

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 Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 29 March 2010.

10-029 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought opened the meeting at 7.36 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

District Cllr Cane, Adam King, Simon Garner, Lorna Sherriff and eight members of the public were also present.

10-030 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from PC Nolan and PCSO Sid Lawrence.

10-031 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Gage had become the Treasurer of the Plymouth Music Accord.

10-032 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 7.37 pm.

i) Crime Report March 2010

PC Nolan was on holiday, but PCSO Sid Lawrence, whilst unable to attend, had provided a report, which the Chairman then read out. There are four crimes to report on for this reporting period.

J1/10/188

A silver Audi was stopped by police in Southland Park Rd during the afternoon of the 24th Feb however, the driver then ran from the vehicle before police could detain him. Subsequent checks were made and the owner of the vehicle stated he did not know the

vehicle was in Wembury and that it was not him driving it. This investigation is now looking at a possible theft of the vehicle and enquiries are continuing.

JI/10/202

Relates to a domestic incident force policy dictates non disclosure of information.

JI/10/249

Relates to a domestic incident force policy dictates non disclosure of information.

JI/10/252

A ground floor window was smashed at a property in Jenys Park Wembury Rd, between 19th and 22nd March. A spade was used in an attempt to gain entry and £100 worth of damage was caused. Forensic tests have proved negative however, the investigation continues.

ii) Simon Garner & Lorna Sherriff, National Trust

Simon and Lorna were pleased to attend the meeting to update the Parish Councillors on recent changes to the National Trust and work recently carried out by them.

At the recent Beach liaison meeting comments had been made about the National Trust removing too much scrub. However, Simon explained that systematic removal of scrub was carried out to protect the maritime grasses and to preserve the coastline. This is usually followed up by animal grazing ie sheep and ponies.

Several volunteers acted as the 'eyes and ears' for the National Trust and if anyone was interested in assisting then they should contact Simon.

Wembury Point Car Park construction has been delayed due to discussions with SWW and MOD, but discussions were now nearing completion. The restoration of Wembury Point is progressing well and several new paths have been constructed on 'desire lines'. The National Trust is organising several events and a programme will be placed on the National Trust & Wembury Parish websites. They had organised a beach clean the previous week and are working with local businesses and schools.

Signs in the area are going to be refreshed and a new information board is to be erected soon near Wembury beach.

The National Trust has not changed in years and following a customer survey last year it is hoping to improve and strive for a better balance between conservation and customer satisfaction, as well as promoting what it does. Consequently, the view of the National Trust has changed and it is now tasked with helping people to enjoy the countryside.

There are also changes taking place within the local organisation and Simon will report on these changes at another meeting.

Simon was asked if the National Trust keep a list of species in the area. He replied that regular surveys are carried out and he has survey records going back many years, but at present, they are not published. It was suggested that this information could be put on the National Trust website and Simon agreed to look into this further.

The Community Orchard was mentioned and the National Trust is looking for a suitable site to support this project.

The Chairman thanked both Simon and Lorna for giving up their time to keep the Parish Council up to date with National Trust activities.

iii) Adam King – Wembury Tree Warden

Adam followed on from Simon and reported on the progress of creating a Community Orchard. He is still looking for a suitable site in conjunction with the National Trust and

Moostone Meats. He has approached Wembury School but thinks that they only have a limited site. Another suggestion was to plant around the Wembury playing field. Adam would report back when a suitable site has been found.

The woodland at Longland Brake, Heybrook Bay, is owned by the Woodland Trust and they are looking for a suitable community group to lease and manage the woods for the benefit of the local residents. Although this item was to be raised later in the meeting, it was suggested that a suitable meeting should be arranged with all concerned.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Woodland Trust, Adam King, Parish Councillors and suitable representation from Heybrook Bay to discuss the future of the Longland Brake woodland.

The Clerk was also asked to put a suitable article in the Wembury Review and on the Wembury Parish website.

The Chairman thanked Adam for his report.

iv) Public Comments

Bob Harvey said that the Longland Brake woods was on a steep slope and would require steps and handrails, but that it was well used and was worth looking after.

Mrs A Hall raised the problem of excessive dog fouling on the footpath between Andurn Point and Heybrook Bay. A short discussion ensued.

The Clerk and Mrs Hall both agreed to contact Malcolm Orchard the South Hams DC Dog Warden and to ask him to take suitable action if possible.

Tony Romang informed members that the pothole at Ridgecross had not yet been filled and the seat on Church Road at the bottom of Southland Park Road required repair.

The Clerk agreed to inform both Devon Highways and South Hams DC accordingly.

Spencer Pearson was progressing the revival of the Wembury Carnival in conjunction with the Wembury Primary School. He was still seeking a grant to cover the cost of insurance for the event, which should be under £200. Each float vehicle should have their own insurance but they will require a suitable certificate to take part. In conjunction with a school event, it was hoped that the carnival would raise money for local charities.

