

Wembdon Parish Paper

Edition 11



Connecting with our community



You asked..... Hopefully you will find the background to how your questions are answered here. It will not detail the entire debate or depth of enquiry, just a bit more insight. The full minutes with all other matters discussed can be obtained from WPC clerk on request, or viewed on the website. 😊

Can the lighting be improved for pedestrians using the path from the Church to Crowpill Lane as it is too dark and unsafe with an open rhyme? The PC is unable to site lighting here as the land is privately owned. However, the council wish to make footpaths as usable as possible to reduce car usage, so this remains under review and may be possible to light from the other side of the rhyme in the future.

Can the double yellow lines be extended on Wembdon Rise to prevent parking along the entire section before the traffic lights, parking here creates a bottleneck? Whilst the council is sympathetic to this view, they support the view previously offered by Highways at SDC, that the parking acts to slow traffic down and is therefore an advantage. Also the cars parking here are resident's vehicles and preventing them from parking in front of their properties will just move the congestion elsewhere.

The street lights at the entrance to Church Road are frequently out; can they be fixed? The PC is grateful for this being brought to our attention and it has been reported as a fault to be fixed.

Can we have a PC notice board back on Wembdon Hill? This matter has been brought to the council, discussed many times and is difficult to resolve to everyone's satisfaction. The Wembdon Hill and the bus stop boards were discontinued for being too small to meet the requirement that all noticeboards must display the same information. New ones are in situ at the entrance to the playing field and at Trinity Way making a total of 4, all meeting the legal requirements. Communication is supported through the parish paper delivered to each door with more available at the shop, the website and social media updates. The cost of purchasing and siting another board is considerable and, given that it is possible that notice boards may not be a legal requirement in a "paperless working" future, the council did not consider it cost effective at present.

A bit more news.....

Some areas of the playing surface in the children's play area have been repaired. More patches will be repaired as the weather improves. An application has been made to re-route the path as the hedge is removed and construction begins on the adjacent field.

An area of the bank adjacent to the pub has subsided after the recent heavy rainfall. WPC are in discussion with the relevant authorities to secure it.

A pedestrian crossing application from the District Councillors, for Whitegates roundabout has been gratefully received and vigorously supported by WPC.

In line with the road alterations at Sandford Corner, EDF have completed a survey of traffic through Wembdon prior to the new roundabout construction. This will be repeated, once the road is re-opened, for comparison of traffic volume and road usage post roundabout.

WPC is grateful to the Land Drainage Board for acting quickly to remove and make safe a fallen pollarded willow on Church Road, and to WVHPFT for allowing use of their land. These trees are considered iconic to Wembdon but are currently in poor condition. WPC wishes to actively plant new trees to preserve the "street scene" along Church Road, whilst making safe the older split and collapsing ones.

A scheme has recently been advertised whereby the local PCSO's are promoting "post-coding" garden tools to reduce theft from allotments and sheds. If WPC receives sufficient interest from residents, we will look into securing a date for this scheme in Wembdon. Let us know!



The eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed this first attempt at signage on Homberg Way to inform motorists that despite the road closure our pub, shop and post office were still open and welcoming customers!

Road works at Sandford Corner.



Work is progressing well at Sandford Hill Corner; the dry weather has allowed the engineers to make real headway in March. The team have now switched from working on the north side of the A39 to the south side. The Police and Somerset County Council have been monitoring the traffic flow through the works closely to try and minimise the inconvenience caused. EDF Energy are optimistic that the work can be completed ahead of schedule and that both lanes of the A39 will be open before the busy summer holiday period begins in July."

PLUMB HEATING

Established 1980

Central heating repairs & new systems installed.

Power flushing.

Bathrooms and kitchens updated and repaired.

For a free estimate and advice call

James Loxton

Landline 01278 429898

Mobile 07889 141 750

St. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, WEMBDON – Planning update.

