

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 Silver Jubilee Hall, Down Thomas, on Monday 26 November 2007.

07-134 OPENING THE MEETING

The Chairman, Cllr Drought, opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllrs Cammack, Doody, Filby, Hart, Martin, Newnham, Rowland, Squire and Tarsky were present. District Cllr Cane, PC John Nolan and five members of the public were also present.

07-135 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Gage and Scoble.

Sid Lawrence the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) had also sent his apology.

07-136 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Clerk read out the changes in interest of Cllr Gage and asked for any further declarations of interest. There were no further declarations of interest.

07-137 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 29 OCTOBER 2007.

Item 07-132 should read ...Cllr Rowland, not Roberts.

With the above amendment, the minutes were agreed as being a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

07-138 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

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

07-124 The Chairman reported that as Cllr Tarsky was not charging for labour, that he would be covered under the Parish Council's insurance.

07-108 (ii) The Clerk had written to all those interested in allotments and they will now

form an Allotment Association and then contact the National Trust. They had thanked the Parish Council for their assistance.

07-125 iii) The Chairman reported that both litter bins had now been replaced around Wembury Park.

07-125 iv) The Clerk informed members that the notice board in Heybrook Drive is being repaired and all the others in the Parish are to be repainted.

07-125 v) The Chairman informed members that the footpath in Mewstone Avenue is too narrow at the bus shelter location to allow any side panels to be fixed to the shelter.

07-127 i) The Clerk hopes to regularly receive the programme for the lengthsman's services, so that Cllrs Newnham and Rowland can identify any work required in good time and email it to Steve Bryant, Devon CC Area Engineer, in future.

07-128 ii) The Chairman asked whether the Parish Council would like Cllr John Tucker, Leader of South Hams DC, to attend a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the budget and District Council services. A short discussion ensued. **The Clerk was asked to invite Cllr Tucker to a future meeting.**

07-130 vii) John Stansell will replace Robin Landon as the person responsible for equipment in the Emergency Self Help Plan for Wembury.

07-132 Cllr Hart had shown John Halliday the hedge in Church Road that required trimming.

07-139 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 7.42 pm.

i) New Neighbourhood Beat Manager - PC John Nolan

The Chairman welcomed PC John Nolan to the meeting and asked him to introduce himself and then give the monthly crime report.

PC Nolan explained that he had been in the police force for 18 years, the last 6 years in CID and the last 3 years at Devonport. He was obviously new to this job but he will do the best he can for the community. He then gave the following report.

ii) Crime Report for Wembury for November 2007

1 Theft - From Motor Vehicle - overnight 3/4 Nov 2007 outside 114 Southland Park Road, Wembury, a blue Peugeot 307 hatchback parked secure and unattended nearside to kerb. Front offside repeater indicator light stolen by unknown means causing no damage. As yet remains undetected.

2 Drive or Attempt - Excess Alcohol in Blood - 2345hrs on 05/11/07 male offender was driving a grey Toyota pick up, and had a road traffic collision and hit a wall in Renney Road at Wembury causing the vehicle to turn on its side. Police were called to

the location and officers checked the home address of registered keeper where the offender was identified to be the driver. Offender provided a positive road side breath test

He also reported on a rescue incident from Wembury Beach earlier in the day, where an elderly woman had been airlifted to hospital.

The Chairman said that the last Police report had a lot of undetected crimes, many domestic, and asked PC Nolan to explain what 'undetected' meant. PC Nolan explained that even if they know who had committed a crime, until the Police had enough evidence to satisfy the Prosecution Service to take the criminal to Court, then it remained 'undetected'. It was not always possible to get enough evidence to satisfy the Prosecution Service, or in the case of a domestic incident, the people involved may not wish the case to go to Court. Therefore, until a person is charged, an incident remains 'undetected'. He also said that in future, the policy had changed and domestic incidents would not be reported to Parish Councils in future.

The Chairman thanked PC Nolan for his explanation and asked the public for any comments.

iii) Terry Clarke

Thanked the Parish Council for the donation towards the Christmas tree lights for Wembury.

He reported a large tree in Wembury adjacent to the road, which touched the top of double decker buses and thought it should be cut back. He agreed to give the information to Cllr Hart after the meeting for suitable action.

