

## WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

**Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the War Memorial Hall, Wembury, on Monday 25 October 2010.**

### **10-118 OPENING THE MEETING**

The Chairman, Cllr Drought opened the meeting at 7.31 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Cllr Baverstock.

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

District Cllrs Baverstock and Cane, and over 70 members of the public were also present.

### **10-119 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Doody and Hart and also from PC R Batchelor and PCSO Sid Lawrence.

### **10-120 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None.

### **10-121 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 7.32 pm.**

#### **i) 48 Bus Service to Wembury**

Due to the large number of the public present who wished to discuss the proposed termination of the No 48 Bus Service to Wembury, the Chairman took this item first. The Chairman read out the Wembury Parish Council statement regarding First Devon & Cornwall Bus Company terminating the No 48 Bus Service from 28 November 2010. Devon CC has already put out a tender to see if another bus operator will take over the Wembury route. A Bus User Group has been formed with Cedric Tarsky as leader and discussions will be held with the successful bus operator, when known, regarding schedules and bus times.

The Chairman then read out an email from John Richardson-Dawes, Transport Co-ordinating Officer, Devon CC that further explained the current situation in detail.

A general discussion was held with members of the public and the following comments were made:-

The Down Thomas bus service is subsidised by Devon CC and costs £26,000.

A new Wembury bus service should run on time and be reliable.

A new Wembury bus service will be built around the schoolchildren bus service to schools.

Everyone present should write to Devon CC to express the strength of feeling about retaining and improving the bus service to Wembury – supported by Parish Councillors. Wembury Parish Council should have been informed sooner about the bus cancellation. Could one man operate a suitable bus service or can taxis be used – what are the rules – Devon CC to be contacted by Clerk for rules and statistical information about bus usage. People should write to bus companies to make sure that all the bus operators are aware of the tender and have all the relevant information to put in a good tender.

The bus service is well used in the morning and reasonable size buses are required

Cedric Tarsky explained what the Bus User Group was currently doing and asked people to let him have their details after the meeting, so everyone could be involved with future discussions with the new bus operator.

The Chairman summed up and was pleased that so many people use the bus, but it was a matter of use it, or lose it, in the future. Cedric was also thanked for doing a good job in leading the Bus User Group.

## **ii) October 2010 Police Report**

The Chairman read out the October 2010 Police Report:-

J1/10/878: Between 01<sup>st</sup> October and the 4<sup>th</sup> October damage was caused to the school in Wembury. Unfortunately, there are no more lines of enquiry.

J1/10/922: On the 15<sup>th</sup> October, a Burglary occurred to a residential property in Wembury. Property totalling £950 was taken. Enquires are on-going.

J1/10/925: On the 17<sup>th</sup> October a wallet and mobile phone was taken from an unattended bag on Wembury Beach. There are no more lines of enquiry.

J1/10/940: On the 12<sup>th</sup> October a Domestic incident occurred force dictates non-disclosure of information.

## **Community Report**

Police executed a search warrant on premises in Wembury where stolen items were recovered and the occupants were arrested. Police have also been patrolling the area and speed checks have been carried out with no prosecutions.

PC R Batchelor and PCSO Sid Lawrence have visited the Odd Wheel Pub once a week before opening and twice since incorporating a licensing visit and to offer advice regarding the position of the CCTV cameras. The landlady also has their contact details.

**Cllr Filby** would like to see the Police visit the Odd Wheel when there are customers present to interact with the customers.

**Cllr Drought** reported a recent incident to the Police regarding a Goped, a motorised scooter, found along the coastal path at Heybrook Bay, because there was concern that someone could have fallen over the cliff edge and be injured. He has not heard from the Police since, but the owner has recovered his Goped from the Police and has thanked Cllr Drought for reporting the incident and recovering his machine.

**It was felt that communication by the Police still needs improving.**

### **iii) Members of the Public**

**Colin Bowden** asked whether the draft Parish Council minutes could be put on the website. The Clerk explained that the draft minutes could be amended before approval and that the draft minutes may give people incorrect information.

It was agreed that the Clerk should put the draft Parish Council minutes on the Wembury Parish website with a suitable disclaimer.

**Denise Mangles** thanked the Parish Council for the improvements to the children's play facilities in Wembury and hoped that everyone enjoys them.

**Brownhill Lane, Wembury** was raised by several members of the public. There are potholes that required filling in and there is no suitable footpath along the lane for pedestrians. A general discussion ensued about the ownership of the lane and Devon CC responsibility to provide a footpath.

**It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Devon CC to see if a suitable footpath can be constructed. Meanwhile, local residents would see if they could meet to determine ownership and agree about the future maintenance of the lane.**

**Lighting in the Park** was raised by several teenagers. They said that it was not possible to use the new play equipment and MUGA in the dark, as there was no lighting. They asked for the two adjacent streetlights to be lit every evening. It was established that the lights are only put on when the scouts meet, because they provide the electricity feed to the streetlights. However, part of the footpath has been resurfaced and is it understood that it is now a public footpath.

**The Clerk was asked to speak to Devon CC about connecting these lights to the street lighting system. He was also asked to speak to the scouts about keeping the lights on during the evenings in the interim.**

**Clive Jenkins** raised the question of cars parking along the footpaths in Knighton Road. Part of the footpath is not a public footpath, as sections are owned by the adjacent householder and so restricting parking may be difficult to enforce.

**The Clerk was asked to contact South Hams Parking Wardens, to make them aware of the situation and to take suitable enforcement action.**

### **iv) Liz Hitchins, Vice Chair, Brixton PC**

The Chairman welcomed Liz to the meeting who was going to speak about local support for people with dementia and their carers.

Liz explained that as part of the strategic plan to implement the National Dementia Strategy to support people with dementia and their carers, local and national voluntary organisations and Town Councils, in collaboration with Devon CC have set up Memory Cafes / Support Groups across Devon. Ivybridge is the nearest Memory cafe to Wembury.

Devon CC in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Society is interested in piloting a scheme in the more rural areas based around a cluster of Parish Councils. Brixton PC has agreed in principle to support this idea and is making approaches to Yealmpton, Newton & Noss and Wembury Parish Councils to consider the potential for developing this idea further around the Yealm Estuary.

Both Brixton and Yealmpton have supported the idea and Liz will be visiting Newton & Noss at their next meeting. Liz is looking for one representative from each Parish Council to attend a meeting to look at this proposal further.

A short discussion ensued and Cllr Squire said that he had spoken to The Wembury Surgery who supported the idea and would welcome a Memory Cafe.

Cllr Scoble proposed, seconded by Cllr Squire, that Wembury Parish Council support this pilot scheme for a rural Memory Cafe/ Support Group for people with Dementia and their carers and send one representative to the initial meeting to discuss the scheme proposal further. The motion was passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: Wembury Parish Council support this pilot scheme for a rural Memory Cafe/ Support Group for people with Dementia and their carers and to send one representative to the initial meeting to discuss the scheme proposal further.**

**v) Cllr John Baverstock, Chairman of South Hams DC**

The Chairman introduced Cllr Baverstock to the meeting.

Cllr Baverstock explained that the purpose of his visit was to introduce himself to the Parish Council. He went through his background as a councillor and said that he was proud to be the Chairman of South Hams DC.

He mentioned the Localism Bill which will drive down the decision making process to the community level. Whilst the details and timescale are not yet known, he felt that the Parish Councils will have a much greater role in the decision-making process and service provision in the future.

Cllr Baverstock was all too well aware of the gripes of the local communities and he appreciates what the Parish Councils do and what they achieve. He considers the Parish Councils to be the eyes and ears for South Hams DC and greatly appreciates their input.

Cllr Baverstock was then asked about moral in South Hams DC in the current tight financial climate. He replied that moral was not good and that he felt for the young staff working in an environment when they could lose their job. However, South Hams DC is sharing services with West Devon DC, including the Chief Executive position, which was ongoing. The joint working arrangement has saved over £1.5m and is currently working well.

A member of the public said that Wembury was on the edge of South Hams and it was a long way to go for meetings. Cllr Baverstock said that it was important to keep in touch with the Parish Council who would be able to provide relevant information.

The question of recycling was raised and it was confirmed that rubbish and recycling could be taken to Chelston Meadow tip, as Devon CC and Plymouth CC have a reciprocal arrangement. If anyone is turned away from the tip, then they should take the name of the operative and report it to Plymouth CC.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Baverstock for his address and he responded by saying 'keep up the good work'.

**The Chairman closed this open session at 8.53 pm and resumed Parish Council business.**

**10-122 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 27 September 2010.**

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

**10-123 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES**

**10-108 i) Manor Bourne Sewer**

The sewer has still not been repaired. Meanwhile, the Post Box still remains closed on Health and Safety grounds.

**Cllr Hart to investigate the situation further.**

**10-108 ii) Footpath Past 12 Knighton Road**

It is not practical to provide a footpath in this location.

**10-108 iii) Devon CC Mobile Library**

Cllr Hart has spoken to the Headteacher, Suzie Evans and Wembury School will co-ordinate some form of coffee morning event at the same time the mobile library visit.

**10-112 i) South Hams DC, Local Development Framework**

The Chairman and Cllr Squire will be attending the Inspectors' Hearing on 12 November for Wembury and 3 November for Down Thomas.

**The Clerk agreed to provide a suitable Hearing Statement for Wembury Parish Council.**

**10-112 ii) St Werburgh Church Council - Wembury Church Rooms**

A meeting with the Church Council to discuss the future of the Church Room for the advantage of the Wembury community, has been arranged on Thursday 11 November at the Knighton Room, Wembury commencing at 7.30 pm.

**Cllrs Rowland, Squire, Filby and Bennett will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.**

**10-112 iii) Terry Clark – Christmas Lights**

The £300 grant towards the purchase of outside Christmas lights for tree and Village Hall in Wembury, will be given to the Wembury School PTA shortly.

**10-112 iv) Clearing Bridleway No 20**

John Stansell, Churchwood Valley Park, has cleared the sides of the Bridleway No 20 and Devon CC is currently resurfacing it. The cost of clearing the sides was £2400, the cost of the surfacing by Devon CC is unknown. A short discussion ensued.

**It was agreed to consider a grant towards this work at the next Finance Sub Committee meeting, when remaining funds could be determined.**

**10-113 Down Thomas Play Area**

The Clerk is awaiting a suitable date for a meeting with Camilla Ayres and the Down Thomas Playgroup Sub Committee. He suggested that the sub committee should involve South Hams DC in any discussions regarding the purchase and fixing of play equipment. Cllr Scoble asked whether the playgroup had considered applying to Tesco for a grant.

**Cllr Newnham agreed to inform the Playgroup Sub Committee accordingly.**

### **10-115 Wembury MUGA & Tennis Courts**

The Clerk had sent a letter of thanks to all those who worked on these schemes and had received a very appreciative reply.

### **10-124 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 of these minutes.**

### **10-125 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION**

#### **i) Devon CC – Winter Service on Devon’s Highways**

Devon CC have asked Parish Councils for comments on their grit bin and gritting route proposals. Following a short discussion, it was agreed to ask Devon CC to extend their gritting route in Wembury to include Southland Park Road. The public and Parish Councillors were asked to let the Clerk know where the existing grit bins are located and where any new ones should be located or existing damaged ones replaced.

**The Clerk will respond to Devon CC accordingly.**

#### **ii) Brixton PC - Speed Limits**

The Chairman read out a letter passed on by Brixton PC, from Sarah Bolt, regarding moving the speed limit sign along Wembury Road beyond to the children’s play area. A discussion ensued and Parish Councillors generally agreed with moving the speed limit sign to make the area safer. However, this matter had been discussed with the Police and Devon CC about two years ago without much success, as it would require a public enquiry to change the speed limits.

Members considered that it would probably be better if the play area had a more secure gate on the access adjacent to the road, or the access closed altogether.

**The Clerk was asked to inform Brixton PC accordingly.**

#### **iii) Devon CC – Minerals & Waste Planning**

Following a short discussion, it was agreed that it would be better if the Parish Councillors filled in the questionnaire and responded individually.

#### **iv) South Hams DC – Budget Consultation Meeting**

The Chairman reported that he would be attending the Budget Consultation meeting on 24 November 2010 on behalf of Wembury Parish Council.

#### **v) Devon Conservation Forum – Changes to Organisation**

The Chairman reported on the changes to the Devon Conservation Forum organisation from having a permanent office to home working. As Wembury Parish Council was a member of the organisation, they were entitled to nominate two people to attend the General Council meetings.

**Cllr Squire already attends these meetings and offered to represent Wembury Parish Council.**

**FOR INFORMATION.**

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

**10-126 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

None.

**10-127 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC**

No report this meeting.

**SOUTH HAMS DC**

**Cllr Cane** informed members that South Hams DC was in a good position to deal with the financial cutbacks imposed by the government, although it was not yet clear what these would be.

In the future, more services would be shared between authorities, as there was a lot of money to be saved by shared working.

He was surprised to learn that 4 out of 5 people did not know that bagged dog mess could be put in an ordinary litter bin. He urged people to spread the word, to reduce the amount of dog fouling within the district.

**Cllr Squire** said that the recent Comprehensive Spending Review recently carried out by the government would mean that there would be up to a 16% reduction in financial cuts by April 2011, although the details of the full cuts are still awaited.

South Hams DC needs to have a fresh approach and will be examining their staffing and member structure in the near future. There were lots of challenges ahead still to be discussed.

A recent document shows that the South Hams DC target of 50% affordable housing has not been achieved, with 30% being the highest achieved so far on a development. This will need to be reviewed.

The Langage Visitor Centre is looking for a person to assist with tours of the centre.

**Cllr Squire** outlined the population age mix for the Wembury and Brixton parishes, which was fairly evenly spread over the whole age range.

