

## 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 27 April 2009.**

### **09-43 OPENING THE MEETING**

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, opened the meeting at 7.31 pm and thanked Cllr Rowland for chairing the last meeting in his absence. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Richard Warne, Chair of the Governors of Wembury School.

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

District Cllr Cane and twelve members of the public were also present.

### **09-44 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bennett and Hart, and also from PC Nolan and PCSO Lawrence.

### **09-45 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest from council members.

### **09-46 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR TO PUT QUESTIONS**

**The Vice Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 7.33 pm.**

#### **i) Crime Report April 2009**

PC Nolan and Sid Lawrence were not able to attend the meeting but had submitted a crime report, which the Chairman read as follows:-

#### JI/09/268 ; Common Assault

At 13:30 hrs on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, a female walking in Church Road, was spat at by the occupants of an Orange BMW motor vehicle. The spittle landing on the females face

and chest area. The vehicle was carrying 4 male occupants, it is not known if all occupants spat at the female.

The victim was unable to note the vehicle registration number, consequently the crime has been filed at this time as undetected.

Jl/09/279 ; Fraud / False representation

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, a resident of Hawthorn Park Road received a telephone call from a male who spoke poor English, claiming to be a representative working on behalf of her telephone company. The lady was informed that her account was in arrears, and if the amount due were not paid, her line would be disconnected. The lady gave the male details of three separate bank accounts, subsequently an unauthorised transaction has been made from one of them. This is one of a series of offences being committed throughout different parts of the country. Enquiries are continuing to identify the offender.

Please be very mindful of giving out such details over the telephone. Ask for an account reference number, and call the company yourself.

Jl/09/286 ; Burglary

Overnight between Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April, a property in Barton Close has been entered. Offender/s have then stolen various items including a motorcycle from the garage, and a mobile telephone. The motorcycle was recovered in Traine Road on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The telephone has been used, presumably by the offender.

Enquiries are continuing with regard to the telephone calls in order to identify the offender/s.

Jl/09/340 ; Theft from motor vehicle

Between Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, an outboard engine has been stolen from the rear of a landrover parked in Warren Lane. In order to steal the engine the offender/s have simply removed the tailgate canvas cover.

There has been one domestic related incident. Force policy dictates that no information is to be given with regard to such incidents.

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

**ii) Richard Warne, Chair of Governors of Wembury School**

**Richard Warne** was pleased to inform the Parish Council about the recent OFSTED Report on the school, which was satisfactory overall. The school is continuing to improve and effective steps have been taken to promote improvement since the last report. All key indicators in the Leadership and Management section were satisfactory. There were two outstanding judgements, compared to none last time. These are the 'behaviour of learners' and the 'extent to which learners adopt healthy lifestyles'. There were a total of six judgements that have improved and there are four areas identified for further improvement. Three of the areas for improvement had already been identified and action is being taken by the headteacher and staff in all three areas as part of the School Development Plan. The fourth area, to strengthen the strategic and

monitoring role of the governing body, is being addressed. There are a lot of new governors this year and many are going on various training courses to enable them to have an effective role as a governor.

Richard then asked if there were any questions.

**Terry Clarke** asked if the Governor of the Month scheme was to be continued. Richard said that it had recently been reintroduced and that a governor would attend the school each month.

**Cllr Scoble** asked if there had been any comment from OFSTED about the poor quality of the school building. OFSTED had not commented on the school building.

**The Chairman** then thanked Richard for keeping the Parish Council informed of the school's progress and said that he was welcome to address the Parish Council at any time. If he contacted the Clerk when he wished to address the Parish Council, then there would be a special item put on the Agenda for the School Report.

### **iii) Public Comments**

**Peter Hanley** spoke against the Planning Application No 58/0665/09/0, for the erection of a new dwelling in Renney Road, Heybrook Bay. He said that the proposed development does not accord with the development Plan for Heybrook Bay or the coastal AONB and development of the countryside requirements. He questioned whether this dwelling would be allowed by South Hams DC.

**Terry Cross** and **Alan Stevenson** both spoke against the same planning application and had written to South Hams DC about their concerns of setting a precedent of development along this side of Renney Road.

**Martin Wallis** explained about his Planning Application No 58/0665/09/0 and said that the proposed building would tidy up an area of scrubland, would have no effect on the houses across the road and be beneficial to the area.