He had visited the Wembury Youth Shelter recently and had been disappointed as it was not as tidy as it could have been and he has told the youths that the area is being monitored.

Regarding a 20 mph speed limit through Wembury many residents felt that those people who speed would still speed and the new speed limit will have no effect.

Cllr Cammack referred to an article in the Guardian, which said that a 20 mph speed limit was effective in Portsmouth reducing road traffic accidents by 60%. So if the 20 mph signs are put up then the Police can target those breaking the speed limit.

Cllr Hart understood that the Police will not enforce a 20 mph speed limit and a letter had gone to the Chief Constable asking the Police to enforce it.

PC Nolan offered to speak to his traffic colleagues and ask if they would enforce a 20 mph speed limit.

iv) Bob Harvey

He again raised his concerns that there should be a 30 mph speed limit through Staddiscombe to Down Thomas.

This matter can be considered by the 20 mph working party.

He also said that there were many potholes along the road through Down Thomas.

Cllr Hart undertook to investigate.

Bob also asked that if enough people were interested in Wembury parish, whether the Parish Council would hold a referendum on the EU referendum. The Chairman asked him to formally write to the Parish Council on this matter so it could be considered at a future meeting.

v) Brian Nicholls

Brian Nicholls asked whether the Parish Council could ask Plymouth City Council to re-mark the road centreline from Dean Cross to Pomphlet. **The Clerk was asked to write to Plymouth City Council pointing out the shortcomings of the unclear road markings.**

vi) Alan Puddicombe

Alan informed the Parish Council that the Street Sign for Longlands Drive had the 's' missing off the sign. **Cllrs Squire and Hart agreed to look further into this matter.**

vii) Parish Councillors

Cllr Martin had received complaints of motorists parking on the footpaths at various locations within Wembury. PC Nolan said that Police normally give an initial warning before issuing a Parking Ticket. He offered to drive around Wembury and give out initial warning notices.

Terry Clarke said that cars parked on the footpath opposite Londis but that the footpath was private property. Following a short discussion **Cllr Hart agreed to ask Devon Highways to look at the situation.**

Cllr Hart also reported motorists jumping the red lights at Elberton Cross and felt that this was becoming dangerous. **PC Nolan said that he would let his traffic colleagues know of this situation.**

The Chairman closed the open session at 8.12 pm and resumed Parish Council business.

07-140 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.

07-141 TO RECEIVE INWARD CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

i) Devon CC - Sherford School Consultation

A meeting is to be held on 5th December 2007 at Yealmpton to discuss the proposals for an all through school at Sherford. A discussion ensued on the merits of an all through school and the Parish Council will be interested in the feedback from the meeting.

Cllrs Hart and Squire will be attending the meeting.

ii) Devon CC - Minerals Core Strategy Consultation

There is to be a workshop on the 4th December 2007.

Cllr Hart may attend.

iii) South Hams DC - Parish Remuneration Panel

The Parish Remuneration Panel will be meeting on 28th November 2007.

Cllr Squire will attend and report back.

iv) South West Water

A response had been requested on a recent Clean Sweep and Beyond report. The Clerk read out the comments from Cllr Gage and explained various options for a response to South West Water. A short discussion ensued. **It was agreed that the Clerk would email all the councillors the response form and then collate a combined response to South West Water on behalf of the Parish Council.**

v) Encams - Dog Fouling and the Law

A guide for the public on Dog Fouling and the Law has been produced by Encams. The enclosed letter outlined a combined response between the Police and South Hams DC to combat dog fouling and graffiti, to clean up South Hams. A lengthy discussion ensued about dog fouling and the lack of dog bins, which posed a problem when disposing of dog faeces, either when out with a dog or when at home.

Cllr Squire agreed to find out the best way of disposing of dog faeces.

Councillors expressed concern that Dog Wardens are part time and not easy to contact. In a note to the Clerk, Cllr Gage had suggested that the Parish Council take various courses of action. Following a discussion, it was generally considered that the Dog Wardens should be more visible and would make a better impact by issuing more fixed penalty notices. **The Clerk was asked to inform South Hams DC and the Police accordingly.**

vi) Brixton PC - Sherford Community Steering Group

The Brixton Parish Clerk had written seeking a Wembury Parish Council representative on the Sherford Steering Group, which had been formed to work with the developer.

It was agreed that Cllr Squire should be the Wembury Parish Council representative on this group. The Clerk to inform Brixton Parish Council accordingly.

FOR INFORMATION.

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

07-142 URGENT MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Affordable Housing

The Chairman informed members of the recent seminar on affordable housing attended by himself and Cllr Martin.

The Rural Housing Trust was seeking a partnership with Parish Councils to identify a need for affordable housing and then to identify suitable land where such houses can be built. In many rural areas, the younger people would like to stay in their village but can't afford to buy a house. The Rural Housing Trust can help to provide suitable affordable housing with the help of the Parish Councils.

The Chairman explained that the houses were not 'Council houses for outsiders' which was a common misconception, but good quality houses as part of a scheme which enabled local people to stay in their rural village, by being able to register for a house and then being able to afford it through the scheme.

He asked councillors to give some thought to the need for affordable housing and the identification of suitable land where such houses could be built within the Wembury Parish.

**07-143 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON MATTERS AFFECTING WEMBURY
DEVON CC**

Councillor Hart

Cllr Hart said that budget time was approaching and again next year's budget would be tight. Various options will be identified in addition to the effect that increasing or decreasing the budget will have on the services.

The Sherford development will be considered by Devon CC on Wednesday and there will be a number of recommendations. One recommendation will be to limit the number of houses built before the highway network is complete.

Parking enforcement is to be transferred to local authorities and he felt that whilst this may work in the urban areas he did not feel that it would work in the rural areas.

He had discussed the repainting of the double yellow lines at the bottom of Church Road, Wembury with Mr Halliday of Devon Highways.

The Exeter bid for unitary status is still going ahead and if they achieve it, then it will have an effect on the remaining Devon CC and other District Councils.

Cllr Hart had received a request for the play area at the Wembury School to be improved and made more challenging. Devon CC is looking to spend £20,000 on these improvements; the School PTA have put in £4000 and he will put in £1000 from his local budget towards the costs. He requested that the Parish Council support the School Headteacher as the play area and equipment could also be used by the community.

SOUTH HAMS DC

Cllr Squire

Cllr Squire informed councillors that South Hams DC has agreed to have honorary Aldermen. The criteria to become an Alderman are to have been a district councillor who had stood down and have done 10 years service with the council.

South Hams DC is currently engaged in a corporate priority review. The members are looking at the services provided and prioritising them. Affordable housing is the number one priority and the other services will be sorted out shortly. There will also be more joint working with Teignbridge and West Devon to provide services in future.

From next year, there will be a nationwide bus pass for the over 60 year olds and the disabled. The District Council are concerned about the potential costs to the authority.

Cllr Cane

Cllr Cane said that South Hams DC, in conjunction with the Police, is launching a Victim Support J9 scheme during Domestic Violence Aware week. They would like local businesses to get together to flag up any problems and report them, so that some good can come out of the scheme.

There is a meeting of Plymouth City Council, South Hams DC and Devon County Council members on 4th December 2007 to understand what Sherford is all about.

Cllr Squire had expressed his annoyance that the meeting was being held in Plymouth and not within the South Hams area, as the Sherford development was mainly within the South Hams DC boundary.

**07-144 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES
AS APPROPRIATE**

i) Forward Planning Working Group

Cllr Filby had written to lots of people within the Parish and had arranged a meeting at the Down Thomas Silver Jubilee Village Hall on Monday 3 December 2007 commencing at 7.30 pm to evaluate the interest for a Parish Plan and to discuss the way forward. All councillors are invited to attend.

ii) Wembury Beach Meeting

Cllr Gage had previously circulated an update of the actions carried out by the Wembury Beach liaison group. There were no further comments.

iii) 20 mph Speed Limit in Wembury

Cllr Tarsky had written to Mr Marshall regarding the 20 mph speed limit and was awaiting a suitable reply before calling a meeting of the working party. Meanwhile he was seeking support from the community of Wembury.

iv) Yealm River Harbour Authority

Cllr Drought informed members that the minutes of the recent meeting would be circulated with the next mailings. The increased costs of the lease for the moorings had presented a problem in distributing the increase in costs fairly across the different types of moorings available. This was currently being carried out.

v) Ivybridge and District Association of Parish Councils

Cllr Rowland attended the meeting on 20 November 2007 and six Parish Council's were represented. Carol Beeson was elected Chairman and Glyn Richards the Vice Chairman, for the ensuing year. The speakers for the evening were Sue Hitchcock, Rural Housing Enabler for Devon and Rachel Bland, Affordable Housing Officer for South Hams DC. Both gave a detailed and informative talk. The next meeting is on 18 March 2008.

07-145 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT ANNEX C

i) Financial Statement for November 2007

The Chairman presented the financial report as per ANNEX C.

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

ii) Resolutions of Finance Sub-Committee

The minutes of the Finance Sub Committee held on 12 November 2007 contained proposals that required ratification by the Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to leave the room whilst all the proposals were discussed.

1.0 Clerk's Fee - 2007 / 8

PROPOSAL: To increase the Clerk's fee from the National Association of Local Council's scale point 25, to scale point 27, with effect from 1 April 2007.

The proposal was discussed and approved by 9 votes for, 1 against.

2.0 WPC Office Rental

PROPOSAL: That the office rental be increased to £160 per month for 2008.

The proposal was discussed and approved by 9 votes for, 1 against.

3.0 Telephone Bill & Broadband

PROPOSAL: The Parish Council pay £8.99 contribution per month towards the Clerk's broadband costs. The telephone service to remain with BT and the bill to be paid by Standing Order.

The proposal was discussed and approved unanimously.

4.0 Other Business

PROPOSAL: The £400 donation identified in the budget, be granted to St Werburgh's church.

The proposal was discussed and approved by 9 votes for, Cllr Newnham abstained.

PROPOSAL: The £500 donation identified in the budget, be granted to Wembury Youth Club.

The proposal was discussed and approved by 9 votes for, Cllr Newnham abstained.

PROPOSAL: No grant would be given to the Modbury Tourist Information Centre but that they could link their website to the Parish Council website to promote their service.

The proposal was discussed and approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: That all the proposals of the Finance Sub Committee held on 12 November 2007 are approved.

The Chairman suggested that a Finance Sub Committee should be held on 7 January 2008 to discuss next year's budget and precept request. All agreed. **The Clerk was requested to arrange accordingly.**

iii) Down Thomas Post Office & Community Room Project

The Clerk explained the current position with the alterations to the Mussel Inn garage into a Post Office and Community Room. The alteration work had started, the grants applied for and it was now necessary for the Parish Council to assist with the cash flow for the project so the contractor could be paid.

The Clerk informed members that the grant from Devon Renaissance would be paid to the Parish Council and the Clerk requested permission to pass the grant money onto the project as soon as it was received. The Chairman proposed and Cllr Doody seconded that the grant money be paid to the project as soon as it is received. The proposal was carried by 8 votes for, with 2 abstentions. Cllrs Hart and Martin have a connection with the project and therefore abstained from voting.

RESOLVED: The grant money from Devon Renaissance be paid to the Post Office & Community Room project as soon as it is received.

The Clerk then asked the Parish Council to loan £4500 to the Post Office & Community Room project until completion, when the loan would be repaid. Following a discussion, the Parish Council requested the **Clerk to draw up a suitable legal contract for the loan, to ensure that the loan would be repaid, to check the legalities of providing a loan for the project and to report back to the next meeting.**

07-146 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Chairman reported that the coastal path from Bovisand to Wembury had been cut well back and a good job had been done.

Bovisand Park is concerned that the water running down Seaweed Lane is washing rubble down onto their Park area. It was agreed that the ditch alongside the Lane required clearing out.

Cllr Tarsky was waiting for a reply from South Hams DC about his concern that all the separated recyclables are being put into one compactor vehicle and his query why it was required to be separated by the householders.

Cllr Tarsky reported on a recent meeting with Sid Lawrence and Neighbourhood Watch that was to encourage Neighbourhood Watch people to contact their Neighbourhood Beat Manager and Police Community Support Officer.

Cllr Tarsky thought that it was inappropriate for the Forward Planning Working Group to determine a policy on Fly Posting and it should be discussed by the full Parish Council. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that anything proposed by the Working Group would have to come to the Parish Council for final discussion and ratification.

07-147 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.42 pm.

R Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council