The Parish Council would like to ensure that everyone in the Parish is fully aware of what is proposed for our primary school by Somerset County Council. It came as a surprise to all of us last summer when a temporary classroom building was placed on the site on the first day of the school holidays. Planning permission hadn't been sought and no public notification was posted. Only after Parish Council intervention did SCC put in a retrospective Planning Application as part of their plan to increase pupil numbers to 420. The PC strongly objected to the application but permission was granted by SCC as the classrooms were already occupied by the new students.

Just before Christmas SCC put in a second Planning Application to build a new and permanent extension to the school to incorporate 4 classrooms. The PC decided to object to this proposal as this would push the total number of students up to 420. The school would then be equal in size to the largest schools in Bridgwater. The PC believe that this would further add to the traffic chaos through the village at the start and end of every school day as all the extra students will arrive by car (there are already more than enough places for all children who live in our parish). We are very concerned about a number of safety issues this proposal will exacerbate both through the village and on the school site. Wembdon just doesn't have the infrastructure to deal with this size of school.

Because of our objection the Application had to go before the Regulation Committee of SCC which met at County Hall and was attended by Anne Reed and Neil Harrison and we were given the opportunity to put our objections forward. After much discussion the Committee voted for the proposal by 9 votes to 1. The extension is scheduled to commence in the very near future and the school will increase its number from September.

Wembdon PC will discuss its response to the decision at the monthly meeting in April. Meanwhile, if anyone wishes to comment on this issue then please contact any of the PC's or the Clerk.

Support our Village

We are at a cross roads, quite literally, in our struggle to retain two things which make us a village. Unless we all do our best to support them we may well lose both the shop and post office, and the pub.

Since the road closure at Sandford corner, both these businesses have lost a large percentage of their normal trade. It seems to us at the Parish Council, that it is rather shocking that the majority of customers seem to come from outside the village, although we suspect that many of us would greatly miss them if they were to disappear. The Parish and District councillors have worked to get notices put on the NDR, however little effect has been seen in any increasing passing trade.

Our message to the residents is a simple one – use them or lose them!

Wembdon village Market

The last Saturday of each month

10am-12noon

The Parish Centre.

Fresh local produce available.

New stall holders welcome.

Tel: 01278 458434



?ub Quiz

A lively fun and sociable evening
at The Cottage Inn.

The last Tuesday of the month

7pm for a 7:30pm start.

4 people/team, £2.50pp.

New challengers welcome

Our Next Village “Give - A - Day” June 21st 2014.

We will stick to our usual format of a two-session day.

Session 1 – 10:00am: Session 2 - 2.00pm. Meet at playing field entrance.

Please keep this date free in your diaries and put the date on your fridge door! We have undertaken a number of village improvement projects in the past. If you have any thoughts or ideas for suitable projects to occupy us on the 21st then please contact **Neil Harrison on 457549** or e-mail

harrison.neil96@yahoo.com

Help Make Our Pub the Hub!



What is a Village without a pub? I asked. After the obvious amusing comments (“thirsty”, “dry”, “boring” etc.) the more thought provoking answers came to the fore, such as “an extension of its neighbouring town”, “forlorn”, “dead”, “finished as an active village”, “lacking in identity”. As a Parish Council this is not what we want for our fabulous village, which so many of us feel passionate about. With Chrissie and Paul doing their best to keep our village pub open and active, let’s do our best to support them! Here’s a small selection of what you can enjoy at



The Cottage Inn.

Acoustic Night 8:30pm, last Saturday every month. Come and

enjoy live music and a sing along lead by Paul Sweeting. **Fancy a game?** Why not pop in with some friends for a bit of practice? It’d be



great if someone would like to organise a tournament

or local challenge! **Family gatherings, parties and functions** – call

Chrissie to discuss your needs and requirements. All occasions

accommodated! Coming soon.....**Ladies Night! Last Tuesday of the month 7:30/8pm.** Bring up to 3 items you’d like to rehome, priced



to sell and ready buy a new bargain! Wine promotions to tempt

you 😊. And not forgetting of last Tuesday of the month! As

Pub Quiz

course the ever popular Pub Quiz on the if that wasn’t enough there’s always a

warm welcome with your favourite tippel! **So come on, make the pub the hub!**

Monday to Sunday
5am - 9pm

Maltasers
 Galaxy
 only **£2**
 only **£3**
 EACH Large Egg



One Gift, thousands of choices

POST OFFICE

comet WFSmith
 BABIES RUS TOPMAN
 wolls
 HOME STORE
 Toys R Us Virgin Experience superbreak
 River Island FLEET DAVES JESSOP'S
 BURTON JESSOP'S
 Robert Dyas Hargreaves
 SPAINER, Currys PC World
 W National mothercare HOUSE OF FRASER
 DENHAM



