speedwatch

Cllr Riddle reported that the road surface is breaking up at the junction of Greenacre and Church Road. This will be reported to SCC.

No report was received from speedwatch. The team have not been operating recently.

In future, Cllr Webber will report on highways and speedwatch matters.

101/16 To receive an update on the SID installation from Cllr Gliddon

Cllr Harrison reported that the training morning had now been set for 9th November. The attendees will be Peter Prole, John Robins, the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Lorraine Burge. The Chairman will be inviting Mark Eddington to attend.

If anyone else in the community would like to be involved then volunteers would be welcomed.

The SID has been ordered. The posts will be installed shortly. Hopefully everything will be installed and operating before the end of the year.

102/16 To consider a response to an email received from SCC regarding parking on Wembdon Rise and parking on the double yellow lines outside the Post Office

In regard to the parking on Wembdon Rise, **it was unanimously resolved** to support the proposal to *'shift the 'gap' 10 metres further back to allow more cars to get in ahead of the traffic lights'*.

In regard to the proposal to *'mark a couple of limited waiting bays along with 20min timings between Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm for shoppers parking on the double yellow lines outside the post office'*, **it was unanimously resolved** not to support the proposal as the 'status quo' regarding parking on this section of road should be maintained in the best interests of the residents of the village.

103/16 To receive a report from Cllr Bingham on the Playing Fields

The fields have been spiked and sanded. They look fantastic. The rhynes are being cleared, which is being arranged by the Chairman.

104/16 To receive an update on the planting of the Parish Oaks from Cllr Solomon

On 12th November the first round of tree planting will be taking place at the front of the village hall. This will be included in the next 'give a day'. 200 saplings will be arriving from Woodland Trust. Volunteers to help with the planting are needed.

Signature of Chairman

The Parish Oaks have been ordered, and should be planted prior to the 12th November. Cannington College will be involved in the siting plan for the trees.

105/16 To consider the fencing around the toddlers play area

Sealed bids for the work have not been received yet. Two indicative quotes have been received, both of which are in the region of £5,300. RLT2 funding will be sought by the Chairman.

SDC have asked that the present hedging is removed. **It was unanimously resolved** to agree that the hedge be removed.

There will be provision to increase the size of the fenced area in the future if necessary.

106/16 To receive a report from Cllr Harrison on the Allotments and Give an Hour

Requests have been made for people to rent the available allotments. Hopefully all will be rented shortly.

The recent 'Give a Day' was a great success. Many people gave up their time voluntarily for the good of the community.

107/16 To receive a report from the Communications Working Group, Cllrs Jackson and Bingham

The latest Parish Magazine is a fantastic production. Thanks again to Cllr Jackson and her team. There have been problems getting volunteers to deliver the magazines. District Cllr Duddridge was thanked for his offer to help deliver in the Wembdon Victoria ward.

108/16 To receive an update on the Village Green and Village Hall project from Cllr Harrison.

Cllr Harrison gave an update. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Bown for her efforts in making the new road access taking place. The people who helped at the recent 'Give a Day' all expressed their appreciation for the work that is now taking place in creating the new entrance. The work involved in finishing the hall project should commence shortly. The scaffolding will be removed very soon. A very positive meeting has taken place with the Church and the Churchwardens in regards to the 'Sunshiner's wing'.

109/16 To consider possible actions by the Council to maintain and generally improve the "Wembdon Streetscene".

The painting of the raised posts in Church Road has been completed and looks lovely. The railing by the millennium bridge is now looks rusty. Cllr Webber volunteered to organise the purchase of some paint and to carry out this task.

There are still some advertising signs in the village which have not been removed. Councillors were asked to pass details of the signs to the Clerk.

110/16 To agree a response to the Government Capping Consultation document.

It was unanimously resolved to oppose the capping proposals.

The Clerk will write to the local authority and the local MP, quoting examples of the projects which have been achieved because of the increased precept demand in recent years.

