

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 MARCH 2011

Present

Chairman, Cllr B Webb, Cllr K Perry, Cllr M Solomon, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr D Lumber, Cllr Ann Bown, Cllr R Western, Cllr S Bagg & Cllr P Reed

142) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors, PC Tony Freeman, PCSO Nick Mizon & 10 members of the public to the meeting.

143) Apologies for Absence

These were received in respect of Cllr R Harris & County Cllr J Edney.

144) Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

There were none.

145) The Views of Wembdon Residents in Respect of Items on the Agenda

There were none.

146) Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 February 2011 were agreed & signed.

147) Report from the Police

PC Freeman informed the meeting that there were currently no particular anti-social behavior issues within the village.

He reported on the Post Office windows that had been smashed & informed the meeting that a person had been arrested in connection with the damage.

In response to a question PC Freeman informed the meeting that it was too early to know what impact police funding cuts would have on community policing.

148) Report from the Clerk

148.1) Leased Land behind Greenacre

Hedge cutting work had been completed in accordance with the instructions given. The contractor was due to undertake grass cutting but the work on the rhyne clearance would not be undertaken before August 2011 because of the regulations regarding nesting birds.

148.2) Salt/Grit Bins

The Council agreed the positioning of the 3 salt bins that would be purchased. One would be placed close to the Meadow Park name sign & the other 2 along Wembdon Hill.

148.3) Forthcoming Meetings

- Quantock Parish Cluster Meeting – 15 March 2011. Cllr Ann Bown was due to attend in her CAPACITY AS A District Councillor
- SALC Area Meeting – 17 March 2011. No attendee
- Sedgemoor Community Forum – 25 March 2011. Cllr M Solomon attending

148.4) Dog Bins

S.D.C. had acknowledged that there had been a period of 2/3 weeks when the bins had not been emptied twice weekly & this would be reflected in the next invoice. Due to current manual handling techniques S.D.C. had stated that it might be necessary to place the bins lower to the ground. S.D.C. was also looking at the possibility of installing bins with chutes to prevent them being abused & to keep the weight down.

148.5) The Green Wedge

The Council was waiting for a response from S Notaro ltd regarding the proposed timescale of any proposed development on the green triangle.

Councillors had been provided with advice regarding any conditions being attached to a gifting of land & this was being considered.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Council had received a number of letters urging the Parish Council to accept the gifting of the land & one letter highlighting aspects of the Vision for Wembdon, which the writer believed contradicted the reasons being put forward, by the WRDG, in support of recreational development on the Green Wedge.

149) Reports from Councillors in Respect of Meetings Attended

149.1) Sedgemoor District Council Budget Briefing

Cllr K Perry explained that the briefing had been an explanation of the shortfall in funding faced by the District & how it had addressed the issue. What the future held wasn't certain & S.D.C. planned to continue consulting Parish/Town Councils.

Having considered the response from S.D.C. regarding their legal right to withhold from the precept the cost of dog bin emptying it was RESOLVED that the District be asked to continue with regular invoicing until such time that the Parish Council were content that their bins were emptied in accordance with the agreed frequency.

149.2) Hinkley Point Stakeholder Group Meeting

Cllr R Western reported on the meeting held on 25 February 2011. The meeting had been disrupted on a number of occasions by one attendee who continually repeated questions.

The main items dealt with were

- A station – considering how to deal with intermediate waste
- Consideration of how to reduce lorry movements if a C station was built. One solution was to dump soil waste during the construction on the land where the turbines to the A station had been situated.

150) Possible Re-instatement of Goalposts in the Playing Field

It was RESOLVED that as the field was now suitable for playing football on, one goalpost would be erected at the NDR end of the playing field but away from the existing goalpost position. This would allow for a larger football pitch, in the future, if the Council, at some stage, agreed to allow the junior football club to play matches on it again. It was also RESOLVED that the old goalpost sockets would be removed and the ground made good.

151) Hinkley Point C – Stage 2a Consultation

The Parish Council was critical of the highways proposals & would be submitting a formal response that would also be copied to Ian Liddell-Grainger MP. Local residents were also urged to respond.

152) Local Government Elections 5 May 2011

The meeting was reminded that the deadline for submitting nomination papers for anyone wishing to stand in the elections was 4 April 2011.

The Parish was now divided in to 2 Wards & anyone wishing to stand had to choose which Ward they wanted to stand in.

Due to the election date the Council would not be able to hold its normal monthly meeting on the 2nd Monday in the month and the new date was likely to be Monday 16 May 2011.

153) Entrance to Crossacre

In view of the fact that the WCA used the road to access the playing field it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write, again, to the WCA seeking financial support towards the cost of the repairs to the road surface.

154) Correspondence

The following was placed in the correspondence folder

- The latest edition of Clerks & Councils Direct magazine
- Hinkley C Connection Group Minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2011
- Somerset Rural Youth Project newsletter regarding voluntary support for youth clubs
- The Clerk magazine
- South Western Ambulance Service newsletter
- Bridgwater Cluster Group Minutes dated 6 October 2010

155) Planning

51/10/00022 – Land at Cokerhurst Farm. Residential development (400-450 dwellings), public open space, allotments, playing fields, car park for St George's School, associated roads, footpaths.

Permission refused.

51/11/00001 – Barn on land to the East of Moores Lane. Change of use and conversion of barn to dwelling.

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

51/11/00002 – Barn to the North East of Grabhams Farm, Moores Lane. Variation of condition 3 of planning permission **51/10/00004** to allow larger windows.

Permission granted.

51/11/00003 – The Flat, Manor Farmhouse, Wembdon. Renewal of planning permission **51/07/00031** for the conversion of store room to living accommodation.

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

51/11/00004 – The Flat, Manor Farmhouse, Wembdon. Renewal of planning permission **51/07/00032** for the conversion of store room to living accommodation.

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

51/11/00005 – Barn to the South of, Blakes Farmhouse, Blakes Lane, Wembdon. Change of use & conversion of barn to dwelling.

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

51/11/00006 – 40 Wembdon Rise. Change of use & conversion of dwelling to two flats.

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

51/11/00007 – 7 Orchard Lane, Wembdon. Erection of single storey rear and side extensions, partly on site of existing (to be demolished).

No objection from the Planning sub-committee.

The meeting was informed of the imminent replacement of the Infrastructure Planning Commission with a major Infrastructure Planning unit within the Planning Inspectorate.

The meeting was also informed that the Sedgemoor District Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy had been submitted to the Secretary of State on 3 March 2011.

156) Finance

Balance at 14 February 2011		£2890.72
Less		
S.C.C. (Room Hire)	£168.00	
Leaflet Printing	£ 14.00	
Salary & Income Tax	£250.00	
Clerk's Expenses	£ 52.62	<u>£ 484.62</u>
Balance at 14 March 2011		£2406.10

The following payments were authorised

- Annual rent on leased land £160.00
- Bridgwater Mercury public notice of Annual Parish Meeting £93.60
- Clerk's Expenses £67.29

The Clerk informed Councillors that at the April meeting they would be asked to consider affiliations to both SALC £704.39 & Community Council for Somerset £35.00

157) Matters Raised By Councillors

In response to concerns raised by a parishioner the Clerk was instructed to find out whether the owners of the caravan parked off the road at the bottom of Wembdon Hill were in breach of any Highways regulations.