

WEMBURY PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Annual Meeting held at Down Thomas Jubilee Hall
on Monday 23 May 2011 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman	Cllr D Drought	Chairman of Wembury Parish Council
Clerk	Mr R Fairclough	Clerk to Wembury Parish Council

18 electors were present.

11-01 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed everyone to the annual meeting of the Wembury Parish.

11-02 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 24 MAY 2010

The minutes of the Wembury Annual Parish Meeting held on 24 May 2010 which had been read and signed at the Wembury Parish Council meeting on 28 June 2010, were approved.

11-03 MATTERS ARISING

10-06 i) The Chairman reported that discussions with the bus company to improve the 48 Bus service to Wembury is an ongoing battle. A Wembury Bus User Group (WEMBUG) has been formed which regularly liaises with the First Bus Company, Devon CC and Wembury PC about the service.

10-06 ii) The Chairman reported that despite the Parish Council's objection, the allocation for up to 30 houses on the land at Knighton Hill, Wembury, has been approved by South Hams DC and the Inspector.

Mr Dunlop a planner for Cavanna Homes Ltd has been asked to attend the next meeting of Wembury Parish Council on 27 June 2011, to outline the proposals for the site. Any development proposals still require planning permission.

10-06 iii) The proposed housing scheme by Cavanna Homes Ltd for Down Thomas, which the Parish Council objected to, was rejected by both South Hams DC and the Inspector.

11-04 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman then read his Annual Report and commented on activities within the Wembury Parish throughout the year.

The full text of the report is shown at ANNEX A to these minutes and will be published in the Wembury Review and on the Parish Council website at www.wemburyparishcouncil.info .

11-05 POLICE ANNUAL REPORT

PC Rob Batchelor had apologised, as he was not able to be present at the meeting. However, he had provided a written Police Annual Report, which the Chairman then read out.

The full text of the report is shown at ANNEX B to these minutes and will be published on the Parish Council website at www.wemburyparishcouncil.info .

11-06 GENERAL MATTERS

i) Two Parish Council Vacancies

The Chairman said that following the recent elections there were two councillor vacancies on the Wembury Parish Council, one in the Wembury ward and one in the Down Thomas ward. The lack of

Parish Councillors appears to have been reflected throughout Devon and Cornwall at the recent May elections. Wembury Parish Council would like to attract younger councillors, but if any members of the public were interested in standing as a Wembury Parish Councillor, they should contact the Clerk.

11-07 CLOSING THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all those attending and closed the meeting at 7.20 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council

ANNEX A to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 23 May 2011

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This has been a busy year for Wembury Parish Council, with business being conducted through four statutory meetings and other meetings on a monthly basis; the August meeting being limited to planning matters. Councillors have actively represented the Parish community on local and area committees and at various organisations' meetings covering a wide variety of topics.

There have also been changes to your councillors during the year. Due to serious issues of non-attendance and non-participation of council duties, Cllr Neil Martin ceased to be a Councillor by absenting himself from WPC meetings on six successive monthly occasions. An election for his replacement was not required, due to the close proximity of council elections. Following an advertisement for the vacancy, the Interview panel was pleased to co-opt Doug Packer who took his place as a Wembury Parish Councillor in January of this year. Sadly, Councillors Scoble (Down Thomas) and Gage (Wembury) have decided not to stand for re-election. I very much appreciate their efforts over the last four years; they have contributed a great deal to the success of this Council's term of office.

Consequently, there now exists two vacancies on the Council, one in each Ward and I invite anyone interested in becoming a Councillor to write to the Parish Clerk.

PLANS AND PLANNING MATTERS

WEMBURY

Our main and continued concern this year is the proposed development allocation by SHDC to allow 30 houses to be built on the field at the top of Knighton Hill on the right hand side as you leave Wembury village. We welcomed Mr Graham Swiss, Forward Planning Manager of SHDC to our meeting in May. He outlined the criteria for choosing the Knighton Hill site and fended off every objection raised including the views of the WPC, by declaring that the views of other SHDC councillors disagreed with WPC. We also failed to win over the Inspector at the subsequent Inspectors Examination.

DOWN THOMAS

However, the Parish Council was more successful with the Cavanna proposal to build 30 assorted homes on a site outside the development line, opposite the Jubilee Hall in Down Thomas, as the scheme has not been approved by South Hams DC nor the Inspector.

A number of chalet owners in the Cedar Park and Bovisand Park sites have applied to South Hams DC and received approval for the removal of seasonal holiday occupancy, against the wishes of the Sites Management Company and Wembury PC. The major concern is that all year round residency occupation could occur by default. At a meeting attended by WPC, SHDC, both Management Company's and a member of the public, it was decided that SHDC would react to any suspicion of abuse of the system. Both Management Company's were invited to use the Parish Clerk as their point of contact.

