

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	D Drought	Chairman
	J Bennett	
	A Cammack	
	M Doody	
	P Filby	
	M Gage	
	J Hart	County Councillor
	R Newnham	
	D Packer	
	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 18 April 2011.

11-040 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought opened the meeting at 7.34 pm. He thanked the Vice Chairman, Cllr Rowland for ably looking after his seat for the last two meetings, whilst he was on holiday.

Cllrs Bennett, Doody, Filby, Hart, Newnham, Packer, Rowland and Squire were present. District Cllr B Cane and five members of the public were also present.

11-041 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Cammack, Gage and Scoble
Apologies had also been received from PC R Batchelor and PCSO S Lawrence.

11-042 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

11-043 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 7.36 pm.

i) April 2011 Police Report

The Chairman informed members that there would be no Police present at the meeting on this occasion, but he had received a report from PC R Batchelor as follows:-

J1/11/271: Between 16th April and 17th April 2011 animal feed from a farm was stolen. Enquires are ongoing.

Community:

Police have been working closely with the National Trust regarding a possible trespasser

on their land in Wembury, as well as liaising with the beach staff due to the large number of people visiting the beach because of the fine weather we are experiencing.

Sid can attend the meeting on the 28th April about traffic management in Wembury (incidents allowing). Hopefully PC Batchelor will be able to visit the site between now and then with PC Tanner (Road safety officer) to establish if, or what, can be achieved. He will pass the findings on to Wembury Parish Council and to Sid for information at the meeting.

ii) Adam King, Wembury Tree Warden

Adam was not available for the meeting but he was working on four schemes at present within the Wembury Parish.

a) Longland Brake Woodland

The requested notice had not been put in the April Wembury Review, as promised by the Editor, asking for interested people to take over the management of the woodland from the Woodland Trust. **It was suggested that Adam now arrange a suitable meeting with interested residents to take this forward and the Clerk will contact the editor of the Wembury Review.**

b) Wembury Community Orchard

c) Wembury Recreational Ground

d) Down Thomas Play Area

All these schemes are ongoing.

iii) Members of the Public

James Friend introduced himself and said that there had been a big rise in the amount of litter and anti-social behaviour at the Wembury recreational ground. James had kept a log of the amount of litter, underage drinking, BMX bikers using the MUGA and Tennis Courts and a destroyed seat. James had produced a report with photographic evidence, which he handed to the Clerk.

A discussion ensued and it was felt that many of the activities were being carried out by youths from outside Wembury. James felt that a greater Police presence and regular contact with the local youths would help to improve the situation.

James was thanked for his actions, community spirit and his comprehensive report.

It was agreed that the Clerk would pass on James's report to the Police and ask that they meet with James and take suitable action.

Spencer Pearson explained that he had now formed a committee with Chair, Secretary and Treasurer to organise the Wembury Paddle and the Carnival. The committee is a fundraising group whose aim is to rekindle the local community spirit and to raise money for local charities. The group aims to be self-financing in future years. Spencer explained that the group was separate to the Wembury School PTA but would link with the school regarding the carnival activities. He explained the huge amount of work he had already put into organising the two events and the reason he was attending the meeting was to seek financial assistance, mainly for the insurances that he had taken out for these events. The Chair applauded all the hard work that Spencer has put into organising these events and said that any request for a grant would be viewed sympathetically by the Parish Council. This was supported by both Cllr Squire and Cllr Hart in connection with their local community budgets. However, there would be no money available until after the

5 May elections. **Spencer was asked to write to the Clerk detailing his request for financial assistance for the two events.**

Cllr Filby said that parents at the school had raised a petition, currently signed by 250 people, about the dangers of traffic near the school and outlining the concerns of the parents of the children attending the school. This showed that there was a lot of concern in the village and he hoped that something good would come out of the meeting with Devon CC and the Police, which had been arranged for 28 April at 9.15 am. The parents had the support of their MP Gary Streeter and they had also spoken to the press about the situation. **It was suggested that the petition should be given to Devon CC at the meeting for maximum impact.**

The Chairman thanked the public for their comments and closed this open session at 8:05 pm to resume Parish Council business.

11-044 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 28 MARCH 2011.

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

11-045 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

11-030 Traffic Management Near Wembury School

A meeting has been arranged with Devon CC, Police, WPC members and local parents on 28 April at 9.15 am to discuss the traffic dangers to school children in Wembury.

11-032 Chalet Parks in Down Thomas

A meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 26 April at 10 am with South Hams DC Cllr Howard and Planning representatives. Cllrs Bennett, Drought, Rowland, Packer and Squire agreed to attend.

11-032 i) Corn Starch Bags

Cllr Squire informed members that the bags have to be sold from a South Hams DC outlet to avoid VAT. He was currently seeing whether the bags could be delivered with the refuse collection rounds.

11-032 ii) Rural Memory Cafe

Cllr Squire has provided a suitable article for the Wembury Review. The next meeting is on 16 May 2011.

