

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Before the meeting was convened the Chairman and Vice Chairman, having completed two full years in post, stood down and the Clerk invited the assembled Councillors to elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cllr Drought and Councillor Rowland had indicated their willingness to serve for a third term as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. In the absence of any other candidates, they were duly re-elected, with 6 votes for with one abstention. Both then signed the declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the Clerk to the Council.

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 1 June 2009.

09-57 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, formally opened the annual meeting at 7.35 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllrs, Bennett, Cammack, Filby, Gage, Martin, Newnham, Rowland, and Squire were present.

District Cllr Cane, PC Nolan, PCSO Lawrence and six members of the public were also present.

09-58 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Doody, Hart and Scoble.

09-59 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from council members.

09-60 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Squire, that the following Parish Council representatives be elected:-

School Governors	Cllr Filby
River Yealm Harbour Authority	Cllr Drought
River Yealm Estuary Management Group	Cllr Drought

Parish Cluster Group	Cllr Drought
Wembury Point Management Group	Cllr Drought
Wembury War Memorial Hall Committee	Cllr Cammack
Forward Planning Group	Cllr Filby
Wembury Emergency Plan	Cllr Gage
Wembury Beach Liaison Group	Cllr Gage
Liaison with Neighbourhood Watch	Cllr Martin
Down Thomas Silver Jubilee Hall Committee	Cllr Newnham
Wembury Alms Houses	Cllr Newnham
Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils	Cllr Rowland
Conservation Matters	Cllr Scoble
Wembury Youth Club	Cllr Squire
Leisure Facilities Working Group	Cllr Bennett

The above councillors were appointed unanimously.

Cllr Filby suggested that as the Parish Plan was shortly to be published, the Forward Planning Group should be renamed the Parish Plan Action Group. This was agreed unanimously.

The Clerk asked members to report to the Parish Council on the various organisations, as necessary.

09-61 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 7.40 pm.

i) Crime Report May 2009

PC Nolan had noted comments in previous minutes about non-attendance at the meeting and explained that he and Sid had to cover six Parish areas, whereas his predecessor only had four areas to cover. Consequently, it was not always possible for them to attend every Parish Council meeting, but they would endeavour to attend whenever they could. PC Nolan was recovering well from his illness and would soon be back to full duties.

JI/09/365

Sometime overnight between 23:00 hrs on Tuesday 28th April and 09:00 hrs on Wednesday 29th April, a White Ford Escort, which was parked, and unattended in Southland Park Road, had its offside wing mirror broken off from its fixing. This is believed to one of a number of vehicles damaged during the same time. Owners of other vehicles have not formally reported the damage to Police. If anyone has any information regarding this offence, please call the numbers below.

JI/09/411

On Saturday 9th May 2009, a wedding guest at the Langdon Court Hotel left her camera on a table. The camera was subsequently stolen. The theft was not witnessed and CCTV has not proved beneficial. The crime has been filed as undetected pending any new information coming to light.

There have been two other domestic type incidents. Force policy is not to disclose details of such incidents.

If anyone has any information, which could assist Police with their enquiries, please contact your local officer PC 3852 Nolan on 08452 777 444. If you wish to remain anonymous you can call 'Crimestoppers' on 0800 555 111.

PC Nolan then answered general questions from councillors about local matters. Further speed checks would be carried out in Traine Road.

ii) Public Comments

Tony Romang reported that he thought the seat in Manor Bourne Road was becoming dangerous and required repair.

Liz Bowman asked if the Parish Council was going to attend the Appeal Hearing on the planning application to Pendyce. The Clerk reported that the Planning Inspector would have been given the Parish Council's comments on the planning application by South Hams DC. The Parish Council do not normally attend Appeal Hearings and it was not scheduled to attend the one on the application by Pendyce.

Colin Bowden reported a large number of weeds growing in the gutters throughout Wembury, especially along Southland Park Road and Mewstone Avenue. He then asked how these weeds were dealt with. A short discussion ensued.

