

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk
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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at St Georges School Wembdon on **October 20th 2014** that commenced at **7.30pm** when the following business was transacted

Present: Cllr M Solomon (Chairman), Cllr J Riddle (Vice Chairman), Cllr L Burge, Cllr M Harrison, Cllr A Reed, Cllr T Thayer, Cllr J Woods.

County Cllr Edney.

112/14: To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr D Bingham, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr T Thake. The apologies were accepted unanimously.

Apologies were also received from District Cllrs A Bown and I Dyer.

113/14: To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations were made at this point in the meeting.

114/14: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th September 2014

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(6 in favour, 1 abstention)

115/14: To consider the following action points

- a) Cllr Harrison and Cllr Solomon to look at the Church path to the NDR

This is a public footpath. There are no real issues with the path, and no further action needs to be taken.

- b) Cllr Thayer to discuss the tarmac in Wares Lane with a local resident

A tarmac contractor will be quoting for the necessary repair work. There has been some concern with quad bikes using the lane. It was

Signature of Chairman

agreed that the installation of staggered barriers should be included in the quotation, which will be discussed at a further meeting. The barriers must allow a pushchair to pass through.

116/14: To receive and discuss Working Groups Reports

a) Footpaths, Verges and Land

Brambles are growing over the footpath alongside the NDR. The cycle path is clear, but not the footpath.

Action

The Clerk was asked to contact the County Highways Dept. to arrange for the brambles to be cut back.

The Woodland Trust trees could be arriving at any time. Daffodil bulbs will be collected shortly and planted.

b) Highways and Speedwatch

Speedwatch volunteers have been active in the village recently.

Action

The Clerk was asked to take the lead in setting up a Community Traffic Group. Cllrs Jackson and Thake have expressed an interest in being involved in this project. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with both Councillors.

The Clerk has learnt that the SID camera training will cost £300 per person. Cllr Edney will enquire into this issue and contact the Clerk.

c) Playing Fields

See minute 125/14.

d) Allotments

The two water tap cupboards will be installed with combination locks.

The entrance gate to the track will be locked during the hours of darkness using a padlock and chain. It will be locked and unlocked every day by two local residents for a trial period.

Action

The Clerk will investigate the provision costs of a suitable waste bin to be installed at the allotments.

Signature of Chairman

e) Communications.

The Clerk has taken over the administration of the website. The number of website hits and Facebook likes are increasing.

117/14: To consider correspondence received

No correspondence has been received this month.

118/14: To consider a request from Wembdon St. Georges Primary School for a donation towards the school crossing patrol.

Resolved: To donate the sum of £250 towards the school crossing patrol. Additionally to donate £250 on behalf of the Wembdon Community Association, for this year only.

(Unanimous)

The Council wished for it to be noted that the decision to donate the additional £250 was taken as the Council believes the safety of schoolchildren is paramount, and the WCA is not currently in a financial position to make it's regular donation. With the continuing expansion of the school, it is felt that more funding should be forthcoming from County Council funds for expenditure such as this.

119/14: To approve an arrangement between Banwell and Wembdon Parish Councils to split the cost (both financial and time) of the Clerk attending appropriate training events, conferences etc

Resolved: To agree to pay the cost of the Clerk attending appropriate training events, conferences etc at a ratio of 2:1 (Wembdon paying one third).

(Unanimous)

120/14: To delegate authority to the Chairman of the Council to approve the Clerk's attendance at appropriate training events, conferences etc up to an expense to the Council of £100.

Resolved: To delegate authority to the Chairman.

(Unanimous)

121/14: To consider a request from Sedgemoor District Council for the installation of a bus shelter in Homberg Way. The Parish Council would be required to take on the maintenance and cleaning costs in the future.

Cllrs Burge and Thayer declared an interest in this item.

Resolved: Not to agree to this request.

Signature of Chairman

(5 in favour, 2 abstentions)

122/14: To consider the latest play area inspection report from GB Leisure, and whether to implement the recommendations in the report.

Resolved: To authorise each item marked 'medium risk' on the report to be rectified.

(Unanimous)

123/14: To update members on the proposals for the "Persimmon Land" now to be called "Wembdon Parkland" to bring this into community use.

Cllr Thayer gave a presentation to the Council, which outlined the progress made to date, and explained the next steps to be taken. Councillors were requested to pass on this information to members of the public wherever possible.

124/14: To update members on the current Council finances and to consider the key objectives when planning the precept for 2015/16

Cllr Solomon gave a presentation which outlined initial suggestions for the budget for 2015/16. The finance working group will meet at a later date to discuss these recommendations.

125/14: To consider a financial update and to approve payments

Financial update reports were supplied. No questions were asked.

September statutory payments as per agreement under minute no 324/13

Clerks Salary October 2014	£ 404.20
HMRC Tax October 2014	£ 101.00
GB Sports for September 2014	£ 18.00
Andrew Sutton Contract for September 2014	£ 651.50

Resolved: To make the statutory payments

(Unanimous)

Non statutory payments list for September 2014

Sedgemoor Tree Services – Ground Clearance	£ 600.00
Sedgemoor Tree Services – Ground Clearance	£ 1080.00
Swan Paul P'ship – Green Wedge Masterplan Alterations	£ 369.60
Somerset County Council – Hire of hall	£ 84.00
J Liddal – Land rent	£160.00

Signature of Chairman

Resolved: To make the non-statutory payments

(Unanimous)

126/14: Matters of report

a) Members

Burglaries have increased recently in the area.

Action

The Clerk was asked to contact Inspector Pritchard, the beat Inspector to arrange for Police attendance at Parish Council meetings, and/or the submission of a crime update report each month.

b) Chairman

Cllr Solomon thanked the outgoing Clerk, Owen Cullwick for all his hard work on behalf of the community of Wembdon over the last three years, and presented Mr Cullwick with a book. Mr Cullwick responded by saying that it had been a pleasure to work with the Council.

c) Clerk

The Clerk had nothing to report

d) Agenda items for the next meeting

To consider engaging the services of a handyman to carry out work in the village to carry out ad hoc tasks when required.

The meeting ended at 9.55pm

The next meeting will be held on **November 17th 2014** in St Georges School Wembdon at 7.30pm

Signature of Chairman