

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	D Drought J Bennett A Cammack M Doody P Filby J Hart N Martin R Newnham R Rowland L Scoble J Squire C Tarsky	Chairman County Councillor Vice Chairman District Councillor
Clerk	R Fairclough	

MINUTES of the meeting held at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Wembury, on Monday 26 March 2007.

07-028 The Vice Chairman, Cllr Rowland, opened the meeting at 7.33 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He especially welcomed Cllr May and Mr Ford who would be speaking later.
Cllrs Bennett, Cammack, Doody, Filby, Martin, Newnham, Scoble, & Squire were present. Cllr Hart arrived later after attending another meeting.
Cllr Basil Cane, PC Richards and six members of the public were also present.

07-029 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Drought & Tarsky.

07-030 CLLR DAVID MAY, SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Vice Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 7.35 pm.
He then introduced Cllr David May, South Hams DC who had agreed to attend the meeting to speak about recycling and the recent changes to the waste collection operation in the Parish. Cllr May explained that due to the change in collecting recyclable material South Hams DC were now recycling 45% of domestic waste material. A survey has shown that older people are more aware of recycling than younger ones, but he was pleased with the way people had taken to recycling in South Hams. He explained that Plymouth City Council have just been fined £4m for not taking part in the governments recycling scheme. Glass is still to be recycled via glass banks as this helps South Hams because of the dangers of collecting glass.
He understood that there had been initial teething problems with the days of collection of waste in Wembury but that it had now been sorted out. He then offered to answer questions.
Cllr Rowland was concerned that the rubbish from the bin on Wembury Beach was not being collected. Cllr May undertook to look into this.
Cllr Scoble confirmed that the collection day in Heybrook Bay had now been stabilised. Whilst there appeared to be no increase in rats and mice at the

moment, she was concerned that in the warm summer months the food in the bins for two weeks would attract more vermin and become a health hazard both for the householder and the refuse collectors. Cllr May understood the problem and had asked for a feasibility study to be carried out to see if a weekly collection was possible during the summer months.

Terry Clarke had not experienced a problem as he always cleaned his bin each week and being an older person, he had not been brought up in a throwaway age. However, he was concerned to note that the refuse collectors would not collect fluorescent tubes. He was advised that they were classed as hazardous waste and required a special collection or should be disposed of at Chelston Meadow tip.

Mrs Quick had a problem with her neighbours who did not recycle any rubbish but appear to take rubbish away in their car and possibly dump it. Cllr May confirmed that Devon CC are carrying out spot checks on peoples bins to see that the system is working properly. If not, then the Streetscene official has the power to issue a penalty ticket. He agreed to mention Mrs Quick's comments to the South Hams refuse officers.

The Clerk raised the problems of litter and bottles in Wembury Park and litter along the hedgerow of the road into Down Thomas. Cllr May explained that he recently found out that the team who normally collect waste and waste spillages along the road after collection, have been engaged on other duties, but that they are now back on collecting waste. He expected the situation to improve rapidly.

Cllr Cammack asked what South Hams DC were doing about the collection of Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE). Cllr May said that the collection of White Goods has dropped off and he would investigate the matter further. He is aware that Fly Tipping is a problem, but that the South Hams DC officers are following it up and will fine people if they can prove who tipped the material.

The Vice Chairman thanked Cllr May for attending the meeting and answering the questions posed.

07-031 DAVID FORD PROPERTY MANAGER, SOUTH DEVON PROPERTIES, NATIONAL TRUST

The Vice Chairman then introduced Mr David Ford who is the Property Manager, South Devon Properties for the National Trust and responsible for the Wembury Point project. David was pleased to attend the meeting and to update councillors and members of the public on the restoration of the HMS Cambridge site, which the National Trust had acquired about a year ago. He explained that Simon Garner carried out the day-to-day management of the area but that he was able to update the meeting on the restoration of the site. The National Trust had been active in demolishing the shells of the old buildings left on the site and re-landscaping those areas. Most of the fence around the area had been taken down and the roads through the site had been narrowed down for footpath usage.

He was hopeful that within the next two weeks the site would be open to the public. Access is from the old HMS Cambridge main access, which will then provide links to Heybrook Bay and the coastal path, as well as a new north / south route. It is intended that the site has open access by the public and will be managed in that way, however, the Radar Station will not be open to the

public. Suitable maps will be displayed and distributed shortly. It is not intended to have a big formal launch, but to see how it is used and how it evolves. David asked for suitable feedback and first impressions from local people who use the area. There are still some fences left on the site and he would like views from the public on whether they should be removed or could be left in place. Following a recent history day, he was conscious that some historical information should be provided on the site, and again asked what people would like to know about the site.

He appreciated that the public would like car parking on the site, but he has been consulting various organisations and will consider the most suitable course of action for car parking over the next few months. However, he did not want to see the site as a vehicular 'destination site', the main access being on foot.

He then offered to answer any questions.

Cllr Squire asked whether there would be public access to the Mewstone.

David replied that there was concern about public access due to nesting birds and his view was that there should be no public access to the Mewstone. In addition, there is no safe access to the Mewstone and so he would like it to become a wildlife sanctuary. Suitable signs will be erected shortly and he will put the message around locally.

David was informed about the amount of debris on Wembury beach washed up by the recent storms and he gave assurances that it would receive suitable attention.

Cllr Rowland also informed David that a retaining wall along the beach has collapsed and there is no security fencing around it. David replied that the wall is due for replacement and is currently going through the insurance process.

Cllr Scoble asked if wardens would be responsible for Wembury Point. David replied that there were three wardens who cover the area from Plymouth to Bigbury. However, this area would be given a little more attention and he would like local people to become more involved in the area. Anyone interested should contact him.

Cllr Scoble asked if there would be any other facilities on the site. David said that there would be no café or toilets, only some possible limited car parking, as it was an open area and not intended as a destination centre.

Terry Clarke said that the cliff path above the cottage near the Church was very muddy, the footpath is narrow at this point and there is no way to pass it. David agreed to inspect the path.

Michael Gage raised the question of the date when dogs are banned from the beach. It would be better if the date coincided with the start of parking restrictions and was 1 April each year. This is currently being looked at by the National Trust.

Cllr Rowland asked whether horses could be ridden across Wembury Point.

David would like the area to be open to horses and bicycles as well as pedestrians and would like the views of the general public.

The Vice Chairman thanked Mr Ford for attending the meeting and for updating everyone on the current progress of the Wembury Point project as well as answering general questions.

07-032 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS CONTINUED TO BE SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

The Vice Chairman continued to suspend the business of the Council and to keep this session open to the public.

i) Wembury Crime Report March 2007.

PC D Richards presented his crime report as follows:-

Jl/07/217 & 8 Theft of Horsebox and Marine Equipment. Down Thomas; 5th March.

Ifor Williams 505R Horse Box stolen along with Honda 4 Stroke 8HP Outboard Motor, 2 Batteries and 70 litres of diesel
UNDETECTED; Enquiries continue

Jl/07/253 Theft Wembury Point; 0900 to 1630hrs 14th March.

Electric winch and lights stolen from trailer
UNDETECTED

Jl/07/274 Criminal Damage; 17th to 18th March.

Public toilets at Wembury Beach damaged.
UNDETECTED

Jl/07/292 Theft Upland Gardens; 1830hrs 23rd March to 1000hrs 24th March.

Bird Chime stolen from garden

UNDETECTED; Enquiries continue

Jl/07/298 Criminal Damage at Wembury School; 1800hrs 23rd March to 0730hrs 26th March.

Shed broken into and paint etc. thrown around
UNDETECTED

PC Richards informed the meeting about an increase in theft of marine and gardening equipment and asked the public to keep vigilant. He also asked members of the public who might have seen or heard something in connection with the vandalised toilets at Wembury Beach to let the Police know.

Mrs Quick informed members that she had six solar lights and a bird house stolen from her garden. She also complained that the street lights nearby weren't working. Following a short discussion, it was determined that the lights are the responsibility of Tor Homes, Totnes. The Clerk was asked to contact them and to report the lights not working.

PC Richards said that there has been an increase of litter and bottles in Wembury Park and it has been identified as a hotspot and problem area. He asked for assistance from the public and questioned whether more litter bins would help. The main concern is an increase in anti-social behaviour by youths and he will be trying to get the Youth Club involved in a regular litter pick of the area.

Cllr Bennett said that the younger youths don't seem to be aware of their responsibilities to look after the excellent facilities that they have in Wembury. He felt that they need to have a sense of ownership and to take responsibility for the area around the Youth Shelter. The alternative would be to have the Youth Shelter removed.

Cllr Cammack felt that several of the youths causing problems don't appear to live in Wembury and felt that it was up to the local youths to tell the Police who is actually causing the problems.

Mrs Quick said that in the past the Tennis Courts used to be locked and would it help to have them locked again. Cllr Bennett said that this had been discussed at the last meeting and as there was no-one to oversee the Tennis Courts it was better to leave it unlocked at the present time.

ii) Cllr Martin had received numerous complaints about a red van parked along Knighton Road which he felt was dangerous to motorists. PC Richards was aware of the van but felt that at the present time the van was not breaking the law.

iii) Terry Clarke again raised the issue of Brownhill Lane being impassable by foot in wet weather. This had been raised at the last meeting and the Clerk had written to Devon CC Highways department. Cllr Hart reported that the footpath was due to be inspected shortly by the Highways staff.

The Vice Chairman closed the open session and resumed Council business at 8.52 pm.

07-033 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2007.

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

07-034 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

07-018 i) The Clerk reported that an application form for a grant submission to Devon Renaissance towards the conversion of the garage at the Mussel Inn, Down Thomas into a Post Office had been submitted and would be considered on 29 March 2007.

07-018 ii) Cllr Bennett reported that replacing the missing notices to the ramps of the Wembury Playing Fields is in hand.

07-018 iii) Cllr Hart reported that Devon CC own the verge along Knighton Road, opposite the shops. The Highways department do not think that there is much damage to the verge and are reluctant to do anything about it at the present time.

07-018 iv) Cllr Hart reported that the lengthsman does not have detailed maps of the area and just sorts out drainage problems as they occur. It was suggested that perhaps detailed information of the drainage systems around Wembury should be recorded from local knowledge and collated by the Parish Council.

07-018 v) Devon CC had written to the farmer to cut back the hedge, so that the electric fence adjacent to the footpath behind Veasy Park would not pose a problem.

07-018 vi) The Vice Chairman reported that the Clerk was still waiting for a reply from Western Power about their pole maintenance, speed of response and priority of pole repairs when adjacent to public footpaths.

07-018 vii) The Clerk reported that Devon CC had replaced the Grit Bins.

07-018 viii) The Vice Chairman reported that the Down Thomas direction sign is still missing from Rack Corner and that Devon Highways had no money left in their budget to replace it at the present time. When they get their new budget, they would be concentrating on safety signs and not direction signs. The blocked drain on the corner had been rodded and Devon Highways were waiting for the jetter to fully clear the drain.

07-035 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT AT ANNEX A TO THESE MINUTES

The Vice Chairman went through the planning report shown in Annex A of the Agenda.

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Report as detailed in ANNEX A to these minutes.

07-036 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) Request for Grant from Katie French

Katie French had requested a grant towards her place on a short term project with Soapbox Trust in Africa. She will be happy to report back after her project.

Cllr Scoble proposed and Cllr Bennett seconded a grant of £75, which was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To grant Katie French £75 towards a short term project with Soapbox Trust in Africa and to ask her to report back to the Parish Council on her experience afterwards.

ii) Request for Grant from Shelter

Following a short debate, it was agreed unanimously not to provide a grant to Shelter on this occasion.

RESOLVED: Not to provide a grant on this occasion to Shelter.

iii) Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association

The I&DCTA had requested a grant of £100 towards the Community Ring & Ride Bus & Voluntary Car Services. Following a short debate Cllr Scoble proposed and Cllr Doody seconded, that they be given a grant of £100 as requested. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £100 towards the Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association Ring & Ride Bus & Voluntary Car Services.

iv) Devon CC - Budget for 2007/8

The Devon CC Budget for 2007/8 was noted.

v) Callor Village of the Year Competition

Following a short discussion, it was agreed unanimously, that it was not suitable for the Parish Council to enter the Callor Village of the Year Competition, as the competition was more suited to local villages.

RESOLVED: Not to enter the Callor Village of the Year Competition

vi) Society of Local Council Clerks

The Clerk outlined the revisions to Model Contract of Employment and the recommendation that it be added to all Clerk's existing conditions of contract. Following a short discussion, Cllr Doody proposed and Cllr Scoble seconded that the revisions to Model Contract of Employment be added to the Clerk's contract of employment. The motion was carried with nine votes for, with one vote against.

RESOLVED: The revisions to Model Contract of Employment be added to the Clerk's contract of employment.

vii) South Hams DC

The Clerk outlined the request by South Hams DC for members to take part in a pilot study for community led solutions to affordable housing provision. Following a short discussion, Cllr Martin agreed to provide a suitable response on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Cllr Martin to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

viii) South Hams DC - Parish Cluster Meetings

South Hams DC had provided information and questionnaire about how useful the cluster meetings were and whether they should continue. Following a short discussion, it was felt that cluster meetings were all discussing the same issues and that perhaps the Ivybridge cluster would take over the other ones. It was agreed that the Clerk and Vice Chairman should respond accordingly.

RESOLVED: The Clerk and Vice Chairman to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

07-037 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

None.

07-038 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Councillor Hart

Cllr Hart reported that the Travel Plan for the new Power Station construction includes the dualling of the slip road out of Plymouth, traffic lights at Deep Lane junction and other minor road alterations. There would be disruption

during these roadworks.

The Devon CC Council Tax includes an overspend of £5m in children's services, but this is covered by borrowings and profit. However, Cllr Hart was concerned about the increase in borrowings from £310 to £640 M, which will increase Council Tax in the future.

Cllr Hart was concerned about Pump Hill, which is due to be closed for drainage works, from 30 May, a public holiday and half term. In addition, the diversion along Ford Road was not satisfactory and would lead to problems. The Clerk had notices to display shortly, but he would write to Devon Highways pointing out the Parish Council's concerns about these works and diversion proposals.

Cllr Hart confirmed that Exeter had submitted an application to become a Unitary Authority, which would have a knock on effect on the rest of the County.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire

Cllr Squire informed members that the national affordable housing policy, which was proposing 30 dwellings per hectare, cannot now be enforced as a condition and future numbers of houses per hectare can only be agreed by negotiation.

The District Council Chief Executive will be leaving on 18 April to take up a job as Chief Executive in Slough. The future of the post is being considered. A survey of staff has been carried out at the District Council and it appears that staff are mainly male between 46 and 55 years old.

Cllr Cane

Cllr Cane said that everyone should bring bags on Saturday to the Ivybridge Park & Ride site to collect their free compost, from 8.30 am until 1.30 pm.

07-039 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

Cllr Bennett reported that the minutes of the Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils would be circulated shortly.

07-040 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Monthly Financial Statement

The Clerk presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

07-041 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Scoble informed members that a notice in the Parish Council notice board at Heybrook Bay had been set on fire. The notice board had been scorched but was still operable.

Cllr Squire reported that dog fouling appears to be on the increase again within the Parish. He had spoken to the South Hams DC dog warden, Malcolm Orchard but asked that the Clerk include a comment in the next Wembury

Review.

Cllr Bennett informed members that he would not be standing for election as a Parish Councillor at the forthcoming elections in May. The next meeting would be his last meeting after 20 years as a Parish Councillor.

07-042 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council