**10-128 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE**

**i) PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP**

**Bus User Group**

**Cllr Filby** reported that the Bus User Group had already met once and in view of the discussion earlier in the meeting, would endeavour to keep in close contact with Devon CC regarding the tender returns and the future Wembury bus service.

**ii) WEMBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT**

A written report by the Headteacher, Susie Evans, had been circulated via email prior to the meeting and was taken as read.

**Cllr Filby** outlined the main points from the report.

The after school club has unfortunately closed and may have an effect on the School and

Pre-School if it is closed in the long term.

The school has suffered its first criminal damage in about three years and this has been reported to the Police. They are awaiting costs of repair to the outside sail shade.

The PTA have raised over £12,000 this year by fundraising events and everyone agreed that the Parish Council should send a letter of congratulations to the PTA. A recent MUFTI day raised £100 and was reported in the local paper.

Cllr Filby urged members to visit the school, as it is looking good now that it has been reorganised. Also, to visit the school website.

Finally, the headteacher thanked Wembury Parish Council and all those involved for the new MUGA, which is being well used by the pupils.

### **iii) LEISURE FACILITIES WORKING GROUP**

**Cllr Bennett** reported on the various leisure facilities.

#### **Tennis Courts**

Painting, including rust treatment is currently being carried out on the fence posts and should be completed in about a week.

#### **MUGA**

The MUGA was officially opened by Devon CC leader Cllr John Hart on 18 October 2010, attended by members of all three councils and Wembury School headteacher and some pupils. This is already a well-used facility.

#### **Signage**

Signs are being prepared by South Hams DC for the Tennis Courts and the MUGA to indicate the correct use for each facility, including advice on the correct footwear to minimise wear and tear on the new surfaces.

#### **Skateboard Park**

South Hams DC has agreed to paint the skate elements once the youth club provide the special paint required. Existing Youth Club funds can be used to purchase the paint.

#### **Down Thomas Play Area**

Cllr Bennett is also trying to arrange a meeting with the Down Thomas Playgroup Sub Committee to take the project forward to replace the outdated play equipment.

### **iv) CLERKS WORKSHOP**

The Clerk informed members about the Parish Clerks Workshop held in Wembury on 20 October 2010. He took the Clerks on a tour of the new leisure facilities and allotments and all were very impressed with the quality and extent of the facilities in Wembury.

The workshop discussed a wide range of topics ranging from elections, future cleansing and winter gritting services, the big society, implications of financial cuts, site allocation DPD examination programme, rural bus services, dog fouling to the demise of the cheque.

### **v) EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Cllr Gage reported that at the recent Emergency Planning Roadshow, he felt that Wembury were well ahead of the others with their emergency plan.

However, he would like to see the following implemented:-

- 1) Make sure every household has a copy of the checklist document. Either distribute by email, or via the website, and ask recipients to make a paper copy for any neighbours without email.

- 2) Provide an A4 laminated red **H** for any parishioners at risk (for window display) - this will incur a cost or maybe suggest as a possible school project.
- 3) Provide hard copy of our EP to the Ivybridge & Plymouth Police Control Rooms.

A discussion ensued about the three suggestions.

It appears that the Devon CC Emergency Planning Officer, Peter Dale, has a stack of check list documents. Brixton has already circulated these and Wembury would require about 1500 copies for distribution. **Cllr Gage to speak to Peter Dale.**

The red H could either only be sent to vulnerable people, obtained via the Wembury Surgery, or perhaps it could be sent out with the South Hams DC council tax demand. **Cllr Gage to investigate further.**

It is necessary to get the Wembury Emergency Plan to the Police Control Rooms in Plymouth and Ivybridge.

**Cllr Gage and Clerk would seek the name of the correct Police Officer to send it to.**

#### **vi) RIVER YEALM HARBOUR AUTHORITY**

Cllr Drought reported that the current Harbour Master, Robin Page, would be leaving in the near future due to family reasons. He will be difficult to replace, as the Harbour Master is a complex job. However, the job would be advertised shortly.

### **10-129 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C**

#### **i) Financial Statement for October 2010**

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

#### **ii) St Werburgh Church**

The Clerk reported that he had received a request from St Werburgh Church for the Parish Council annual donation of £400, towards the maintenance of the graveyard. Proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Drought, to grant St Werburgh Church £400 towards the maintenance of the graveyard. Resolution carried by 8 votes for with 1 abstention.

**RESOLVED: To grant St Werburgh Church £400, towards the maintenance of the graveyard.**

### **10-130 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

**Cllr Rowland** complained about a large pothole at the top of Traine Road.

**Cllr Cammack** said that the large basketball post on the playing field is a danger to children and should be removed. The Clerk said that South Hams DC already have this in hand.

**Cllr Cammack** had removed some plastic fencing from around the children's play equipment.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.14 pm.

Roy Fairclough, Clerk