

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	D Drought	Chairman
	J Bennett	
	A Cammack	
	M Doody	
	P Filby	
	M Gage	
	J Hart	County Councillor
	R Newnham	
	D Packer	
	R Rowland	Vice Chairman
	L Scoble	
	J Squire	District Councillor
Clerk	R Fairclough	

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 28 March 2011.

11-027 OPENING THE MEETING

The Vice Chairman, Cllr Rowland opened the meeting at 7.35 pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and was pleased to see such a nice crowd. Cllrs Bennett, Cammack, Doody, Filby, Hart, Newnham, Scoble and Squire were present. Wembury Tree Warden Adam King and thirty-three members of the public were also present.

11-028 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Drought, Gage and Packer. Apologies had also been received from District Councillor B Cane, PC R Batchelor and PCSO S Lawrence.

11-029 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

11-030 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR TO PUT QUESTIONS

The Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 7.36 pm.

i) March 2011 Police Report

The Vice Chairman informed members that there would be no Police present at the meeting on this occasion, but he had received a report from PCSO Sid Lawrence as follows:-

here is only one recorded crime for the Parish this month and as it relates to a domestic incident, there will be no disclosure of information.

COMMUNITY

The Police have recently been receiving information of ASB and possible drug miss-use

at the Barton Close playing fields and patrols have been increased.

We have also received a complaint re various speeding and view obstruction issues at the junction between Knighton Rd, Mewstone Ave and Church Rd. I have visited the site with the complainant and discussed the concerns raised. I have passed the matter on to our Road Casualty Reduction Officer who will be able to offer further advice to the complainant. It is apparent that the issues re view obstruction and signage have increased since the school moved its main entrance.

It is worthy of note that we are rapidly approaching the summer season and that the parking restrictions come into force as of 1st April. A letter from the Parish Council to SHDC would help to highlight our problems in relation to the beach area.

ii) Adam King, Wembury Tree Warden

Adam reported that he was working on four schemes at present within the Wembury Parish.

a) Longland Brake Woodland

Adam is waiting for the notice to be put in the Wembury Review asking for interested people to take over the management of the woodland from the Woodland Trust. Adam will then arrange a suitable meeting with other interested residents to take this forward.

b) Wembury Community Orchard

The tree planting went well, everyone enjoyed themselves and the new orchard looks good. Hopefully there will be fruit to pick in the near future. Adam thanked all those that helped with the orchard planting.

c) Wembury Recreational Ground

d) Down Thomas Play Area

Both these schemes are ongoing and Adam hopes to have them planted later in the year.

The Vice Chairman asked who was going to maintain the new orchard. Adam said that there was some initial support from the Woodland Trust and he would also help to maintain it in the short term. However, he hoped to form a group of interested people from the Wembury community to maintain it in the long-term.

iii) Members of the Public

Claire Drummond introduced herself and said that she represented the Wembury School, various groups who attend the Wembury Village Hall and many parents present at the meeting. She then distributed photographs of children who attended the Wembury School. Their main concern was road safety and crossing of the main road to the school. Now the new entrance to the school is from Barton Close many new people and visitors to the village are not aware of the school and so cars now tend to speed along the main road. Recently, a young boy was knocked off his bike, a kitten killed and a puppy injured. With the summer season approaching and more pupils attending the school, there will be an increase in traffic through the village and there is a real concern that if suitable action is not taken to slow down the vehicles, then an accident will occur. It appears that other schools have suitable road crossings, flashing lights or a school sign, none of which is provided in Wembury. Consequently, the parents Claire represents would like to see a suitable road crossing, just up from the Odd Wheel pub, a school sign to inform motorists of the school location and a flashing/20 mph sign to slow down speeding vehicles. A

lengthy discussion then ensued and the history of road traffic schemes in Wembury was explained, as well as current traffic safety problems discussed. It was suggested that the parents should write direct to Devon Highways expressing their concerns. The more parents that wrote letters, the more weight it would carry. The Parish Councillors agreed that the whole traffic issue through Wembury should be revisited and it was suggested that a suitable meeting be arranged on site with the Police, Devon Highways, representatives of the Parish Council, school and parents to discuss road safety. **The Clerk was asked to arrange a suitable meeting with all concerned.** **Cllr Hart** suggested that Claire should consider Speed Watch, where members of the community are trained to use speed cameras, take car registration numbers and report speeding motorists to the Police for suitable action. The local PCSO, Sid Lawrence, will know more about this.

