

WEMBURY PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

DRAFT

**Minutes of the Wembury Parish Annual Meeting held at Wembury War Memorial Hall
on Monday 22 May 2017 at 7.00 pm.**

Present:

Chairman	Cllr J Stansell	Chairman of Wembury Parish Council
Clerk	Mr R Fairclough	Clerk to Wembury Parish Council
Public	16 electors were present.	

17-01 OPENING THE MEETING

Chairman Cllr Stansell opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of the Wembury Parish.

17-02 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 23 MAY 2016

The minutes of the Wembury Annual Parish Meeting held on 23 May 2016, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

17-03 MATTERS ARISING

None.

17-04 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman then gave his Annual Report and commented on Parish Council activities within the Wembury Parish throughout the year 2016 - 2017.

The full text of the Chairman's Report is shown at **ANNEX A** to these minutes and will be published in the Wembury Review and on the Parish Council website at www.wemburyparishcouncil.info

17-05 POLICE ANNUAL REPORT

PCSO Andy Potter had provided a written report and the Police Annual Report for 2016 – 2017 was taken as read. The full text of the Police Report is shown at **ANNEX B** to these minutes and will be published on the Parish Council website at www.wemburyparishcouncil.info.

17-06 WEMBURY WAR MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL REPORT

There was no annual report this year due to the Chairman being away. See **ANNEX C**.

17-07 WEMBURY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

The Headteacher, Susie Evans had provided a written report which the Chairman read out.

The full text of the School Report is shown at **ANNEX D** to these minutes and will be published on the Parish Council website at www.wemburyparishcouncil.info .

17-08 GENERAL MATTERS

None.

17-09 CLOSING THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all those attending and closed the meeting at 7.16 pm.

Roy Fairclough
Clerk to Wembury Parish Council

ANNEX A to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 22 May 2017

CHAIRMAN’S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016 – 2017

It has been another very busy year for Wembury Parish Council and, other than one or two stellar events, 2017 has been fairly straightforward. The neighbourhood plan has progressed steadily. Most initiatives inspired by the Parish Council have gone according to plan and the Joint Local Plan linking South Hams, West Devon and Plymouth City, which establishes development proposals across the region until 2034, is due to come into force in the Autumn or soon after.

Progress includes, the imminent transfer of the Wembury Recreation Ground to Wembury Parish Council, securing TAP funds for another year, and resolution of delays in implementation of the Section 106 agreement with Taylor Wimpey. Work has commenced on the car park and will soon start on Brownhill Lane; the S106 money has been received by SHDC and will soon be passed to Wembury PC. Plans for more sensitive management of verges throughout the parish are in an advanced stage of planning and we have given a significant number of grants to parish-based organisations which work for the community, such as the School, Marine Centre, Village Halls, Youth Club, Scouts, Church, Dementia Group, Caring Volunteers, Citizens Advice and History Society to name a few.

As part of the process of taking over the recreation ground and implanting the Master Plan for it (prepared by our tree Warden Adam King) we have commissioned former South Hams officer Keith Rennells to prepare an Open Spaces, Sport & Recreation Plan for Wembury. This plan has been submitted to South Hams DC which thought it was excellent and could be used as a template for future plans. Keith Rennells has also been commissioned by the AONB partnership to run its Wembury Corridors and Connections project, which aims to produce a costed delivery plan of projects that will enhance landscape features and wildlife habitats in the Wembury area.

Wembury Parish Council’s move into technology should not be overlooked. Cllr Dan Brown has championed the Parish App which is now live and available to those who use smart phones, our Clerk Roy Fairclough has overseen the transformation of our website into something we can all be proud of, and we are on Facebook and Twitter too. Also, the Parish now has superfast broadband available to most members of the community.

What we did not get right, was the offer by Shared Access for a mobile mast and improved lighting in the recreation ground. We underestimated the opposition to any mast in a public area, especially where children are frequent visitors; our assessment was based on a combination of experience and statements by bodies without vested interests that modern masts are significantly safer for people at ground level than phones, tablets or Wi-Fi hubs. The Parish Council responded to the strength of opposition by turning down the application by Shared Access, endeavouring instead to rekindle an earlier proposal to site a mast near Gabber Lane on the edge of Down Thomas. That now seems unlikely come to fruition, but another mast is currently being discussed which could benefit Wembury and the beach.

Parishioners must reflect on the fact that the concerns of a vociferous minority have resulted in the rejection of a good mobile signal (which most opponents of the mast wanted) and £35,000 worth of support for Parish facilities.