SHDC Planning Officers now offer to discuss a planning application with an applicant before it is submitted, in an effort to improve the success of the application. However, there is a charge for this service and it does not guarantee success.

GENERAL

The proposed waste incinerator at the New England Quarry, near Ivybridge, is being met with mounting opposition and its threat to the River Yealm is of particular concern. Air pollution and increased heavy vehicle traffic are also major areas of concern.

POLICING

Devon and Cornwall Police have been forced to reduce numbers and services following national economic difficulties, but they are determined that normal policing will not be affected. The Parish Council held a meeting with the Ivybridge Police to discuss ways in which we could improve communications. It is not now possible for the Police to attend every Parish meeting so they have nominated specific meetings when they will attend. However, they continue to give WPC a monthly crime report and community update.

The Traffic Police continue to monitor traffic speed and were recently present at a meeting in Wembury where issues about school road safety were discussed.

It should be stressed that we live in a low crime area and it is in all our own interests to inform the police of any suspicious activities.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Jeffery Kenyon is now the Chairman of the Wembury Bus Users Group and heads up the continual struggle with Devon CC and the First Bus Company to improve bus services to Wembury, with the backing of the Parish Council

IN GENERAL

LEISURE FACILITIES

Cllr John Bennett has done a fantastic job in overseeing the new skateboard facility, the new MUGA and the improvements to the Tennis Courts and Children's Play Area in Wembury village. We must also recognise the valuable input from Cllr John Hart and SHDC in creating these excellent leisure facilities for the Wembury community.

Cllr John Bennett is also liaising with the Silver Jubilee Hall Sub Committee who are progressing a scheme to completely refurbish the Down Thomas Play Area with grants from Community Spaces, Devon CC and the Parish Council.

OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Now that the Mussel Inn has re-opened, the Clerk, Roy Fairclough continues to beaver away in the background, to get the Down Thomas Post Office reopened along with the Community Room. The Parish Council have agreed to rent the building from Enterprise Inns and hope to be able to use the Post Office and Community Room from June 2011.

VISITORS & SPEAKERS

The Parish Council are pleased to have received visits or presentations from the following people at their meetings throughout the year:-

Des Dunlop—Planning Consultant for Cavanna Homes

Graham Swiss-Forward Planning Manager SHDC.

Lorna Sherriff—National Trust Ranger.

Inspector Chivers—Devon and Cornwall Police.

Liz Hitchins—Vice Chair Brixton PC.

Cllr John Baverstock—Chairman SHDC.

Delyth Jenkins Evans—Monitoring Officer SHDC.

Police Sergeant Anya Teakle—Ivybridge Police.

Cllr Mike Howarth—Executive Lead Member for Planning SHDC
Stephen Munday—Head of Development Management SHDC

FINANCES

This year the main grants have been £2000 towards the Wembury MUGA and £1000 has been allocated towards the Down Thomas Play Area in the next financial year.

During the year the Parish Council have also given over £1600 of grants to local organisations including, the Wembury Twinning Association, Wembury Allotments, Wembury Tennis Club, Village Hall Xmas Lights, Wembury Scouts, Wembury Bus User Group, Ivybridge Ring and Ride and St Werburgh Church.

The Council's booklet, Discovering Wembury, plus two addendums, continues to sell well and provides the Council with a modest but steady income.

The Parish Council financial reserves again remain healthy, despite regular outgoings on typical expenditure such as the maintenance of notice boards, the website and footpaths, in addition to the office rent, supplies and clerk's salary.

THANKS

My thanks go to all those organisations who work with the Council for the benefit of the community. To the public who attend our meetings, SHDC Councillors Basil Cane and John Squire, PC Rob Batchelor and PCSO Lawrence, and Mr Adam King (our tree warden) who all give up their evenings to sit through our meetings.

In this group, I would give special thanks to Cllr John Hart, who is leader of Devon County Council, as he has helped us with various projects and continues to attend most of our meetings despite his enormous workload. We are indeed lucky to have him on our Parish Council.

And of course, many thanks to my fellow Councillors, for the excellent work they have done throughout the year and for supporting and putting up with me as their Chairman.

A special thanks to Roy Fairclough, our Clerk, who does so much good work behind the scenes.

This also marks my final year as Chairman of Wembury Parish Council.

I believe this to have been a very successful Council with many notable achievements of which we can all be proud. A special thank you to all those mentioned above, for making my term of office so enjoyable.

I wish Robert Rowland, the Chairman elect every success and good luck on his appointment

Dermod Michael Drought
Chairman

ANNEX B to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 23 May 2011

POLICE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2010 - 2011 WEMBURY PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Rob Batchelor, I have been the Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Wembury since May 2010. I am one of a team of two officers who are responsible for the Parish, my colleague is Police Community Support Officer Sid Lawrence.

The Police Sergeant responsible for Neighbourhood Policing at Ivybridge Police Station is PS Anya Teakle.

