

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	

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the War Memorial Hall, Wembury, on Monday 27 October 2008.

08-128 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, formally opened the meeting at 7.34 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Sixteen members of the public, Simon Garner from the National Trust and PC John Nolan were also present.

08-129 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor Doody and District Councillor Cane.

08-130 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Martin informed members that his job description had changed.

There were no other declarations of interest.

08-131 SIMON GARNER, NATIONAL TRUST AREA WARDEN

The Chairman welcomed Simon to the Parish Council meeting.

Simon explained that he would be giving a presentation update about Wembury Woods and the proposed footpaths associated with the woods.

Simon used an overhead display and showed the approximate lines of the proposed new footpaths from Wembury, through Wembury Woods, which then linked to existing footpaths in Hollacombe to return to Wembury. He showed stunning pictures of the woods and the fantastic views available once the footpath has been created.

Simon went on to explain the environmental and safety considerations when creating a new footpath for public use. There will be a lot of work to be done, not only in creating the footpath, but also in building wooden bridges and erecting direction signs.

Unfortunately, there will be no public access to Wembury Woods until the path is completed. However, he hoped that the public would get involved and help with the work in the woods. The dates when people could help were 4 November and 20 November,

meeting in the Wembury Beach Car Park at 9.30 am. He hoped that as many people as possible would turn up to help.

08-132 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR PUT QUESTIONS TO SIMON GARNER
The Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 7.45 pm.

Tony Romang asked if there would be access to the foreshore from the new path. Simon said that they were not trying to encourage it so there would be no direct access from the path.

Cllr Newnham asked Simon if he worked with the Barn Owl Trust. Simon replied that they have worked with the Barn Owl Trust and had but up boxes in the past. He would respond if the Trust contacted him.

John Gibson asked whether the current footpath strategy included Thorn Wood. Simon said that the new path would be linked to existing footpath routes where possible.

Cllr Bennett asked whether the National Trust could get a byelaw with South Hams DC regarding dog fouling so that action can be taken against irresponsible dog owners. The National Trust looks for support from the South Hams DC Dog Wardens as they have more powers than the National Trust to enforce such byelaws.

Cllr Scoble asked whether that also included the provision of Dog Bins. Simon replied that the problem with Dog Bins is not the provision, but the ongoing cost of emptying, maintenance and replacement of them. The current policy of the National Trust is no Dog Bins, as they expect dog owners to collect dog mess and to dispose of it at home.

David Pinder asked about the current situation with parking provision at Wembury Point. Simon said that better plans had now been drawn up and will be presented to the South Hams Planning Department shortly. He hoped the work would be done by next Easter.

Tony Romang asked if the National Trust work with Coombe Dean School. Simon said that they didn't, but that they did work with Wembury and Plymstock schools.

The Chairman thanked Simon for attending the meeting and for his excellent presentation, as well as answering many questions from the public and after a busy days work.

The Chairman then closed this open session at 8.00 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

08-133 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2008.

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

08-134 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

08-116 i) First Devon & Cornwall Ltd

Cllr Martin said that bus drivers are now stopping at the viaduct but that many drivers are not stopping at the Wembury Post Office corner as they say that it is not a designated stop. **The Clerk was asked to raise this matter with First Devon and Cornwall Ltd.**

08-116 ii) Road Crossing

Cllr Squire said that he had not been contacted by Chris Watkins of Devon Highways to

arrange a site meeting, to view the problem of how dangerous it is to cross the road near the War Memorial Hall, Wembury, at the end of the railings.

Cllr Hart agreed to speak to Chris Watkins.

08-116 iii) Wembury Tennis Courts & Leisure Facilities

Cllr Bennett would report on the meeting held on 22 October later in the meeting.

08-116 iv) Environment Grant from Cllr Hart, Devon County Council

The Clerk had now received the cheque for £1000 and a suitable programme of environmental improvements would be drawn up for the Parish Council.

08-116 v) Footpath Surfacing, Southland Park Road

Cllr Gage reported that a meeting had been held with South Area Highways and Mr Haliday had stated that minor repair works would be carried out.

Cllr Gage reported that in some areas, the road is higher than the footpath and water is running into people's drives. There is also grass growing through the recently slurry sealed footpath in places.

Cllr Hart undertook to speak to South Area Highways.

08-116 vi) Car Parking

Cllr Squire reported that South Hams DC had been responsible for issuing parking tickets within Wembury, however, the money collected went to Devon CC.

Cllr Hart explained that South Hams DC collect the fines and then take out their costs, with any surplus money going to Devon CC. It was thought likely that this year there would be no surplus money going to Devon CC.

08-116 vii) Street Name Signs

Cllr Scoble said that the street name signs had not yet been replaced in Heybrook Bay.

