

WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Sam Matthews, 9 Sloway Lane, West Huntspill, TA9 3RJ.
Email clerk@wembdonparish.gov.uk Telephone 07359 864310

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting

held Monday 13th October 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillors P King, D Claydon, J Hayden-Briffett, D Gliddon and R Hubbard.
A Jarvis (Minute ref 182/25) Somerset Cllr Brian Bolt. Parish Clerk Sam Warren

Meeting commenced at 7pm

180/25 To receive any apologies for absence.

Cllr's M Phillips L Edwards, S Bromme, P Major and M Caswell.

181/25 To consider the candidate or candidates for co-option to the Parish Council.

182/25 To vote to co-opt a new Parish Councillor to fill the vacancy.

It was unanimously resolved to Co Opt Andrew Jarvis to the Council.

183/25 To receive declarations of any pecuniary interest on items relating to this agenda, which has not been previously declared in the Councillors' register of interests. NONE

184/25 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th September 2025. Approved

185/25 To invite our Somerset Councillors to give a report either written or in person.

Cllr Bolt spoke about the discussions he is having regarding the proposed linked cycle route from the new Cokerhurst development and seemed confident this will be fully implanted.

186/25 To invite public speaking – any parishioner of Wembdon and/or members of the press who has given prior notice of their request to speak may do so for a maximum of three minutes. None

187/25 Planning applications to discuss or review.

a) [51/25/00017](#)/LE Proposal: Demolition of an existing timber garden room and the construction of a single storey extension to side of existing bungalow.

Location: 5 Shepherds Close, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 7RJ

It was resolved to support the application as it complies with W1 of the Neighbourhood Plan.

b) [51/25/00024](#)/AGE Proposal: Variation of Condition 3 of Planning Permission 51/19/00003 (Hybrid (full and outline) application. Full application for the erection of 238 dwellings, formation of two new means of access onto A39, pedestrian/cycle link onto Wembdon Hill, public open space, parking and landscaping. Outline application with all matters reserved, for up to 437 dwellings, 500sqm (A1-A5) and/or community uses (D1)), 2.2ha site for up to 2 Form Entry Primary School and bus gate/emergency access via Inwood Road with associated infrastructure, landscaping and works.) to amend the approved plans in schedule A to allow for a change to the height of a retaining wall within Phase 1 of the development.

Location: Land At Cokerhurst Farm South Of Wembdon Hill & North Of, Quantock Road, Bridgwater, Somerset

It was resolved to make No Comment.

c) [51/25/00025](#)/FHY Proposal: Erection of a swimming pool and ancillary recreational building.

Location: The Cider Barn, Moores Lane, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2BB

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It was resolved to make No Comment.

188/25 To consider adding Councillor S Bromme to Unity bank as a user authorised to submit payments for approval. Update all contact details for CCLA and add new authorised signatories.

Unanimously agreed.

189/25 To review all Parish Council policies and to consider adopting the Civility and Respect pledge. 11 policies were circulated prior to the meeting and all approved. The remainder will be on the next agenda.

190/25 To consider resurfacing the Church car park/PROW 34/4 & ongoing maintenance.

This is now with the PCC solicitor, the Clerk has requested a timescale for completion, as we may need to consider carrying out temporary repairs for this winter.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes to carry out a temporary repair for the coming winter.

191/25 To review the village survey for suggestions to spend the anticipated CIL receipts.

A meeting was held with Councillors Suzanne Bromme, Peter Major and Jenny Hayden-Briffett.

- The survey was reviewed, and minor amendments made.
- Peter is working on a version that is small enough to be printed on 2 pages only so that it can be inserted easily into the next Parish Paper.
- There will be another paper version with a bit more information on it to be put in places such as the pub and the school.
- Peter will print those – and will advise on the printing costs.
- Peter is also checking the web site and will create a QR code for the on-line version.
- Councillor Bromme has designed some posters to be placed around the village. The plan is to have some printed in A3 and some A4. Once the design is finalised, Cllr Hayden-Briffett will be able to get the A3 ones printed and all of them laminated.
- There will be a need for some ballot boxes for paper versions of the survey to be posted.
- These are a suggestion. These will cost around £40 if we go with the ones below:

We probably need 6 (2 for the Hall, one for the Pub, one for the school, one for the Parish Centre, one for the church).