Signature of Chairman

111/16 To consider the scope of works and the tendering process for the renewal of the maintenance contract.

The scope of work has been agreed. Andrew Sutton is happy to continue with his work on a temporary basis.

The new contract will be put out to tender, with advertisements being placed in the Bridgwater Mercury and on our website. The Chairman will draft an advertisement for the new contract to commence in April 2017. The scope can be split into separate parts, with contractors invited to tender for all parts, or a single part of the work.

There will be a tight checklist of the work that is taking place, and the successful contractor will be asked to submit a monthly report to the Clerk.

The Clerk agreed to be the central point for reports of outstanding work that needs to be done by the new contractor, when appointed.

112/16 To receive a clarification from Cllr Harrison on the request for access across Wembdon Common from St George's Church.

A very productive meeting has taken place, and plans are in place for a 5 bar gate and pedestrian access to be installed. Generally speaking, everything on the common will be returned to its present state after the work has taken place. The Clerk will write to the vicar saying that the Parish Council will allow the requested use of the common during the period of rebuilding.

113/16 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:

Decorating Direct	Paint for raised posts	£70.02
Sedgemoor DC	Dog bin emptying	£1,505.09
GB Sports	Playground Inspection	£18.00
Parish Magazine Printing	Printing	£433.00
Thornhayes Nursery	Oak Trees	£3,120.00

It was unanimously resolved to approve the statutory and non-statutory payments.

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members. It was commented upon that the advertisement revenue from the newsletter had dropped. This figure will need to be revised in the budget for the next year.

114/16 To consider matters of report:

A letter has been sent to SDC regarding the Quantock Cluster. No response has been received. The Parish Council may be asked to support this financially.

Gary Warren at Dunball was contacted by the Clerk asking for a site meeting regarding the raised kerbs in Crossacre. No response has been received. The Clerk will chase this up.

The hedges on the NDR footpath from Crowpill Lane to Chilton Street now need cutting, and this is a safety hazard. The Clerk was asked to contact Scott Mason at SDC to ask for pressure to be put on Notaro for this work to be carried out.

The powers that can be used to evict travellers were discussed. Immediate action may need to be taken if travellers de-camp in the village. **It was unanimously resolved** to delegate authority to the Chairman and Clerk to take action if this situation arises.

Signature of Chairman

A streetlamp in Crossacre is not working. If there is a number on the streetlamp then it is 'adopted' and therefore the problem should be reported to SCC. The Chairman will check the streetlamp shortly.

The BT payphone was discussed. **It was unanimously resolved** to ask BT to remove the payphone. When this has occurred the Parish Council will decide what to do with the space made available, possibly for the installation of an extra notice board.

A request has been made for a dog bin to be installed along the path from Dovai Drive to the NDR between the housing development and Chiltern Trinity School. The Chairman reported that he has walked this path a few times recently, and has never seen any dog walkers or dog mess. This request will be adjourned to the next Parish Council meeting. Councillors are asked to walk the footpath in the meantime so that they are able to assess the need for an extra dog bin.

A request has been made by the WCA to plant a memorial tree on the common in remembrance of Maurice Davey, who was a trustee of the common. Concerns were expressed that this could set a precedent where many similar requests may be received. The request includes the installation of a memorial plaque.

It was unanimously resolved to agree to the planting of a tree in a position to be agreed by the Council, and that any plaque must include a reference to the fact that the planting of the tree has been agreed because Mr Davey was a past trustee of the common. The inscription would need to be approved by the Parish Council prior to installation.

There has been a request for a bench to be re-installed at the allotments. This will be reviewed at a later date.

Cllr Thake will report back to the next meeting in regard to the CCTV cameras which have been installed at the school.

Cllr Harrison reported regarding the defibrillator. An account has been opened with St. Johns Ambulance and then pads and batteries can be ordered.

115/16 Date of next meeting: 21st November 2016 at St. Georges School, Wembdon.

The meeting concluded at 9.50pm.

Signature of Chairman