The Clerk agreed to provide Spencer with a list of suitable grant organisations.

Mr Dumbleton referred to the recent South Hams DC Local Development Framework consultation and said that he owned the land in Wembury designated as Plot 3.

Development on this plot had been discounted because of no road access and development off a cul d sac.

However, there is an allocation for 30 houses on Plot 2 at the top of Knighton Hill, which the Parish Council is not supporting. He felt that a development on Plot 2 would be unsightly, spoil the area and create potential access problems on to the main access to Wembury.

He informed members that Plot 3 was did have an existing road access, was a level site, within easy reach of village facilities and large enough for bungalows to be built. It could also lead to improvements of other local facilities.

He had written to the Parish Council and was asking for support for the development of Plot 3 instead of Plot 2.

The Chairman explained the reasons why Plot 3 had been discounted for development during discussions held with the Princes Trust and formulation of the Local Development Framework. The Parish Council only supported up to 10 houses on Knighton Hill. Cllr

Squire had put a motion at the recent South Hams DC Council meeting to reconsider the number of houses on Knighton Hill, which had been lost. The Clerk had also written to South Hams DC expressing the Parish Council's views.

Consultation will commence at the end of April when anyone can have his or her say.

This will then be put to the Government Inspector for a final decision.

A discussion ensued and it was felt that even though South Hams DC have reported that Plot 3 was better than Plot 2 for development, the Parish Council were not in a position to support the development of Plot 3 without a full consultation of the residents of Wembury.

The Clerk was asked to write to South Hams DC to again express the views of Wembury Parish Council about the excessive housing allocation at Knighton Hill and ask them to revisit the other Plots in Wembury, which may be more beneficial to the village community as a whole.

The Chairman closed this open session at 8.42 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

v) Wembury Carnival

Following on from the previous discussion about the revival of the Wembury Carnival, Cllr Scoble proposed, seconded by Cllr Cammack that a grant up to £200 is made available to the Wembury School PTA to support the Wembury Carnival revival, subject to the necessary approvals being obtained and a written request from Mr Pearson. The motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: A grant up to £200 is made available to the Wembury School PTA to support the Wembury Carnival revival, subject to the necessary approvals being obtained and a written request from Mr Pearson.

10-033 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2010.

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

10-034 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

10-020 i) Gritting of Roads in Wembury

Devon Highways had responded to comments raised at the last meeting and will be reviewing their salting routes this summer. They will consider the Parish Council's request for a revised route through Wembury as part of this review.

It is also their policy to put out salt bags and not grit bins in rural areas.

10-022 v) Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

The Police had responded to the questions asked at the last meeting and the response had been circulated to all Councillors.

10-024 Potholes & Road Surfacing

Devon Highways had responded to comments raised at the last meeting and confirmed that they were in the process of filling the potholes in Wembury Parish.

Mewstone Avenue was on the forward works programme, but was unlikely to be resurfaced for 4 to 5 years. Cllr Squire was concerned about the poor road surface now and people were already complaining about it. **Cllr Hart said that he would ask Devon Highways to monitor the road surface on a regular basis.**

10-027 i) Missing Rack Corner Sign

Devon Highways had responded and said that a new sign for Rack Corner will be ordered in the new financial year.

10-027 ii) Footpath - Wembury Playing Field

Cllr Squire has raised this matter again with South Hams DC and they do not want to construct a footpath around the Wembury playing field.

10-035 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.

10-036 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) The Eastender – Plymouth East End Transport Scheme

Cllr Hart declared an interest, as he serves on a committee connected with the scheme. A lengthy debate ensued about the proposed roadworks in Plymouth, which will affect the access to Plymouth from Wembury. In particular during the construction of the new road and bridge, when Gydria Way is due to be closed in June for about five months. There was also concern that the new road scheme should make due allowance for the proposed public transport system from the Sherford development and the increase in traffic that it will generate.

The Clerk was asked to write to Plymouth City Council expressing the Parish Council's concern.

ii) Ivybridge Area, Parish Cluster Meeting

The Ivybridge Area Parish Cluster has been arranged for 18 May 2010 and the Chairman is unable to attend. **Cllr Rowland agreed to attend the meeting.**

iii) D Doubleton Letter – Potential Development of Plots 2 & 3, Wembury

The contents of Mr Doubleton's letter had been discussed under item 10-032 iv).

iv) Woodland Trust – Longland Brake, Heybrook Bay

This matter had been discussed under item 10-032 iv).