Buy your coach tickets at the counter

national express

POST OFFICE
 Visit our website
 nationalexpress.com



Wembdon Stores Premier

Monday to Sunday
5am - 9pm

only **£3**
 only **£4.50**
 only **£1**

Kateman court verdict



Welcome to Wembdon Stores 😊

What's in a Shop? Well, quite a lot actually! If you haven't visited our local shop recently I would strongly recommend you pop in and visit Norman, Mary and their team of hard workers. As well as a warm welcome, here's some of what you'll find:



Your daily read - newspapers & magazines for all ages & interests. Want something specific? We'll order it in, & for a small charge why not have your papers delivered?

Choose from freshly made rolls, sandwiches, hot drinks and



Pot Noodle. Ice creams, lollies, cold drinks and

Slushies! Sweets, confectionary, and pick & mix. Don't miss our monthly promotions with a wide range of selected products and groceries to save



of discounts on you £££'s



Medicines and supplies for minor ailments, coughs, colds & sneezes including Calpol, neurofen, paracetamol etc.

We have a well-stocked beers, wines, spirits and



Off Licence offering a selection of local ciders – cheers!



As well as handling all your posting needs and pensions, you can buy National Express tickets, a huge selection of gift cards, and play The National and The Healthy Lottery!

Don't forget Wembdon Store's also offers mobile phone top-ups, sims, cash back, a village notice board, meeting point and link to local events, as well as housing the vital defibrillator for the community. If every resident resolved to purchase just a few of their weekly goods from our village shop we could help secure it. So come on.... **make one change to protect your local amenity!**



News from St George's Church.



Help us celebrate 70 years of the outside buildings at the Parish Centre and see the plans for the future. **Come and join us for the May Day Fayre at the Parish Centre on Saturday 3rd May 2-5pm.** Did you attend the school any time between 1944 and 1992? Bring your photos to the Wall of Fame. More information from Roger Smith (tel: 444551) or Dean Franklin (tel: 429897).

Course to change your life

Life with "Christianity Explored" starting Tuesday 29th April

Conflict with "Resolving Everyday Conflict" starting on Tuesday 6th May

Relationships with "The Marriage Course" starting Wednesday 7th May

All are welcome. More information from me or office@sgw.org.uk

Ed Moll ed@sgw.org.uk St George's Church (tel: 423468) www.sgw.org.uk

Christianity
EXPLORED

Resolving Everyday Conflict

themarriagecourse

Notes from the Clerk – Owen J Cullwick



I originated from London where I lived until 1978 before coming to live in Street and later Burnham on Sea. My career spanned over 30 years mostly in the footwear industry with K Shoes of Kendal and Clarks International. I held various posts within the organisation and travelled widely in my role as a business development manager. After taking early retirement in 2003 I decided to set up my own legal services

business something that continues to occupy some of my time now. I have always been interested in local and national governance and became the clerk of Brent Knoll in 2008. The position of clerk at Wembdon appealed to me late in 2011 because I saw many similarities between The two villages thou' have later realised that they could not be more different which has made the role even more interesting. I wholeheartedly believe in the role of Parish Councils and the dedication and commitment of local people to take on the role of councillors on a voluntary basis. I have found particularly at Wembdon the Parish Council do a tremendous job in serving the community and dedicate many hours of their time for the good of the village, this has shown itself in the many improvements that have enhanced the village of Wembdon. I have many interests including my work as a Magistrate on the Taunton Bench something I have been very dedicated to for 10 years. My wife Norma and I have a real passion for the Cornish Coastline and spend as much time in Cornwall as possible I also enjoy the art of Campanology (Church Bellringing) something which myself and the whole family have been involved with for over 50 years. When I am not involved in any of these activities I have a great love of rock and folk music which I find is a good relaxation activity.