Clerk was asked to report the matter to Devon Highways to take suitable action in removing or killing the weeds.

The Chairman then closed this open session at 7.50 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

09-62 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 27 APRIL 2009.

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

09-63 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

09-48 i) Wembury Primary School

The Chair read out details of a meeting, which had been held on 13 May 2009 at Wembury School with Vic Ebdon, Devon CC, the headteacher, governors of the school and Parish Councillors to resolve this matter. The outcome of the meeting was that Devon CC would have discussions with the school to determine what work is required to the school building and the best way to fund the works. The school is low on a rebuild list but there may be scope to bring it forward into a reconstruction programme within 5 years. However, this is dependent on government funding after 2011.

Details of the meeting had been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

Cllr Squire was still not happy with the situation but didn't know what else the Parish Council could do, other than to maintain pressure on Devon CC for a better response.

09-48 ii) Speed of Traffic in Traine Road

The Clerk had circulated a response from Devon CC who were awaiting further speed checks in Traine Road by the Police before making a decision on any speed reduction measures. Councillors believe that the speed limit in Traine Road should reflect the conditions of the narrow and twisty road.

09-48 iii) Dangerous Bus Route

The Clerk informed members that Chris Watkins, Devon CC, Area Traffic Engineer and Inspector Chivers had met Cllrs Gage and Scoble on site on 11 May 2009 to discuss this problem. The Clerk had circulated notes of the meeting.

Cllr Gage explained the outcome of the meeting was that Devon CC was reluctant to review the speed limits in the area of the junction, as it could possibly lead to the existing speed limits being removed. To make Coombe Lane one way would be a long process involving extensive consultation, because it could have an adverse affect on other road junctions. However, Chris Watkins did agree in the short term, to improve the junction warning sign on the bend and to add an additional warning sign nearer to the junction.

09-48 iv) Bus Stop Signs

The Clerk informed members that he had circulated email correspondence about this matter. Devon CC was going to fix a bus stop sign and a Bus Timetable Board on the wall of the hairdressers adjacent to the Post Office. The Bus stop near the Vicarage is to be put up on a new pole.

09-48 v) Wembury Allotments

It was reported that there was to be an official National Trust visit to the allotments on 6 June 2009.

09-48 vi) Seat Near Post Office

Cllr Squire reported that a seat was no longer available from South Hams DC.

However, if Wembury Parish Council purchases a seat, South Hams DC will fix the seat and original plaque in Church Road.

The Clerk reported that seats cost from £250 to £850 to purchase.

Councillors suggested that there are several people in the village who would be willing to purchase a seat in memory of a loved one. The Clerk asked councillors to let him have suitable names accordingly.

The Clerk was asked to report to the next meeting with seat styles and prices.

09-55 Footpath Cutting Programme

The Clerk has asked Devon CC for the current footpath-cutting programme for Wembury Parish and is awaiting a reply.

09-64 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT AT ANNEX A TO THESE MINUTES

The 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 to these minutes.

09-65 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) South Hams DC - Site Allocations DPD's, Leaflets Nos 1 & 7

The Prince's Foundation – Enquiry by Design

The above two items were taken together and fully discussed.

Cllr Rowland proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought, that a Land Working Group is formed to discuss suitable land within the Wembury Parish for potential development. The resolution was passed by 8 votes for with one abstention.

RESOLVED: A Land Working Group is formed to discuss suitable land within the Wembury Parish for potential development.

It was subsequently agreed that all the Parish Councillors should look around the area and make any comments on suitable development sites to Cllrs Drought and Rowland. Cllrs Drought, Rowland, Filby and Gage volunteered to be on the Land Working Group. **It was agreed that a meeting of the working group should be held before the 16 June 2009.**

Cllr Drought would represent Wembury Parish Council at the Princes Trust meeting on 16 June 2009.

