



Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council Meeting held at Down Thomas Village Hall, at 7.30pm on 25th of October 2021.

Parish Councillors Present:

D Drought (Vice Chairman), J Bennett, G Truscott, J Stansell, M Kenny, R Newnham, M Chown.

Clerk: A Towill

21-101 Opening the meeting.

Cllr Drought chaired and opened the meeting at 19:30.

21-102 Apologies.

Cllr Brown, Cllr Harris, Cllr Cox sent their apologies. Their apologies were accepted. Cllr Stansell and Cllr Chown arrived at 19:35 and 19:37 during the public session.

21-103 Absent.

Cllr Smith and Cllr Renyard.

21-104 Declarations of Interests & Dispensation Requests.

There were no declarations of Interests or Dispensation.

21-105 To suspend the business of the Council to allow speaker presentations, including reports from District and County Councillors, or for members of the public to make observations, or to put questions to the Council. This session began at 19:34

- i. **Cllr John Hart** of Devon County Council spoke about how glad he was to be at the meeting and his apologies for not being able to attend recently. He explained that the Highways budget had been reduced for 2022-23 which would create challenges for the coming year. He is aware that Wembury roads and pavements are becoming a real problem and they will do what they can with what they have, however, patience and understanding will be needed. Particularly with the unusually heavy rainfall that seems to be happening recently, which causes problems all over the county with flooding. Overall, Devon County Council are expecting that their spending will fall in line with the budget, except for the SEND (Special Education Needs) budget which will be £25-30million over.
The Plymouth and South Devon Freeport project will be happening soon, as will the Plymouth and South Devon Forest, which will be over and above the amount of trees requested to be planted as part of the Green Canopy project.

Cllr Hart said that the CEE bill to be discussed later in the meeting has also been supported by Devon County Council. Devon County Council pensions agenda item also to be discussed is a difficult topic. Not all the money that is held by Devon County Council pensions is for Devon County Council staff, as they do so for other organisations as well. They must not make losses or there are legal implications, so finding reliable funds that are not in petrocarbons is a challenge. From December they will be looking to make some changes, but it will take time to do.

Cllr Drought commented that if councils could return to online meetings it would contribute towards reducing the carbon footprint of councils.

Cllr Hart agreed that it would be a benefit and pointed out that everyone can do lots of small things to help. There is currently a £34 million bid happening for funding for buses. However, this fund will also be needed for urban buses. Cllr Hart encouraged people to get the third or booster jab for COVID when they are invited, and to get the vaccinations if they haven't had them yet. The biggest rise in Covid numbers is in the 10-20 and 30-50 age group. 40% of people in hospital with Covid haven't been vaccinated at all. Unfortunately, there has had to be security put in place at some testing vans in Devon due to the behavior of some people.

Cllr Kenny asked if it was possible to have an arrangement with Plymouth City Council (PCC) for residents who live near the boundary to use the PCC recycling centre, rather than having to drive to Ivybridge. Or that an additional one to be built that would be nearer. Cllr Hart explained that they had tried to discuss this issue before, but PCC wanted a lot of money for that to happen and were now not happy to discuss it further. There is no possibility of an additional recycling centre and unfortunately it means that Wembury and Brixton miss out because of this.

- ii. **Cllr Chown** gave a report as District Councilor for South Hams District Council. See Annex A

This session ended at 19:54

21-106 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 27th September 2021 -circulated prior.

Cllr Newnham proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Bennett and agreed unanimously.

RESOVLED: To agree the 27th of September 2021 minutes as a correct record of the meetings and for the Chairman to sign them.

21-107 To consider current planning matters and to receive monthly planning applications. The following planning applications were discussed, and decisions made.

i) 3455/21/FUL

Change of use of existing self-contained ancillary annex to include use as a holiday let (Resubmission of 1959/20/FUL)

106 Church Road, Wembury. PL9 0LA

RESOLVED: No Comment

ii) 3537/21/HHO

Householder application for removal of existing defective garage and workshop area and construction of new single storey side extension to form extended living area with rear shower/wc room. New front and front side raised decking area.