Cllr Squire agreed to speak to South Hams DC again.

08-116viii) BT's Removal of Public Call Boxes

The Clerk had clarified with South Hams DC that the telephone box opposite Londis, Wembury, is the box that BT is proposing to remove. It was generally agreed that there was no objection to the removal of this telephone box.

The telephone box near Wembury Beach is not on any list for removal by BT

08-116 ix) Wembury Allotments

The Clerk had spoken to the Secretary of the Allotment Society who was going to arrange a meeting with South Hams DC planning department on site, before passing the planning application on to Wembury Parish Council for submission to South Hams DC.

It was suggested that the Clerk contact DAPC regarding any similar planning applications by other Parish Councils.

08-116 x) Grass Verges in Hollacombe

Cllr Bennett confirmed that the verges had now been cut in Hollacombe.

08-121 i) Her Majesty's Court Service – Lady Frere

The Clerk was awaiting a response from Lady Frere to see if she was available to attend the November meeting of the Parish Council.

08-121ii) Ivybridge & Surrounding Area – Parish Cluster Meeting

The Chairman would report on the meeting held on 16 October 2008 later in the meeting.

08-121 iii) South Hams DC – Development Control & Conservation User Group

Cllr Squire was not able to attend the meeting on 15 October 2008 due to a clash with another meeting.

08-121iv) South Devon AONB Annual Forum

Cllr Gage reported that it was an interesting meeting. He felt that the AONB was a lobby group but did not know how it interfaced with government.

Cllr Hart had also attended the meeting and said that there had been four presentations on planning. He felt that they could have done with less speakers and more time for questions and discussion. AONB give planning guidance but the South Hams DC planning department make any final decisions.

The meeting was well represented by a wide range of organisations who take an interest in the whole scope of AONB and it is very useful for networking and as a sounding board.

08-123 South Hams DC

The Chairman reported on a successful visit on 17 October 2008 to Cllr Cane's office and South Hams DC Council Chamber in Follaton House, by both Wembury and Brixton Parish Councillors.

The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to District Cllr Cane, Chairman of South Hams DC, for his kind hospitality.

08-124 Devon Association of Parish Councils

Cllr Martin was waiting for the minutes of the recent DAPC meeting.

08-126 Heathfield Farm

Cllr Bennett informed members that the fly infestation had now been resolved

08-135 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

The Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 8.26 pm

i) Crime Report October 2008

Unfortunately, PC Nolan had been called away to an emergency during an earlier part of the meeting. Consequently, it was agreed that in future the Parish Council would ask PC Nolan to give his report at the start of the meeting to avoid such a situation in future.

The Clerk was asked to rearrange future Wembury Parish Council Agenda's accordingly.

The Chairman then read out PC Nolan's Crime Report for October 2008.

Theft

Sometime overnight on Sunday 12th October – Monday 13th October, lead flashing has been stolen from St Werburgh Church, Beach Rd, Wembury.

There were no witnesses and this offence is presently recorded as undetected.

Burglary

Between Monday 6th October and Thursday 16th October a property in Spring Road was subject of a burglary. The offender/s have entered by way of smashing a ground floor window, and a flat screen television has been stolen.

This offence has been linked to other recent burglaries in the South Hams, and is presently being investigated by the CID department at Ivybridge.

Theft

Sometime overnight on Thursday 16th October and Friday 17th October, a vehicle trailer has been stolen from a private car park in Hawthorn Drive, Wembury.

There are no known witnesses. The offence is presently recorded as undetected

Possession of cannabis

On Tuesday 21st October, Police stopped a 17-year-old male in Wembury playing field. He was searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act and found to be in possession of a quantity of herbal cannabis.

This crime has not been finalised at this time. The reporting officer believes the male is to be charged to court.

Attempted burglary

Sometime between Monday 20th October and Friday 24th October, an attempt has been made to jimmy open the heavy wooden front door of a property in Ford Road, Wembury. No entry was gained.

There are no witnesses to this incident. The offence is presently recorded as undetected.

Theft

Sometime between Saturday 20th September and Saturday 25th October, two kayaks have been stolen from the Boat Park on Wembury beach.

There are no known witnesses. The crime is presently recorded as undetected.

Domestic Violence

There has also been three incidents regarding domestic violence, and another with regard to concerns for a vulnerable adult. Details of such incidents are not disclosed in line with Police Force policy

ii) Tony Romang

Tony reported that a bus stop sign was missing from the top of Church Road.

He also reported that a field off Cliff Road was recently opened for car parking and the Car Parking sign suggested that the money went to St Werburgh Church. However, he felt that this needed looking into further as the money did not go to the Church and that planning permission was possibly required for the field to be used as a car park.

The Chairman closed the open session at 8.35 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

08-136 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.