Cllr Squire would also be attending on behalf of South Hams DC.

ii) Devon CC Highway Maintenance Budget 2009/10

The Parish Council noted that Devon CC had further increased the Highway Budget by £2m to £60.895m, a cash increase of 9.5%. It was hoped that some of this extra money would be spend on maintaining the roads within the Wembury Parish.

iii) Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils

Cllr Rowland reported on the poor turnout of members at the last Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Council's meeting. The letter from the current Chairman Carol Beeson expressed concern about the future viability of the association unless more people attended future meetings. The AGM is on 15 July 2009 immediately followed by an ordinary meeting. A short discussion ensued.

It was agreed that Wembury Parish Council will support the Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils and wished to see it continue.

iv) South Hams DC – Shoreline Management Plan 2

Cllr Martin agreed to attend the presentation on the Shoreline Management Plan 2 in Plymouth on Monday 8 June 2009.

v) Tony Romang - Resignation as Tree Warden

Tony Romang had reluctantly resigned his position as the Wembury Parish Tree Warden due to his health restricting the amount of physical work he can do. However, he was willing to continue to assist any new Tree Warden with a phased handover over a six-month period.

The Clerk was asked to advertise the post of the Wembury Parish Tree Warden in the Wembury Review and on the Wembury Parish website.

The Chairman then thanked Tony on behalf of all the Parish Councillors, for all the excellent work he had done as the Wembury Parish Tree Warden over many years.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

09-66 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

The Clerk and many councillors had received emails from Prof. Taplin regarding his views on a mandatory maximum term of office for councillors and MP's. Following a short discussion, it was felt that his views applied more to MP's rather than Parish Councillors.

It was pointed out that Parish Councillors are volunteers and do not get paid for the work that they do. It was also pointed out that Parish Councils are generally run by older retired people who have the time to put into the council, whereas younger people have jobs and families to manage. All Parish Council's would welcome an injection of young blood.

**09-67 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY
DEVON CC**

Cllr Hart - No report.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire reported that at a recent meeting the business community in Devon supported a single unitary for Devon.

He thought that local councils would not escape the national MP's expenses scandal. The Chief Executive of South Hams has already been approached for details of his expenses. However, he informed councillors present that the district councillor's expenses were published each year.

The Langage Power Station has just received an extra £500,000 for landscaping work and will receive a further £500,000 when it is up and running, to reduce the impact of the power station and to help it blend into the landscape!!

A recent concern, which has been highlighted, is that in most villages within South Hams there are more people over 90 years old, than under 4 years old.

Cllr Cane congratulated the Chairman and Vice Chairman on their re-election for a further year in office.

The South Hams Community Development Group is now looking at new ways of providing affordable housing. They have looked at their housing stock and there are 119, 3 bedroom houses occupied by one person, and others occupied by two people. If they could be persuaded to move into smaller accommodation, then there is a £4,000 grant available and removal costs will be paid by South Hams DC. If anyone knows of a person who wishes to downsize then please contact Cllr Cane.

He said that there is a requirement to identify the actual need for affordable housing in Wembury. Only 51 such houses have been constructed and young people are not purchasing them. There is confusion that affordable housing equates to social housing, which is not the case and this needs to be made clear.

The previous problem of tenants rent arrears has now been reduced, from £25,000 to £7,000. South Hams DC is also working to reduce housing costs and this has been achieved in various ways, especially reducing the costs of bed and breakfast for homeless people.

At the full South Hams Council on 14 May 2009, Cllr Cane finished his year of office and the new Chairman of South Hams Council is Melvin Stone.

**09-68 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES
AS APPROPRIATE**

i) Forward Planning Working Group

Cllr Filby confirmed that the final draft of the Parish Plan and Next Steps leaflet were ready to be printed and circulated to every household in the Wembury Parish. The cost of the printing would be £898, which is within the allocated budget.

Cllr Squire said that he would allocate some of his local community money to provide the envelopes and labels to help with the distribution of the plan. It was generally agreed that each councillor would be given 150 plans for distribution within an area of the parish. Cllr Filby suggested that those on the Working Group who had produced the plan should be awarded up to £25 honorarium for their work. He proposed to raise this at the next Finance Sub Committee meeting.

