

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2008

Present

Mr Webb (Chairman), Mrs Lumber, Mrs Riddle, Cllr A Bown & Messrs Perry, Solomon, Brown, Harris, Western & Bagg

99) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the Parish Councillors & 5 members of the public to the meeting. The Chairman reported that County Cllr John Edney would be in attendance from around 8.00pm.

100) Apologies for Absence

There were none.

101) The Views of Wembdon Residents

The Chairman of the Wembdon Community Association, Mrs Helen Peregrine-Wheller addressed the meeting. At the December Parish Council meeting the Clerk had been instructed to write to the WCA regarding the opening of the hedge in the playing field used as access from the adjoining field on Village Day (see minute 95.2)

Following that meeting several Parish Councillors & the WCA had been in communication regarding the positioning of a gate in the hedge & the WCA wished to see this proceed. It was confirmed that the owner of the adjoining field had been contacted & was agreeable to a gate as long as it was kept permanently locked, with the exception of Village Day.

Following a discussion it was RESOLVED that the WCA be given authority to position a pedestrian 4 feet high metal gate in the hedge. The WCA would meet the cost of the purchase & fixing of the gate & also ensuring it was kept locked. They would also write to the owner of the adjoining field confirming that it would remain locked. The WCA would also place a "No Access" notice on the playing field side of the gate.

It was agreed that a copy of these minutes, once agreed, would be made available to Mrs Peregrine-Wheller.

102) Minutes

The minutes of the meeting dated 10 December 2007 were agreed & signed.

103) Report from PC Tony Freeman

There was no report.

104) Matters Arising

104.1) Area Working Panel

It now transpired that the panel had some funding still available & Parish Councils that had received none had been invited to bid.

Mr Solomon had reviewed & updated the original bid submitted by the Parish Council for funding to replace the bridge at the NDR end of the playing field & was now presenting the revised application to the Parish Council for approval.

The estimated cost, which was supported by a quote from a local builder, was now £6800. Somerset Rights of Way who were supporting the project had agreed to allocate £1,000 towards the cost. The Parish Council was seeking £5,000 from the Area Working Panel & the Parish Council was being asked to make a contribution of £800. The revised proposal including an £800 contribution from the Parish Council was approved.

104.2) New Notice board

Mr Bagg agreed to keep this under review on behalf of the Parish Council. It was felt that no decision could be made about the best position for it until the footpath running through the Notaro development in the direction of Chilton Street was complete.

104.3) Dog Waste Bins

As several had now been placed along Homberg Way it was RESOLVED that, at the present time, no further bins were required. The new bins were not the responsibility of the Parish Council.

105) Correspondence

105.1) Parish Flood Fair

Mr Brown volunteered to attend the event on 22 February on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that the event was free of charge to participants.

105.2) Adoption of New Code of Conduct

The adoption of the new Code by District, Town & Parish Councils within Sedgemoor had been formerly advertised.

105.3) Improving the Way District & Parish Councils Work Together

Sedgemoor District Council was planning a workshop session to find out from Town/Parish Council representatives how to jointly improve the ways in which Sedgemoor & the Parishes work together. A cornerstone of the workshop would be the revised Sedgemoor Parish Charter, which it was hoped; Parish Councils would formally sign up to at the workshop. The event is due to take place on 21 February commencing at 7.00pm. It was RESOLVED that the Chairman would represent the Parish Council at the workshop.

105.4) Disability Equality Scheme Questionnaire

The Parish Council had received a questionnaire from Wembdon St Georges's School. The Parish Council could not see the relevance of it to them, as it appeared to relate to the parents of children at the school. The Clerk would respond accordingly.

105.5) Other Correspondence

The following was placed in the correspondence folder

- Thatch magazine, winter edition
- The Clerk magazine, January edition
- Clerks & Councils Direct journal, January edition
- Somerset Primary Care Trust – Summary of the Annual Report
- Bridgwater Community Hospital Proposals
- Somerset Community Safety newsletter
- Somerset Water Management Partnership newsletter

106) Report from Cllr A Bown

There was no report.

107) Reports from Sub-committees

107.1) Footpaths

Mr Brown reported that they were well used & muddy. He raised concerns about the amount of rubbish on the extension of the footpath from Church Path to the NDR. Mr Brown had voluntarily cleared it on several occasions & it now needed clearing again. As this was the responsibility of S.D.C. Cllr Ann Bown agreed to take this issue forward on behalf of the Parish Council.

107.2) Playing field & Common

Following the re-installation of the repaired basketball post the play equipment replacement project had now been completed & Mr Harris wished to hand over Chairmanship of the sub-committee. It was agreed that Mr Western would take on that role. The Parish Council thanked Mr Harris for the work undertaken on the play equipment project.

Following a further look at the 2 seats by the hedge it was RESOLVED that the existing seats should be removed & replaced by 2 new ones at a total cost to the Parish Council not exceeding £600. It was also RESOLVED that the damaged seat on the Common should also be removed. A member of the Parish Council kindly agreed to remove these seats free of charge.

More graffiti had appeared on the new play equipment & the Clerk was instructed to contact S.D.C. for their expertise in dealing with this. Arrangements had been made for the goalmouths to be repaired by the ground maintenance contractor.

107.3) Parish Plan

Mr Bagg reported that feedback had been received from a number of sources, including S.D.C. & the steering group were due to consider these at their meeting on 28 January.

107.4) Allotments

The AGM would be held on Monday 4 February at the Cottage Inn commencing at 7.15pm. Due to increasing costs it was RESOLVED that the charge for each allotment plot be increased to £10p.a. for 2008.

It was noted that the current rental agreement with the owner of the allotment field expired on 20 December 2010.

108) Planning

All the Parish Council had received a copy of the Change of Delegation Arrangement for Planning Enforcement.

Mr Brown recommended that all members of the planning sub-committee should attend a meeting of the Development Control Committee.

51/07/00017 – On land to the East of, Moor-Hen Farm, Perry Green. Retention of extension to stable & horse riding arena.

Permission granted.

51/07/00028 – 4 Silverdale Close, Wembdon. Erection of single storey rear extension.

Permission granted.

51/07/00029 – The Lodge, Perry Green. Renewal of Planning Permission 1/51/04/38 for the erection of bungalow on site of mobile home.

Permission granted.

51/07/00030 – Grange Farm, Moores Lane, Wembdon. **Listed Building Consent.**

Alterations to garage to form hobby room including installation of one window in end elevation, alterations to window in side elevation & internal alterations.

No objection from parish Council sub-committee.

51/07/00031 & 51/07/00032 – The Flat, Manor Farmhouse, Wembdon. **Includes**

Listed Building Consent. Conversion of storeroom to living accommodation.

No objection from Parish Council sub-committee.

51/08/00001 – Wembdon St George’s C of E VC Primary School. Single storey extension to accommodate a new classroom.

Submitted to Parish Council sub-committee.

51/08/00002 – 9 Silverdale Close, Wembdon. Erection of single storey extension to West elevation.

Submitted to Parish Council sub-committee.

109) Finance

The Parish Council was provided with a revised balance & a copy of the bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2007.

Balance at 10 December 2007		£14438.13
Bank Interest		£ 121.13
Wayleave		<u>£ 18.39</u>
		£14577.65
Less		
Ground maintenance	£265.00	
Tarmac repairs to Common	£528.75	
Basketball post fixings	£ 12.35	
S.L.C.C.	£ 80.00	
Fencing repairs	£129.95	<u>£ 1015.35</u>
Balance		£13562.30

The following payments were approved

- Ground maintenance £289.00
- Room hire for meetings £176.40
- Clerk’s salary & Income Tax £848.28
- Clerk’s expenses £57.84
- Basketball post repairs £272.60. It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter of thanks to Mr Robson who had undertaken the repairs
- Basketball post fixings £32.90

It was RESOLVED that donations of £100 be made to Age Concern Somerset & Sedgemoor Citizens Advice Bureau

110) A.O.B.

110.1) Homberg Way

It was noted that since S.D.C. had taken recent responsibility for the verges their condition was much improved. Weather conditions had improved sufficiently for the repairs to the sunken road at the junction of Homberg Way & Wembdon Rise to be undertaken.

110.2) Reedmoor Rhyne Fencing

During time the railings separating footpath BW 34/6, beyond Church Farm, & the rhyne had been damaged. As it was understood that maintenance of the fencing was the responsibility of the Drainage Board they be asked to re-instate it.

110.3) Verge in Church Road

Cllr Ann Bown agreed to contact Mr Aggett of S.D.C., as they were due to replace several shrubs that they had damaged.

110.4) Dates of Future Meetings

Monday 11 February 2008

Monday 10 March 2008 (this would include The Annual Parish Meeting)

Monday 21 April 2008

Monday 12 May 2008 (Parish Council AGM)