News from Sedgemoor District Council from Cllr Ann Bown and Cllr Ian Dyer; representing Wembdon and Cannington.

Firstly, we would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter, but please watch your health with all those Easter Eggs.

The new Sandford roundabout is due to finish in July. Initial problems in Skimmerton Lane are hopefully now sorted. We informed the Police, so they can keep an eye on the one way system, ensuring that drivers do not come down the one way system the wrong way, as we are concerned for the road safety of that lane. We also are glad to see that the bus is now able to come through Wembdon Village, so that residents can get into town for appointments or work. We are pleased to be able to work with Wembdon Parish Council to make sure signs are on the main road, telling drivers that Wembdon is still open for business.

It was encouraging to see the new Bridgwater Hospital. We are sure quite a few residents took the opportunity of having a look around on the Open Day. After looking around it, it provides such a modern and healthier way of working, we believe this hospital is a credit to Sedgemoor and surrounding area.

It was good to see that another Planning Application for houses at the back of Wembdon Hill was refused at the Planning Committee, both Ian and I objected and spoke at the meeting.

Sedgemoor District Council Staff and Councillors' have been very involved in the flooding at Moorland and Fordgate, helping with many problems that have happened during and after the flooding and will continue to help them for quite a few months to come, you will have seen that it caught the Prime Minister's eye, as he has made many trips to speak to those poor residents that were involved in the floods and had many discussions with Sedgemoor District Council, Somerset County Council and other Agencies to look at the flooding plan for the future. This will be beneficial to Bridgwater and Wembdon. **Best wishes, Anne and Ian.**

Community Speed Watch



We are delighted to welcome 2 new members to the Community Speed Watch team, who are now fully trained and operational. Many thanks to them from WPC for their commitment to our village, and contribution to making this a safer environment for us all.

It still shocks us at the Parish Council when we receive the data from our speed watch team. In a 45 minute period on a Saturday morning (9:30-10:15am), **96 cars passed the device on Wembdon Rise, 6 of which were speeding, with a top speed of 43mph in a 30mph zone.** This is especially concerning as there is considerable pedestrian usage at this time and the footpaths are narrow or absent along sections of Wembdon Rise.

The majority of this vehicular traffic was noted to be village traffic.

Please, please, please stop and think about this. If we don't care enough to **slow down** for our own children, family, friends and neighbours, how can we campaign to reduce the speed limit and impact on others?

Are Wembdon residents the worst offenders?

Trails and Tales! A new initiative....can you help?

WPC would like very much like to create a collection of laminated local circular walks starting and ending in the heart of our village at either the shop and post office, or pub. Ideally we would have a selection to suits families with under 8's, older children, and the more adventurous walkers. Including an element of local fact finding and spotting would also add to the fun! So, any keen ramblers, footpath followers, local historians etc please get in touch and let's see if we can promote some of our beautiful countryside.



MARTIN GIBSON HYPNOTHERAPY

Martin Gibson DHP. LAPH. AfsFH



COMPASSION & HUMILITY

FULLY QUALIFIED CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPIST- FULLY INSURED
Hypnotherapy is a safe and powerful psychotherapeutic tool which can be used to break the negative cycle of depression and anxiety.

It can help with **addictions, anger, blood pressure, weight control, confidence, insomnia, IBS, migraines, nail biting, nightmares, obsessions, panic attacks, fears and phobias, stress, anxiety and depression** there are many more conditions not included in this list that Hypnotherapy can help with, please feel free to contact me for further information on how Hypnotherapy can help you or to book your **FREE** Initial Consultation
Telephone 07456 914901

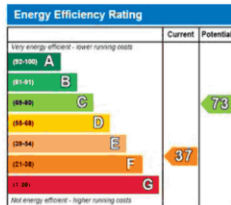
INITIAL CONSULTATION – FREE (INCLUDES FREE CD)
FOLLOWING 50min SESSIONS - £60
SMOKING CESSATION 2hrs - £120

Energy Performance Certificates from Ace Energy Assessors

Selling or renting out your property? Then you will need a valid EPC

Ace Energy are fully qualified, accredited, authorised and insured to supply your certificates

Lower prices
than the High
Street and no
VAT to pay



Mob: 07834 594344

Tel: 01278 431895

Email: aceenergy@hotmail.co.uk

www.epcace.co.uk

Garden Services

Lawns cut.

**Hedges, bushes cut and
pruned.**

Fences erected & repaired.

**Maintenance to your
requirements.**

All garden waste removed.

Fully Insured.

Call James Loxton

landline: 01278 429898

mobile: 07889141750

Agreed rates to suit your needs.

Diary Dates at a glance.

Parish council Meetings 12th May,
9th June, 14th July 2014.

(Dates subject to change.)

Produce Market 31st May, 28th June,
26th July.

Pub quiz 27th May, 24th June, 29th July.

Contact your Parish Council

website: www.wembdon.org

email: clerk@wembdonpc.co.uk

Visit our Facebook page Wembdon parish council

Follow us on **twitter** @wembdonpc

Post: Mr Owen Cullwick

32 Oak Tree Place, Burnham on Sea,
Somerset, TA8 2LH

Phone: 01278 794463

Editors Apology

Please accept my sincere apologies if this reaches some of you after the dates advertised for a few activities and events.

Whilst every effort is made to enhance residents awareness of village activities, other life events sometimes take over. On this occasion my young son broke his leg, resulting in an unexpected stay in Musgrove Park Hospital.



Any Concerns?



What can your Parish Council do for you and your village? Does it need improving, installing, repairing, reviewing or removing? Please let us know about any issues or aspects of village life which we may be able to attend to. We welcome your positive feedback as well, so why not let us know if we did a good job too!

Advertise here. To advertise here or for more information please contact Tom Thayer via email: clerk@wembdon.org
A5: ½ page £20 ¼ page £10 mini £5 (b&w). If you would like to submit an entry about your club or village event please contact the Communication Team via WPC, as above.

Local contacts and information.

Wembdon community Association (WCA): Clive Kett tel: 01278 423229

Wembdon Stores: Opening hours Mon-Sun 5:00am – 9:00pm (except Bank Holidays) tel: 01278 434815

The Cottage Inn: Opening hours Mon-Th 6:00pm- 11:00pm Fri-Sat 6:00pm-11:30pm Sun 12noon- 4:00pm; 7:00pm-10:00pm tel: 01278 423259

St George's Church office: tel: 01278 423468 / Ed Moll tel: 01278 423647

Beavers / Cubs / Scouts: Group Leader John Ennals tel: 07703 033 947

Brownies: Leader Carol Jarman tel: 01278 445268

Guides: Leader Marilyn Hellier tel: 07946 479 899

Cricket club: Email: wembdoncricket@gmail.com

Youth Team Co-ordinator – Dan Bingham tel: 07841 013 128

Senior Cricket, pavilion hire, sponsorship & enquiries - Dan Bingham

Ladies Cricket – Coraley Dunn tel: 01278 434479

Football club: Caroline Fretwell Email: englandbirdie@aol.com

tel:07736045967

Wembdon Ladies: Linda Poile tel: 01278 424431

Wembdon Toddlers: Thurs 10am-12noon Dawn Brett tel: 01278 422809

Ladies keep Fit: Mon 10:00am-11:00am Viv Tolcher tel: 01278 424491

Art Group: Tues 10:00am-12:30pm Kay Robbins tel: 01278 423212

Jay Singers: Tues 7:45pm Tim Loveday tel: 01278 425422

U3A Bridge: Thurs 1:45pm Ernie Whitehead tel: 01278 424134

Travel Line: (local bus information) 0871 200 22 33