

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Clerk, Tony Jay, 5 Maple View, Kewstoke, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 9XQ.  
Email [clerk@wembdon.org](mailto:clerk@wembdon.org) Telephone 07859911204

Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at Wembdon Village Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 that commenced at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors M Solomon (Chairman), D Claydon, L Edwards, D Gliddon, B Hedeaux, P Major, A Reed and J Wellings.

County Councillor B Bolt (from agenda item 99/22).

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay

- 89/22 To elect a Chairman for the forthcoming year.  
It was resolved to elect Councillor Solomon as Chairman of the Parish Council for 2022-23. Councillor Solomon abstained from the vote.
- 90/22 To request the elected Chairman to sign the declaration of acceptance of office.  
Councillor Solomon signed the declaration of office.
- 91/22 To receive declaration of acceptance of office notices from newly elected Parish Councillors.  
The declaration of acceptance of notices were signed. It was agreed to allow the Councillors not present at the meeting to sign their declarations in the presence of the Clerk at a later date.
- 92/22 To elect a Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.  
It was resolved to elect Councillor Gliddon as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for 2022-23. Councillor Gliddon abstained from the vote.
- 93/22 To request the elected Vice Chairman to sign the declaration of office.  
Councillor Gliddon signed the declaration of office.
- 94/22 To receive any apologies for absence.  
Apologies were received from Councillor M Phillips and R Webber.
- 95/22 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 of interest.
- 96/22 To confirm that the Parish Council will hold the General Power of Competence until the next Parish Council elections.  
It was unanimously resolved to confirm that the Parish Council will hold the General Power of Competence until the next Parish Council elections.

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- 97/22 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.  
It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record.
- 98/22 To invite public speaking.  
No member of the public was present.
- 99/22 To allocate Councillor roles and responsibilities, including membership of the planning committee.  
It was unanimously resolved to allocate the following roles and responsibilities to the listed Councillors.

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Planning Committee   | Claydon, Edwards, Gliddon, Major, Phillips, Reed, Solomon |
| Finance team         | Gliddon, Phillips, Reed, Solomon, Wellings                |
| Staffing team        | Gliddon, Phillips, Reed, Solomon                          |
| Footpaths            | Phillips  |
| Parklands            | Edwards, Claydon  |
| Village Hall trustee | Phillips  |
| Allotments           | Claydon   |
| Playing fields       | Wellings  |
| Highways             | Gliddon, Major  |
| Speedwatch and SID   | Gliddon   |
| Website              | Major, the Clerk  |
| Facebook             | Gliddon, Reed, Solomon, the Clerk                         |
| Litter               | Edwards   |
| Climate Change       | Edwards, Claydon, Reed.                                   |
| Parish Paper         | Reed, the Clerk   |
| EDR / Hinkley Forum  | Reed  |

- 100/22 To approve the Annual Governance statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 (s.1 of the Annual Return 2021/22).  
It was unanimously resolved to approve the Annual Governance statement
- 101/22 To approve the Annual Accounting statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 (s.2 of the Annual Return 2021/22).  
It was unanimously resolved to approve the Annual Accounting statements.
- 102/22 To receive the Clerk's report.  
There was an uncontested Parish Council election, which resulted in all ten people standing being elected as Councillors. All other recent matters had been circulated to Councillors.
- 103/22 To receive a report on Highways.  
There was a road traffic collision on the A39 last week which resulted in long queues and traffic chaos in Wembdon village. This could be a sign of things

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to come when work commences on the Cokerhurst development. The developers Cavanagh are trying to formulate a traffic management plan with Somerset County Council highways, but this is proving to be difficult.

A separate incident took place recently on the NDR when a car collided with a lamppost. The lamppost has been severely damaged. Fortunately, no-one was injured.

Hollow Lane will be closed on 23<sup>rd</sup> May for three days between 8am and 5pm to allow tree work to take place.

Two street lights on Wembdon Hill are permanently on, along with two in Church Road. The Clerk will report these problems to Western Power.

There is a damaged bus timetable sign outside 42, Wembdon Rise. This will be reported to First Bus.

The street name sign in Crossfield Close has been damaged. This will be reported to Sedgemoor District Council.

The NDR access into the Village Hall has now been adopted by Somerset County Council.

A convoy of four travelling caravans tried to gain access to the Village playing fields through the Hall car park on 9<sup>th</sup> May. This was witnessed first-hand by Councillors, and the assumption was immediately made that they wished to park and stay on the site, and so they were asked to leave. They were then seen to try to gain access to the Parklands and the playing fields, when again the assumption was that they intended to park and stay. All access points to the hall, parklands and playing fields need to be protected from such vehicles entering. The Chairman has written to Somerset County Council requesting that urgent action is required to protect the open access point on the NDR/Wares Lane junction where the safety gates were removed. It was unanimously agreed that if such action is not taken by Somerset County Council, then the Parish Council will place boulders to protect the access points.

It was proposed that as an additional layer of security, the access from the Hall overflow car park into the playing fields should be barred by wooden bollards and an opening, but locked, gate.

This will be an agenda item for the June meeting.

104/22

To receive a report on the Footpaths and Verges.

A meeting has been held with the Parish Council's maintenance contractor to review the areas he maintains.

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- 105/22 To receive a report on the Playing Fields and Common.  
The new accessible play equipment is due to be installed by August.
- 106/22 To receive a report on the Parklands.  
One of the trustees has stood down, but two new people have been appointed. There have been recent problems with the Parklands website, which should be resolved shortly.
- Vandalism has occurred near the sensory borders. More CCTV signs will be installed to advise people that the area is covered by CCTV.
- 107/22 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall.  
There are ongoing discussions with the Football Club who need to enlarge their pitch as they have been promoted to a higher league where there is a requirement for a larger pitch.
- 108/22 To receive a report on the Parish Paper.  
The recently published Parish Paper has been well received. A review of the advertising rates will be held at the next meeting.
- 109/22 To receive a report on the Allotments.  
The waiting list of people wanting to lease an allotment plot is growing.
- 110/22 To receive a report on SID results and Speedwatch.  
The SID was located on Sandford Hill for ten weeks. The 40 mph criteria was used as this is where the SID first picks up the vehicles.
- Some very high speeds were recorded, with most of them exiting the village towards the A39. There were four recorded speeds in the 80's leaving the village and two in the 70's entering.
- The 85th % speed (the speed at which the vast majority of traffic is going) has risen to 34 mph incoming (from 33 mph in Jan/Feb 2022) and has remained constant at 38 mph outgoing.
- By the time vehicles reach the Skimmerton Lane junction the data from the mobile SID shows the 85th% speeds had dropped to 32.8 mph.
- The mobile SID has been at the top of Wembdon Hill for about 10 weeks.
- The 85th % speed was 32.8 mph (32.9 mph when last in this location in December 2021) with the average speed 24.9 mph (25.3 mph in December 2021). The average speeder was travelling at 43 mph. The volume of traffic coming from the A39 into Wembdon was 756 per day (787 in December 2021)

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The peak time for speeders appears to be between 6 - 7 am and 3 – 6 pm with 4 - 5 pm being the worst time.

On Wembdon Rise by the Wares Lane junction 99.28% of incoming vehicles were below the 36 mph limit for police action and 98.4% outgoing. The 85th% percentile speed was 26 mph in both directions. The highest speed was 55 mph at 10 a.m. incoming, and 54 mph outgoing at 7:30 p.m.

The Speedwatch team have not been operating due to holidays and lack of member availability.

- 111/22 To receive a report on the Village Hall Community Youth Project.  
The work on the upstairs room is nearing completion. The new facility is due to be opened in June.
- 112/22 To consider a request from a parishioner to install an additional bench on Wembdon Playing Fields at the parishioner's expense.  
It was unanimously resolved that the Parish Council would organise the installation of an additional bench, which would match the others in the park, the cost of which will be reimbursed by the parishioner.
- 113/22 To receive a report regarding the Transport Forum and the EDF Forum.  
The next transport forum meeting is taking place this week. The minutes will be circulated when received.
- 114/22 To receive an update on the preparations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.  
The beacon base has been installed at the allotments. The Parish Council thanks Evans Fabrications of Risedale Close, Wembdon for making the beacon and post and donating them to the Parish Council. All events during the Jubilee weekend have been publicised in the recent Parish Paper.
- 115/22 To consider the date and arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.  
It was unanimously resolved not to hold an Annual Parish Meeting this year.
- 116/22 To note all statutory payments made since the last meeting (see minute 181/20).

| Payee                | Detail               | Amount £ |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Avalonian Landscapes | Maintenance contract | 1417.00  |

The statutory payments were noted.

- 117/22 To note the following non-statutory payments.

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| Payee                    | Detail                       | Amount £ |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Tony Jay                 | Clerk's expenses April 2022  | 182.92   |
| VSA Admin                | Administration support       | 50.00    |
| Wickes                   | Postcrete for Jubilee Beacon | 29.50    |
| Parish Magazine Printing | Parish Paper printing        | 884.43   |

The non-statutory payments were noted.  
A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to members.

118/22

To receive any matters of report.

The Clerk was asked to contact SALC to enquire why their Councillor training sessions are still being held on Zoom and not in person. Also, to ask why they charge £25 for each Councillor to attend a training session.

New copies of the Good Councillor Guide will be ordered.

A revised version of the National Model Councillor Code of Conduct has been published. The adoption of this code for Wembdon Parish Council will be considered at the June meeting.

119/22

Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

End of Minutes