Jeffery Kenyon, Chairman of the Wembury Bus User Group explained that he had organised a bus survey and Posters have been put up in Wembury and Hollacombe. The survey questionnaire had been circulated throughout Wembury village and is available from the Wembury and Londis Stores. He asked everyone to complete the survey by 29 April 2011, so that as much information could be collated for future discussion with Devon CC. He said that the cost of printing the questionnaire was £36 and asked if the Parish Council would consider funding this. **Cllr Filby** said that he would raise this later in the meeting.

Zillah Judd asked about progress of re-opening the Down Thomas Post Office. **The Clerk** explained that he was waiting for Enterprise Inns to send him the lease details for the Post Office and Community Room building. Once signed he would then be able to gain access. Meanwhile, he had spoken to Western Power Distribution regarding the connection of a separate electricity supply and this should be completed in early May. He was hopeful that the Post Office, which would be open for two days per week and two hours per day, would be opened in May. The Community Room would also be available for the local community to use and the Clerk asked people to contact him about suitable usage.

Teresa Millership said that Wembury School were currently having to purchase some new power speakers, to match existing ones and asked whether the Parish Council would consider contributing to their costs.

The Vice Chairman suggested that Teresa write to the Clerk and the request will be considered at the next Finance Sub Committee or Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Squire said that each District Councillor receives £1000 to spend on local schemes. Teresa should write to him now, as next year's money would be available from 4 April.

The Vice Chairman thanked the public for their comments and closed this open session at 8:15 pm to resume Parish Council business.

11-031 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2011.

The minutes were agreed as being a correct record and duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

11-032 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

11-017 Chalet Parks in Down Thomas

Following the last meeting, South Hams District Councillor Mike Howarth had suggested suitable dates for a site visit to the two chalet Parks in Down Thomas. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the meeting should be held on Tuesday 26 April at 10 am. Cllrs Bennett, Rowland and Squire agreed to attend.

The Clerk to inform Cllr Howarth accordingly.

11-019 i) Corn Starch Bags

Cllr Squire had not yet found a suitable local outlet for the purchase of cornstarch bags for the kitchen caddy. **Cllr Squire said that he would again ask South Hams DC about this.**

11-019 ii) Rural Memory Cafe

Cllr Squire was not able to attend the last meeting but will be attending the next one on 16 May 2011. The scheme is slowly taking shape.

Cllr Squire to provide the Clerk with a suitable report for the Wembury Review in due course.

11-019 iii) WPC Stands at Local Festivals

The Clerk asked that before he booked the Down Thomas stand at the Festival field, he wished to know who would be staffing the stand. **Cllr Filby agreed to provide the gazebo and Cllrs Doody, Newnham and Drought agreed to operate the stand.**

11-019 iv) WPC Notice Boards

The Clerk is discussing with suitable workmen, repairs to the various damaged WPC Notice Boards.

11-024 i) Dead Trees Adjacent to School

Cllr Bennett had emailed Tim Pollard of South Hams DC and Tim was liaising with Devon CC to resolve the tree ownership and agree a joint venture to cut down the trees.

11-024 ii) Snow Wardens

Cllr Packer will provide a suitable report about the recent Snow Wardens meeting for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

11-033 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT AT ANNEX A TO THESE MINUTES

The Vice Chairman went through the planning report shown in Annex A of the Agenda.

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Report with resolutions as detailed in ANNEX A of these minutes.

11-034 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) South Hams DC – District & Parish Elections

The Clerk reminded members and the public that Parish Council nomination papers need to be submitted to the returning Officer at South Hams DC by noon on Monday 4 April 2011. At the present time, it is likely that there will be one nomination short on both the

Down Thomas and Wembury Wards and the Clerk asked everyone to encourage suitable applicants to apply to become a Parish Councillor.

ii) Devon CC – Minerals & Waste Development Framework

There were no comments on the consultation paper as there are no likely mineral extractions in the Wembury Parish.