Cllrs Doody, Scoble and Gage agreed to attend a meeting to represent the Parish Council.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

10-037 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

i) Wembury Pre-school

The Chairman had received a letter from Teresa Naylor the Treasurer of the Wembury Pre-school requesting a grant of £400 to improve the western side of the Allsorts building used by the Pre-school, by constructing a learning zone blackboard.

The Clerk informed members that they were currently underspent in their budget allocation for community grants and any grant could be given from the current year's budget.

A short discussion ensued and Cllr Hart said that he was willing to fund £200 from his Devon CC budget, if Wembury Parish Council provided the other £200.

Cllr Rowland proposed, seconded by Cllr Newnham that a grant of £200 is given to the Wembury Pre-school for the construction of a learning zone blackboard. The motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: A grant of £200 is given to the Wembury Pre-school for the construction of a learning zone blackboard.

10-038 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Cllr Hart said that an extra £2.67m was coming to Devon CC from the Government for use on rural highways. However, he complained that for every 1 pence rise in the price of petrol it costs Devon CC about £25,000. The recently introduced National Insurance contribution increase will cost Devon CC between £1m and 2m.

He was at the recent House of Lords debate on the proposed Exeter Unitary Authority when a motion of regret and request for the Government to reconsider it was passed. The Government ignored the motion and are continuing with a Unitary Exeter. The most senior civil servant thought it illegal, but when tested in Court, it was considered that whilst the procedure was flawed the Minister had not overstretched his powers. There will be a judicial review in about 4 week's time.

Cllr Hart had spoken with the leader of Exeter, but he did not want any assistance from Devon CC. John felt sorry for the residents of Exeter, as he was not sure that they understood the implications of becoming a Unitary Authority.

The Chairman thanked John for his report and wished him good luck with the judicial review.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire said that the organisation Shelter thought that South Hams DC was the worst local authority for the provision of affordable housing, although he did not think it was true.

The Ivybridge swimming pool is to be refurbished at a cost of £2m split between South Hams DC and Tone Leisure. Consequently, the swimming pool will be closed during the summer months.

He had been informed that voltage panels on roofs, which cost about £8000 to install could generate up to 3Kw of electricity per hour, which equated to a payback of 10 years. The proposed Waste to Energy plant being considered for the New England quarry site was a very large building, 100m x 75m, with a large chimney that will be visible around the area.

Cllr Squire informed members that there were 3000 listed buildings in South Hams DC. The new crossing of the River Dart will cost £6 return.

On top of the savings already made, the Government are looking for another £550m savings through other service reduction measures.

There is a seminar at Follaton House, Totnes on 31 March on how to become an MP!!

Cllr Cane showed a leaflet from the Devon Community Foundation about helping local

people. South Hams DC is still looking at the re-use of empty houses and has been considering doubling the Council Tax on second homes. However, this is complicated to achieve and they have sent the Government a letter asking them consider this. He said that Devon CC had received about £7m over the years from Council Tax on second homes.

Cllr Cane said that we are in for a good summer, as he had seen 15 swallows last week and he had never seen them so early before.

10-039 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) Parish Plan Action Group

Cllr Filby had recently attended a Community Drop-In seminar. There were many Parish Plans on display and he felt that the Wembury Parish Plan stood up to them well.

Twenty-five Parish Plans have been completed in Devon and all the Parishes felt that the problem was how to turn the plan into action.

Parish Plans are displayed on the Communities in Action website and Cllr Filby is currently putting the Wembury Parish Plan on the website at www.communitiesinaction.org.uk

ii) Leisure Facilities Working Group

Cllr Bennett reported on the progress of the various leisure projects:-

Skate Park

The new installation has now been inspected by Digley Associates and two items required attention. The grind rail has had two rounded ends added for safety and there is a very slight gap between the edges of the ramps and tarmac. This is not considered serious and it will be monitored whilst the structure beds in. The overall impression was that of a well constructed skate facility. This has been proven by the amount of use it has received by all ages, with up to 15 youngsters at any one time using the skate park.

Disclaimer signs will be erected shortly by South Hams DC detailing the conditions of use of the skate park, including health and safety matters.

Several local residents have complained about the noise created at certain times and Cllr Bennett has contacted GBH Ramps who are going to install sandbags inside the ramps to reduce noise when the ramps are being used. A contribution of £400 from the Youth Club account will be made to provide this additional sound reduction.

Wembury Tennis Court Refurbishment

MUGA Project

Funding is now in place for both the Tennis Court refurbishment and the MUGA installation and quotes have been obtained by South Hams DC and Devon CC respectively. Both projects will be managed by South Hams DC who is hoping to use the same contractor for the construction of both schemes. Jon Parkinson, South Hams DC, is hoping to place an order in the next few weeks for a start around the end of April. Fiona Colamarino, Devon CC Procurement Officer is now requesting the Wembury Parish Council contribution. **The Clerk asked for a written request and the money can be paid out of next year's budget allocation.**

Football

Malcolm Brown, Manager of Wembury United is asking whether South Hams DC can

provide two portable WC's at the Wembury playing field now that there is such an intensification of usage. **Cllr Bennett will raise this with Jon Parkinson of South Hams DC.**

Down Thomas Playing Field

Although the end of life of the play equipment has technically been reached, the equipment will not be removed, but subject to monthly inspections by South Hams DC. Only unsafe equipment will be removed.

The £3000 allocated by South Hams DC is still available, but South Hams DC would like to be aware of the replacement equipment by the end of the year.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Bennett for his report and all the hard work he had put into these projects.

iii) Wembury Beach Liaison Group meeting on 15 March

Cllr Gage reported that the minutes of the Wembury Beach Liaison Group meeting held on 15 March 2010 had been circulated to Parish Councillors.

Members had already heard earlier in the meeting from the National Trust about the new signboard to be erected near the Wembury Beach Car Park. The National Trust had already announced that they want Wembury beach to be more user friendly and the Old Mill Cafe will be hiring out deckchairs, surfboards and wet suits this summer.

At the meeting, it was not clear what the South Hams DC litter policy was for this year around the Wembury beach area. **The Clerk was asked to contact South Hams DC to find out their current litter policy.**

The Kayak rack, discussed at the last Parish Council meeting, did require planning permission and this project was currently being progressed further by the Wembury Sailing Club.

Safety issues had been raised about the New Year swim at Wembury beach, by the Police and Cllr Gage agreed to speak to Terry Clarke about the St John's Ambulance service attending the swim next year.

Parking enforcement around Wembury Beach by South Hams Dc was discussed. **The Clerk was asked to write to Ian Hosking, South Hams DC regarding parking enforcement, especially over the Easter period.** It was suggested that a suitable telephone number should be made available for the public to ring, should there be a problem with parking. **The Clerk was asked to put the telephone number in the Wembury Review and on the Wembury Parish website.**

iv) Meeting with Police on 26 March 2010

Cllrs Drought and Rowland attended a meeting with the Police on 26 March 2010 at the Totnes Police Station. Cllr Drought said that the new Police Station was state of the art. The various questions raised by Parish Councillors at their last meeting had been answered in an email from the Chief Constable, which had been circulated to all councillors.

However, Cllr Drought found the meeting useful, even though it was only a drop in meeting and he managed to speak to several Police officers. He raised the question about the low attendance of a Police officer at the Parish Council meeting and was informed that PCSO Sid Lawrence is at Totness every weekend and so Monday is his rest day. PC John Nolan is soon to become a sergeant and so his position as the Community Police Officer will have to be replaced, but it is not known when.

Cllr Drought spoke to Duncan Russell the Traffic Safety Officer and raised the question of 20 mph enforcement and the dangerous boulders along the edges of the road in Renney Road, Heybrook Bay that reduces the road width for motorists. Duncan agreed to look into these issues. The next meeting with the Police is to be more structured.

v) Parish Clerks Workshop on 24 March 2010

The Clerk had attended the Parish Clerk's Workshop in Ivybridge on the 24 March 2010. The first item was a presentation by the Clerk from Stokenham about their trial project where they had provided their own services with a devolved budget from Devon CC and South Hams DC. She thought that it had been a success and hoped to be able to continue providing their own services in the future, However, with the uncertainty of the local government structure in Devon she had only been asked to continue for a further three months.

The Survey by Ivybridge about this topic had only drawn four responses from the Clerks and many parishes had not returned the DAPC questionnaire because of the lack of information about the cost of their specific services and the uncertainty of the outcome of the current local government review in Devon.

A second topic discussed was the poor communication by South Hams DC with the various Parish Councils about the LDF Site Allocations. This matter is to be raised at the next DAPC meeting.

Other topics covered were the lack of gritting to bus routes in rural areas and the management of playgrounds.

It was agreed that future workshops should be in a different Parish each time to reduce the organisational workload and the Clerk had volunteered to arrange the next Clerks Workshop in October 2010 within Wembury Parish.

10-040 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for March 2010

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

10-041 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Hart said that if there was a requirement for a grit bin then to let him know.

Cllr Rowland reported that a lad had fallen on the new skateboard park and was pleased to hear that there would be a disclaimer notice erected.

Cllr Filby said that there appeared to be a light on in the Odd Wheel pub, which indicated that it might be reopening soon.

Cllr Cammack said that Bodmin was striving to become the first 20 mph town.

Cllr Bennett said that he would be on holiday from 31 March to 4 May 2010.

The Clerk said that he would be on holiday from 8 April until 2 May 2010 and would miss the next meeting. Cllr Filby agreed to take the minutes at the next Wembury Parish Council meeting on 26 April 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.07 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council