**Peggy Llewellyn** was concerned that such a dwelling would disturb the ambience of Heybrook Bay and potentially set a precedent that could see ribbon development from Down Thomas to Heybrook Bay.

**Alan Stevenson** said that the National Trust were returning similar land back to nature and not building on it.

The Chairman said that the Parish Council had noted the concerns about this planning application and explained that all were entitled to write to South Hams DC who would make the final planning decision.

**The Chairman then closed this open session at 7.48 pm and resumed Parish Council business.**

### **09-47 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 30 MARCH 2009.**

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

### **09-48 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES**

#### **09-32 i) Wembury Primary School**

The Clerk read out details of an email from Cllr Hart about the finances allocated for work to be carried out at the school. Following a lively discussion it was considered unacceptable that no formal response had been received from Devon CC regarding the school rebuild programme. The members considered it counterproductive to spend

money on the school and suggested that pressure should continue to be put on Devon CC to ensure that the school is programmed for an early rebuild.  
Cllr Scoble thought that the teaching staff were doing a marvellous job in difficult conditions and should be complimented.

**Cllr Squire proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought that Wembury Parish Council were disgusted with the Wembury Primary School building and demand that it be rebuilt as soon as possible and the Director of Education or Chairman of the Education Committee address the next Parish Council meeting to explain the situation.**

The proposal was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED: Wembury Parish Council were disgusted with the Wembury Primary School building and demand that it be rebuilt as soon as possible and the Director of Education or Chairman of the Education Committee address the next Parish Council meeting to explain the situation.**

#### **09-32 ii) Speed of Traffic in Traine Road**

The Clerk is awaiting a response from Devon CC.

#### **09-34 i) Dangerous Bus Route**

The Clerk informed members that Chris Watkins, Devon CC, Area Traffic Engineer had agreed to meet Parish Council members. The date for the meeting agreed by members was 11 May 2009, commencing at 10 am.

Cllrs Gage, Martin and Scoble agreed to attend the meeting. The Clerk was requested to inform the Police and ask them to attend the meeting.

**The Clerk to inform Chris Watkins and the Police accordingly.**

#### **09-34 ii) Bus Stop Signs**

Various councillors agreed that there had always been a bus stop sign near to Wembury Post Office. The bus company are not keen to make this location a Hail and Ride stop, as there is no guarantee that the buses will stop.

**The Clerk was asked to write to Devon CC to erect a new pole near to the Post Office so that First Devon & Cornwall can fix a bus stop flag and Timetable Board.**

#### **09-34 iii) Wembury Allotments**

The Chairman reported that the official opening of the Wembury allotments on Saturday 18 April 2009, went extremely well. He was amazed at the amount of work carried out by the allotment holders and the number of vegetables growing in such a short time. There was a barbecue to raise money for the Wembury Allotment Association and a helicopter took photographs of the whole site for the National Trust. There is now a waiting list for an allotment and the National Trust are looking to see if more land can be made available.

Cllr Cane thanked Wembury Parish Council for arranging the allotments and for the National Trust in making the land available. He said that they have created a good community spirit in the village, which is good for Wembury Parish.

#### **09-34 iv) Seat Near Post Office**

**Cllr Squire** will continue to pursue the acquisition of a seat.

**The Clerk** was waiting for a response about the price of purchasing a seat and fixing it in place.

**09-49 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.**

**09-50 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION**

**i) The Boundary Committee – Synopsis of New Proposals**

**Structural Review of Devon – Various Information and WPC Response**

The Clerk had written to the Boundary Committee with the Wembury Parish Council response. Details were posted on the two main notice boards, in Wembury and Down Thomas and on the Wembury Parish website.

The Chairman reported that at a recent Parish Cluster meeting all the parishes were in favour of an enhanced status quo by the formation of joint management programmes. Hopefully Devon CC and the District Councils will have a good case to make.

It is likely that the government will not pursue the reorganisation further and events may well overtake the proposed changes.

**The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the Wembury Parish response to the Devon Association of Parish Councils.**

**ii) Equalities & Human Rights Commission – Public Sector Duties**

A leaflet explaining the current duties had been circulated to Parish Council members.

**iii) Information Commissioner's Office – Instruction DVD**

The Clerk informed members about an information DVD which he thought was interesting and informative.

