

Neighbourhood Plan October 2018 Update



Wembdon Village Day Report

After several years of varying weather conditions, the members of the Wembdon Community Association (WCA) were praying that this year's August Bank Holiday Monday weather would be dry and sunny to allow them to raise funds needed to support village organisations and projects throughout the coming year. Luckily for them after a drizzly start, the day stayed mostly dry, with the sun making a few appearances!

People from the local community, and farther afield, came to enjoy the many attractions, including a well-attended Car Boot Sale benefitting from a new layout, a Craft Show at the Village Hall, Bar, BBQ and stalls run by local clubs and charities, as well as fête favourites such as a Coconut Shy, Hook-a-Duck and Smash the Crockery.

This year visitors also had the chance to enjoy some children's fair favourites such as inflatable slides, mini dodgems, bungee trampolines and a full-sized Fun House!

The annual Fruit, Vegetable, Flower and Craft show in the Parish Centre had the most entries seen since 2011, especially in the children's classes, and, as ever, the quality of entries was exceedingly high. The Scarecrow Competition was run for the 3rd year running, with several entries appearing across the Village to the shock of the local seagulls! This year the judges awarded the Best Exhibit In Show trophy to Miss Samantha Hughes for her beautiful flower arrangement in an unusual container (a handbag), and to Mrs Catherine Lumber for her patchwork entry. Many of the exhibitors donated their entries after the show to be auctioned off and Nick Tasker returned "from retirement" to run the auction, to the amusement of the bidders as they learnt not to move their arms during a Wembdon Village Day auction, otherwise they may find themselves going home with the village's best leeks!

The facilities at the newly refurbished Parish Centre created a relaxed and social venue enjoyed by those visiting for refreshments, they were treated to performances from Burtle Silver Band, while enjoying delicious sandwiches, cakes and cream teas prepared and served by members of the Wembdon community.

The Village Hall was home to an excellent Craft Show and the Bar, which attracted many visitors from further afield, as well as members of the local community.

The sports field hosted many attractions including the annual Children's Races, the "Sedgepaw" dog show run by Cancer Research UK, and with classes such as Waggiest Tail and Sausage Relay they attracted 145 entries, and Car Boot sale, with the first car boot seller breaking the "Earliest Arrival" record when he arrived at 8:50pm on Sunday night!

All in all a very successful event made possible by the hard work and dedication of the Wembdon Community Association, with an enormous amount of help and support from

the local community, without which the staging of an event of this magnitude would be impossible. With this year's successful Village Day behind us, members of the WCA are now looking forward to our next major event: the spectacular Annual Firework Display at Blake's Field (by the church), on Saturday 27th October 2018 at 6.45 p.m. This is a professionally-fired display by "Skyburst", and we look forward to seeing you there!

Fiona Grief (WCA Flower Show Committee)





DOG WALKING REVIEW




Wembdon needs your help. It is immediately obvious to anyone walking around The Green that there is an increasing amount of dog poo being left because some dog walkers are not picking it up. A policy was put in place about 18 months ago but it is only recently that Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) has been able to back this up. The new SDC dog warden has recently made her first visit and Sedgemoor, supported by the Parish Council, has made it very clear that 'on the spot' fines will be issued to anyone exercising their dog(s) off lead anywhere on The Green. It is hoped that closer supervision of dogs by their owners will help to solve this problem.

We have emphasised time and again that your Parish Council provides acres of land where dogs can be exercised off lead. Just over the bridge behind the cricket nets are two fields of grass that are regularly cut. Beyond these fields is the Parkland area that is kept a little rougher but ideal for dogs off lead. Of course, we expect that all dog droppings are bagged and put in one of a number of dog bins on site.

It is appalling that parents and sports coaches have to ensure that our playing fields and pitches are free of dog poo before our youngsters can play cricket, rounders or football. We would like ALL members of our community to be able to enjoy the wonderful facilities we now have but we must share the responsibility and work together to achieve that aim.

PLEASE HELP US TO END THIS PROBLEM, NOW !!!!



 Exercise area for dogs off lead.

 Dogs kept on leads at all time!



The Green
Wembdon



Hire The Green

Licensed Bar, Kitchen & Large Function Room
for Weddings, Birthdays, Wakes, Meetings & Dinners

www.wembdonvillagehall.co.uk



Installation of New Defibrillators

The Parish Council has provided a defibrillator for several years and this has been located at the Village Hall for the past year. It is now time for it to be retired from service and it is being replaced with a new unit. The Hall is in operation from early morning until late evening on most days and the Emergency Services have all of the information for access at other times.

The Parish Council have also decided to provide a second unit and this will be installed on the wall outside of the Village shop.

Whilst both units can be operated by untrained personnel, a training sessions are being organised by The South Western Ambulance Service and anyone interested in joining a session should contact The Parish Clerk.

Defibrillator and CPR Training



**To be held at 6.30pm on 12th November
in**

Wembdon Village Hall

Open to the public

Training provided by

The South Western Ambulance Service

Cokerhurst Farm Development



Why is it happening?

Villagers will be aware of the vigorous and long-term objections of the Parish Council to the development at Cokerhurst Farm. Sedgemoor District Council has allocated the land for housing in its Local Plan and an independent Planning Inspector has agreed to the development in principle. This means that the Cokerhurst development is now virtually certain to go ahead. The Developers will hold public consultations in the next few weeks, although no firm dates have been provided at the time of writing.

What are the proposals?

The Local Plan anticipates 900 houses to be built on Cokerhurst Farm plus a primary school, a nursery and a neighbourhood centre. There will also be 300 houses on the other side of the A39 in Durleigh Parish to be built by Persimmon. The planning inspector's final report is expected towards the end of this year.

When will it happen?

The Developers for Cokerhurst Farm (Cavanna Homes and Ensign Homes) are intending to submit a planning application in early 2019. Their application will include detailed plans for 230 houses along the A39 (Phase 1) and outline plans for a further 420 houses between Phase 1 and Wembdon Hill. If this application is successful building would probably start in 2020. The Cokerhurst development will be built in stages starting at the A39 where access needs to be provided.

What can we do about it?

We cannot stop the Cokerhurst development but if we have a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) this becomes part of Sedgemoor's Development Plan. The policies in the NP would need to be considered by Sedgemoor District Council alongside its own Local Plan policies when determining planning applications. Within the NP, we can influence: the layout of the site, the design of the houses, road width, and parking, what goes into the neighbourhood centre and the amount and character of green space.

Neighbourhood Plan October 2018 Update



Would you support...

Preserving the character of Wembdon and our Green Spaces and Vistas?

Ensuring that any new development reflects the atmosphere of Wembdon and has the best outcome for both existing and new residents?

Using a bigger share of the levy that developers have to pay to provide more facilities in our parish?

Having a say in the local facilities that are provided in new development to the west of Wembdon?

New homes if they were provided for local Wembdon residents and their families?

More and better parking in new housing developments?



**If so, when the referendum comes in 2019 please
vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan**

See next page for details of referendum

Where we are now

- Following the postal and on-line surveys completed by Wembdon residents, the Neighbourhood Plan steering group has developed a draft Neighbourhood Plan. This is available to view on the Parish Council website, www.Wembdon.org.
- We have held three consultation events: at the village hall in June and July, and at the Wembdon Village Day. These events attracted a good number of visits, with many residents leaving written responses and others sharing their views in person. The feedback on the draft plan has generally been very positive.
- There has also been consultation with other local authority stakeholder groups and agencies, again with very helpful feedback.
- The Parish Council has taken on board the comments about Wembdon Parkland not becoming too “manicured” and space left for wildlife and dog walking/other activities.
- We are consulting Sedgemoor District Council on a proposal for affordable housing in Wembdon which we hope to include in the Neighbourhood Plan. If and when Cokerhurst Farm is developed we would like some of the affordable housing on the site to be allocated first to Wembdon residents or people with a local connection.
- The Parish Council is also working on a parking and traffic strategy.

Next steps

- The Plan will now be amended to reflect the feedback, and will then go to Sedgemoor District Council and an independent examiner to check that it is legally compliant.
- The Sedgemoor Local Plan has also been subject to examination and the Inspector has indicated that she is not minded to oppose the development at Cokerhurst Farm.
- This makes it virtually certain that the development will go ahead (much against the wishes of your Parish Council and very many Wembdon residents). The developers are planning to hold a public consultation event soon to show us the plans they have for the site and to hear our views.

Referendum

- Once the Neighbourhood Plan has passed the legal tests and has been accepted by Sedgemoor District Council it will be the subject of a Referendum – which is likely to be in spring/summer 2019. All Wembdon residents will then have the opportunity to vote on our Neighbourhood Plan. If it is accepted it will become part of the District Council’s planning policy. It will have to be taken into account when any planning issue that affects Wembdon is being considered. If it is rejected there is no second chance, we will not have a Neighbourhood Plan for Wembdon.





Every year 13,000 community groups receive funding from us. All thanks to players of The National Lottery.

NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDED

Sign up to find out what we fund. 

Access for All – Changing Places

As a part of the Parish Council's Access for All initiative, one of the disabled toilets in the Village Hall is being upgraded to the very latest Changing Places specification. This provides electrically operated supports to enable the facilities to be used by people of all capabilities.

This will be the first such facility in Sedgemoor and only the third in Somerset and is being funded by a grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

A locking system is being installed which provides access using a RADAR key through the day and the facility would be locked at night to prevent unauthorized access.

Congratulations

The Somerset Playing Fields Association is a registered charity whose aims are to help and support communities throughout Somerset to provide for outdoor recreation facilities so that:

- people of all ages and abilities have opportunities to take part in play and sport activities by having access to good quality local amenities;
- children have access to "fit for purpose" playgrounds.

Wembdon Parish Council was awarded 3rd place in this year's awards.





REPORT FROM THE SPEEDWATCH TEAM

In July the Parish Council held an open meeting with Andy Coupe from Somerset County Council Highways Team to discuss traffic issues/solutions in Wembdon. Whilst being sympathetic to our feelings, the evidence does not currently warrant traffic calming measures – especially in the harsh economic circumstances facing SCC.

Our latest evidence from the Speed Indicator Device backs this up, and if you're interested in data here are a few figures to look at:

*Church Rd – AVERAGE SPEED is **15.6 mph** in the 20-mph zone*

*Wembdon Rise - AVERAGE SPEED is **25.7 mph** in the 30-mph zone*

*Wembdon Hill – AVERAGE SPEED is **27 mph** in the 30-mph zone*

*These figures are pretty good, BUT we have a few PERSISTENT “HIGH END” SPEEDSTERS! These are generally drivers racing through trying to beat the congestion on the A39...**BUT MANY ARE LOCAL.***

We have re-introduced the **SPEEDWATCH** team and volunteers will be recording offenders' details and sending them to the Police Speed Enforcement Team.

Please check your **OWN** speed...be the “**PACE CAR**” & stick **RIGIDLY to the SPEED LIMIT.**

Please bring this article to the attention of other members of your household.

St George's Parish Centre

New Acoustic Panels in Mendip & Polden rooms

Next time you are in the Mendip or Polden rooms of the new Parish Centre, look up to the ceiling. The square panels you see have recently been fitted. Their purpose is to reduce the amount of noise and echo in the rooms. Visitors to the Mendip Room (which is where the daily Coffee Shop meets) will be familiar with the colourful wall hanging panels which work on a similar principle. We also have a hearing loop and sound reinforcement in those two rooms (thank you Wembdon Community Association for help towards that). Do come and hear the difference!

We are grateful to Allchurches Trust, the Clarks Foundation, and the Leonard Laity Stoate Charity for grant support. Thank you also to those who helped with equipment and installation.

New Parish Centre Development Worker appointed

We are very pleased to announce that with support from HPC's Community Cohesion Fund and the Diocese of Bath & Wells' Fund for Church Growth, St George's Parish Centre has been able to appoint a Parish Centre Development Manager. They are undergoing the usual checks before we can make a formal announcement and once in post they will be open to ideas as to how the Centre can better serve and support our changing local community.

Contact them at parishcentre@sgw.org.uk Pat Bright remains the contact for bookings on 457760 and patbright@btinternet.com

For more information search for St George's Parish Centre on facebook or look up the Parish Centre pages of the church website www.sgw.org.uk

Ed Moll, St George's Church





The Green
Wembdon

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER

CHILDRENS HALLOWEEN PARTY

3.30pm to 6pm - £5 PER CHILD AGE 2+

DISCO * SNACK BOX * FANCY DRESS * GAMES



SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & CRAFT FAIR

10am to 3.30pm

FREE PARKING * MAILED WINE * CAFÉ



SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER

CASINO ROYALE THEMED CHRISTMAS PARTY

6pm to Midnight - £35 PER HEAD

DINNER * ROULETTE * DISCO * PHOTO BOOTH



BOXING DAY (WEDNESDAY 26TH DECEMBER)

COMMUNITY PARTY - BOXING DAY BASH

Midday until Late - FREE ENTRY

KRAZY KEV (CHILDRENS ENTERTAINER) 2.30pm

DISCO (4pm—8pm) * BAR * FESTIVE MENU



NEW YEARS EVE (MONDAY 31ST DECEMBER)

DOORS OPEN 6pm until 1am

ADULTS £20, 5+ FROM £6, FAMILY TICKETS AVAIL.

LIVE MUSIC (HUNDRED FACES) * HOG ROAST INCL.



TICKETS & ENQUIRIES CALL 07841 013128

WEMBDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FIREWORKS DISPLAY 2018



Don't miss this annual treat!

To be held at
Blakes Road field, Wembdon (next to Church)

On

SATURDAY 27th October 2018

FIREWORK DISPLAY at 6.45p.m.

**ADMISSION: - Adults £2 Children £1
Pre-school – FREE**

(FAMILY TICKET: £5 for 2 adults and up to 3 children)

Hotdogs, soup, crisps, drinks available from 6.00 p.m. on the field

**£1700 worth of brilliant aerial fireworks from Skyburst Fireworks
Professionally Fired**

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
PLEASE WALK IF AT ALL POSSIBLE**

No Sparklers or personal fireworks allowed on the field.

POLICE and FIRST AID PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE.

**Be there whatever the weather and support your local
Community Association.**



WEMBDON PAINTING GROUP

Wembdon Painting Group is thriving in a time when many groups struggle to keep going. We have 35 members who meet at St. George's Parish Centre every Tuesday morning.

The group was founded in 1992 when a few like-minded enthusiastic local artists got together and we have never looked back since! Our members have a wide range of interests and talents. Some of you will have seen our work on display in the competitions held at Village Day every year.

We are a very social group and community conscious having completed projects for other organisations. In 2016 we painted animal characters on room partitions for the Sunshiners Pre-school group. In 2017 we completed large canvasses showing scenes and distinctive properties around the village. These are displayed in the village hall. This year, we had a stall at Village Day together with Wembdon Camera Club selling our work at rock bottom prices. The proceeds of £400 were given to the Burnham Area Rescue Boat (B.A.R.B.). We were just looking for another project when we were told that the Main hall in the parish centre could do with something on the boards to brighten it up for the toddler group. We have finished a creating a mural "Creatures under the Sea" and are now in the process of mounting it.

We do also have visiting professional artists who run workshops for us to help improve. So look out for news in the New Year of an exhibition we will be holding in the Spring.

Kay Robins (Secretary)

**Wembdon Parish Council Parish Paper is printed by Parish Magazine Printing;
printers of community magazines. Tel: 01288 341617**

Local contacts and information.

Wembdon Community Association (WCA): Graham Grief – 01278 457973

email wembdon.community@btinternet.com

Wembdon Village Hall: website wembdonvillagehall.co.uk

Wembdon Stores: tel: 01278 434815

The Cottage Inn: Opening hours Mon-Fri 6:00pm- 11:00pm

Sat & Sun 12noon- 4:00pm; 6:00pm-11:00pm tel: 01278 423259

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

Parish Centre: Pat Bright tel: 01278 457760

Beavers / Cubs / Scouts: Group Leader John Ennals tel: 07703 033947

Brownies: Leader Sue Sly tel: 01278 410911

Cricket club: Dan Bingham tel: 07841 013128 wembdoncricket@gmail.com

Football club: Caroline Fretwell englandbirdie@aol.com tel:07736 045967

Wembdon Ladies: Chris Pashley tel: 01278 451133

Wembdon Toddlers: Thurs 10am-12noon Ceri Douglass tel: 01278 422702

Wembdon Sunshiners Pre-school: Jen Hillier tel: 01278 457100

Music with Mummy: Tues 1.00pm-3.00pm Lisa Drew tel:07903 284835

Ladies keep Fit: Mon 9.45am-10:45am Viv Tolcher tel: 01278 424491

Art Group: Tues 9:30am-12:00pm Kay Robins tel: 01278 423212

Jay Singers: Tues 7:30pm Tim Loveday tel: 01278 425422

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

Sedgemoor Stitchers: - Vanessa Leighton tel: 01278 662977

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111.

Call anonymously to report crime.