The Inspector at the station is Inspector Chivers.

If anyone needs to make contact with Sid or myself, our contact details are as follows;

E mail; robert.batchelor@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
sid.lawrence@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Mobile telephone (this connects to our personal police radios)

Rob ; 0845 656 8042

Sid ; 0845 656 7987

If we are off duty, there is a facility to leave a message on an answer machine.

Please note PCSO Lawrence is only in post until 6th June 2011 where after that he will not be responsible for Wembury the new PCSO will be Andy Potter.

The Non Emergency Police switchboard number is 08452 777 444. This is the number you will need to call if you wish to officially report an incident to the Police. The switchboard operator will then probably transfer your call to someone who can initiate a computerised record of the complaint, generally referred to as a Police 'Log number'. If the log is for the attention of your local beat officers, it will then be deferred for their attention.

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary also have a web site at www.devon-cornwall.police.uk. The web site is now fully up and running, you can simply type in your post code and it will take you to the Neighbourhood policing section for your area. One of the interesting features of the site is a link to a section called Crime Mapping, this will show you all of the latest crime information in your area.

Please Note the Following.

From 20th May 2011, the police service is undergoing a major reconstruction. This process is known as the Policing Blueprint, this will give details of the way ahead for local policing. Currently your Parish is covered by dedicated Neighbourhood Officers who are part of the Neighbourhood Policing Team however, come the 20th May 2011, Neighbourhood Policing will be renamed as Local Policing and Partnerships.

The local policing and partnerships workstream will be responsible for ensuring that the Force delivers an effective and efficient service to our communities in the following main areas:

- the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour through problem solving
- the delivery of local policing to national standards
- the active management of effective local partnerships
- the resourcing and management of routine logs

It is not possible at this stage to state exactly what effect this will have on the future of policing Wembury. In the meantime, we have decided to state the current remit and role of your Neighbourhood Team.

What is Neighbourhood Policing?

Neighbourhood policing puts community issues and priorities at the heart of local policing. By listening to each community's unique needs and concerns, the Force is able to ensure that the right resources are used in the right places and at the right time.

Each neighbourhood in the Force area has a team, managed by a police sergeant, who is dedicated to tackling crime, improving the quality of life and providing reassurance to that community. The team is a visible, accessible and accountable resource for the area it polices. The teams are made up of a combination of neighbourhood beat managers (police officers), police community support officers (PCSOs) and Special Constabulary officers. Each team will be tailored to the needs of the community that it serves.

Neighbourhood policing teams are closely engaged with various work in the community, including:

- Providing a familiar, visible and known uniform presence
- Providing an accessible and high quality service that reflects the needs of the local community
- Gathering local intelligence on crime and criminals
- Attending reported crimes
- Reducing anti-social behaviour and crime
- Working with partner agencies and the community to identify and resolve community problems
- Working with schools, hospitals, local businesses and other community groups
- Providing personal safety and crime prevention advice

Crime Statistics for the last year:

There were a total of 53 crimes reported between 18th May 2010 and 18th May 2011.

47 remain undetected, 6 offences were detected and resulted in prosecution.

The detection rate appears disappointing but this can be for a number of reasons, for example, the positive arrest policy adopted by the Devon and Cornwall Police with regard to domestic incidents will always result in an arrest if there is evidence of an assault of any type. The police will then sometimes find that the injured party is unwilling to provide a statement of evidence / complaint. This results in the arrested party being released without being charged, as there is insufficient evidence to support a conviction.

Other incidents police are called to attend, such as a heated argument between two partners may result in the recording of a 'Non – crime domestic' offence. Another example would be where a teenage family member reports to police that their parents have been shouting at them in a loud manner. Once again, this may well be recorded as a 'Non – crime child protection issue'. These crime figures contribute towards the annual crime figures, hopefully it can now be seen that matters are not as bad as they first appear. The main reason for the way crime is now reported by Police is due to the 'National Crime Recording Standards', introduced by the government, and adopted by all police forces in England and Wales in April 2002. The introduction was an effort to improve the consistency of police recording and to better reflect the demands made on the police by victims of crime. In most cases, this necessitated a move to a more victim – focused approach to crime recording based on the victim's perception of a crime taking place, rather than an evidential approach based on the police obtaining evidence of a crime occurring.

The result has, in many cases been an increase in recorded crime, which is over and above that attributable to a real increase in crime.

MAY 2010 – MAY 2011 – Crime Breakdown

Burglary dwelling ; 8

Criminal damage ; 3

Theft from motor vehicle ; 4

Theft General; 14

Assault ; 3

Non-Crime domestic incidents ; 10

Public Order; 5

Other ie drink drive; 6

PC 1454 Rob Batchelor

Ivybridge Police Station

Leonards Rd

Ivybridge

PL21 OSL.