

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of a meeting of Wembdon Parish Council held at Wembdon Village Hall on 12th June 2023 that commenced at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted.

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

District Councillor B Bolt. Councillor M Caswell was attending a different Parish Council meeting.

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay

- 118/23 To receive any apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Councillor C Chalk.
- 119/23 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.
- 120/23 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th May 2023.
It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes.
- 121/23 To invite public speaking.
No member of the public had requested to speak.
- 122/23 To receive the Clerk's report.
There have been two applicants to fill the casual vacancy on the parish council. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 5th July.

The first Local Community Network meeting will be held in Stogursey on Wednesday 14th June. Councillor Hedaux and the clerk will be attending. Anyone can view the meeting on Microsoft Teams.

Two young oak trees have been snapped in half at the newly created Queen's Copse. The council's maintenance contractor is trying to save the trees. If one or both of the trees cannot be saved, then they will be replaced.
- 123/23 To consider whether the Parish Council should open a second savings account and apply for a Corporate Multipay card.
It was unanimously resolved to open a Public Sector Deposit Fund with CCLA and to deposit £80,000.

The authorised signatories on this account will be Anne Reed, Richard Mark Phillips, David Gliddon and Bridget Hedaux.

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It was unanimously resolved to apply for a Corporate Multipay card. There will be a limit of £1,000 per transaction and a total monthly limit of £3,000.

The clerk will check the terms and conditions prior to the application forms being signed and amend the council's financial regulations for approval at the next meeting.

124/23 To consider quotations to supply and install Black EPDM Edge repairs at the playground.

It was unanimously resolved to accept the quotation from GB Sports of £2,734.70 for this work.

There are a number of low risk items listed on the monthly playground report. The Clerk will ask GB Sports to quote to carry out the work required to remedy these items.

125/23 To consider a request by a resident of Church Road for permission for the path leading to their property across Wembdon Common to be widened at their expense.

It was unanimously resolved to agree to the request for the path to be widened.

126/23 To consider, in principle, whether to create a secure area at the dog walking area at the Parklands to enable dogs to be exercised off lead.

It was resolved, in principle, to install gates at the existing dog walking area (4 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention).

It was acknowledged that the installation of gates would not create a completely secure area, and that a sign would need to be erected stating this.

Councillor Gliddon will prepare a proposal document including costings, for discussion and possible approval at a future meeting.

127/23 To receive a report on the Highways.

The unsafe boundary wall at 30, Wembdon Rise still has not been fenced off. This was reported to Somerset Council highways department on 20th May, but it appears that no action has been taken. The Clerk will report this again.

The saga regarding the damaged manhole cover on Wembdon Rise continues. Email correspondence has been received from Openreach stating that contractors will be doing the work shortly. This is a slow process.

128/23 To receive a report on Footpaths and Verges.

The Parish Council maintenance contractor has managed to catch up with his backlog of work following the bad weather experienced earlier this year.

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The rights of way team have cut back the track from the allotments to Blakes Lane.

There are high weeds on the raised footpaths and in the gutters in Church Road. Some of the posts on the raised section are rotted and need replacing. The Clerk was asked to report this to Clean Surroundings.

129/23 To receive a report on the Playing Fields and Common.
There was nothing to report.

130/23 To receive a report on the Parklands.
The new storage unit is due to be constructed in the near future. A horse chestnut tree will be re-staked in the autumn.

131/23 To receive a report on the Village Hall.
The hall now has four part-time staff. The youth club is now operating again. The numbers of young people attending are low. In the next few weeks there will be some introductory sessions to encourage year 6 children to join the youth club in September. Their session will be Wednesday, with the Monday session being kept to year 7 and above. Session activities are posted on the Youth Unlimited Facebook page.

132/23 To receive a report on the allotments.
The community payback team has cleared the Parish Council's allotment plot. Two long standing allotment holders have relinquished their plots. Two framed certificates will be purchased to present to them. Three allotments are being let to new tenants.

133/23 To consider the allotment fees for 2023-24.
It was unanimously resolved to increase the annual fees as follows:

Single plot holders – From £25 to £30.
Double plot holders – From £50 to £55.
Triple plot holders – From £75 to £80.

134/23 To agree the date of the allotment Annual General Meeting.
The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 25th September.

135/23 To receive a report on SID results and Speedwatch.

Councillor Gliddon provided the SID report:

SOLAR SID from NDR (Westbound)

Average Daily Total Vehicles
Sept 2022 - 1,735 per day. June 2023 –1,754 per day

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Average Speed. Sept 2022 – 23.6 mph. June 2023 – 21.21 mph

85th % Speeds (speeds most vehicles travel at)
Sept 2022 – 27 mph June 2023 – 26 mph

SOLAR SID by WARES LANE (approaching the crossing from the west)

Average Daily Total Vehicles
Dec 2022 – 1,284 per day. June 2023 – 1,058 per day.

Average Speed. Dec 2022 – 25.6 mph. June 2023 – 23.2 mph.

85th % Speeds. Dec 2022 – 26 mph. June 2023 – 24 mph.

SOLAR SID on SANDFORD HILL (coming uphill from Cannington)

Average Daily Total Vehicles,
Dec 2022 – 717 per day. June 2023 – 570 per day.

Average Speed. Dec 2022 – n/a June 2023 – 25.48 mph.

85th % Speeds. Dec 2022 – 34 mph. June 2023 – 33 mph.

- 136/23 To receive a report on the Parish Paper.
The next edition will be going to the printers later this week. It will contain twenty pages. We have lost two full page advertisers since the last edition but have gained two half page advertisers.
- 137/23 To receive a report regarding the Transport Forum and the EDF Forum.
Councillor Phillips has attended a recent forum meeting. The meeting minutes have been circulated to all councillors.
- 138/23 To consider whether the Parish Council should pay to install an extra bollard at the entrance to the Parklands on the NDR to prevent trespassing vehicles entering the land.
It was unanimously resolved to install the bollard. The Parish Council will pay for this work.
- 139/23 To note all statutory payments made since the last meeting (see minute 181/20).

Payee	Detail	Amount £
Avalonian Landscapes	Maintenance contract	1583.00
Richard Young	Internal audit fees	50.00

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The statutory payments were noted.

140/23 To note the following non-statutory payments.

Payee	Detail	Amount £
Tony Jay	Clerk's expenses May 2023	115.31
Various	Coronation plants and materials	529.49
Elan City	Purchase of SID	2221.03
John Marchant	Electrical work to move defibrillator	287.81
Avalon Landscapes	Tree work	85.00

The non-statutory payments were noted.

A budget update sheet had been pre circulated to councillors.

141/23 To receive any matters of report.
There were no matters to report.

142/23 Date of next meeting: 10th July 2023.

End of Minutes