

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk of the Parish Council
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Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council Planning Committee that was held at Wembdon Village Hall on 3rd January 2018 that commenced at 7pm when the following business was transacted.

Present: Cllrs N Harrison (Chairman), M Solomon and T Travis.

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay

1.18 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Gliddon and J Woods.

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

No declarations were received.

3.18 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 11th December 2017.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes. The Chairman signed the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

4.18 To note that the planning meeting planned for 14th December 2017 was not quorate, and did not go ahead.

The Parish Council has informed SDC that it does not wish to comment upon planning applications 51/17/00027/CS and 51/17/00028/LE.

This was noted.

5.18 To consider the following planning applications:

51/17/00016/CAN. Greenway Garage, Quantock Road, Bridgwater, TA5 2AX. Redevelopment of existing petrol filling station, including the proposed erection of a sales building, forecourt, canopy and car wash, on site of existing (to be demolished) and installation of new underground fuel tanks.

Standing orders were suspended and 3 members of the public spoke about the application (none in favour, 3 against)

It was unanimously resolved to firmly oppose this application on the grounds of road safety. The A39 / Skimmerton Lane junction is an accident black spot. There have been two serious RTCs at this junction since this application was first submitted. The most recent was on 18th December 2017 when the A39 was closed for two hours. The proposed amendments to the vehicular entry and egress arrangements will not improve road safety. The Parish Council feels that the introduction of a 'ghost' island

Signature of Chairman

reservation will increase danger as it will cause a build-up of vehicles waiting to enter the site. Vehicles will be approaching the junction, which is situated on a very busy road with a 60 mph speed limit, and will be met with a queue of cars in the centre of the road. Due to the undulating nature of the highway this makes this a wholly inappropriate site for a development such as this, as visibility is very limited for motorists approaching the junction. If a 40 mph speed limit were to be implemented from the Sandford roundabout along the A39 into Bridgwater, and appropriate speed calming measures were to be installed to ensure that the speed limit is observed, then the Parish Council would be prepared to reconsider its position regarding this application. The reduction of the number of petrol pumps from eight to six could only cause more problems, as vehicles are more likely to be queuing to use the pumps during busy periods, causing a traffic build up on the main road.

6.18 To note the following planning decision:

51/17/00028/LE. 1 Brantwood Road, Wembdon Bridgwater, TA6 7PS. Erection of porch to front (East) elevation. **GRANTED.**

The decision was noted.

The meeting concluded at 7.40pm

Signature of Chairman