

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	R Rowland	Chairman
	J Bennett	
	A Cammack	
	M Doody	
	D Drought	
	P Filby	Vice Chairman
	J Gibbons	
	J Hart	County Councillor
	R Newnham	
	D Packer	
	J Squire	District Councillor
	J Stansell	
Clerk	R Fairclough	

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 28 November 2011.

11-131 OPENING THE MEETING

Cllr Rowland opened the meeting at 7.28 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllrs Bennett, Drought, Gibbons, Newnham, Squire and Stansell were present. District Councillor Cane, PC R Batchelor, PCSO Andy Potter, Adam King Wembury Tree Warden, and 5 members of the public were also present. Cllr Hart attended from Item 11-140.

11-132 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs Doody, Cammack, Filby and Packer.

11-133 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Bennett declared an interest in planning application No 58/2881/11/F. There were no other declarations of interest.

11-134 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 7.29 pm.

i) November 2011 Police Report

PC R Batchelor reported as follows:-

Jl/11/958 - Overnight 7th and 8th of November a bolt of metal gate was damaged.

Jl/11/963 - Overnight 11th and 12th of November a stained glass window of St. Werburgh Church was damaged.

COMMUNITY:

Following a recent complaint about traffic in Train Road, PC Batchelor said that the sign 'Unsuitable for through traffic' is advisory and is difficult to enforce. However, the complainant has his telephone number.

999 calls are now covered by Plymouth with Ivybridge as a secondary response unit. **PC Batchelor** will be carrying out speed checks in Wembury in the near future, as speeding traffic seems to be the main complaint in Wembury. There appears to be growing problems with the Wembury Village Hall car park not being available for school parking when collecting or dropping off children. **PC Batchelor** is aware of the problem and will keep it under review.

PCSO Andy Potter said that he had been to the Wembury School and is available to assist should the school contact him.

The Chairman thanked the Police for their report.

ii) Adam King, Wembury Tree Warden

Adam King updated members about the Big Green Space Challenge and said that of the six schemes that had been submitted from Wembury Parish, 5 had been awarded grants. These were:-

- 1) Enhancement to the Wembury Community Orchard
- 2) Longlands Woodland, Heybrook Bay
- 3) Down Thomas Recreation Ground
- 5) Wembury Allotments
- 6) Enhancement to the Wembury Recreation Ground.

The Amphitheatre for the School had not been successful.

Adam was meeting with South Hams DC representatives on 16 December to discuss the schemes further.

The Chairman and members thanked Adam for his work in assisting with grant applications.

iii) Members of the Public

Trevor Gaught said that he was a Knighton Road Action Group member and whilst the Cavanna Homes survey showed that Scheme 2 (outward looking) was preferred for the Knighton Hill development, he was still concerned that the people who lived opposite, preferred Scheme 1 (inward looking). They would be the most affected by the scheme and has sympathy for them. He considered that their view should be further considered as he felt that the result of the survey was close and not statistically valid.

The Chairman thanked the public for their comments and closed this open session at 7.45 pm to resume Parish Council business.

11-135 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2011.

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

11-136 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

11-123 i) Wembury Bus Service

Cllr Filby had drafted a response to Devon CC Cllr Hughes regarding the Wembury Bus Service and this had been circulated to members. A short discussion ensued.

It was agreed the Clerk should send the letter to Cllr Hughes as drafted.

11-123 ii) Seat in Church Road

The Chairman reported that another person was also willing to donate a seat if there was another suitable location within Wembury. After a short discussion, it was agreed to keep this person in abeyance until another seat required replacing.

11-123 iii) Information Boards

Cllr Filby has met David Pinder of the Amenity Society and prepared preliminary photographs. Work is now actively in progress to produce the information boards.

11-123 iv) Winter Gritting

The Chairman reported that the Clerk has now received two quotes for the extra gritting of the Wembury roads and asked that delegated powers be given to him and Cllr Stansell, the Snow Warden, to consider and accept the most suitable quote and to report back to the Council on their decision. Following a short discussion Cllr Drought proposed, seconded by Cllr Squire, that delegated powers are given to the Chairman and Cllr Stansell to accept the most suitable quote for additional gritting of the roads in Wembury and to report back to the Council on their decision. The resolution was carried by 6 votes for with 1 abstention.

RESOLVED: That delegated powers are given to the Chairman and Cllr Stansell to accept the most suitable quote for additional gritting of the roads in Wembury and to report back to the Council on their decision.

Cllr Stansell explained that during his Snow Warden training he was advised to get together a team of volunteers to assist with snow clearance.

He will compile a list of suitable volunteers and report back to Council.

Devon CC will provide 4 tonnes of salt for Wembury Parish Council, in small bags, for additional gritting. However, Cllr Stansell felt that 4 tonnes may not be enough for all the locations in Wembury Parish and suggested that additional salt be purchased from Devon CC at a reduced rate.

Cllr Stansell agreed to report to the next Council meeting with quantities and cost of additional salt.

11-123 v) Wembury Carnival Accounts

The Clerk has now received the £100 refund from the Carnival Committee.

11-123 vi) Re-opening of the Down Thomas Post Office

The Chairman informed members that the Down Thomas Post Office is still scheduled to re-open on Friday 9 December 2011. The Post Office will be open on a Tuesday from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm and on a Friday from 1.00 pm until 3.00 pm.

11-123 vii) Councillor Training

Cllrs Gibbons and Stansell had found the training course for new members very informative and useful. It was also good to meet other new Parish Councillors.

The Chairman volunteered to attend a suitable training course for new Chairmen.

11-123 viii) Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in England

The Clerk had written to the Boundary Commission for England supporting Cllr Hart's proposals. He had also put a suitable notice in the Wembury Review, on all the notice

boards and on the Wembury Parish website, asking people to support Cllr Hart's alternative proposal.

The Chairman urged all to write as individuals to the Boundary Commission.

11-125 i) The Queen's Diamond Jubilee – 4 June 2012

The Chairman asked for volunteers to set up a small working party to decide on what the Parish Council should do to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee next year.

Cllrs Gibbons, Filby and Squire agreed to join the Chairman on a small working party.

Cllr Bennett reported that Terry Clarke had suggested that a suitable memorial be erected adjacent to the War Memorial Hall, which could be used for future formal ceremonies.

**11-137 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT AT ANNEX A
TO THESE MINUTES**

i) Planning Resolutions

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.

**11-138 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE
FOR ACTION**

i) Victim Support SW

Victim Support SW had written asking for financial support to help train a further 15 to 20 new volunteers. Following a discussion about the local merits of the service, Cllr Bennett proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought that £100 is donated to Victim Support SW to help with the training of new volunteers. The resolution was carried by 6 votes for, with 1 abstention.

RESOLVED: A £100 is donated to Victim Support SW to help with the training of new volunteers.

ii) Wembury Christmas Tree – Grant request from

Terry Clarke had requested a grant of £40 to help with dressing the Wembury Christmas Tree. The tree had already been dressed and the grant was no longer required.

iii) South Hams DC– Consultation by 16 December 2011

A Statement of Community Involvement by South Hams DC had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Following a short discussion it was felt that there were no specific comments to make to South Hams DC at this stage.

iv) Chivelstone Parish – Wind Turbines

An action group is seeking support from Wembury Parish Council against Wind Turbines being constructed within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Chivelstone Parish. Following a lively discussion Cllr Newnham proposed, seconded by Cllr Drought that the Parish Council are against any wind turbines being constructed within an AONB. The resolution was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council are against any wind turbines being constructed within an AONB.

ii) South Hams DC Citizens Advice Bureau

The Chairman informed members that he had received a letter from the South Hams DC Citizens Advice Bureau requesting financial assistance. He proposed that they be asked to a future Parish Council meeting to explain their work and to make a case for financial assistance. A short discussion followed.

It was agreed that the South Hams DC Citizens Advice Bureau should be asked to attend the Annual Parish meeting in May 2012.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

11-139 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

i) Parish Remuneration Panel

The Chairman informed members that the South Hams DC Parish Remuneration Panel is to be held on 5 December 2011. The Panel makes recommendations on the parish basic allowance and travel and subsistence allowances. A short discussion ensued.

There are no issues that Wembury Parish wish to be raised at the meeting.

11-140 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Cllr Hart said that the recent Boundary Commission review has been very quiet. At a recent meeting there were Plymouth CC, Devon CC and only a few people who made any comment on the current proposals. **He urged people to respond supporting the changes that he has suggested, to protect the rural nature of Wembury Parish.**

The Localism Bill is now an Act, but should only marginally affect Wembury Parish. Wembury Marine Centre is being supported by Plymouth University and is also seeking some support from Devon CC for internal displays.

