

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at Wembdon Village Hall on **9th October 2017** that commenced at **7.30pm** when the following business was transacted.

Present: Cllr M Solomon (Chairman), Cllr N Harrison (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Gliddon, Cllr A Reed, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr T Travis, Cllr R Webber and Cllr J Wood.

District Cllrs A Bown, M Caswell (from minute 118.17) and L Duddridge

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

112.17 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr J Jackson and Cllr J Hall.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

114.17 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th September 2017.

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record (6 in favour, 2 abstentions)

The Chairman signed the minutes as being a correct record of the meeting.

115.17 To receive the Clerk's report.

The Clerk reported regarding the graffiti at the children's play area. The cleaning materials have been delivered. Police enquires are continuing. Two culprits have admitted the offence and a further one is due to be interviewed shortly. A number of Cllrs volunteered to be present when the cleaning work takes place. The time and date of the cleaning will be notified when known.

The procedures regarding the new email addresses for Councillors were explained. From November 1st emails will only be sent to the new addresses.

Cllr Bown reported that the Greenway Farm licensing application has been granted with very strict conditions. The planning hearing regarding the Greenway Garage application will be heard on 24th October.

Signature of Chairman

116.17 To receive a Police report regarding crime reports and crime statistics.

No Police report was received.

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

It is the time of year when the hedges in the rural lanes are being cut. Debris from the cutting is being left in the lanes. It is very difficult to co-ordinate the cutting with the street clearing service provided by SDC as landowners are able to cut their hedges whenever they wish. Cllr Webber will contact Clean Surroundings to discuss a solution to the problem.

The bump on the path leading from the allotments has now eroded due to the footfall along the path.

The contractor employed to maintain the vegetation in the Parish has been receiving abuse from the occupant of 11 Cross View Rise when he has tried to trim the vegetation which is overgrowing the footpath which is a public right of way. The resident in question objects to the cutting as she owns the lane. The Clerk will take advice from SCC and then write to the land owner.

There is an overgrown hedge on the road coming into Wembdon from Cannington near to Moores Lane. This is on a bad bend. Cllr Harrison will speak to the owner of the hedge.

118.17 To receive a report from Cllr Gliddon on Highways and Speedwatch.

Cllr Gliddon gave a comprehensive report regarding the SID results. The SID was positioned at the top of Wembdon Hill near the Skimmerton Lane junction for the whole of September. There were over 10,100 activations during the month (vehicles exceeding the 30 mph speed limit). Every day there was at least one activation where a vehicle was exceeding 50 mph. There were two occasions where vehicles were being driven at over 60 mph. Over 45% of vehicles using this road were found to be exceeding the 30 mph speed limit, with the average speed for all vehicles being 34 mph.

The Police speeding enforcement team were consulted. They used their speed detector gun for a period of half an hour near to the new zebra crossing in Wembdon Rise. Eight motorists were issued with speeding tickets for exceeding the 30 mph speed limit. Further checks will be taking place near the zebra crossing in the future.

119.17 To receive a report from Cllr Hall on the Playing Fields.

The Public Service Protection Order covering certain areas of Wembdon Parkland has been approved by SDC. This means that anyone exercising a dog without a lead in the designated areas can be issued with an £80 fixed penalty fine. If this is not paid within the stipulated time then the fine can increase up to £1,000. If the individual refuses to give their details then the Police will be called. SDC will be erecting notices on site very shortly.

120.17 To receive an update on plans for disabled play facilities from Cllr Reed.

Signature of Chairman

Cllr Reed gave an update regarding this project. Funding opportunities are currently being explored.

121.17 To receive a report from Cllr Harrison on the Allotments.

There was nothing to report.

122.17 To receive a report from Cllr Jackson regarding the Parish Paper.

The latest edition of the Parish Newsletter is currently being finalised and should be available for distribution by the weekend of 14th / 15th October.

123.17 To receive a report from Cllr Glidden on the digital media activity.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Gliddon for his excellent work on the social media sites. Some wonderful pictures of 'old Wembdon' have been posted on social media, and are now available on the Parish Council's website.

A recent request has been received for double yellow lines to be installed in Reedmoor Gardens. This request was directed towards SCC who are responsible for this. A report was received regarding noise coming from the Village Hall bar. This was directed towards the Village Hall committee.

Reports of drug dealing in Wares Lane at the junction with the NDR have been received. This has previously been reported to the Police. The Clerk was asked to report it again.

124.17 To receive an update from Cllr Harrison on the activities of the Wembdon Parkland Development Group.

The group is flourishing. The bank account is now open, and charity status has been applied for. Plans are afoot for further fundraising. The next meeting will be held on 1st November.

125.17 To outline new requirements for Councillors to use new email addresses and to consider an annual sum of up to £100 per Councillor to cover printing and other expenditures.

A discussion took place. It was recognised that Councillors accrue expenses whilst carrying out their role, however it was felt that a set sum would not be appropriate.

It was unanimously resolved to reimburse Parish Councillors the expenses they accrue.

The Clerk will prepare an expense claim sheet for Councillors to use.

It was agreed to appoint the Clerk as the Parish Council's Data Protection and Freedom of Information officer.

126.17 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:

Signature of Chairman

Cheque no	Payee	Detail	Amount
300682	Anthony Jay	Expenses July - September	£394.22
300683	Media Orb	Extra website charges	£132.00
300684	Argos	Stepladder	£34.99

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the statutory and non-statutory payments, in addition to the purchase of two professional quality strimmers, which are urgently required to carry out work on Wembdon Parkland.

127.17 To consider matters of report:

Agenda items for the next meeting

To consider the tarmacking of the footpath over the Liddall land and a section of parkland. The Chairman gave an update regarding financial matters in relation to the parkland and the vehicular access.

It was reported that two paving slabs have become loose on the Millennium Bridge. It will be arranged for these urgent repairs to be carried out by the company which initially installed the bridge.

Cllr Reed recently attended an all Parish meeting. An update was provided by EDF. Traffic lights will be installed at J23 of the motorway to alleviate the traffic problems on the junction. Cllr Reed was thanked for her attendance at various meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Gliddon asked for the tarmacking of Wares Lane to be considered for inclusion in the 2018-19 budget.

Cllr Caswell said that funding from the 'Small Improvement Scheme' is available for small highways projects. He has eight sets of plastic tables and chairs which he is willing to donate to the Village Hall. EDF have funding available for a projector and screen to be donated to organisations who could host their briefings. This information will be passed to the Village Hall committee.

Viewing trips to Hinckley C can be arranged for Councillors and members of the public. Visits need to be registered at the information centre in the Bridgwater Shopping Precinct.

Damage has taken place to the trees in the woodland area of Wembdon Parklands. Branches have been ripped off trees and a den created. Councillors agreed to dismantle this and clear the area.

128.17 Date of next meeting: 13th November 2017

The meeting concluded at 8.56pm.

Signature of Chairman