11-032 iii) WPC Notice Boards

The Clerk has the work in hand to repairs the various damaged WPC Notice Boards.

11-032 iv) Dead Trees Adjacent to School

Cllr Bennett said that Tim Pollard of South Hams DC was liaising with Devon CC to resolve the tree ownership and agree a joint venture to cut down the trees.

11-034 Parish Elections

The Clerk informed the public that the Parish Councillors present, plus Cllr Cammack would be re-elected on 5 May unopposed. There would not be an election, as there was

one nomination short in both the Wembury and Down Thomas wards. The Parish Council would subsequently have to second two more Parish Councillors in due course and the Clerk asked everyone to seek out suitable candidates and to let him have their names.

11-039 Footpaths

The Chairman said that Peter Guy, Devon CC, was currently dealing with the recent footpath queries. **The lack of barrier near the school should be discussed with Devon CC at the meeting on 28 April 2011.**

11-046 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. **Cllr Hart** declared an interest in planning application 58/0862/11/F, 10 Cedar Park, Bovisand.

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Report with resolutions as detailed in ANNEX A of these minutes.

11-047 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) South Hams CVS – Request for Specific Point of Contact

Cllr Squire is already a trustee of the South Hams CVS and he also agreed to be the Wembury Parish Council point of contact.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

11-048 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

None.

11-049 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Cllr Hart said that he would speak to **Cllr Hughes** about attending the next WPC meeting to discuss the Wembury Bus Service.

Devon County Cllrs have been asked to report on the worst areas of highway maintenance within Devon and the areas identified will be discussed in respect of the additional £9.3 m the County Council have received from the government for highway repairs. He will report back on this.

Cllr Rowland complained about the poor repairs carried out in some potholes within Wembury. If Devon Highways cannot do the repair within one week, then they carry out a temporary repair and then the permanent repair at their own expense.

Cllr Hart suggested that any poorly repaired potholes should be shown to **Mr Halliday** at the road safety meeting on 28 April 2011.

The Chairman thanked **Cllr Hart** and said that the repair to Manor Bourne Road drainage was now being carried out.

Following a report to the County Planning Committee, they will shortly be receiving a planning application for the New England Quarry site for a waste to energy scheme. **Cllr Hart** had been advised by the County Solicitor not to participate in any debate on the New

England Quarry / Energy to Waste issue, due to the previous administrations agreement with Plymouth and Torbay about the Devonport Waste to Energy scheme.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire informed members that he had attended meeting about the proposed waste incinerator at New England Quarry. He believes that the South Hams DC Planning Committee will refuse the application at their next meeting due to the residents' concerns about the additional amount of traffic it will generate.

There is to be a senior management review and the South Hams DC administration will subsequently have two directors and five managers.

South Hams DC have currently offered an amnesty for illegal scrap dealers to register and licence themselves without any action being taken against them.

Cllr Cane congratulated James friend for standing up for his ideals and also to Spencer Pearson for bringing the community together with his events.

He thanked the Parish Council for allowing him to attend the meetings over the last four years and subject to a successful election in May he hoped to be back for another four years.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Cane for his positive input at the Parish Council meetings.

11-050 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP

a) Information Board

Cllr Filby confirmed that the Information Board is progressing well. David Pinder is currently taking suitable photographs for the board.

b) Wembury Bus User Group

Cllr Filby said that Devon County Cllr Hughes had responded to the recent criticism of the Wembury Bus Service and the Clerk had invited him to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter. He thought that Jeffrey Kenyon was doing a good job as Chairman and he hoped that everything could be thrashed out at the next WPC meeting.

ii) WEMBURY SCHOOL REPORT

Cllr Filby had previously circulated the April report from the headteacher. He said that it was currently an unpleasant time, as the school was having to make redundancies. The school is not a happy place at the moment, but, the staff are dedicated and he thought that they would get through it. He also suggested that any problems between Spencer Pearson and the School PTA should be resolved as soon as possible.

iii) LEISURE FACILITIES WORKING GROUP

a) Down Thomas Play Area

Cllr Bennett reported that the Silver Jubilee Hall Sub Committee, guided by Camilla Ayres has been awarded a £43,000 grant from the lottery fund for the Down Thomas Play area. South Hams DC has allocated £3000 and £2000 has been raised locally, which will be shared between the Play scheme and future landscaping. They are now going out to tender for the equipment and will keep the Parish Council informed of progress.

Meanwhile, the sub-committee are now requesting the sum of £1250 from the Parish Council as it was part of the lottery grant bid application and has been included in the

Parish Council budget. Cllr Bennett proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought that £1250 be granted to the Down Thomas Village Hall Committee to go towards the new Children's Play area in Down Thomas. Cllr Newnham abstained and the motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: £1250 be granted to the Down Thomas Village Hall Committee, to go towards the new Children's Play area in Down Thomas.

b) Wembury Play Area

Cllr Bennett said that the teenage shelter has a split in one of the metal seams and the South Hams DC Maintenance Team has the matter in hand.

