

WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors	D Drought	Chairman
	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
	Vacant	
Clerk	R Fairclough	

Before the meeting was convened the Chairman and Vice Chairman, having completed a full year in post, stood down and the Clerk invited the assembled Councillors to elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cllr Drought and Councillor Rowland had indicated their willingness to serve for a second term as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. In the absence of any other candidates, they were duly re-elected unanimously and both signed declarations of acceptance of office in the presence of the Clerk to the Council.

Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council meeting held at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 19 May 2008.

08-60 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, formally opened the meeting at 7.34 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllrs, Cammack, Doody, Filby, Martin, Newnham, Rowland, Scoble and Squire were present. Six members of the public were also present.

08-61 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Gage and Hart.

08-62 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Martin had updated his interests and declared that he was a member of the Public and Commercial Services Union and that he now works for the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

08-63 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

The following Parish Council representatives were then elected:-

School Governors	Cllr Doody
River Yealm Harbour Authority	Cllr Drought
River Yealm Estuary Management Group	Cllr Drought
Parish Cluster Group	Cllr Drought
Wembury Point Management Group	Cllr Drought

Wembury War Memorial Hall Committee	Cllr Cammack
Wembury Parish Planning Group	Cllr Filby
Wembury Emergency Plan	Cllr Gage
Wembury Beach Liaison Group	Cllr Gage
Liaison with Neighbourhood Watch	Cllr Martin
Down Thomas Silver Jubilee Hall Committee	Cllr Newnham
Wembury Alms Houses	Cllr Newnham
Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils	Cllr Rowland
Conservation Matters	Cllr Scoble
Wembury Youth Club	Cllr Squire.

The Clerk asked members to report to the Parish Council on the various organisations, as necessary.

08-64 THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE PUBLIC TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OR PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL
The Chairman brought this item forward to enable Lucy Bourne to set up her presentation. The Chairman suspended the business of the Council and opened this session to the public at 7.38 pm.

i) **Bob Harvey** again requested further action from the Parish Council regarding a 30 mph speed limit from Staddiscombe to Down Thomas. Following a short discussion when it was explained that little could be done in this matter, it was finally agreed that the Clerk would again write to Devon Highway and that Bob would do the same.

ii) Crime Report April 2008

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had not received a Police Crime Report or an apology for the Annual Parish meeting or this meeting.

Cllr Squire reported that the toilets at Wembury Beach had been vandalised recently and that the Police have not reported it, despite moving some youths from the area shortly before the vandalism took place.

Cllr Martin reported that Police from Tavistock were in Wembury the day before the meeting.

Several councillors expressed concern about the lack of Police presence at the Parish Council meetings and the lack of reporting of crimes to councillors. **The Clerk was again asked to invite Inspector Chivers to attend the next Parish Council meeting.**

08-65 LUCY BOURNE - HORSE TREK IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

The Chairman introduced Lucy Bourne, whom the Parish Council had assisted her with a grant, to enable her to complete a horse trek in the Peak District, as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Lucy gave an amusing and informative slide presentation of her four-day trek, which she had thoroughly enjoyed. She then answered many questions about her experience.

The Chairman thanked Lucy for her excellent and well prepared presentation.

The Chairman closed the open session at 8.07 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

08-66 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 28 APRIL 2008.

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

08-67 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

Various items are also discussed later in the minutes under Reports from Committees and Representatives.

08-50 i) First Devon & Cornwall Ltd

Cllr Filby said that he had spoken to several drivers and they were still not aware that the viaduct was a mandatory stop for the Wembury bus service.

Cllr Martin reported that various buses were leaving the terminus several minutes before the stated time, which had caused people to miss their bus. The Chairman asked Cllr Martin to record the number of such buses in future so they can be reported to First. Cllr Martin also informed members that minor changes to bus times due to the Lord Mayor's day Parade were posted at bus stops after the event.

The Clerk was asked to report these matters and to continue discussions with First Devon & Cornwall Ltd.

08-50 ii) Down Thomas to Heybrook Bay Footpath

The Clerk was continuing discussions with several people who own the land along the road from Down Thomas to Heybrook Bay regarding the possibility of a designated path along their land.

08-50 iii) DAPC Subscription

Cllr Martin is continuing to liaise with DAPC and will raise the issue of subscriptions at the next DAPC meeting in July.

08-50 iv) The Clerk is arranging a suitable meeting with the Rev T Freeman, Vicar of St Werburgh's church, about the Church Rooms, Ford Road, Wembury.

08-50 v) Damage to Bus Shelter

The Clerk is currently costing out a suitable steel mesh for the side panel of the bus shelter to replace the original glass panel.

08-50 vi) Dog Warden

Cllr Squire is awaiting a reply from South Hams DC to see if they can agree to provide one full-time Dog Warden and be more robust with prosecutions.

08-50 vii) Cllr Squire again reiterated how dangerous it was to cross the road near the War Memorial Hall, Wembury at the end of the railings. Cllr Hart and the Clerk have both raised the issue with Devon Highways, of extending the railings to create a safer crossing place and both are still awaiting a reply.

08-51 Dog Warden

The Chairman reported that there now appeared to be less dog fouling of many of the footpaths around Down Thomas and along the coastal path.

08-53 Resignation of Cllr Tarsky

The Clerk reported that the vacancy on the Parish Council was currently being advertised

in accordance with South Hams DC procedures. If an election was not required and more than one candidate had put their name forward for selection, then the candidates would need to be interviewed and a recommendation put to the next Parish Council meeting for a decision to be made. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr Scoble and Cllr Squire volunteered to be on the interview panel should it be necessary.

Cllr Rowland suggested that a formal letter of thanks to Cllr Tarsky should be sent from the Parish Council Chairman, rather than an email from the Clerk.

The Chairman agreed to send such a letter.

08-57 i) Binding of Council Minutes

The Clerk reported that this matter was in hand.

08-57 ii) Wembury Tennis Courts

Cllr Filby reported that the Parish Plan Working Group were not in a position yet to discuss the revamping of the Wembury Tennis Courts.

Following a short discussion the Clerk suggested that perhaps he should arrange an early meeting with John Parkinson of South Hams DC to discuss the best use and potential funding of the play facilities in Wembury. Cllrs Filby, Newnham, Rowland and Squire would like to attend the meeting if possible.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a suitable meeting.

08-68 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 to these minutes.

08-69 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) Devon CC - Local Government Review - Concept Submission

Campaign to Protect Rural England - Local Government Review

South Hams DC - Local Government Review - Concept Submission

The above letters and an email from Cllr Hart were considered as part of a lengthy discussion about the Boundary Commission review. It was understood that Plymouth and Torbay were unlikely to expand their boundaries and that 11 authorities have lodged 22 concept proposals with the Boundary Commission. However, the discussion mainly concentrated on the South Hams DC and Devon CC proposals.

It was clear that the Parish Council wished to remain part of a rural unitary authority and not part of an urban unitary authority such as Plymouth. The merits of the proposals by South Hams DC and Devon CC were considered and the Parish Council favoured the South Hams DC proposal of a Rural South Devon and Dartmoor Unitary Authority. It was proposed by Cllr Scoble, seconded by Cllr Martin, that the Clerk write to the Boundary Commission informing them that Wembury Parish Council wish to remain part of a rural unitary authority and that the preferred choice of the Parish Council is for a Rural South Devon and Dartmoor Unitary Authority. The proposal was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: The Clerk write to the Boundary Commission informing them that Wembury Parish Council wish to remain part of a rural unitary authority and that the

preferred choice of the Parish Council is for a Rural South Devon and Dartmoor Unitary Authority.

ii) Vitalise - Request for Financial Assistance

A short discussion ensued and it was suggested that if Vitalise could provide details of people who are being helped within the Wembury area, then the Council would consider the request for financial assistance further in respect of those people.

The Clerk to write to Vitalise accordingly.

iii) Plymouth CC - Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

Following a short discussion, it was felt that no further action was required.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

08-70 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

None

08-71 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY DEVON CC

Councillor Hart

The Chairman read out an email from Cllr Hart in which he outlined his record for the Parish Council over the last year.

As a Devon County councillor, he also offered the Parish Council £1000 from his locally allocated funds to help improve the environment within the Wembury Parish.

The councillors discussed what the money could be spent on and thanked Cllr Hart for his kind offer. Cllr Doody proposed and Cllr Squire seconded a proposal that Wembury Parish Council accept the kind offer of £1000 from Cllr Hart for improving the environment within the Wembury Parish. The proposal was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: To accept the kind offer of £1000 from Devon County Councillor Hart for improving the environment within the Wembury Parish.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire

Cllr Squire informed councillors that the Post office closures proposed across Devon would be announced by the Post office on 20 May 2008.

Due to a change in the way people now communicate with each other, BT are proposing to remove the pay telephone box in Church Road and they do not need to carry out a consultation. A discussion ensued about the need to keep a pay telephone box in Church Road near to Wembury beach for emergency calls. **The Clerk was asked to contact BT about this proposal.**

Cllr Squire reminded members that any person eligible for a Council Tax subsidy or Housing Benefits should be encouraged to apply to the South Hams DC team.

He informed members that the cost of the changes to the Deep Lane junction to accommodate the Sherford development was likely to be in the region of £42m.

Cllr Squire also said that there is a falling school population and so there is likely to be increasing spare capacity in the Coombe Dean and Plymstock schools. Brixton school is

also to be reduced in size, all of which, he considered, questions the need for a further school in Sherford.

Many people have contacted him to ask why the free bus pass can't be used on buses before 9.30 am. South Hams DC is going to review the situation in October / November after they know the take up of people using the free bus pass during the summer months.

08-72 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES AS APPROPRIATE

i) Forward Planning Working Group

Cllr Filby informed councillors that the next meeting is on 5 June when forums will be set up to bring together all the information to date. The leaflet has been generating a steady trickle of ideas.

ii) Wembury Beach Liaison Group - Cllr Gage

Cllr Gage had circulated notes of the group meeting held on Wednesday 7 May 2008 at Churchwood Valley Park offices.

Cllr Filby had also attended the group meeting and he was disappointed that the Police had not attended; consequently, parking issues had not been discussed. The good news was that the Church and National Trust were now agreeing on car park usage during busy periods. He also felt that National Trust policy tended to inhibit discussion.

A recent problem with excessive rubbish placed adjacent to the rubbish bins at the Wembury Beach toilets had recently been circulated via email. This matter of too few bins and rubbish collections was discussed. Cllr Squire said that South Hams DC view was that all the bins should be taken away and the people encouraged to take their rubbish home. Concern was expressed by all councillors.

Cllr Squire was asked to take this matter up with South Hams DC officers.

iii) River Yealm Harbour Authority

The Chairman informed members that the River Yealm Harbour Authority had met recently and that the minutes would be circulated with the Mailings shortly.

08-73 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for May 2008

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) Annual Report

The Clerk reported that the Annual Report was to be sent to the Internal Auditor shortly and that the notice about the financial accounts being available for inspection by the public had been posted on the two main Parish Council notice boards.

08-74 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

None

08-75 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Rowland raised the question of memorial seat being erected at Wembury Point. It is generally thought that it is not the policy of the National Trust to erect such seats.

Cllr Rowland was advised to write to the National Trust for a clarification of their policy in this matter.

Cllr Martin said that he would shortly be circulating to members, some information from DAPC.

He also informed members that the Down Thomas Summer Festival was due to be held on 14, 15 and 16 June and all were welcome to attend.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23 pm.

R Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council