Cllr Hart reported that there had been another application for the disposal of waste at Lee Moor and the New England site is to be discussed soon.

The waste to energy scheme proposed in the Dockyard in Plymouth was signed recently.

FOR INFORMATION.

The letters in **ANNEX B** had all been circulated and were taken as read.

11-035 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

None.

11-036 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Cllr Hart said that he had finally got the budget through the Council, he but had received a lot of personal abuse during the process. He has taken £54m out of the budget, which leaves a reasonable amount of work to do. The top staff have been reduced to a Chief Executive and two Managers and there will be more restructuring to come, in order to make the budget work.

The Inland Revenue have raised the mileage allowance from 40 pence to 45 pence per mile before being taxed. This will cost Devon CC more in staff mileage claims.

Regarding the Localism Bill, he is looking at the 28 Market Towns within Devon to spearhead localism within the Devon rural area. However, the Parish Councils will have to be organised to assist the County because it will be difficult to manage all 28 Market Towns. Each County Councillor will be given a budget to spend in their area. Cllr Hart is suggesting that Devon County, Market Town and Parish Councils meet a couple of times a year and look at pooling the money allocated, to see how it can be best spent in the area.

Devon CC has received an extra £9.5m from the government for highways. Some of this money will be put into public transport, which may help with school transport.

There is a lot going on at County Hall especially to make the cuts work. They are also looking at providing a faster internet broadband service for Devon and at the Local Enterprise Partnership.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire informed members about a couple of items within the Localism Bill. One is the transparency agenda and any spending over 500 has to be publicised in full. The second is that a local referendum must be held if requested by more than 5% of the population. However, the local referendum decision is not binding on the Council, but it should be taken notice of. Finally, the Standards Board is to be abolished in August 2011. Tor Homes have said that there will be cuts in affordable housing expenditure and the government are now considering affordable rents.

Cllr Squire said that recently a local councillor was fined for slander of another councillor

for comments he made on Twitter. So be careful what you say on Facebook and Twitter.

Cllr Cane No report on this occasion.

11-037 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP

a) Information Board

Cllr Filby confirmed that the Information Board is progressing well.

b) Wembury Bus User Group

Cllr Filby was not happy with the recent response from Devon CC to the Parish Council's email regarding the 48 Wembury Bus service changes, which had been carried out without consultation, with either the Parish Council or the Wembury Bus Users Group. He felt that Wembury had a strong Parish Council and Bus User Group and that there should be no more decisions about the 48 Bus service without prior consultation.

The Clerk was again asked to write to Devon CC accordingly.

Cllr Filby raised the cost of £36 to the Wembury Bus User group for the printing of the Bus Survey Forms. **Cllr Filby** proposed, seconded by **Cllr Bennett**, that a grant of £36 is given to the Wembury Bus User Group to cover the cost of the printing of the Bus Survey Forms. The motion was approved by 8 votes for with 1 abstention.

RESOLVED: A grant of £36 is given to the Wembury Bus User group to cover the cost of the printing of the Bus Survey Forms.

ii) WEMBURY SCHOOL REPORT

Cllr Filby said that there was no formal report this month.

However, the School wished to thank Adam King for the planting of the Community Orchard, which looked spectacular.

At a recent Play Day, the children entertained the school for the whole day.

iii) LEISURE FACILITIES WORKING GROUP

a) Down Thomas Play Area

Cllr Bennett reported that the Silver Jubilee Hall Sub Committee, who is dealing with the refurbishment of the Down Thomas Play Area, will announce the results of their £43,000 grant application to Community Spaces on 9 April, at a meeting in the Village Hall.

b) Wembury Play Area

Cllr Bennett said that the skateboard equipment has all been painted with special anti rust, improved grip gravitex paint. The Wembury Youth Club funded the £150 for the paint and South Hams DC covered the labour costs.

The grind box has now been secured to the tarmac with new bolts.