Devon CC does not support the provision of a grit bin at Barton Close as recently requested by the Parish Council. **Cllr Hart said that he would reimburse Wembury Parish Council for a suitable grit bin out of his localised budget provision, if they would arrange for one to be installed**

He has received the list from Wembury Parish Council for certain streetlights to be left on all night in Wembury. **Cllr Hart is having a meeting with Devon CC officers on Wednesday 30 November to discuss the street lighting in Wembury.**

He has been asked to consider making Train Road one way. However, he has spoken to Devon CC officers who are not supportive of the suggestion. The 'Unsuitable for through traffic' signs are difficult to enforce. **Cllr Hart will raise the use of Train Road by users of Sat Nav with Devon CC officers.**

The Devon CC budget has to save £40m next year and £30m in 2013, however, the government is giving Devon CC £8.4m this year, which may assist this year, but not future years.

The Hemerdon mine road junction improvement has been approved by Devon CC and Plymouth CC.

The Plymouth Energy to Waste plant planning application is to be considered on 22 December 2011.

The Clerk reported that he and other Parish Clerks had written to Devon CC requesting additional Lengthsmen within the South Hams area, but to date, he had not received a

response. **Cllr Hart agreed to raise the Lengthsman matter with Devon CC officers.**

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire said that there were 280 empty houses in South Hams and the district council is willing to assist owners to bring them back into use by financial incentives.

South Hams DC Members allowances are being reviewed shortly and he is in favour of them remaining as they are.

The South Hams DC budget for next year needs to be reduced by £400,000 and the public are to be asked what service is important in their area and which can be reduced. The Council Tax was frozen last year and if it is frozen again next year then South Hams DC are eligible for a £128,000 grant from the government.

South Hams DC has recovered £808,000 from the collapsed Icelandic Bank but is still owed £404,000. It expects to get some 96 pence in the pound and so should not lose too much overall.

There will shortly be an informal briefing on the Sherford development Section 106 Agreement and an informal site visit for new district councillors. The Development Control Committee, not the full district council, will consider the Section 106 Agreement application and come to a decision on 7 December 2011.

The Clerk informed members that he had received a letter from South Hams DC saying that Wembury Parish Council was eligible to speak at the meeting if required. A discussion ensued. **It was agreed that Cllr Drought would speak on behalf of Wembury Parish Council with support from the Chairman.**

Cllr Cane agreed that it would be helpful if Wembury Parish Council did speak at the Sherford meeting as he is not able to speak on behalf of Brixton Parish.

The grant for bringing empty houses back into use has been reduced which means the tenant has to pay more and this may affect the take up of the scheme.

He reminded councillors that if farmers put mud on the road then they are legally liable to clean it up.

Teignbridge and Torridge are no longer going to have one joint Chief Executive and he was pleased that the joint working between South Hams and West Devon was still working well.

11-141 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP

a) Information Board & Bus User Group

These matters had already been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

ii) WEMBURY SCHOOL REPORT

Cllr Filby had circulated a note about the school prior to the meeting.

An OFSTED inspection of the school was held recently and went as expected. The outcome should be published before Christmas

The issue of car parking at the school is becoming significant. Local residents are complaining. The Headteacher, Susie, has contacted parents asking them to be more considerate and has asked PC/PCSO to attend at the appropriate time to help.

In the school, years 5 and 6 have just completed a 'bikeability course' allowing children to ride to school on their own (with parent's permission).

The PTA recently raised £600 at a coffee/tea afternoon meeting.
The school and staff and governors wish the Parish Council a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

iii) LEISURE FACILITIES WORKING GROUP

a) Down Thomas Play Area

Nothing to report.

b) Wembury Playing Area

The end of the defects maintenance period in connection with the MUGA is now finished and a site meeting has been arranged on 30 November to carry out a final inspection of the MUGA.

iv) KNIGHTON HILL DEVELOPMENT

Cllr Bennett had previously circulated a written report on the Cavanna Homes Ltd presentation on Friday 25 November 2011. He reiterated that the site is difficult to develop, is long, narrow, steep (1 in 9) and in a very prominent position. However, the Knighton Hill Action Group is working hard with the developers to achieve the best possible outcome.

Cllr Hart has instructed a highways engineer to visit the site and report on traffic issues. The main concern is the 3-way junction at the top of the hill and the access to the top four houses.

Cavanna Homes Ltd had also written and asked for the letter to be read out which Cllr Bennett did as follows:-

Firstly a big thank you to the Parish Councillors and members of the public for your commitment to the consultation process to date. We were extremely pleased with the attendance numbers at our exhibition event on Friday - 96 people came along (a few more than your report) to view the boards and to share their views.