Heybrook Bay and Down Thomas will, however, benefit from a mast that is planned in a field between the villages on land owned by Princes Farm. There appeared to be no local opposition to this proposal so I feel fairly sure that it will proceed. It will not benefit the village of Wembury and nor will it cover the beach.

The other issue that we shall have to face as a parish is that although the Joint Local Plan (JLP) is progressing, it is not in place and nor is our Neighbourhood Plan. Because of the work on the JLP, the

existing Local Plan is deemed be unsupportable legally, so there are no statutory instruments that can be used to object to so-called windfall applications for developments. The Parish Council has been approached by a solicitor acting for owners of agricultural land within the parish that could result in developments adding at least 30 additional dwellings in Wembury village alone, on top of the 66 already in existence or in construction, plus another 16 dwellings being put forward by Blue Cedar for older buyers. South Hams is aware of this issue and our District Councillor is applying what influence he can to prevent such opportunist applications from gaining the support of planning officers or the Development Management Committee.

The message is that we are vulnerable to applications from opportunistic developers and we believe that parishioners should be prepared to campaign against proposals that are not in tune with the thoughtful and limited development of housing within the parish proposed in the Joint Local Pan.

Other challenges that face all communities in the UK are the result of the Brexit decision and the imminent General Election. We congratulate Cllr John Hart on his re-election as leader of Devon County Council and anticipate that his support of our, and other parishes of which he is a member, will continue unabated. We are grateful for the energy and diligence of our new District Councillor Daniel Brown and of fellow ward member Cllr Basil Cane. Roy Fairclough, our Clerk, remains as indefatigable as ever and our councillors devote astonishing amounts of time to you – our parishioners.

However, we sadly miss a key player in Wembury Parish Council over many years – John Squires, whose sad death in June last year cast a pall over us all. His apparently inexhaustible energy before his retirement, despite obvious health issues, was an inspiration to us all and a guide to how we should all strive to do what we can to serve our community.

Cllr John Stansell
Chairman
Wembury Parish Council

ANNEX B to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 22 May 2017

POLICE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016 - 2017

From 21st April 2016 to 19th April 2017

WEMBURY AREA

Theft x 11
Criminal damage x 3
Criminal damage to motor vehicle x 1
Assault x 7
Public order x 2
Nuisance phone calls x 1
Dog not under proper control x4

29 in total [22 last year]

DOWN THOMAS / HEYBROOK BAY AREA

Assault x 1
Criminal damage to motor vehicle x 1
Criminal damage x 1
Possession of an offensive weapon x 1

4 in total [3 last year]

BOVISAND AREA

Attempt burglary non dwelling x 1
Criminal damage x 1
Drink/drive x 1
Dog out of control x 1
Outraging public decency x 1

5 in total [6 last year]

PCSO 30540 Andy Potter
Ivybridge Police Station
Tel no 101

ANNEX C to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 22 May 2017

**WEMBURY WAR MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL
ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2017**

No Annual Report this year.

Brian Dixon
Chairman
Wembury War Memorial Village Hall CIO

ANNEX D to Minutes of Wembury Parish Annual Meeting – 22 May 2017

WEMBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2017

This academic year the school has embraced everything thrown at it, from the local authority, to government and Ofsted! We remain **GOOD**, in an educational climate that is ever harder to attain good and are proud of all our achievements.

Wembury Primary School is a force to be reckoned with; not only because of our academics but because of the continued successes and achievements of our amazing pupils, both in and outside of school. Our sporting prowess is becoming something of a talking point in other schools; schools that are twice our size and larger! Due to our keen interest in sports and healthy lifestyles we commissioned a company to produce some new sports kit, for pupils and staff. Talented, artistic pupils were asked to come up with the new design. In the end we had to choose three to blend together, with the end result being amazing. It definitely makes us stand out from the rest! (We were kindly sponsored by local businesses and those with a local connection: *Newcombe Electrical*, *Imagine*, *Royal William Yard Apartments* and *FroWS*, as well as using the donation from the ‘Dad’s Cycle.’) *Imagine* then very kindly printed banner flags, using the same design, for use at outdoor events.

These have already been christened at a recent Football Tournament, organised and held at Wembury Primary. Mr Chantler (Year 5 teacher) was supported by other staff members and our School Games Organisers (Year 5 and 6 Pupils) in an extremely successful event; not only in its running but also in its result – Wembury ‘A’ Team WON! (Sixteen teams from across Devon and Plymouth schools attended.) Wembury ‘A’ Team were also successful in another football tournament and are due to play in the finals, to be held at Newton Abbott 23rd May. We wish them luck.

We also had a number of other sporting successes across the year, in football, basketball, hockey, swimming, gymnastics, Boccia, indoor rowing and the most recent success – bell-boating, where again Wembury pupils were crowned champions! With the variety and entry to so many sports, and of course successes, we should gain our GOLD sports kitemark for the fifth year running and in doing so hope to attain a PLATINUM. (This will be the first year it will be awarded, so we hope to be one of a small proportion of schools to get this across the region, county and country, if we are successful.)

As you know we embrace all talents, and music is another passion of the school. Ms Boucherat continues to inspire pupils and staff alike. This academic year’s Christmas performances were magnificent and the wealth of talent amongst our pupils is phenomenal. This year we were offered, like many schools, to perform at the Devon County Show. Our Year 5 band and Year 6 band, as well as the rest of Year 5, all performed with such pride and professionalism. Even county staff at the show wanted to find out who we were! The pupils certainly ROCKED the show!

As you are aware staff and governors strive to ensure pupils have every opportunity to develop as a whole child; recognising and nurturing the talents and skills of each one. It’s no wonder we have so many enquiries about pupil places’ Unfortunately we have had to turn many away, some families of three, because we have waiting lists for classes within KS1. It also appears, for this September 2017, a number of parents did not get Wembury Primary as their first choice for Foundation Stage, due to over-subscription. Whilst this is brilliant for the school it appears that the calculations of Devon’s forecast, for pupil numbers, only takes into account those on the Devon, local health list, appearing to them that we still have capacity! Numbers taken from these figures are always below our intake, in some cases well below. As a consequence, despite us gaining the Section 106 funding, for building work to extend the KS1/EYFS area, Devon see that we are still within capacity and therefore any work planned has to be within this budget, £160k – as you can imagine there will

not be a lot of building for that money! Certainly not enough to carry out the proposed building work, assigned to and discussed, with Devon's NPS property service providers. I have requested match funding from the local authority, or at least another £100k, which would enable the LA to carry out a much larger project for a fraction of cost to them, and for the school to gain the building it requires. (It is not acceptable in this day and age that pupils have to leave their external hut classroom, to go to the toilet, in all weathers, disturbing other classes and the reception each time they do so, or if they need to access the library or IT equipment. Not only that, but in an ever increasing world, giving additional consideration to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children, they are still taught in external classrooms which were not built to accommodate classes of thirty + children and which could potentially put them at risk should there be an emergency or intruder.) I am still awaiting a decision from Neil Pateman and Simon Niles on this issue, before I can put any work out for tender. It is planned, as far as I am concerned, to start over the summer break, so I hope to get a decision imminently. Perhaps some additional pressure from the Parish might get favourable answers?

It also appears this decision may be dependent upon whether we remain a maintained school or whether we become an academy, as part of a larger MultiacademyTrust. Whilst we continue to explore the MAT option, no final decision has been made. We continue to consider our options and would hope that the LA look favourably on us, especially as the main school building is still a temporary build from the 1960's! (When I was appointed Headteacher in September 2007, a new school had been at the forefront, with initial ideas pencilled in. However this capital build funding was later withdrawn, hence the continual improvement works that have taken place over the last ten years.)

FROWs (Friends of Wembury School) have introduced some very successful new events, engaging the community in a Camp Out, and a Christmas shopping trip to Bath. The Camp Out is happening again on the weekend of 17th & 18th June as it was so popular. Over the past few years FroWS have raised circa £10k towards the cost of renewing and updating the swimming pool changing rooms. We were obviously devastated when the proposed quotes came in circa £45k! A huge difference to what had been suggested by word of mouth. As a consequence Year 6 and their parents, will not see the benefit of their fund raising this year. We have had to go back to the drawing board on how we can develop these within a lesser budget and perhaps link this to the overall improvements required with the proposed building works. Whilst this is obviously a disappointment to all we will strive to find a way to do this. As stated last year, staff and governors at Wembury Primary School, are committed to and driven to provide the very best for our pupils and community. We are excited, as well as frustrated and challenged, by its future. There is scope to ensure that Wembury Primary remains at the forefront of learning; that it provides a unique and purposeful curriculum and serves its community well. Learning should remain fun and fun is what we aim to do! Please check out our website and Twitter feed and if you wish come and join in and be part of the fun! Wembury Primary School remains a very unique and special place to be.

Should you wish to contact the school to help or support in any way, or if you wish to discuss anything mentioned in this annual report please do, via the school office. Thank you all for your continued support.

Susie Evans,
Headteacher