The spare basketball unit is still lying on the field in a secluded corner. South Hams DC is aware of this and has said that the unit is free to any organisation that wants it.

The dead trees on the boundary hedge near the car park will be considered by Simon Putt, SHDC Tree Officer, as part of the shared responsibility with Devon CC. The school have been informed.

c) Training Course

Cllr Bennett attended a Playground Inspection Training Day at Hatherleigh on 6 April. The course was well attended by members of District and Parish Councils from many parts of Devon. The main aim of the course was to educate delegates about their duties and responsibilities in maintaining a SAFE play area.

There are three types of playground inspection; weekly, monthly and annual, which has to be carried out by a professional. The total management of a playground was covered along with planning and funding for new play areas. As part of the course, Wembury Parish Council can become a member of Devon Playing Fields Association.

Playgrounds are fun and great for the community getting together.

iv) SNOW WARDENS

Cllr Packer had already circulated a report on the meeting held in Totnes on 16 February 2011. The meeting had been based on three presentations, Self Help and Snow Wardens, Community Self-Help Schemes and Health and Safety.

Cllr Packer outlined all the implications, liabilities and responsibilities to consider before the Parish Council could agree to appointing a Snow Warden and to sharing a towable salt spreader with Brixton Parish Council.

A lively discussion then ensued and many questions required answering before any decision could be made. **It was agreed to wait until a full specification was received for the towable salt spreader and full cost implications assessed, based on more information about the frequency of such a severe winter as Devon had recently experienced.**

v) DOWN THOMAS POST OFFICE & COMMUNITY ROOM

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a lease for the Down Thomas Post Office and Community Room building from the Enterprise Inns solicitor, which had been checked over by Devon CC. He had then discussed the lease with the solicitors and was currently awaiting a revised lease for subsequent agreement.

He had spoken to Western Power Distribution and they will connection a separate electricity supply to the building on 23 May 2011.

Once the lease has been signed and the electricity supply connected, then the Post Office will start their two day per week service.

The cost of the lease and legal fees is £900 and the Clerk has submitted a grant application to Devon CC for the £506 electricity connection charge.

If all goes well, the Post Office and Community Room will be operational by the end of May.

The Mussel Inn re-opened with a new tenant and manager on 16 April and they are amenable to allowing access to the building until the lease is agreed.

vi) RIVER YEALM HARBOUR AUTHORITY

Cllr Drought said that the next meeting is the AGM, which is in a few days time.

11-051 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for April 2011

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) Employment Status of Parish Clerks

The Clerk explained that from 4 April 2011 South Hams DC would employ him under a PAYE scheme. This would mean an additional cost to the Parish Council in respect of a payroll service by South Hams DC and National Insurance payments. The Clerk would also have to pay PAYE National Insurance contributions.

The submission of the Clerk's expenses would remain the same and the Clerk agreed to reduce his mileage claim to the new 45 pence per mile tax-free allowance. He would invoice the Parish Council monthly for his mileage and expenses.

iii) Increase in Tax Free Mileage Allowance

The Clerk explained that the government had increased the tax-free mileage allowance from 40 to 45 pence per mile. Following a short discussion, the Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Squire, that the Parish Councillors be paid 45 pence per mile, for mileage covered outside the Parish boundary, whilst on Parish Council business. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: Parish Councillors be paid 45 pence per mile, for mileage covered outside the Parish boundary, whilst on Parish Council business.

11-052 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Bennett circulated a letter from Norman Baker to Gary Streeter regarding the proposal for people to pay towards concessionary bus service for those over 60 years old. He says that a number of reforms have been introduced which will should assist local authorities to find efficiencies in the cost of delivering the concession service.

Cllr Bennett also said that several street names signs had been cleaned by local people but, that that there were still some street name signs that had not been replaced.

Cllr Squire agreed to raise this again with South Hams DC.

Cllr Packer asked whether the Parish Council should invite South Hams DC and Devon CC to a meeting to explain their views on the Localism Bill. A short discussion followed and it was felt that more details about the bill were required and that workshops with DCC, SHDC and all local Parish Councils would probably be set up in the near future to

debate the Localism Bill.

The Chairman said that this would be his last meeting as Chairman and wished to thank Cllrs Gage and Scoble for all their hard work over the last 4 years, as they had both decided for personal reasons, to stand down as a Parish Councillor on 5 May.

He also thanked all the other councillors for making his four years of office easy to manage and for all the hard work they have put in over the four years as representatives of the Parish Council.

Cllr Drought then thanked the Clerk for all his hard work behind the scenes that made things run smoothly.

Finally, he wished Cllr Rowland all the best for his four years as incoming chairman elect. If he required help, then he only needed to ask and he would be delighted to assist.

Cllr Squire thanked Cllr Drought for being a good chairman for the Parish Council and for carrying out his office of Chairman with dignity. The other councillors concurred.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:25 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk