

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2007

Present

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

77) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the Parish Councillors, County Cllr John Edney & one member of the public to the meeting.

78) Apologies for Absence

These were received in respect of Cllr Ann Bown who was attending another meeting & was due to arrive late.

79) The Views of Wembdon Residents

Mrs Steward thanked the Parish Council for their support towards her planning application even though Sedgemoor planners had refused planning permission.

80) Minutes

After a slight amendment to line 12 on page 2 the minutes of the meeting dated 8 October 2007 were agreed & signed.

81) Matters Arising

81.1) Play Areas off the N.D.R

The developers were due to meet with a representative of Sedgemoor District Council before the end of November in an attempt to agree a position on works to be undertaken.

81.2) Area Working Panel

Mr Solomon reported that he was in the process of obtaining a formal quote & drawings for the replacement of the bridge at the N.D.R. end of the playing field, which would then be submitted to the Area Working Panel for funding. At the same a quote would be obtained for the widening the path in the playing field.

Mr Solomon would be attending the next meeting of the panel on 29 November. The minutes of the last meeting of the panel were placed in the correspondence folder.

81.3) Consultation on Somerset Waste Management

A Parish Council presentation was being held on 15 November. Unfortunately no member of the Parish Council was available to attend it.

A copy of the Options & Issues Consultation document was placed in the correspondence folder

81.4) Highways Issues

Repairs to the side of the road leading towards Perry Green had been completed & a replacement no cycling sign had been erected on footpath BW 34/6.

82) Correspondence

82.1) Annual Community Policing Awards

It was RESOLVED that PC Tony Freeman should be nominated for the Neighbourhood Beat Manager of the Year Award.

82.2) Somerset Art Week

It was agreed that no donation would be made.

82.3) Other Correspondence

The following was placed in the correspondence folder

- Countryside Voice
- The Playing field magazine
- S.D.C. Corporate Strategy
- The Sedgemoor Parish Charter

83) Reports from Sub-committees

83.1) Footpaths

Mr Brown reported that all the public Rights of Way within the village were in good order.

A volunteer had offered to help pick up litter on the footpaths. It was RESOLVED that Mr Brown should purchase, on behalf of the Parish Council, the necessary safety equipment for the volunteer to use.

83.2) Playing field & Common

It was RESOLVED that the broken seats should be removed & a costed proposal for their replacement be prepared for consideration by the Council.

It was RESOLVED that the hedges in the playing field would be cut & that repairs to the fence adjacent to Crowpill rhyne would be undertaken.

Work on the basketball post had not been completed. Further discussion took place regarding its resiting & it was agreed that Mr Bagg & Mr Western would meet to determine where it would be placed.

Mr Western was undertaking regular inspections of the play equipment & reported that it was all in good order.

The installation of one of the goalposts had not taken place, as volunteers from the football club had not come forward. Topsoil had been ordered for the goalmouth repairs.

It was RESOLVED that the quote of £450 + VAT obtained by Mr Solomon for repairs to the tarmac surface on the Common, under the responsibility of the Parish Council, at the entrance to the area leading to Wembdon Motors, be accepted. It was also RESOLVED that repairs to the tarmac behind the laurel hedge would not be undertaken as this area was of no general benefit to the community.

The Clerk had written to the WCA in respect of the gate they were considering erecting in the hedge in the playing field & it was confirmed that this would be raised at their AGM.

83.3) Parish Plan

A draft village questionnaire had been prepared & the Parish Council was asked to direct any comments on it to Mr Solomon or Mr Bagg within the following week.

Minutes of the steering group meeting dated 5 November 2007 were placed in the correspondence folder.

Mr Bagg & Mr Solomon were congratulated on the work undertaken to date & were asked to relay a similar message to the other members of the steering group.

84) Finance

Previous balance		£15563.71
Grant from S.C.C.		<u>£ 750.00</u>
		£16313.71
Less		
Ground Maintenance	£265.00	
Fencing Repairs	£105.75	
Clerk's Salary & Income Tax	£792.00	
Clerk's Expenses	£ 43.85	
St Margaret's Hospice (Donation)	£100.00	<u>£ 1304.60</u>
Balance		£15009.11

It was RESOLVED that the following payments be made

- Ground Maintenance £265.00
- Greenbarnes Ltd (notice board magnets) £33.96
- S.D.C. (emptying of dog waste bins) £134.80
- Parish Plan £112.05
- Backboard for basketball post £25.17

85) Planning

51/07/00016 – Wembdon Reservoir, Sandford Hill, Wembdon. Change of use & conversion of redundant water reservoir to twelve dwellings & formation of parking.
The Parish Council has objected to this application.

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

No objection from Parish Council, however, they do have concerns about the potential increase in highway traffic.

51/07/00018 – Barn (2) Perry Croft, Perry Green. Change of use & conversion of barn to dwelling, formation of access & parking.

Permission granted.

51/07/00021 – Barton Lodge, Barton Lodge Farm, Perry Green. Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of the building as dwelling (class C3).

Permission granted.

51/07/00024 – Land to the South of, 24 Wembdon Hill. Erection of bungalow.

Permission refused.

51/07/00025 – On land to the South of, Manor Lodge, Moores Lane, Wembdon. Erection of stables, barn & “sand school”.

Permission granted.

51/07/00026 – Land to the South West of Staddlestones, Skimmerton Lane, Wembdon.
Erection of dwelling.
Permission refused.

51/07/00027 – St George's C of E VC Primary School. (Tree Preservation Order Regulations) Crown thin by 15% lowest branches over School playing area.
No objection from Parish Council sub-committee.

The Clerk reported that 2 possible breaches of planning, one at Moor-Hen Farm, Perry Green & the other at Manor Farm, Wembdon had been referred to the Enforcement Section of S.D.C.

86) Report from Cllr Ann Bown

Cllr Bown reported that Gerber's were due to have vacated their factory in Wembdon Road by August 2008.

In recent weeks Cllr Bown had been dealing with drainage problems in Earls Road & lighting problems in Briggs Close.

87) Any Other Business

87.1) New Notice board

It was RESOLVED that Mr Harris, Mr Brown & Mr Bagg would consider an appropriate site for the new notice board & report back to the Parish Council.

87.2) Footpath – Church Road

Mrs Riddle raised concerns about the poor lighting on the footpath leading to the Parish Centre & questioned whether Solar Lighting as advertised in one of the booklets in the correspondence folder might be a possible solution. It was agreed that the Clerk would research this further & report back to the Council.

87.3) Dog Waste Bins

Parish Councillors were asked to consider where additional dog-waste bins might be placed & to report back at the December meeting. The Clerk would obtain a current price list from S.D.C. & Mr Brown would make contact with the maintainers of the Parrett Way to see if they could fund any.

87.4) Homberg Way

County Cllr Edney was asked to find out why the sunken area of road at the Wembdon Rise/Homberg Way junction had not been repaired.

The Parish Council also raised concern in respect of the neglected verges from the Quantock Road roundabout to the turning in to Wembdon Rise & also from that junction to the Oak Apple Drive turning. Cllr Edney agreed to also take up these issues