121 Southland Park Road, Wembury. PL9 0HH

RESOLVED: Objection due to impact of light and reduction of privacy for adjoining neighbours.

iii) 3536/21/VAR

Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 3765/17/HHO

145 Pendarves, Church Road. Wembury. PL9 0HP

RESOLVED: No Objection.

iv) 3070/21/TPO

T1: Sycamore - Removal of limb at approx 3m from ground level on south side, crown height reduction by 1-2m, removal of epicormic growth due to proximity to property; T2: Sycamore - Removal of limb at approx 1.5m from ground level on south east side, removal of limb at approx 1-2m from ground level on east side and crown reduction by 1-2m due to interfering with top of Devon bank; T3: Sycamore - Removal of limb at approx 2m from ground level on north side and crown height reduction by 1-2m as interfering with top of Devon bank; T4: Sycamore - Removal of limb at approx 2-3m from ground level on south west side to improve shape of tree. A1: Mixed species - Lateral reduction by 6-

46 Barton Brake, Wembury. PL9 0BJ

RESOLVED: To request Adam King as Tree Warden to construct a response for The Clerk to submit.

v) 2035/21/FUL

Readvertisement (revised plans received). Change of agricultural land to dual use, agriculture and secure dog walking area, parking and amenity building.

Land at Sx 515 490, Pump Hill Road. Wembury

RESOLVED: No Objection.

vi) 3167/21/FUL

Ground and first floor extension to dwelling and refurbishment with replacement garage.

Menryn, Court Wood. Newton Ferrers. PL9 1BW

RESOLVED: No Comment.

vii) 3470/21/HHO

Householder application for rear extension

Old Barton Barn, Wembury. PL9 0EF

RESOLVED: No Objection

21-108 Committees and Working Groups

i. Wembury Recreation Ground

- a. General Update- Cllr Bennett. See Annex B
- b. Cllr Bennett explained that there had been a query over whether the area of the footpath that is used by access vehicles had been reinforced, as had been arranged with Taylor Wimpey. There is nothing to indicate that this has been done. In addition, the wildflower planting can be driven over should it be needed.
- c. Cllr Bennett said that the location of the drainage tanks that Taylor Wimpey had installed when they used the recreation ground, need to be located. This is because their location will impact on where the pavilion can be positioned.

ii. Highways

- a. To appoint new Chairperson for Highways Group – this was postponed until the next meeting.

iii. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. Summary and Recommendations for Neighbourhood Plan- following queries and concerns of Cllr Truscott, The Clerk read out her report and parts of the legal evidence report that was circulated prior to the meeting. A discussion around the history, reasons for the loss of members from the committee and the need to conclude this matter ensued.
- b. Neighbourhood Plan Committee- it was decided that new members and some old members of the old Neighbourhood Plan Committee be invited to a meeting, to start the new Neighbourhood Plan Committee. A new Chair or Joint Chairs would be appointed from the new committee. All previous research and data, which was previously publicly available, would be attributed to the previous committee. A timeline for future work would be created and funding would be sourced from external organisations as much as possible, to reduce further financial burden on Wembury Parish's residents.
- c. Letter to the previous Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan by the Chairman. The Clerk explained that the Chairman wished to write to Mr Packer to request the return of the data and finances. To do so, the council needed to agree for this to happen. Cllr Newnham proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Stansell and agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: The Chairman to write a letter to Mr Packer requesting the return of all data, bank accounts and financial details of the Wembury Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan (known as the POWNPlan) to Wembury Parish Council.
- d. Discussion on what further action needs to take place to recover monies and data from previous Neighbourhood Plan Committee. This was delayed until further conversations with Mr Packer had taken place.

iv. Clerk's Report- As circulated prior to meeting. See Annex C

21-109 Other Matters for Discussion and Decisions

- i. **Community verges, roads and hedges maintenance committee-** Cllr Stansell explained that he had been approached by a resident who had the time

and equipment, about doing some maintenance around the parish on a voluntary basis. The areas of interest were primarily verges and hedges that were impacting on safety, visibility, and access. The idea of a verges, roads and hedges committee has been suggested. The Clerk explained that there would be an impact on insurance, and that risk assessments and a plan of works would need to be submitted. There is funding available for this kind of work from the Devon County Council Community Enhancement Fund. There was a discussion around the way it would work and if other groups could be involved.

Cllr Kenny proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Truscott and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To create a Community Verges, Roads and Hedges maintenance committee.

- ii. **Devon County Council pension scheme.** The following proposal was made by Cllr Chown. Cllr Chown proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Truscott and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To write to Devon County Council requesting the following:

- a. **Wembury Parish Council urges Devon County Council to urgently research carbon neutral alternative investment streams for the Devon County Council pension scheme, in line with their 2030 commitments in the Devon Carbon Plan.**
- b. **The Devon County Council request Brunel move all Devon County Council's pension fund to carbon neutral funds and to divest it from fossil fuels.**
- c. **If Brunel decline, then that Devon County Council consider switching the pension fund to fund managers who align with their Carbon Plan commitments.**

- iii. **Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.** Cllr Chown explained that the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill had been supported by both Devon County Council and South Hams District Council. He asked that Wembury Parish Council take the below action.

Cllr Chown proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Stansell and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill, to write to the local MP urging them to support the bill or thanking them for doing so and to notify the CEE Bill Alliance of the motion.

21-110 To receive Financial Reports.

- i. **Financial Statement for October 2021** - See Annex D
- ii. **Bank Reconciliation for October 2021**- See Annex E
- iii. **Reserves Balances**- See Annex F

The above were voted upon en block. Cllr Newnham proposed the following, seconded by Cllr Kenny and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To Accept items i, ii, and iii above as a true record.

21-111 Exchange of Information.

- i. Cllr Drought suggested that in future, should there not be enough members of a ward present or able to vote on a planning application, that all members of both wards vote, regardless of ward.

- ii. Cllr Drought explained that due to the Deputy Clerk's main job being restructured and made into a full-time role, she had had to resign. The council would be very sad to see her go but it was unavoidable. The Clerk had also circulated to council that due to a change in her personal circumstances, she wished to step back her hours and duties to that of the Deputy Clerk. Upon speaking to DALC (Devon Association of Local Councils), they had suggested that a job share situation may work better, with her role being the RFO and then a new Clerk being employed. She will create a report to explain the implications of each option and an extra ordinary meeting will be called to discuss it, due to the need to sort the budget for 2022/23 in the following weeks.
- iii. Cllr Truscott asked what the process would be if he organised a Christmas tree for Down Thomas. The Clerk explained that a grant could not legally be paid to him as an individual, but if an organisation was willing to take responsibility, then they would need to make an application and it would be put to council.
- iv. Cllr Kenny explained that Terry Clarke wanted to step back from some of the responsibility of the bees that were kept on school grounds. Cllr Kenny had investigated some aspects of how this could happen, but it would be complex unless a member of the public offered to step in and help Terry.
- v. Cllr Kenny stated that the Emergency Plan needed to be revisited and work would begin again on it.

21-112 Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed at 21:37.

ANNEX A to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Cllr Chown – South Hams District Council report

Garden Waste

South Hams Council staff have been working closely with FCC Environment to try and find a way to make a one-off collection possible to collect full garden bins. This has included trying to find new drivers for this purpose, other local authorities to help, and other waste companies to cover this task.

Unfortunately, none of these have been successful as the additional resources, drivers, and loaders required to collect from over 40,000 households in the South Hams are in extremely short supply nationally, and any collection would cause even further disruption to the refuse, recycling, and clinical waste collection.

I appreciate this is frustrating for all residents, and I wish I could give you a more positive answer, however I am assured that all options have been explored by the council officers.

The collection of garden waste is a non-statutory service, which means it is not one that the Council is required to provide. South Hams District Council is also the only council in Devon that provides the garden waste service free of charge.

If possible, you can try composting your garden waste or using a licensed waste collector (please check first with the Environment Agency to see if they are registered).

I have been, and will continue, helping all residents wherever possible when they require specific support with a waste and recycling collection, and reporting back to the council all the constructive feedback I receive.

Shop4good

Shop4good runs from Saturday 30 October to Saturday 13 November in parallel with COP26. It promotes ten ways to shop that reduce CO2 emissions and raise well-being. The campaign follows new research that shows consumer interest in sustainability has increased significantly since the pandemic and suggests consumer buying power may be doing as much to help the climate as governments.

The councils taking part are North Devon, Torridge, South Hams, and West Devon along with a number of local charities.

Since shopping makes up a big part of our carbon footprint the programme highlights lots of ways to reduce this. Examples are buying long lasting products, sourcing locally, and giving experiences as gifts, which research has shown to create stronger social bonds.

Find out more at: www.carbonsavvy.uk

ANNEX B to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Cllr Bennett – Wembury Recreation Ground Report

1. Wild Wembury Project.

I met with Keith Rennells and Andrew Price of Parklife together with Adam King on Friday 22nd October on site to discuss phase 1 of the planting project. The area for planting was marked out in the shape of a crescent moon in the top right hand corner of the rec. ground. A 1.5 mtr strip of grass was maintained between the planting and the tarmac path to allow for plant overhang and to provide a contrast.

The route from the field gate was adjusted to more of a curved shape to allow vehicles to negotiate the new planting area.

planting day is Wednesday 27th October when it is hoped that many volunteers will attend.

2. Drainage for proposed pavilion.

Adam King is going to search through his records to try to find the location of the holding tanks that were buried by Taylor Wimpey, I have had no response from them. This is necessary to be able to decide on the final position of the pavilion and how to connect drainage to it.

3. Other items .

See Clerk's report.

ANNEX C to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

CLERK REPORT – Oct 2021

Wembury Recreation Ground

The entrance sign has been erected at the entrance to the Recreation Ground.

The concrete plinths, seats and benches have been installed and have had many compliments. The memorial plaques will be installed as soon as possible.

John Squires bench will be moved shortly to a better and safer location close to the original site. The bench needed to be moved due to the slanted growth of the trees surrounding it.

The zip wire and roundabouts have both been lubricated.

The tap in the recreation ground was dripping and has now been shut off at the stop cock.

JFGS is investigating a citronella weedkiller which is better for the environment. The grass and weeds growing in the rubber paths needs dealing with as pulling it out can cause the rubber to be damaged too.

A key safe for the recreation ground has been purchased and will be installed in due course.

Asset Maintenance

The asset maintenance register continues to be updated and added to.

The new bus shelter on Mewstone Avenue experienced problems with bird strikes (blackbirds attacking their reflection and dying) in the spring. Frosting stickers were put up to deter them, which worked until people decided to remove the stickers. A sign was put up asking people to not take them down, to limited effect. A spray frosting was used but did not survive the bus stop cleaner! Another more permanent solution will be sourced.

Living roof bus shelters are being researched.

Other

JFGS has been clearing the drains of straw and rubbish that had blocked them. Due to bullocks and electric fencing in the relevant field, more work to the drains has not been possible. We are still trying to arrange with the farmer a day when this can be done where it will be safe for JFGS to work in the field.

Jemma has contacted the Kickstart project to get the process going. A job description etc has been started.

A basic plan for the Summer Fayre has been started.

ANNEX D to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Financial Statement for October 2021

Payments

Code	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
WRG Grounds and Equipment Maintenance	Playground inspection	SHDC	210.00	42.00	252.00
Salaries inc NI/Tax/Payroll	Salaries and Office Allowance	Clerks	1370.06		1370.06
Expenses and Training	Expenses	Anne Towill	112.31		112.31
Noticeboard Maintenance & Upgade	Magnets	Magnet Expert Ltd	36.25	7.25	43.50
Communications	Email, Office 365 and VOIP	HelloComtec	46.30	9.26	55.56
WRG Grounds and Equipment Maintenance	Energy Supply for DAAT Tower	DAAT Tower	9.79	0.49	10.28
Auditors	External Audit	PKF Littlejohn	300.00	60.00	360.00
Environmental Measures	Environmental Work	Wembury Environment Group	1,000.00		1,000.00
WRG Grounds and Equipment Maintenance	Signage for Entrance to WRG	DW Signs	34.00		34.00
DT PO & Community Room	Energy Supply for DTCR	Opus Energy	14.80	0.74	15.54
Total			3,133.51	119.74	3,253.25

ANNEX D to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Financial Statement for October 2021

Receipts

Code	Bank	Description	Supplier	Net	Total
SHDC Precept	General Account	Precept	SHDC	16,500.00	16,500.00
Interest	General Account	Interest	Lloyds Bank	0.94	0.94
Interest	Book Account	Interest	Lloyds Bank	0.11	0.11
Total				16,501.05	16,501.05

ANNEX E to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Bank Reconciliation October 2021

**Bank Reconciliation at
20/10/2021**

Cash in Hand 01/04/2021	103,502.40
-------------------------	------------

ADD

Receipts 01/04/2021 - 20/10/2021	45,313.56
----------------------------------	-----------

148,815.96

SUBTRACT

Payments 01/04/2021 - 20/10/2021	22,690.39
----------------------------------	-----------

Cash in Hand 20/10/2021	126,125.57
(per Cash Book)	

Cash in hand per Bank Statements

Petty Cash	20/09/2021	0.00
Current Account	20/09/2021	1,744.03
General Account	20/09/2021	111,723.53
Book Account	20/09/2021	12,658.03

126,125.59

Less unrepresented payments

126,125.59

Plus unrepresented receipts

Adjusted Bank Balance	126,125.59
------------------------------	-------------------

ANNEX F to Wembury Parish Council Minutes –25th October 2021

Reserves Balance October 2021

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>OpeningBalance</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>CurrentBalance</u>
Earmarked					
Public Assets Replacement		10,000.00			10,000.00
Legal Costs Reserve		3,000.00			3,000.00
Reprint of Discovering Wembury Book		4,000.00			4,000.00
Elections Reserve		1,000.00			1,000.00
s.106 Funds	45,946.74				45,946.74
Bus shelter s.106 money	10,000.00				10,000.00
Total	Earmarked	55,946.74	18,000.00		73,946.74
TOTAL RESERVE	55,946.74	18,000.00			73,946.74
GENERAL FUND					52,178.83
TOTAL FUNDS					126,125.57