One of the successful elements to the process has been the inward 'v' outward debate - even on Friday, this issue had couples, friends and neighbours really discussing the pros and cons of each which was really fulfilling to witness as this was collaborative consultation (a Government buzz phrase!) in action.

The results of the paper and online poll show that out of 35 returns 16 voted for option 1 (inward) and 19 voted for option 2 (outward).

The outward looking scheme is favoured by South Hams (Planner & Urban Design Officers), some of the Wembury Action group and the Wembury Amenity group.

You will recall that we as the developer started off with the inward looking scheme and then were asked to present an outward looking layout by the District Council, so we have been open minded about both schemes.

*Based on the consultation from the community, stakeholder groups and the Planning Department we are now committed to preparing plans based on the **outward** looking scheme.*

The next elements we shall be dealing with are;

- 1. Finding a suitable design solution to plot 19 (AKA plot 22!)*
- 2. Elevational treatments for the homes - we have a very clear picture from the community how they would like the homes to look like.*

3. Ensuring that the layout continues to reflect the importance of the Landscape.
4. Looking very closely at the levels of onsite parking.

We shall be arranging a further Wembury Action group meeting during December with a view to submitting the planning application in January. Once the application is in we would very much like to return to the Parish Council to present the scheme.

As the scheme evolves we shall be updating the project website (www.newhomesforwembury.co.uk) and sending through images to be placed on the board hanging in the village hall.

v) BEACH LIAISON GROUP

Cllr Stansell had held a Beach Liaison Group meeting on 28 October 2011, before Lorna Sheriff left the National Trust to have a baby. He had circulated minutes of the meeting. The main issues discussed were, who would take over from Lorna at the National Trust and Terry Clarke's New Years Day Swim.

vi) IVYBRIDGE AREA PARISH CLUSTER MEETING

A cluster group meeting had been held on 16 November 2011 but unfortunately Wembury was not able to be represented. Once the minutes are available Wembury Parish Council can debate the key topics of:-

- The structure and organisation of Parish Clusters
- Link Officers proposals
- Devolved services

11-142 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for November 2011

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 Resolution

The Chairman proposed the following Finance Sub Committee resolutions be taken en bloc for ratification.

1) RESOLVED: A sign is purchased and fixed to the Down Thomas Post Office and Community room at a cost of £44 and that 10 No small signs are purchased for £90, and one is fixed to each of the Parish Council Notice Boards.

2) RESOLVED: The NALC model Contract of Employment for the Clerk is accepted with the following amendments:-

Cl 6.2 The Clerk's salary is at single scale point 27 and the Council will review the Clerk's salary annually on the anniversary of the appointment.

Cl 9.1 Any travel mileage expenses will be paid at 45 pence per mile.

Cl 10.2.3 The Council will pay a reasonable sum per annum, to include depreciation, for the use of a private computer belonging to the Clerk to the Council.

Cl 10.2.4 Agreed.

Cl 18 Injury or Assault - Amend to read Not applicable. However, an additional salary scale point will be paid from April 2012 ie Sc Pt 28.

Cl 19.1 Pension - Amend to read Not applicable. However, an additional salary scale point will be paid from April 2012 ie Sc Pt 29.

Cl 20 The length of notice for termination of contract is to be two months.

The Finance Officers role and maintenance of the Wembury Parish website is to be added to the Job Specification.

3) RESOLVED: Ken Abraham is retained for a further 5 years to audit the Parish Council Annual Return

4) RESOLVED: The Wembury Parish Council Budget for 2012/2013, as shown in Annex D, is agreed.

Subject to resolution 4) being ratified, the Wembury Parish precept on South Hams DC for 2012/2013 will be £23,000. This is an increase of £500, which equates to a 2.2% increase.

Cllr Drought proposed, seconded by Cllr Bennett that the Finance Sub Committee resolutions are ratified. The Finance Sub Committee resolutions were ratified unanimously.

11-143 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Clerk had circulated to members and public the Parish Council dates for 2012 and he asked members to put the dates in their diaries.

Cllr Bennett asked if in future years the meeting dates could also alternate between Wembury and Down Thomas.

Cllr Drought informed members that he and the Clerk had inspected the Yealm steps on the Wembury side, on Friday 25 November 2011. The face of the steps was acceptable but the sides of the steps are being undermined and need re-facing. He would be sending an email with photographs to both Devon CC and the AONB to see how best the work can be carried out.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.26 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk