

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Clerk, Tony Jay, 11 Wyvern Mews, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 3GZ.
Email clerk@wembdon.org Telephone 07859911204

Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at Wembdon Village Hall on 13th December 2021 that commenced at 7.00pm when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors M Solomon (Chairman), D Claydon, L Edwards, P Major, M Phillips, A Reed, R Webber and J Wellings.

District Councillor B Bolt. County Councillor M Caswell.

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay

203/21 To receive any apologies for absence.

Councillor K Searle has been granted a dispensation not to attend this meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor D Gliddon.

204/21 To receive declarations of any pecuniary interests on items relating to this agenda, which have not been previously declared in the Councillors register of interests.

There were no declarations received.

205/21 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th November 2021.

It was resolved to approve the minutes as being a correct record of the meeting (7 in favour, 1 abstention as not present at the meeting).

206/21 To invite public speaking.

No member of the public had requested to speak.

207/21 To receive the Clerk's report.

The Parish Council is in dialogue with Somerset County Council regarding the safety of the zebra crossing in Wembdon Rise. The leader of Somerset County Council will be making a visit to the site to see the safety issues for himself.

A site meeting is due to be held this week regarding the signing off of the NDR entrance to the Village Hall car park.

A parishioner has emailed asking whether the Parish Council would consider paying for leaves to be cleared from gutters and pavements in the parish.

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The Parish Council has previously requested that the Sedgemoor District Council gutter cleaning vehicle visits Wembdon, but parked vehicles prevented it from cleaning, so the visits stopped.

The Community Payback Team are now working in the parish every Sunday and are carrying out useful work.

Councillor Webber left the meeting.

208/21 To approve the 2022-2023 budget including a precept increase of 13% for 2022-2023.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the budget and a precept demand of £110,992.

The precept received will increase by £12,772, which is a 13% rise compared to 2021-2022. These extra funds will be used to fund the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in the parish; new benches in the parish; an inspection of all the trees in the parish (as required by the Parish Council's insurers); a contribution towards the accessible swings to be installed in the playground; an increase in the Clerk's hours to reflect the ever increasing demands of his role and to increase the Council's reserves towards the level recommended by the internal auditor (50% of the precept demand).

This will mean that a Band D household will pay an extra 72 pence per month which is an increase of 11.16% over 2021-2022 not 13%, due to a rise in the number of properties paying Council Tax in Wembdon.

209/21 To consider a quotation of £706 plus VAT for the annual tree inspection.

It was unanimously resolved to accept the quotation.

210/21 To receive reports from Councillors.

SID report

The latest data for the last six weeks from our SIDs situated on Sandford Hill and Wembdon Rise shows that as usual there are a good number of high-end speeders. At Sandford Hill, 388 vehicles travelled at over 51 mph. The highest speed recorded was 73 mph. At Wembdon Rise, 488 vehicles travelled at over 41 mph, with the highest speed also being 73mph.

However, overall, the SIDs seem to be doing an effective job in alerting drivers to their actual speed & hopefully reducing their speeds as a result. The new solar SID was recently installed so both sides of the zebra crossing now have SIDs installed which will help to alert drivers to slow down.

CCTV

All CCTV posts and cameras have now been installed, with the exception of the post and camera near to Wembdon Motors. This will be installed in

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January. The CCTV signs required by legislation have been ordered. When these signs are installed then the cameras can be used for evidential purposes.

Platinum Jubilee

The working group has met and are beginning to formulate plans which include a beacon at the allotments; a service of thanksgiving at the Church; a lunch at the Parish Centre; the Cottage Inn will be putting on an event with barbershop singers and fancy dress and there will be a 50's themed dance at the Village Hall. The 'London Pageant' will be shown live at the Village Hall followed by a picnic in the park, and there is a suggestion for a competition for people to decorate their front gardens on a royal theme.

Parish Paper

The next edition will be published towards to end of January.

- 211/21 To consider the adoption of a policy in regard to the maintenance of trees, hedges and vegetation on land that is not owned by the Parish Council.

It was unanimously resolved to adopt a policy regarding the maintenance of land in the Parish which is not owned by the Parish Council.

- 212/21 To note all statutory payments made since the last meeting (see minute 181/20).

Payee	Detail	Amount £
Avalonian Landscapes	Maintenance contract November 2021	1417.00
SDC	Dog bin emptying for six months	1839.55
E-On	CCTV electricity Oct and Nov 2021	19.54

The statutory payments were noted.

- 213/21 To note the following non-statutory payments.

Payee	Detail	Amount £
Tony Jay	Clerk's expenses November 2021	197.98
SCC	Licence application fees	680.00
G Lancaster	Bases for litter bins	400.00
SALC	Councillor training	25.00
Avalonian Landscapes	Work in the Parklands.	710.00
Avalonian Landscapes	Install steps in Moores Lane	900.00
Coomber Security	CCTV installation	6148.80

The non-statutory payments were noted.

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A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members.

214/21 To receive any matters of report.

The use of pesticides and herbicides in the Parish for weed control will be an agenda item at the January meeting. In the meantime, no chemical sprays will be used in the Parklands.

215/21 Date of next meeting: 10th January 2022.

End of minutes.