We also think it's a good idea to have some pens beside the boxes alongside some paper versions for those that complete a copy there and then. We can buy a pack of 50 for just over £5.

The expenditure for pens and boxes was unanimously agreed.

192/25 To discuss the application for a new water supply to the Parklands.

Wessex Water carried out a site visit on Wednesday 8th October and we have their quotation of £1898.00 +vat of £379.00. We are now awaiting a quotation for the works on our land to the new meter location.

This will be carried forward to the next meeting.

193/25 To accept the resignation of Councillor D Gliddon after this meeting. His input has been invaluable to the PC for many years now, he will be greatly missed. We wish him and his family all the best for the future.

194/25 To receive The Clerks report.

The dog bin on the corner of Church Road was overflowing, even with bags on the floor underneath.

Somerset council carried out an extra collection to clear the area.

A plaque has been ordered for one of the benches on the Common as per our agreement at the last meeting.

The Clerk, Cllr King and Cllr Claydon walked the ditches around the Hall and Parklands last week with Mike Solomon, so we have knowledge to carry forward. Cllr Edwards then met with a contractor and Mike Solomon in regard to cleaning the ditches and bank clearing. We now await a quotation for the necessary work and the water connection required. The Clerk has also met with Coomers security more than once trying to get the CCTV all back online. They have now quoted for a new piece of equipment to resolve the problem at £243.00 + vat. This was approved.

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195/25 To receive a report regarding Highways.

The Clerk reported the accident at the school, the post removal in Wembdon Rise (which Stogursey hopes to buy) and requested further info on all the markings on the roads around Wembdon, including when the new double yellow lines will be installed to Highways. Responses below:

Highways will arrange for the post removal free of charge and contact Stogursey regarding its re use.

The double yellow lines are due to be installed imminently, and the yellow SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR markings around the school are in need of refreshment, they hope to have this carried out during the school half term in October to minimise disruption.

Unfortunately, they don't feel further double yellow lines would help to reduce risk with parking at school times, as you are simply moving the problem around. The Parish Council resolved to ask the Police to have a regular presence at the required times of day to encourage more care and consideration by drivers.

196/25 To receive a report regarding Footpaths and Verges.

Nothing to report.

197/25 To receive a report regarding Playing Fields and Common.

Wembdon Playing Field won third prize and £25 in the Somerset Playing Fields awards.

The Clerk will chase GB Sports for their quote to repair the surface under the slide.

198/25 To receive a report regarding the Parklands from Councillor Edwards.

Thank goodness for some rain. The PACT team have carried out some autumn planting, weeding, and maintenance on the Prairie. Weather permitting, we will continue to weed and tidy.

Reece is getting on well with the tasks he has been asked to carry out, and I have been a regular visitor to check he is happy with what he is doing. He is maintaining the sensory bed, stumpery, walled border, added new tree guards on the parklands and the queens copse, teak oiled all wooden lollypop animal heads, sit on wooden animals, sensory benches, removed tree ties that are no longer needed on trees, cutting ivy from strangling trees, edging borders and trimming dogwood and is currently planting spring bulbs. I have spent time with him to explain the importance of the planting schemes to improve the biodiversity and habitats for all sorts of wildlife.

Reece is really enjoying working on the parkland as the public are friendly and appreciative of the people looking after the area and I am very happy with his progress.

199/25 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall.

The hall continues to grow healthily and now has a licence from Somerset Council to be a wedding venue.

The new member of staff, Mark, has settled in well, and the cleaning company is no longer employed.

The AGM is on Monday 20th October.

200/25 To receive a report regarding the Parish Paper from The Clerk.