08-137 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION

i) Department for Communities & Local Government – The Making & Enforcement of Byelaws

The Chairman reported that he felt it too onerous a task for the Parish Council to comment on the making of Byelaws as it would require legal knowledge to do this. Cllr Hart suggested that it should be discussed by the DAPC and a simpler version of the report produced.

Cllr Martin undertook to read the report and to let the Clerk have suitable comments.

ii) South Hams DC – Budget Consultation Meeting on 12 November 2008

The Chairman agreed to attend the meeting and report back to the Parish Council.

iii) Pub is the Hub

The Chairman reported on the kind contribution to the Down Thomas Post Office & Community Room Project.

iv) B & H Hall – Letter about Traine Road

Cllr Bennett has already raised the issue of speeding along Traine Road with South Devon Highways.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

08-138 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

None this month.

08-139 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY

DEVON CC

Cllr Hart explained that the District Council collects the waste and there are fines if the districts don't reach their recycling targets. The County are responsible for the waste disposal. Devon is currently recycling about 50% of its waste.

He recently attended a waste incineration consultation meeting and informed members that there are four waste to energy incineration sites being considered in Devon, two within Plymouth and two in South Hams DC.

An analysis of views from Parish and District Councils indicates that more are in favour of a Devon Unitary Authority than against, where there was no lobby.

Ivybridge wish to become a pilot for the community group / area. Cllr Hart will be attending a meeting next week with all the district councils, that is looking how best to set up the new authority organisation. Hopefully they will set the ground rules, so that if a Devon Unitary is approved by the Secretary of State, then there should be less problems with the transition to the new organisation.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire said that South Hams DC pre-planning advice now amounts to around £30,000 per annum and there has been little resistance to the changes.

Plymouth is no longer called a significant employment location, but is now referred to as a strategically significant city. This will have an impact on Plymouth's future vision. Car parking income is falling and will be down by £150,000 mainly due to poor weather this summer and so there may be a 4% increase in car parking charges next year. At a recent meeting, Cllr Squire learned that 27% of the Devon workforce is made up of migrant workers. The population breakdown no longer favours the older age group but is now spread fairly evenly across all the age groups, which is good news for the schools. MP's are now against the closure of public toilets and are now urging local authorities to provide proper toilet provision within their districts. The District Council receives £24 per tonne for recycled waste from the government and so Cllr Squire would like to see everyone encouraged to recycle more, to earn more for South Hams DC.

08-140 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) Forward Planning Working Group

Cllr Filby informed councillors that the group is working towards a draft Parish Plan and Action Plan. He had recently circulated a note of a recent meeting with Amanda Harvey, South Hams DC liaison officer and she was encouraged by the work done so far.

Cllr Filby explained that the changes had been made to the Wembury Parish website. The public could now leave their comments on, or for, the Parish Plan by using the 'Your Views' link on the website home page.

ii) Parish Cluster Group Meeting

Cllr Drought had attended the recent Parish Cluster Group meeting and would circulate the notes of the meeting when received.

Of interest was the discussion about waste collection from second homes, as rubbish was being left outside a house for several days before collection. Also, the discussion about the collection of waste glass. It was agreed a telephone number should be on the glass banks / skips so that the collection company could be telephoned when the bank / skip is full and ready for collection. This would avoid half-full banks / skips being collected or banks / skips overflowing with glass.

iii) Leisure Facilities Working Group

Cllr Bennett had attended the meeting on 22 October 2008 to discuss the upgrading of the skateboarding facilities in Wembury and had circulated a note about the meeting.

It had been an encouraging discussion and three youths agreed to form a committee to apply for a grant. Kathy Cuthbertson, Chair of the Youth Forum will help them with the grant application. A further meeting has been scheduled for 12 November 2008.

Cllr Bennett is assisting with costings to ensure the youths get the best value for their money. He would welcome any financial support from the Parish Council and will raise this at the next Finance Sub-Committee meeting.

The Wembury Tennis Courts have been measured and costs determined for their upgrade by South Hams DC. Wembury is not at the top of the list for an upgrade, but is fairly high up on the list.

**08-141 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AT ANNEX C**

i) Financial Statement for October 2008

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) Finance Sub Committee

The Clerk reminded members that a Finance Sub-Committee was due. Following a short discussion, it was agreed to hold a meeting on Thursday 13 November, at the new Down Thomas Community room, commencing at 6.30 pm.

08-142 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Filby informed members about an article in the Times regarding the closure of pubs. Local communities were helping to keep them open by running the pubs themselves. He would circulate the article for further discussion.

Cllr Martin asked members to use his work email address as he was currently experiencing problems with his home email address.

08-143 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.36 pm.

R Fairclough

Clerk to Wembury Parish Council