**It was agreed to show the DVD at a future meeting.**

**FOR INFORMATION.**

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

**09-51 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

None

**09-52 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 the Ivybridge indoor swimming pool leak is likely to cost £20,000 to repair. Consequently, proposals have been put forward for an investigation into the construction of a new swimming pool. Both options are to be considered.

At a recent talk by the Police Authority, Cllr Squire learned that the bonuses paid to senior Police officers are agreed nationwide. The Police budget has been increased by 4.9% and the taxpayer is also funding the Police pension fund. This appears to be an ever-increasing cost to the taxpayer and is unsustainable in the long term. The Police now

have to serve 30 years to receive a full pension.

The sales of affordable TOR Homes is not going well in rural areas, due to the lack of shops, facilities and public transport. South Hams DC are now looking at alternative uses for affordable homes.

South Hams DC expects to recover 15 pence in the pound from the Icelandic Bank collapse and overall should recover about 80% of their money.

The future Gershon savings are targeted at 12% and the government are asking local authorities to carry out more services. The latest, is for the local authorities to carry out the National Census.

**Cllr Cane** had also spoken to Richard Warne about Wembury School and had written to Cllr Smith at Devon CC, on behalf of the school and he was hopeful that we should all be able to get something moving.

Some fifteen affordable homes have been completed to date, but this is less than the numbers expected by South Hams DC. Consequently, they are looking at different ways of making affordable houses available the area. He asked members to be aware of any youngsters who are looking for a house, and to encourage them to put their name on the list as soon as possible.

Cllr Cane confirmed that District Council on street parking enforcement officers were now aware of the parking problems in Wembury and had recently been issuing parking tickets in Church Road.

## **09-53 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 had been circulated to all councillors. He then went through the history of developing the plan to its current state. The plan has been developed by communication with the community and reflects the responses received from local people. Subject to final comment, he proposed that the plan be printed and then circulated to all the households within the Wembury Parish. Several councillors raised questions and suggested minor amendments to the plan, notably the clarification between Wembury Parish and Wembury Village.

Cllr Filby reported that he had received various quotes for the printing of the plan ranging from £1400 to £400 and he was currently checking them out. He felt that if the Parish Plan were posted to each household then the cost would vary between £1000 and £800. Consequently, he suggested that they be hand delivered by the Parish Councillors to save these postal costs. This was agreed by all councillors.

Cllr Filby then proposed, seconded by Cllr Martin that Wembury Parish Council formally adopts and endorses the **Parish Plan** and the associated **Next Steps**. It agrees for the Forward Planning Group to arrange to print a copy of both and for Parish Councillors to circulate them to each household in the Parish, with an accompanying supporting letter from the Parish Council. The proposal was carried unanimously

**RESOLVED: Wembury Parish Council formally adopts and endorses the Parish Plan and the associated Next Steps. It agrees for the Forward Planning Group to arrange to print a copy of both and for Parish Councillors to circulate them to each household in the Parish with an accompanying supporting letter from the Parish Council.**

**Cllr Filby** suggested that the accompanying letter should include the following paragraph: “The Parish Council has formally adopted the Parish Plan and Next Steps and will for its part actively pursue those actions for which it has an obligation (improving footpaths, controlling speeding cars etc) and others where it will operate as an facilitator or enabler for interested groups to explore and hopefully achieve their ambitions (cycle paths, better mobile phone coverage etc). However, parishioners should understand that these latter actions would only happen if a strong public interest were demonstrated. This is especially so if funding is going to be sought. We have seen that it can happen and the new allotments are a good example”.

On behalf of the Parish Council Cllr Rowland congratulated Cllr Filby and his team for all the hard work in producing the Parish Plan. He suggested that there should also be some form of recognition in the Parish Plan of the original work done by the Parish Council’s previous Chairman, Peter Williams.

**Cllr Filby agreed to action all the comments made at the meeting.**

**ii) Leisure Facilities Working Group**

The Chairman explained that Cllr Bennett had recently undergone surgery at the hospital and was currently recovering well. Consequently, there was no report on this occasion. The Chairman and councillors wished Cllr Bennett a speedy recovery.

**Tennis Courts**

Cllr Squire said that he had been speaking to Leisure executives recently and they wanted to know which scheme Wembury Parish Council favoured. He suggested that the Parish Council should write soon to Cllr Carson and he thought that South Hams DC would then respond with suitable funding proposals.

A lengthy discussion followed. It was said that if the tennis courts were just going to be refurbished, then South Hams DC want to deal with a recognised tennis club who would be responsible for the management of the tennis courts. At the present time no Wembury Tennis Club has been formally formed.

The scheme where one tennis court was refurbished and the other extended to create a full MUGA appeared to find the most favour. Consequently, Cllr Rowland proposed, seconded by Cllr Martin, that Wembury Parish Council support the refurbishment of one Wembury tennis court and the creation of a full MUGA on the other extended court and write to Cllr Carson of South Hams DC regarding funding as soon as possible. The proposal was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED: Wembury Parish Council support the refurbishment of one Wembury tennis court and the creation of a full MUGA on the other extended court and write to Cllr Carson of South Hams DC regarding funding as soon as possible.**

**The Clerk was asked to invite Cllr Carson to a future Wembury Parish Council meeting.**

**iii) Parish Cluster Group Meeting on 22 April 2009**

**Cllr Drought** had attended the meeting and he had already reported on the discussions about local government restructuring in Devon and the proposals for shared services. Barnardo’s are opening a children’s centre (0-5 yr olds) in the town hall in Ivybridge. They will also be able to provide outreach services using a bus and a van. This service will be government funded.

The development planning document update was also discussed.  
The minutes of the meeting will be circulated when received.

**iv) Yealm River Harbour Authority**

**Cllr Drought** had attended the recent AGM, which had gone well. The auditor had praised the way that the accounts had been done. The minutes of the AGM will be circulated shortly.

The River Yealm steps had been discussed and neither the Harbour Authority nor Wembury Parish Council want the long-term responsibility for the steps. Devon CC look after the steps on the other side of the river and the view is that they are also responsible for the steps on the Wembury side of the river. A meeting is to be arranged with all concerned to resolve this issue.

**v) Parish Clerk's Workshop on 1 April 2009**

**The Clerk** informed members that he had attended the workshop, which had been very informative. The Clerks had received a talk by M Elliott from the South Hams DC Planning Department about the new Development Planning rules. The Clerk circulated to all Parish Council members a Permitted Development Checklist, which will assist in understanding the requirements of these new rules.

Other topics discussed ranged from the proposed changes for local government in Devon, the Sustainable Communities Act to Parish Council Insurance. The Clerk will circulate notes of the meeting in due course.

**09-54 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C**

**i) Financial Statement for April**

The Chairman presented the financial reports as per ANNEX C.

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

**ii) Annual Report for Year Ending 31 March 2009**

**The Chairman** reported that the accounts for the last year had been inspected by the Internal Auditor who had indicated that the Wembury Parish Council financial records tested were well organised and there was a clear audit trail through the system.

There were no issues the Internal Auditor wished to discuss with the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the excellent way he had prepared the accounts and the Annual Report.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr Rowland seconded, that the Wembury Parish Council Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2009 is approved. The proposal was passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED: The Wembury Parish Council Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2009 is approved.**

The Clerk and Chairman duly signed the Annual Return. The Clerk will now display extracts on the two main Notice Boards and the Parish website and then pass the Annual Return on to the external auditor.

**09-55 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

**Cllr Scoble** asked about the current footpath-cutting programme, which is due to be improved this year. **The Clerk will endeavour to obtain the current footpath-cutting programme and circulate.**

**Cllr Rowland** informed members that there would be a ceremony on Thursday 300 April, commencing at 10 am, to unveil a plaque at Ridge Cross, to commemorate the old ZV Radar Station that used to be there during the second world war.

**Cllr Gage** informed members that the newly formed Wembury Surfing Club had not survived long and has now been disbanded.

He thanked South Hams DC for providing a Dog Bin outside Cliff Cottage, which means that the owners of Brambles in Cliff Road, no longer need to provide their own Dog Bin. He also informed members that First Devon & Cornwall Ltd have re-routed buses so that they no longer stop directly outside Morrisons, but now stop on the other side of the Billacombe Road dual-carriageway. This is a busy and dangerous road for the elderly to cross. Following a short discussion, it was suggested that Cllr Gage write to Morrisons to explain the situation, to see if they can bring pressure to bear on the bus company to change their route back, or on the Highway Authority to provide a suitable crossing.

**Cllr Filby** informed members about a Ragtime Concert at the Odd Wheel pub and urged everyone to support the pub.

**09-56 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

R Fairclough,  
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council