Parish Papers were delivered to Cllr Major on Friday 26th September, and delivered within the following 8 or 9 days. He would like to thank all Parish Councillors for delivering them promptly, with special thanks to Anne Reed who kindly agreed to do her old round once again, as we were still short of one Councillor.

201/25 To receive a report regarding the Allotments from Councillor Claydon.

During the whole of September, a weekly reading of the water meter was taken after the water leak was repaired. Monitoring of the water usage showed it had returned to the average. The wooden housing for the pipe from the meter was repaired by Kev Flay and a combination lock was fitted to the housing.

Water to the allotments will be turned off over the winter period from 1 November to 1 March, allotment holders will be informed. This meter feeds the water supply to the field and the owners are in agreement. One plot has become vacant. I met with a Wembdon Parishioner on Saturday to show them the plot and they will now be renting it.

The majority of allotment holders have paid their rent this month for the coming year. 16 out of 53 tenants have yet to pay.

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The annual Allotment Holders meeting was held on 29 September. It was well attended by new and old allotment holders and introductions were made. James Loxton attended his final meeting and was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the WPC for his continued hard work over the last 14 years. James was delighted. He was a good character at the allotments and will be missed.

Graham Grief, representing the WCA, attended the meeting and presented Mark Hawkes with the shield for the Most Improved Allotment as Mark did not attend the Village Day.

Discussion amongst the Allotment Holder's suggested finding horticultural retailers who may give a discount for compost etc. Two allotment holders are making enquiries. Allotment Holders expressed the desire for a covered area to be able to share seeds, plants and meet at the allotments. A simple open shelter with a bench or two, on the PC plot. I bring this to the attention of the PC for consideration.

202/25 To receive a report regarding Perry Green from Councillor King.

Perry Green was cut off for about 12 hours this month. The electricity work for the Tidal Barrier was just wrapping up, when a water pipe burst on the only other road to exit Perry Green.

Thankfully Wessex Water worked through the night to fix the leak, and then the road to Chilton was opened the same morning.

It is expected that the road from Sandford roundabout will be shut again soon as Highways have put countless markings on the road to indicate where they will be putting a gully in outside of The Malt House.

Cllr Brian Bolt left the meeting at 8pm.

203/25 To receive a report regarding SID results and Speedwatch from Councillor Hubbard.

The Speed Watch Team have not met recently due to availability of personnel.

Cllr Dave Gliddon has now relinquished his duties on the Speed Watch Team and Cllr Richard Hubbard has now taken on these Duties subject to onsite training. The Speed Watch Team hopefully will meet before the end of October. New members for the Speed Watch Team would be most welcome. Any ideas. The Mobile SID is now on Wembdon Hill going eastbound (Downhill). The batteries have been replaced, and they are being monitored to ascertain their life span before needing charging.

FIXED SOLAR SIDs

The format of the data has been changed slightly so data in the new format and data starts from August 2025. There are no significant changes in data values between August and October 2025

<u>SANDFORD HILL - INCOMING</u>							
	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	27.15	26.74					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	36	35					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	47.34	49.38					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	32.79	30.62					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	647	629					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	77	74					
<u>SANDFORD HILL - OUTGOING</u>							
	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	Not Available	30.34					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	37	37					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	25.16	26.38					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	44.19	43.86					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	575	469					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	84	73					
<u>WEMBDON RISE (WARES LANE) – TOWARDS NDR</u>							

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	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	20.85	19.27					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	24	24					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	86.52	88.1					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	3.76	2.78					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	1673	1360					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	53	49					
<u>WEMBDON RISE (WARES LANE) – TOWARDS WEMBDON HILL</u>							
	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	Not Available	20.97					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	26	24					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	82.71	86.34					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	4.13	2.68					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	1479	1148					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	53	59					
<u>WEMBDON RISE – INCOMING (From NDR)</u>							
	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	20.7	20.43					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	24	24					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	86.52	87.67					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	3.76	3.3					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	1674	1570					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	64	58					
<u>WEMBDON RISE – OUTGOING (To NDR)</u>							
	<u>Aug: 25</u>	<u>Oct: 25</u>					
<u>Average Speed (mph)</u>	Not Available	21.6					
<u>85th% SPEED (mph)</u>	26	25					
<u>< 25 mph (%)</u>	82.71	84.68					
<u>31 + mph (%)</u>	4.13	3.74					
<u>Vehicles Per Day</u>	1480	1424					
<u>Max Speed (mph)</u>	62	63					

204/25 To receive a report regarding the Transport Forum and the EDF Forum from Councillor Phillips.
Report from SSG Hinkley A&B has been circulated,

205/25 To receive a report regarding the Local Community Network from Councillor King.
Cllr's King and Hubbard attended the last meeting and made useful contacts with the local police.

206/25 To receive a report regarding Parish Links from Councillor Bromme.

An issue has been raised by a concerned resident regarding the parking problems in Grasmere at school times which have been exacerbated by the closure of Brantwood Road and highlighted when a child was
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knocked over coming into the Close. The school and one of the residents in Grasmere have been contacted. The school stated that they are happy to support any measures that will help the situation, however;

- They were not aware that there had been an accident.
- They know that the parking situation is awful at school times, and it is not just Grasmere where cars are parked. It's a problem in Meadow Park and the rest of the estate. They have raised the issue in school newsletters requesting parents park with consideration, but with little effect.

What was reiterated though, was that the safety of the children has been improved tenfold by the closure of Brantwood Road (the road leading directly to the school), and the plan is to keep this in place, despite the knock-on effects on other roads, basically because the benefits in safety outweigh the knock-on impact.

The Parish Council resolved to ask the Police to have a regular presence at the required times of day to encourage more care and consideration by drivers and hope this will not only happen but be effective.

207/25 To note all statutory payments made since the last meeting (see minute 181/20) and non-statutory payments. * Denotes vat included. The bank reconciliation will be circulated prior to the meeting.

12-Sep-25	Direct Debit (NPOWER)	-£114.46
22-Sep-25	Direct Debit (IONOS CLOUD LTD.)	-£15.60
22-Sep-25	Garry Toms refund	-£90.00
22-Sep-25	RB Garden Services	-£575.00
22-Sep-25	TC Plumbing Heat	-£384.00
22-Sep-25	Kevin Flay	-£25.00
23-Sep-25	LLOYDS CARD bark for parklands and competition prizes	-£334.79
29-Sep-25	PKF Littlejohn LLP external audit	-£504.00
29-Sep-25	RB Garden Services	-£251.00
29-Sep-25	G W B Services Mowing and Bins	£3,877.39
30-Sep-25	Bank fees	-£8.40

Monies Received

29-Sep-25	Playing field award	£25.00
02-Sep-25	CCLA Investment Management Limited	£744.14
	Allotment payments	£1,375.00

208/25 To approve a financial contribution for the Clerks' upcoming CILCA training of £561.00. This is shared with Pawlett PC based on the Clerks' hours for each council. The total fee is £795.00. The course will require around 6 hours per week of dedicated time for the course work over a period of 12 months from January, plus 5 in person days at Wells. The Clerk would like to ask for an extra allowance of 2 hours per week for this time, which will include the days in Wells. The extra allowance would be £1908.40.

Unanimously agreed.

209/25 To consider a quotation from Coomber Security to repair the CCTV system on Parklands.

The quotation to replace two cameras and a nano station on Parklands of £890.00 + vat has been carried out, but unfortunately the underground cable appears to be damaged. They have now quoted for a repair at a cost of £243.00 +vat which was unanimously agreed.

210/25 To receive any matters of report.

A resident has commented regarding overgrown hedges on Moores Lane. This is not within our remit. The rubbish bin at the top of Wembdon Hill has lost it's number, The Clerk has a spare and will install it.

The Council is recommended to resolve that members of the press and the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration the following agenda item by reason of the confidential nature of the items of

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business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

211/25 To receive an update regarding legal matters in the parish.

212/25 Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 10th November 2025 at 7.00 pm.

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