

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Clerk
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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at The Parish Centre Wembdon on **20th June 2016** that commenced at **6.30pm** when the following business was transacted

Present: Cllr M Solomon, Cllr D Gliddon, Cllr N Harrison, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr A Reed, Cllr T Thake, Cllr R Webber, Cllr J Woods.

County and District Cllrs A Bown and L Duddridge

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

37/16 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr J Riddle, County Cllr J Edney

38/16 To receive declarations of any pecuniary, prejudicial or personal interests on items relating to this agenda.

Cllr Harrison declared an interest in agenda item 7 (minute 43/16) as he has recently been appointed by the Parish Council to be their Trustee on the Wembdon Village Hall and Playing Field Trust.

39/16 To receive a Police report regarding crime reports and crime statistics.

The following Police report had been received:

Our Rural Beat received **551 calls creating logs to be dealt with in MAY 16**

2 x Burglary's Dwelling
7 x abandoned 999 calls
2 x Harassment / threats
1 x Criminal Damage
4 x Asb
1 x concern for welfare
1 x assist Ambulance
1 x suicidal
3 x Domestic Incidents

It was noted that as the statistics cover a much larger beat area than Wembdon then these figures do not have much relevance to the Parish..

Signature of Chairman

40/16 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th May 2016.

Resolved: To approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting.

The proposal was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)

41/16 To receive the Clerks report.

The Clerk presented the following report:

Parking in Viscount Square area

Following last month's meeting I contacted PC Freeman, asking him to pay attention to parking in the area. The Urban Police beat team will be paying attention.

Potholes

SCC now has some money in the budget to repair some potholes, so can any be reported to John Edney or to me and I will forward the details.

42/16 To approve the deed of variation regarding the land known as the 'Green at Wembdon' between the District Council, the Parish Council, the major funders to the project and the Village Hall trust.

The Chairman briefed the Council regarding this issue. He is awaiting advice from the Council's solicitor, and this matter will be debated at the July meeting.

43/16 To approve that an application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a sum of £150,000 to be taken out to finance the access to the Village Hall from the NDR as previously resolved under minute 184/15.

The Chairman reported that submissions had now been received to complete the access from the NDR to the Village Hall from three qualified contractors. These were priced at £222,000, £215,000 and £188,000. The Council is already resolved to provide the access (minute 184/15) and had earlier estimated a cost of £150,000. Based upon the lower estimate the Council has precepted to fund this as a loan with a specific provision in the accounts, it has also included within its budget a contingency amount and also has funds in reserves from previous years.

The Chairman had had a meeting with the Somerset Association of Local Councils Chief Executive regarding a loan from the Public Works Loan Board. Following a review at that meeting of the current finances of the Council and the history of the resolutions recorded in the minutes, it was the recommendation of SALC that a loan of the full amount of the cost of the works would be available to the Council and therefore SALC recommended that a loan of £188,000 should be applied for. The Chief Executive emphasised that this is the type of loan that the PWLB are in place to fund.

Furthermore, given that any additional cost for an increased loan could be funded from contingency allocations (and would thus not affect the precept in the current year) that this would be a preferred option rather than deplete the

Signature of Chairman

current reserves to an excessively low level. It was also confirmed that it was quite proper for the Council to amend the sum to be borrowed at the meeting prior to voting. The impact of a larger loan on the precept in the future would be marginal. It would be less than £1 per elector per year.

The issue of VAT was reviewed and SALC advised that it was important to ensure that the invoicing and payments were established in a manner to ensure that VAT was fully reclaimable and that timings of any reclaim were made to avoid any impact on the accounts.

Cllr Harrison then left the meeting.

Resolved: To amend the appropriate figure in this agenda item from £150,000 to £188,000.

The proposal was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)

Resolved: That an application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a loan in the sum of £188,000 to be taken out, to be repaid over 30 years, to finance the access to the Village Hall from the NDR as previously resolved under minute 184/15.

The proposal was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)

Cllr Harrison re-joined the meeting.

44/16 To consider a financial update and to approve payments:

(a) Statutory Payments as per agreement under minute no 324/13

(b) Non Statutory Payments List:

R. Young	Internal Audit	£50
SCC	Room Hire	£28
Zurich Municipal	Insurance	£662.69
Somerset Playing Fields Assoc.	Annual Subscription	£15
Media Orb	Annual Subscription	£240
Samson	Water work at allotments	£2,955

Resolved: To approve the statutory and non-statutory payments.

The proposal was properly proposed and seconded (Unanimous)

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members. No queries were raised.

45/16 To consider matters of report:

Cllr Reed updated the Council regarding a recent Quantock Cluster meeting. There was a very strong feeling that the Quantock Parishes do not join with the Bridgwater and North Petherton cluster, as the needs of the areas are very different. Cllr Reed will write expressing the Parish Council's support for this position.

Signature of Chairman

Cllr Jackson asked to be removed from the list of Quantock Cluster representatives.

Scoping work will be taking place shortly to consider the tendering requirements for the maintenance contract which needs to be renewed. A small group of Parish Councillors will be formed to consider this.

The Parish Councillors wished to express their thanks to the organisers of the Queen's Birthday Party, which was very successful. The Clerk will write to Lyn Tyrrell of the Wembdon Community Association to thank them for their efforts, along with the efforts of the Village Hall and Playing Fields Trust.

The responsibility for maintaining the bus shelter lies with the Parish Council.

46/16 Date of next meeting: 18th July 2016 at St. Georges School, Wembdon.

The meeting concluded at 7.40pm.

Signature of Chairman