The three-swing set in the children's play area has now been re-installed.

c) Training Course

Cllr Bennett hopes to attend a Playground Inspection Training Day at Hatherleigh on 6 April. This training will enable Parish Councils to carry out their own regular inspections. The annual inspection will still have to be carried out by a qualified level 3 play safety

inspector. The cost of the course is £70, but this includes a one-year membership of Devon Playing Field Association.

Cllr Squire proposed, seconded by Cllr Scoble, Cllr Bennett to attend the Playground Inspection Training Day at Hatherleigh on 6 April 2011, at a cost to the Parish Council of £70. The motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett to attend the Playground Inspection Training Day at Hatherleigh, on 6 April 2011, at a cost to the Parish Council of £70.

iv) WEMBURY BEACH LIAISON GROUP

The Wembury Beach Liaison Group had met on 7 March 2011 and the Clerk had previously circulated notes of the meeting via email.

Cllr Gage had also circulated a report on the meeting. The notes were taken as read and no further comments were raised.

v) DOWN THOMAS POST OFFICE & COMMUNITY ROOM

The Clerk confirmed that he was still awaiting details of the lease from Enterprise Inns for the Down Thomas Post Office and Community Room building.

He had spoken to Western Power Distribution and received a price of £506-05 for the connection of a separate electricity supply to the building and they are able to do the work during May 2011.

Once the lease has been signed and the electricity supply connected, then the Post Office will start their two day per week service.

The Clerk asked members for suitable uses for the Community Room.

Cllr Hart said that he would be happy to pay the £ 506-05 for the electricity connection from his County Councillor's local budget.

vi) WEMBURY CHURCH ROOM MEETING

Cllr Rowland said that the water and electricity have been disconnected from the building and quotes obtained for demolition. However, there was to be a meeting soon, to resolve a couple of issues with the Church.

vii) PARISH CLERKS WORKSHOP

The Clerk informed members that he had attended a very interesting Clerk's Workshop in Ivybridge on 23 March 2011. The issues discussed ranged from the effect of budget cuts, licensing applications, the SHDC Site Allocation DPD implications, Localism Bill and PAYE for Parish Clerks.

Cllr Hart said that the highway verges are likely to be cut four times per year and not the originally propose two cuts per year. Also, the waste disposal charges and vehicle restrictions at the tip have been revised.

11-038 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for March 2011

The Vice Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

RESOLVED: The monthly financial statement was approved as detailed at ANNEX C.

ii) New HMRC Guidance on the employment status of Parish Clerks

The Clerk outlined the proposed changes by HMRC, which meant that from 4 April 2011 he would have to be employed under a PAYE scheme, as opposed to being self-

employed. This would mean an additional cost to the Parish Council in respect of a payroll service and National Insurance payments. He had discussed various options for achieving this and he suggested that the Parish Council accept the proposal from South Hams DC to provide a payroll service for the Clerk for the sum of £100 per annum. The submission of the Clerk's expenses would remain the same and he would invoice the Parish Council monthly.

Cllr Scoble proposed, seconded by Cllr Bennett, that the Clerk is to register with HMRC under PAYE and the payroll service proposed by South Hams DC is accepted at a cost of £100 per annum. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: The Clerk is to register with HMRC under PAYE and the payroll service proposed by South Hams DC is accepted at a cost of £100 per annum.

iii) Increase In Office Accommodation

The Clerk left the room.

Cllr Doody proposed, seconded by Cllr Cammack, that the office accommodation payment is increased from £165 to £170 per month from 1 April 2011. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: The office accommodation payment is increased from £165 to £170 per month from 1 April 2011.

11-039 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Scoble reported that a wall had fallen down adjacent to Footpath No 13. Also, steps down to the coastal path near Merrivale, Renney Lentley are in a very poor condition and becoming dangerous.

Cllr Cammack had again reported the Wembury telephone box to BT as being unusable, but to date, nothing had been done.

He also reported a pothole breaking up in Wembury Road.

Also, that the safety fencing at the end of the footpath, opposite the Londis Store , which stops children running out into the road, has been removed

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 9:32 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk