



**Minutes of the Wembury Parish Council Meeting held at Wembury Village Hall
on the 25th of November 2024.**

Location: Wembury Village Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr Drought (Chair), Cllr Edwards, Cllr Gibbard, Cllr Kenny, Cllr Nix, Cllr Short, Cllr Stansell, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Truscott, Cllr Walrond.

Clerk: Anne Towill

Members of the Public: 10

24-118 Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened at 19:30

24-119 Apologies

Cllr Cox sent her apologies, which were accepted by the council.

24-120 Absent

None

24-121 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation

None

24-122 To suspend the business of the Council to allow speaker presentations

The meeting was suspended at 19:31

i. Rebecca Smith MP

Rebecca Smith MP, spoke about her background and plans for her tenure, then answered a number of questions from member of the public and the councillors. Items included the condition of the roads; speeding; protecting and enhancing the marine conservation environment; South West Water and problems with the functioning of the sewage treatment works as well as capacity; housing, especially affordable and social housing, and the problems of second homes; lack of paediatric specialists and the need for a children's hospital; dementia friendly focus; heating and transport problems for the older generations of the parish; and neighbourhood plans. Rebecca promised to look in to the issues raised, do what she could to assist and report back to the council and community about any responses, developments and successes. She also explained that there are new higher targets for housing, that there is a Household support fund for those struggling with paying bills and that whilst there may be a reorganisation of the planning situation, it would be sensible to continue with the Neighbourhood Plan until told otherwise. She also requested that those who fall just outside of being able to get pension credit, and so the fuel allowance, to contact her so she can see if she can help or use it as evidence that the criteria are not working. She also asked that anyone who has experienced issues with the lack of paediatric specialists at Derriford

- and the lack of a children's hospital closer than Bristol, to please contact her so she can build evidence of the problems and need.
- ii. Devon County Council Report
Cllr Hart said that he would look in to the road issues at Knighton and Coombe Farm that were mentioned by a member of the public. He explained that Traine road had been assessed previously and it was primarily locals using the road at the beginning and end of the working day. It wasn't possible to make it a no through road as there were too many objections by residents. He will look in to whether the signage could be moved to make it more visible. Cllr Hart offered to help with the cost of a new VAS (vehicle activated sign) to help reduce speeding and the Clerk will ask the Responsible Financial Officer to submit a grant application. He talked about the Devon County Council budget for 2025-26 and how the increase for things such as national minimum wage has meant that the increase is bigger than they'd hoped. It is expected that council tax will increase by around 5%. He also spoke of the impact in Devon on the change in inheritance tax for agricultural properties and that the devolution money that Devon County Council will receive, will primarily go to housing. He gave an update on the Freeport status and explained that any money from the increase in council tax for second homes will go in to children in care, housing and roads.
 - iii. South Hams District Council Report – See Annex A.
 - iv. Jess Tatton-Brown National Trust – See Annex B
 - v. A member of the public spoke about the article on vulnerable road users in the parish and the large level of support for the article. However, the member of the public also asked that vulnerable road users to be more polite and grateful towards drivers who are careful. Additionally, to not use phones or have both earbuds in when on the road, as their safety and ability to pay attention to any dangers is much limited by using them.
 - vi. A member of the public spoke about the planning application they had submitted.

The meeting resumed at 20:23

24-123 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th of October 2024.

All in favour.

RESOLVED: To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th of October 2024.

24-124 To consider current planning matters and to receive monthly planning applications

Planning applications- See Annex C

24-125 Committees and Working Groups

- i. *Wembury Recreation Ground*
 - a. General Update
As Cllr Cox was not in attendance there was no update.
 - b. Use of Recreation Ground Car Park.
All in favour

RESOLVED: To permit the National Trust to use the recreation ground car park for volunteer parking related to tree planting activities on certain dates.

- c. Fencing
The quote had not been received and so this was not voted upon.
- ii. *Neighbourhood Plan*
 - a. Update.
As Cllr Cox was not in attendance there was no update.
- iii. *Pavilion Creation Working Group*
 - a. Update
There will be a meeting in the new year between the quantity surveyor and the committee to discuss necessary details.
- iv. *Highways*
 - a. Update
This meeting had to be rescheduled for the new year.
 - b. Cllr Nix explained that she had been working with the Down Thomas community regarding double yellow lines near the shop. It is also believed that Church Road will be patched before the end of the 2024/25 financial year. There was discussion around the issues of drainage on Wembury Road. The Clerk will work with JFGS to get this sorted.

24-126 Other Matters

- i. *Clerk Report*
The Clerk's report was noted. See Annex D.
- ii. *Roaming Youth Worker*
The Clerk was asked to formally explore the idea of a joint parish Roaming Youth Worker. Cllr Kenny explained that scouts was restarting in the new year, but more volunteers were needed. Cllr Nix suggested contacting the SPACE team for assistance.
- iii. *Website Compliance*
All in favour
RESOLVED: To ratify the decision made by the Clerk to instruct HelloComtec to proceed with work to the website as per the full quote.
- iv. *Beach Phone*
All in favour
RESOLVED: To get the junction box checked for faults and if that is ok, to replace the emergency beach phone at a cost of up to £800.
- v. *Bus Shelter*
All in favour
RESOLVED: To ask Euroshell to install the living roof on the new bus shelter.
- vi. *Christmas Tree*
All in favour
RESOLVED: To receive and plant one small fir tree to plant in the verge to grow as a Christmas tree for future years. To also purchase some solar lights for one or two existing deciduous trees on the same verge for the intervening years. Total cost of up to £200 for the installation, purchases and a donation of £50 to a charity of the tree donor's choice. Any remaining funds to be held over to the following year for any replacement lights needed.
- vii. *December Meeting*
All in favour
RESOLVED: To not hold a December meeting.

24-127 To receive Financial Reports

- i. Responsible Financial Officer's Report*
The RFO's report was noted.
- ii. Grant*
Seven in favour, two abstentions.
RESOLVED: To grant £400 to South Hams Community Action.
- iii. Annual Subscriptions*
All in favour.
RESOLVED: To approve the subscriptions for 2025/26 as listed in Appendix B and note that these costs may increase.
- iv. Salary Rates*
The NJC salary rates for the year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 were noted.
- v. Draft Budget*
After much discussion around assets needing maintenance and repairs and the associated costs, a budget was agreed for the 2025/25 financial year. See Annex E for the budget.
All in favour.
RESOLVED: To increase the precept to £94,000 and to agree the budget for 2025/26 as per Annex E.
- vi. Financial Statement*
All in favour. See Annex E.
RESOLVED: To agree the Financial Statement of payments and receipts, Reserve Balances, and Bank Reconciliation and to sign the Bank Reconciliation.
- vii. November Payments.*
All in favour.
RESOLVED: To agree and sign the Accounts for payment November 2024

24-128 Exchange of Information

Cllr Gibbard asked what the rules were around non Wembury Parish Council posters in noticeboards and the Clerk explained.
Cllr Kenny said that there had been a deer stuck in fencing, but it had been freed. Any future issues to be reported to Jess Tatton- Brown of the National Trust.

24-129 Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed at 22:26



Anne Towill
Clerk to the Council

ANNEX A to Wembury Parish Council Agenda – 25th of November 2024

Planning Applications

- i. **3452/24/TPO**
Proposal: T1: Davey Elm - Pollard tree at 4 metres leaving small epicormic growth in the hope the tree will continue to grow from the small shoots present
Site Address: 7 Southland Park Crescent Wembury PL9 0HB
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection
- ii. **3487/24/HHO**
Proposal: Householder application for refurbishment of existing building & erection of single storey extension
Site Address: Land At Sx 537 480 Wembury
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection but ecological enhancements to be shown on drawings.
- iii. **3347/24/FUL**
Proposal: Stabilisation works to the quarry rock face including the re-build of an existing retaining wall.
Site Address: The Eddystone Inn Car Park. Heybrook Drive, Heybrook Bay. PL9 0BN
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection.
- iv. **3572/24/HHO**
Proposal: Householder application for proposed removal of existing conservatories, creation of new extensions & alterations
Site Address: 19 West Hill, Wembury Point. PL9 0BA
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection but renewable energy and ecological enhancements to be shown on drawings.
- v. **3537/24/HHO**
Proposal: Householder application for demolition of rear extension, new front porch, side & rear extension
Site Address: Court Barton Renney Road Down Thomas PL9 0AQ
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection but renewable energy and ecological enhancements to be shown on drawings.
- vi. **3615/24/HHO**
Proposal: Householder application for replacement roof & single storey side & rear extension with fenestration works to all elevations, raised patio area, demolition of garage.
Site Address: 6 Heybrook Drive Heybrook Bay PL9 0BW
One abstention, nine in favour.
COMMENT: No objection but renewable energy and ecological enhancements to be shown on drawings.

ANNEX B to Wembury Parish Council Agenda – 25th of November 2024

National Trust- Jess Tatton-Brown

Temperate rainforest are incredibly important vestiges of wild space in the UK, and we are really lucky to have fragments of these spaces in Wembury. The Woodland Trust are running a national research project investigating how to create new temperate rainforest in Devon and Cornwall, and we are delighted that Wembury has been selected to be one of their 8 trial sites.

Map of rainforest fragments in the UK: <https://map.lostrainforestsofbritain.org>

39124 trees on order for January including 200 fruit trees for a new orchard. January tree planting events - delighted to confirm that pasties are available again this year for everyone brave enough to come and help in January.

Bee bank creation in February with Life on the Edge project and Buglife at Wembury Point. Please see social media and the review for dates

Water quality: Wembury stream bacterial load has been of concern for many years – NT working with the environment agency hoping to clean the water by using nature-based solutions; reconnecting the flood plain. Before the water makes it to the beach, SSSI, SAC and National Marine Park. Feasibility project completed by March 2025 – report back to PC, and community after this. Second phase planning next year. Capital works completed by 2026 March.

ANNEX C to Wembury Parish Council Agenda – 25th of November 2024

South Hams District Council Report

Cllr Alison Nix and Cllr Julie Carson

Farming tax

The immediate withdrawal of the proposed family farm tax is being called for in an urgent motion to be debated by Devon County Council. In a Notice of Motion to be discussed by the council, it is said that the imposition of inheritance tax by the Labour Government is a threat to the existence of many family farms. A briefing paper from the House of Commons library shows Devon has over eight thousand, five hundred agricultural holdings.

Highways

Unfortunately, last week's Highways meeting was cancelled. Things on the agenda include utility re-directions, parking restrictions in Down Thomas, potholes and re-surfacing as well as proposed road closures in the New Year.

Rough Sleeping Snapshot

The number of rough sleepers identified in South Hams was seven, which is an increase from five last year.

Two people will be supported to access accommodation with a neighbouring authority where they have a local connection. We will continue to work with the other 5 to source accommodation options. Sadly, two refused to engage, although the door remains firmly open.

Rural Local Authorities unite

Fifty-seven local authorities across England, including South Hams District Council, have united with the Rural Services Network (RSN) to address the unique financial challenges they face and to advocate for equitable funding in the forthcoming Local Government Finance Settlement.

Funding Opportunities

Fisheries Improvement Programme

The Environment Agency is inviting applications from angling clubs and other organisations for funding to improve the sustainability of fishing habitats and improve access and facilities for anglers. Grants will usually be for less than £5,000.

<https://anglingtrust.net/funding/fisheries-improvement-programme/>

Manchester Prize: Clean Energy Systems

Funded by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, the Manchester Prize rewards UK-led breakthroughs in artificial intelligence for public good. The winner of the £1 million grand prize for the first Manchester Prize will be announced in March 2025. <https://manchesterprize.org/about-manchester-prize-two-clean-energy-systems/>

Energy Resilience Fund

The Energy Resilience Fund (ERF) provides a blended funding package of loan and grant to help charities and social enterprises to reduce their carbon emissions and energy costs. <https://www.sibgroup.org.uk/funds/energy-resilience-fund/>

Travel Safety

Please see the Devon County Council website.

More from our winter support and wellbeing series

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDEVONCC/bulletins/3bae9c0>

Keeping Healthy

The winter months can be difficult for many of us, with the colder weather and shorter daylight hours affecting everything from our finances to our feelings. There is lots of advice about how to keep healthy and warm on the Devon County Council website.

ANNEX D to Wembury Parish Council Agenda – 25th of November 2024

Clerk Report

Wembury Recreation Ground

- JFGS has made repairs as per the inspector's report.
- The zip wire leg and spring has been replaced. Reopening of the zip wire is dependent on sorting signage.
- Repairs to tennis court fencing have been completed.
- JFGS asked to price up additional fencing between tennis court fence and playpark fence.
- Discussion with the National Trust re use of the car park for volunteers.
- Chased signs for skate park.
- Created and publicised dog incident near miss register.
- Submitted article for Wembury Review re keeping dogs under control.
- Created dog signs for recreation ground.
- Clarified warranty for zip wire.
- Playpark gates have arrived and will be installed as soon as possible.

Other Assets

- Down Thomas noticeboard has been installed.
- Liaised re beach phone failure.

Other

- Hellocomtec have been instructed to begin work on the website.
- Communications with members of the public regarding road defects etc.
- Further communication with the police re issues and problem areas in the parish.
- Press release regarding Christmas tree.
- Hall bookings for 2025 made.
- Meeting with Cllr Oram from South Hams District Council and Cllr Drought to discuss issues within the parish.
- Chased the Road Warden scheme team for progress update.
- Initial stages of creating a five-year plan for the council have begun.

ANNEX E to Wembury Parish Council Agenda – 25th of November 2024

2025/26 Budget and Financial Documents

Administration		2025/26 Receipts	2025/26 Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Budget
15	Auditors		£ 660.00
16	Bank Charges		£ 72.00
18	Expenses, training and mileage		£ 500.00
19	Admin Expenses		£ 400.00
20	Room Hire		£ 600.00
21	Insurances		£ 1,438.00
25	Salaries inc NI/Tax/Payroll		£ 24,000.00
26	Subscriptions		£ 1,225.00
29	Communications, advertising and media		£ 850.00
31	Volunteer Expenses		£ 220.00
55	Pension contributions		£ 4,795.00
	SUB TOTAL		£ 34,760.00
Facilities		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Budget
35	Bus Shelter Cleaning and Maintenance		£ 968.00
36	Noticeboard Maintenance & Upgrade		£ 500.00
39	WRG Upgrade - s.106 spending		
41	Handyperson - planned works		£ 7,500.00
49	Tree Survey and Surgery		£ 1,650.00
53	Asset Maintenance and running costs		£ 24,800.00
	SUB TOTAL		£ 35,418.00

Grants / Donations		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Budget
42	Grants/Donations to organisations		£ 5,500.00
	Chairperson's allowance		£ 100.00
	SUB TOTAL		£ 5,600.00
Income		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Budget
1	SHDC Precept	£ 94,000.00	
2	Book Sales	£ 150.00	
3	Interest	£ 150.00	
4	Donations	£ 50.00	
9	Other Grants received	£ 10,000.00	
	SUB TOTAL	£ 104,350.00	
Miscellaneous		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Budget
43	Wembury Neighbourhood Plan		
45	Unexpected Expenses		£ 1,500.00
46	Other Grant Work		£ 10,000.00
54	Asset purchase		£ 5,341.00
56	Community Hub expenses and room hire		£ 900.00
	SUB TOTAL		£ 17,741.00
TOTAL		£ 104,350.00	£ 93,519.00

Wembury Parish Council

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST, 10.10.2024-17.11.2024

Date		Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
09/11/2024	Receipt - Interest received	Wembury Parish Council	£7.08		£7.08
24/10/2024	Payment - Email, Office 365 and VOIP	HelloComtec	-£56.30	-£11.26	-£67.56
21/10/2024	Payment - Air Ambulance Tower - Energy Supply	EDF	-£18.06	-£0.90	-£18.96
31/10/2024	Payment - Community Hub Room Hire	Wembury Village Hall	-£60.00		-£60.00
31/10/2024	Payment - Room Hire	Wembury Village Hall	-£41.00		-£41.00
31/10/2024	Payment - Asset repair and maintenance, parts and labour	J.Friend Garden Services	-£85.50	-£17.10	-£102.60
31/10/2024	Payment - Admin costs	DALC	-£100.00	-£20.00	-£120.00
21/10/2024	Payment - PAYE, HMRC and NI	HMRC	-£322.50		-£322.50
31/10/2024	Payment - Asset repair and maintenance, parts and labour	J.Friend Garden Services	-£454.85	-£90.97	-£545.82
31/10/2024	Payment - Admin costs	Anne Towill	-£40.50		-£40.50
31/10/2024	Payment - Salary and Office Allowance - two staff	Anne Towill	-£1,725.63		-£1,725.63
31/10/2024	Payment - Admin costs	Lucy Bruckner RFO	-£11.70		-£11.70
31/10/2024	Payment - LGPS contributions (pension, employer and em	Devon County Council	-£402.35		-£402.35
31/10/2024	Payment - Grant	ParkLife	-£1,000.00		-£1,000.00
15/11/2024	Payment - Admin costs	HelloComtec	-£56.30	-£11.26	-£67.56
			-£4,367.61	-£151.49	-£4,519.10

Wembury Parish Council

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

A	Bank Reconciliation at 18/11/2024		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		105,655.73
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 18/11/2024		77,051.19
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 18/11/2024		34,660.57
	Cash in Hand 18/11/2024 (per Cash Book)		148,046.35
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 23/06/2023	0.00	
	Discovering Wembury Book (Bus E 18/11/2024	4,101.88	
	General savings (Bus Bank Instant 18/11/2024	139,904.82	
	Current (Treasurers) Account 0157 18/11/2024	4,039.65	
			148,046.35
	Less unrepresented payments		
			148,046.35
B	Plus unrepresented receipts		
	Adjusted Bank Balance		148,046.35
	A = B Checks out OK		

Wembury Parish Council
Reserves Balance
2024-2025

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>OpeningBalance</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>CurrentBalance</u>
Earmarked					
Public Asset Maintenance Rese	4,662.63				4,662.63
Legal Costs Reserve	3,000.00				3,000.00
Reprint of Discovering Wembury	4,000.00				4,000.00
Elections Reserve	5,000.00				5,000.00
s.106 Funds	45,946.74	-10,000.00			35,946.74
Bus shelter s.106 money					0.00
Neighbourhood Plan		3,058.06			3,058.06
Pavilion		10,000.00			10,000.00
Total Earmarked	62,609.37	3,058.06			65,667.43
TOTAL RESERVE	62,609.37	3,058.06			65,667.43
GENERAL FUND					82,378.92
TOTAL FUNDS					148,046.35