It was suggested that the Working Group should have a stand at the local summer festivals to publicise the Wembury Parish Plan.

Cllr Filby thanked Alan Puddicombe and his team who had worked hard to produce the plan.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Cllr Filby and all those who had been involved in producing the Wembury Parish Plan and Next Steps leaflet.

ii) Leisure Facilities Working Group

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Bennett back to the Parish Council meeting and said that it was good to see him in good health again. Cllr Bennett said that it was good to be back. He then went through all the various leisure schemes that the Parish Council are currently involved with.

Wembury Tennis Court / MUGA Project

Cllr Bennett said that the Clerk had written to Cllr Carson of South Hams DC regarding funding and project timescale of the proposed MUGA and Tennis Court refurbishment. In response, Cllr Carson had passed the matter to the officers in the Landscape and Leisure department who are putting together a suitable financial bid.

To assist in making their case Wembury village has now formed a Tennis Group / Committee who are willing to look into the management and running of the tennis court. The MUGA is being funded by Devon CC, through Councillor Hart. Cllr Bennett will discuss the amount of funding support to be provided by Wembury Parish Council at the next Finance Sub Committee.

Children's Play Areas

Surveys have been carried out by children and parents of the play areas in both Wembury and Down Thomas villages to find out what new equipment they would like to be provided. This has been carried out as a response to South Hams DC who has allocated some money for play equipment refurbishment. An allocation of £10,000 has been made for the Wembury play area and £3,000 for the Down Thomas play area.

On 1 June 2009, representatives met with Paul Foreman of Sutcliffe Play to choose appropriate equipment. Costings for the chosen equipment will shortly be made available to the Parish Council who will then pass them on to South Hams DC to for implementation.

Wembury Skateboard Park

The young Skateboard Committee have been successful in their grant application and have been awarded £22,971 from the Youth Capital Fund to upgrade the Wembury Skateboard Park. There is to be a meeting with Martin Wood of Hags, the skateboard equipment suppliers, on 2 June 2009 to discuss a suitable new layout for the Skateboard Park.

09-69 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for May 2009

The Chairman presented the financial reports as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) Silver Jubilee Village Hall Extension – Planning Application

The Clerk reported that the Down Thomas Silver Jubilee Hall Committee has asked the Clerk to assist with their planning application for an extension to the Silver Jubilee Hall to provide a disabled toilet and a larger kitchen.

He pointed out, that if the Parish Council submitted the planning application on behalf of the Village Hall Committee it would save 50% of the costs of the planning application i.e. £85.

Following a short discussion, Cllr Rowland proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought, that Wembury Parish Council submit the planning application on behalf of the Silver Jubilee Hall Committee, for an extension to the Silver Jubilee Hall and pay the £85 cost of the planning application. The proposal was approved by 7 votes for, one vote against and one abstention.

RESOLVED: Wembury Parish Council submit the planning application on behalf of the Silver Jubilee Hall Committee, for an extension to the Silver Jubilee Hall and pay the £85 cost of the planning application.

iii) Car Allowances 2009-10

The Clerk outlined the latest NJC national agreement for Car Allowances for 2009/2010.

Details are to be referred to the next Finance Sub Committee meeting.

09-70 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Martin gave out his new work email and telephone number.

Cllr Filby reported that the landlord of the Odd Wheel was retiring today after 18 years at the Odd Wheel. The pub would be run by a manager for the next year.

Cllr Filby reminded councillors that it was important to support the pub if it was going to survive.

It was agreed that a suitable article should go into the Wembury Review and on the Wembury Parish website.

Cllr Martin informed members that he has been complaining to First Devon & Cornwall Ltd every time a bus is late, leaves early, or does not stop. This appears to be paying off, as the bus company now writes to him on a regular basis and suitable action is being taken by the company to keep to their published programme.

09-71 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.34 pm.

R Fairclough,
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council