

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at Wembdon Village Hall on **11thth December 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 J Hall, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr A Reed, Cllr T Travis, and Cllr J Wood.

District Cllrs A Bown, and M Caswell

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

147.17 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr R Webber. Also from District Cllrs L Duddridge and I Dyer.

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

There were no declarations.

149.17 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th November 2017.

It was resolved to approve the minutes (7 in favour, 2 abstentions as these Councillors were not present at the last meeting).

150.17 To receive the Clerk's report.

The graffiti sprayed at the children's play area will be removed on 16th December by the culprits followed by a litter pick.

Unfortunately the allotment notice board has now been removed. Following the incident of the smashing of the glass on the board the Council has now found that the door on the board has been stolen. Cllr D Gliddon was thanked for his work in removing the board and disposing of it. This notice board was put in place for the use of the allotment holders, however vandals have been attacking it so it will now have to be removed.

The leaves in the kerbs and gulleys in the Parish have been swept, but unfortunately the areas next to parked cars were not, as the sweeping vehicle could not pass them. The Clerk asked for examples of areas that still need sweeping, and will contact SDC Clean Surroundings regarding this for details of when the next sweeping is due to take place.

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

There was a serious incident at the allotments recently when a group of around seven youths were throwing stones and rocks at the dwelling house nearby. This occurred at 7pm on a Friday evening. Glass in the house was broken, along with a roof tile. Cllr N Harrison was called by the local resident and he attended immediately and apprehended one of the youths, who gave all the names of the youths involved. A 101 call had been made whilst the incident

Signature of Chairman

was occurring but no Police attended for over half an hour so a 999 call was made by the resident, but it eventually took over an hour for the Police to attend as the officers dispatched were not local officers and said they could not find the allotments.

Most of the offending youths have now been spoken to. They are believed to live on the Durlough estate, and attend Haygrove School, but come into Wembdon to cause mischief. Cllr Harrison is liaising with PC Freeman regarding this.

The Clerk was asked to contact PC Freeman, requesting that an officer attends the next Parish Council meeting on 8th January to explain what action is being taken regarding the anti-social behaviour at the allotments, and how the public and Councillors should respond when an incident is occurring as they should not be putting themselves at potential risk in situations such as these when the Police response is very slow.

152.17 To receive an update from Cllr Harrison regarding the setting up of a working group for the development of Wembdon parkland.

Standing orders were suspended to allow Lorna Edwards, the Chair of the working group to provide an update. Meetings are now being held on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Another new member has joined the group. The arrangements for the auction and ball to be held in April are underway. More members would be welcomed, along with help for the arrangements for the ball, and auction items are sought from local people and businesses.

Standing orders were reinstated.

153.17 To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan steering committee.

A public briefing and community consultation took place in the Village Hall prior to the Parish Council meeting. It was well attended.

Standing orders were suspended and Peter Reed, the Chair of the steering committee provided an update. A questionnaire will be sent to all members of the public shortly, asking for views upon what should be included in the plan. Local views will also be sought from the Church, schools and businesses.

The SDC Local Plan will continue to be examined during January, when the Parish Council will provide its representation. The Parish Council's stance remains that that no developments in Wembdon should commence until the HPC work is completed as the road network infrastructure would not cope with any more new construction traffic until the congestion associated with this work is over.

154.17 To receive an update on current works in progress.

The footpath BW34/16 which runs from the top of the allotments to Blake's Lane has been improved with the replacement of a damaged fence. Cllr D Gliddon was thanked for his work regarding this.

Three new footpath upgrades are planned from Crossacre to the playing field, on path 34/1, which is the playing field out to the NDR and path 34/2 from the end of Wares Lane to the NDR. This will be a major project.

It was unanimously resolved that an appropriate agent will need to be appointed to manage the project as the Councillors and Clerk do not have the time or ability to oversee it.

Cllr T Travis left the meeting.

It was unanimously resolved that HBC will be appointed as the agent to oversee this project as they are local; immediately available, and have the necessary expertise for the task. The Chairman was authorised to instruct them accordingly. There will be temporary closures of footpaths involved when the work commences and liaison will be needed with SCC Highways Rights of Way team.

Signature of Chairman

Cllr T Travis returned to the meeting.

One solar powered lighting column will initially be installed. Cllr A Reed will be providing information regarding contractors who can carry out this work.

The lowering of the footpaths and kerbs for disabled access in Hollow Lane was discussed. The Clerk is liaising with County Highways.

GB Sports have been asked to ensure everything is up to good condition at the children's playing area.

There is no update regarding the repair work to the path at the allotments.

Quotes have been received regarding the installation at the new bench at Wembdon Parkland.

It was unanimously resolved to award the contract to the lowest quoting contractor.

The finance committee will meet early in January to discuss the budget and precept for 2018/19 to be endorsed at the next Parish Council meeting.

155.17 To consider a financial update and to approve payments:

Statutory Payments as per agreement under minute no 324/13

Non Statutory Payments List:

Cheque no	Payee	Detail	Amount
300702	Parish Magazine Printing	Fliers for Neighbourhood Plan	£114.50
300703	Scribe	Account Package License	£308.40
300705	Purnells	Map for Neighbourhood Plan	£26.40
300706	Bradford's	Gravel for Village Hall car park	£160.80
300707	Currys	New Laptop	£409.99
300710	P. Taylor	Laptop set-up fee	£140.00

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the statutory and non-statutory payments.

156.17 To consider matters of report:

Cllr A Reed reported on the progress regarding the disabled children's play equipment. Costing will be in the region of £20,000 plus VAT. Funding applications will need to be agreed prior to this equipment being purchased. This will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

157.17 Date of next meeting: 8th January 2018

Signature of Chairman