

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	D Drought A Cammack M Doody P Filby M Gage 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 Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the War Memorial Hall, Wembury, on Monday 25 June 2007.

07-071 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.31 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllrs Cammack, Martin, Rowland, Squire, Tarsky, Scoble and Newnham were present. District Cllr Cane and six members of the public were also present.

07-072 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Doody, Gage and Filby. Cllr Hart arrived late.

07-073 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 21 MAY 2007.

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

07-074 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES:

None

07-075 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 21 MAY 2007.

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

07-076 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

07-046(i) The reinstatement of the Down Thomas Post Office was still proceeding well and there was to be a meeting with the Post Office Ltd on Tuesday 26 June 2007 to finalise programme arrangements before grant applications could be signed.

07-047 (iv) Cllr Hart was still investigating the hedge adjacent to the Old Smithy that needed cutting back and the hedge at the junction of Southland Park Road and Church Road, which was overgrown.

07-050 Gary Streeter MP will attend the 20 August meeting of the Parish Council to discuss planning issues. As members wished to show him examples of poor planning control around the area, the Chairman proposed that the meeting be held in Down Thomas rather than Wembury. This would make the most use of his time with the Council. This was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to arrange the August meeting of the Wembury Parish Council meeting at the Silver Jubilee Hall in Down Thomas.

07-054 There had been a rumour that the route of the Wembury bus was to be altered to avoid negotiating the corner near the Wembury Post Office. The Clerk had contacted Mr Reddy, Managing Director of First Devon & Cornwall Ltd who had no knowledge of any route changes.

07-062 i) Cllr Squire had reviewed the location of the litter bins adjacent to the toilet block on Wembury beach. He had been informed by South Hams DC that the litter bins had to be within the curtilage of the Wembury beach toilet block as that was the only land they were responsible for.

07-062 iii) The line of footpath No 25 had been cut through the crops growing in the farmer's field.

07-062 iv) The Down Thomas festival had made a record profit of over £3000.

07-062 v) Mr Syling's comments had been reported to the Planning Office of South Hams DC but no response had been received to date.

07-062 vi) The Clerk reported that there were several outstanding issues which required attention in connection with Wembury Beach. He agreed to arrange a suitable meeting with all parties concerned to resolve the various issues.

07-068 ii) The bus shelter at Knighton Road had been repaired.

07-069 i) The grass had been cut to improve sight lines at the junction of Leyford Lane and Wembury Road.

07-069 ii) Some potholes had been repaired but the Down Thomas direction sign had not yet been replaced.

07-069 iii) The rails had now been replaced around Wembury Park.

07-077 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 7.46 pm.

i) Wembury Crime Report May / June

The Chairman informed members that the Clerk had received an email saying that PC Dave Richards had left the roll of Neighbourhood Beat Manager, however, he had submitted a crime report. Both he and Sid Lawrence had apologised for not being able to attend the meeting. The Clerk was asked to find out further information.

The Chairman then read out the Wembury Crime Report 21 May to Present:-

Jl/07/506 Burglary at Wembury School 22nd to 23rd May

Porta Cabin classroom entered and property stolen incl. Laptop Computer and other stationary - Enquires continue

J1/07/555 Burglary at Langdon Court Hotel 0030hrs to 0600hrs 8th June
Forced entry to kitchen window, building entered nothing stolen - UNDETECTED

J1/07/570 Theft from Garden Shed in Church Road overnight 11th to 12th June
Men's Raleigh Bike stolen from Shed - UNDETECTED

ii) Tony Romang

Mr Romang informed members that the hedge below the junction of Southland Park Road, near Church Road was overgrown and required trimming.
He also reported the no parking yellow lines at the very bottom of Church Road had been washed away and cars were beginning to park there again. Cllr Hart to chase the Highway Authority.

Mr Romang also asked whether the public could raise questions with Gary Streeter at the August meeting, as he was concerned that Planning Applications do not always show the ridge height of proposed buildings. The Chairman said that the public would be able to raise questions with Gary Streeter at the meeting.

iii) Mr Walpole

Mr Walpole asked why the traffic calming scheme proposed some time ago had not gone ahead as he was concerned about cars being parked all around the school, the speed of traffic through the village and the proposed additional parking restrictions. Several councillors explained the current situation; that the traffic calming will not go ahead because of lack of funding by the Highway Authority. The new parking restrictions are being introduced to make the area around the school safer for the children. However, all sympathised with the comments being made.

Cllr Tarsky felt that there should be a 20 mph speed limit through the village.

The Chairman closed the open session at 8.01 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

07-078 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 Cammack declared an interest in Planning Application No 58/1142/07/F and took no part in discussions of this application.

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

07-079 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) Villages in Action - A Rural Touring Scheme

Following a short discussion it was decided that as Wembury was so near to Plymouth with plenty of arts facilities, that a rural touring scheme was not necessary.

ii) South Hams DC - Licensing Act 2003 - Draft Licensing Policy for 2008 / 2011

Cllr Squire is on the relevant South Hams DC committee and will keep the Parish Council up to date as required. Cllr Martin considered the Licensing Policy to be well written. No further action required from the Parish Council.

iii) Letter from Jenny Rowland - Grant Request

It was agreed to consider this request under the Finance item of the Agenda.

iv) Wessex Reinvestment Trust - Community Land Trusts in Devon

Cllr Martin agreed to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

v) Standards Board Member's Code of Conduct

The Clerk handed each member a copy of the new proposed Member's Code of Conduct. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that members would read and consider the new Code of Conduct and pass any comments to the Clerk for suitable discussion at the next Parish Council meeting, for amendments and/or approval of the new Code.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

07-080 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

The Chairman informed members that he had received an email from Tanya Metherell requesting the Parish Council to provide allotments. She has been informed that if six parishioners request an allotments then the Parish Council are legally bound to provide them. A discussion ensued about this requirement. The Clerk was subsequently asked to clarify the law in this matter, to request further information from South Hams DC and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to clarify the legal position regarding the provision of allotments.

07-081 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Councillor Hart

Cllr Hart apologised for his late attendance and would again chase up the outstanding items referred to earlier in the meeting.

The County are currently looking at marine protection and are analysing who owns what around the coast line. A team has been set up to work with Cornwall and Dorset County Councils who will be assessing the various coastal plans.

He informed members that he had been at a meeting all day discussing the Sherford development and the Deep Lane junction improvements. There is likely to be major works at the deep Lane junction to accommodate all the Sherford development work over the next 10 years. Costs are to borne by the Highway Agency and the developers.

The recent accident on the A38 had nothing to do with the current roadworks being carried out at the Deep Lane junction.

Cllr Martin asked about the cost and reason for producing the Devon CC & South Hams DC Magazines. Cllr Hart explained that the magazines were to communicate with all the people within South Hams and Devon and they were necessary for the two authorities to meet government guidelines.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire

Cllr Squire informed members that the leaders had met to discuss shared services between South Hams, West Devon and Teignbridge District Councils and will report back shortly.

There had been recent problems with refuse collection in the Wembury and Down Thomas areas due to refuse vehicle breakdowns, as 40% of the vehicles were over 7 years old and 45% over 5 years old.

Construction costs are escalating on the two sites where affordable housing is being built. There are also problems with people obtaining suitable mortgages for them, as the Building Societies are not happy to lend money on shared ownership homes. This is becoming a huge problem.

Cllr Cane

Cllr Cane said that in respect of affordable housing it might be necessary for reasonable rentable housing to be considered.

He informed members that Brixton Parish Council have privately owned allotments and that this may be one solution to the problem of allotment provision.

Cllr Cane had been fortunate to be selected by South Hams DC to attend the Queen's Garden Party this year.

07-082 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) A379 Cluster Group Meeting on 12 June 2007

Cllr Drought had attended the recent Cluster Group meeting and the minutes had been circulated to all councillors. The main part of the meeting had discussed how to approach the Sherford development proposals to minimise the impact of the development on the Parishes. There was a need for roadworks to be in place prior to the development starting, as the local road network would not be able to accommodate the traffic generated by 4500 houses. They felt that an expert was required to make a suitable case for the Parishes and if this were the case then the expert would have to be funded by all the Parishes.

Cllr Hart felt that the road network would be improved as the houses were built.

Cllr Squire said that more Parish Councils were waking up to the effect the Sherford development would have on their Parish and so they now wanted an input to the development. He agreed that the road infrastructure needed to be right.

ii) New Councillors Training Day

Cllr Filby had produced notes of the training day, which had been emailed to all councillors.

iii) Parish Plan Working Group

Cllr Filby had agreed to form a working group to complete the Parish Appraisal and to produce a Parish Plan. Cllrs Rowland, Gage, Martin and Scoble agreed to join the working group.

The Clerk suggested that suitable terms of reference should be agreed for the group to work within. The Chairman proposed the following terms of reference, seconded by Cllr Hart:-

- i) To finalise and update the Parish Appraisal
- ii) To produce a 4 year Parish Plan for approval by the Parish Council
- ii) To review the Parish Plan on an annual basis

The terms of reference were approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: To form a Parish Plan Working Group to work within the agreed terms of reference.

07-083 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for June 2007

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) 2005/6 Annual Return

The Chairman read out the letter from the Internal Auditor, which indicated that the Wembury Parish Council financial records tested were well organised and there was a clear audit trail through the system. There were no issues that the Internal Auditor wished to raise with the Parish Council this year.

Cllr Drought proposed and Cllr Rowland seconded a motion that the Wembury Parish Council Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2007 be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Chairman and Clerk duly signed the return that would then be forwarded to the External Auditor. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for successfully completing the return.

RESOLVED: To approve the Wembury Parish Council Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2007 and to forward to the External Auditor.

iii) Internal Auditor's Contract

The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor's five year agreement had now come to an end and required renewing or reviewing. Mr Abrahams had offered another 5 year contract up to 2010/11 with the cost bands for the audit remaining unchanged apart from nominal inflation.

The Chairman proposed and Cllr Tarsky seconded a motion to agree to another 5 year agreement with Mr Abrahams for internal audit services. The motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: To accept Mr Abraham's offer of a 5 year Internal Audit agreement until the year 2010/11 at the rates quoted.

iv) Grant Request from Down Thomas Short Mat Bowls Club

The Chairman had now received financial information from the Club, which indicated that the club already had £300 to put towards a new bowls mat and they would be holding fundraising activities in the future. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council match the £300 so that the club could purchase one new bowls mat and that when they had raised a further £300 the club be given a further grant of £300 to purchase a second new bowls mat. Cllr Squire formally proposed the motion that was seconded by Cllr Rowland and carried by seven votes in favour with one abstention.

RESOLVED: To give a grant of £300 to the Down Thomas Short Mat Bowls Club towards the purchase of a new bowls mat with a further £300 grant when the club can show they have raised a further £300 towards the purchase of a second bowls mat.

v) Request for a Grant from Jenny Rowland

Cllr Rowland declared an interest and left the meeting.

Jenny Rowland had requested funding for travel assistance whilst representing Devon Young Farmers at the Montana 4H Congress from 9 to 20 July 2007.

Following a short discussion the Chairman proposed a grant of £100, seconded by Cllr Squire, which was approved unanimously.

Cllr Rowland was then asked to rejoin the meeting.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £100 to Jenny Rowland for travel assistance whilst attending the Montana 4H Congress.

07-084 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Rowland asked who the land belonged to at the lower junction of Church Road and Mewstone Avenue where the post box is situated. Cllr Squire to investigate.

Cllr Rowland also said that access to the overflow car park at Wembury beach was not being opened, as the key was not readily available. He had spoken to various people regarding key access but without success. Cllr Squire agreed to check with South Hams DC.

Cllr Rowland said that he had been asked whether planning permission was required for decking and had discovered that planning permission was only required for decking if the area beneath (ie taking into account of sloping sites) is more than 50cu metres.

Cllr Martin informed members that he was now on the DAPC committee.

07-085 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

R Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council