

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Sam Matthews, 9 Sloway Lane, West Huntspill, TA9 3RJ.  
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## Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting

held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7pm at The Green, Homberg Way, Wembdon.

Present: Councillors P King, D Claydon, R Hubbard, P Major, L Edwards, M Phillips, A Jarvis and A Mills Jones.

Parish Clerk Sam Matthews.

65/26 To receive any apologies for absence.

S Bromme and Somerset Councillors B Bolt and M Caswell.

66/26 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

67/26 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Approved.

68/26 To invite our Somerset Councillors to give a report either written or in person.

None received.

69/26 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 present.

70/26 Planning applications to discuss or review.

None.

71/26 To consider resurfacing the paved area by the Millenium bridge with tarmac when the car park resurfacing is carried out. And to resolve to include bollards along the road edge and a bicycle stand. A quotation has been circulated prior to the meeting.

There is a loose slab on the bridge, we have asked the Clerk to arrange repair as soon as possible.

72/26 To consider signing a Memorandum of Agreement to allow the resurfacing of the Church car park/Public Right of Way 34/4 and 34/2 to be carried out.

A Deed of Mutual Covenant has been drafted by the solicitor instructed by the Church and seems to be in order. Unfortunately, it could take some time for all interested parties to sign this agreement as there are six of them and they could all seek their own legal advice.

It was therefore agreed to draft a Memorandum of Agreement between the Parish Council and the Church to enable the resurfacing works to be completed this Spring. A time scale of 12 months has been set for the full Covenant to be signed by all interested parties.

For both items 71/26 and 72/26 Councillor King will arrange a meeting with the Internal Drainage Board as they are opposed to our current plan. We hope to have this resolved by our next meeting.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated 13/04/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

73/26 To review the village survey for suggestions to spend the anticipated Community Infrastructure Levy receipts.

There was a fair response to the survey, and the results are currently being reviewed.

Thanks to Councillors Bromme and Major for all their work getting us to this stage. They will be meeting later this week to work on the results.

74/26 To receive an update on the new water supply at the Parklands.

The Clerk has requested an amendment to the siting of the new water supply and awaits confirmation from Wessex Water. And awaiting a quotation for the work we are responsible for from our chosen contractor. We need to pay Wessex Water at the end of March, or the quote will need revision.

75/26 To receive The Clerk's report.

The defibrillator at The Green is not our responsibility, but the Wembdon Community Association, the Cricket Club and The Football Club have all contributed towards the cost of purchasing new pads and a battery.

The Streetlight removed from Wembdon Rise has finally been replaced but is not yet functioning.

The waste bin on Sandford Hill has been removed due to vandalism (it was set on fire) and will be replaced soon by Somerset Council.

The Clerk would also like to report to the Council that local volunteers from The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust WWT and Somerset Wildlife Trust have spent several hours in the last week or so picking litter from the cleaned ditch banks around the Parklands and the Playing fields.

76/26 To receive a report regarding Highways from Councillor Phillips.

I have reported many streetlights not working around the main village part of the Parish, they are generally repaired quite quickly.

It was noted that the recently installed double yellow lines in Greenacre are disintegrating, the Clerk was asked to report this to Highways.

The Clerk is still waiting for an update on all items in the previous minutes reported to Highways.

77/26 To receive a report regarding Footpaths and Verges.

The Clerk is still obtaining quotes to repair the footpath from Booth Way to Homberg Way.

The pothole in the footpath outside 32A Wembdon Rise has been repaired, but poorly. This will be monitored.

78/26 To receive a report regarding Playing Fields and Common.

Nothing to report.

79/26 To receive a report regarding Parklands from Councillor Edwards.

In line with our plans to continue to improve badger foraging opportunities on the Parklands, our contractors and I planted 9 Hazelnut trees, a walnut, pear, plum and a crab apple tree.

Work has been carried out by a professional tree surgeon to coppice four willow trees as recommended in our annual tree survey.

Spring is finally here, the plants are flowering, trees are starting to bud, and the birds are gathering materials for their nest building.

Still waiting for a professional review of the Land Management Plan, as agreed at the last meeting.

80/26 To receive a report regarding the Parish Paper from The Clerk.

Due to holiday the next edition will go to print in May. The Clerk will run test prints of the last edition with a new print company, if all goes well it will cut the print cost by half.

81/26 To receive a report regarding the Allotments from Councillor Claydon.

An Email was sent to all allotment holders at the beginning of this year's growing season informing them the water has been turned on after the winter. Taps were checked, and a water meter reading taken, and Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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Dated 13/04/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

will be taken monthly. Various considerations and general information were pointed out in the Email, including reminder of gate opening and closing times, to help new allotment holders and remind the less diligent tenants.

A second load of wood chipping has been delivered and utilised, The Clerk will obtain quotes to refresh the track to the allotments, a spend of up to £500 was unanimously approved.

82/26 To receive a report regarding Perry Green from Councillor King.

No news on the planned work that was due to start at the end of January outside The Malt House. I have tried to contact the people but cannot get a reply.

The drains in Perry Green Road all the way to Moores Lane have apparently been jetted. There is no apparent benefit to be seen. Water is still sitting over the drains.

I have managed to speak with the buyer of Barton Farm. The conversation went well and I am optimistic that together we can rectify the flooding issue in the road outside of Barton Farm.

There have been ongoing flooding issues outside of Great Orchard, Moores Lane for many years. All ditches along the road have been cleared and the hedges cut this year but still water persists. I have reported the problem to Highways (884973) and offered to meet them on site. The rectification will involve Fine Farms as well as Highways. Both need to enlarge their pipework.

83/26 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall from Councillor Phillips.

Village Hall, all seems good and bookings keep coming in. The beer and cider festival is booked again for June and is to be an annual event. The Coffee shop picked up in February after a quiet January, all tables are full for much of the mid part of every day.

The Football has restarted after a very wet period, grass is growing and the grounds man has cut all grass. Cricket returns in April so the bar will return to summer opening.

They are still waiting for the final sign off to hold weddings at the green, rebranding on going.

A meeting was held on Monday 2nd March with the main (internal) users and was very productive.

The receptionist has changed her hours to 10am to 3pm Monday to Thursday and works from home on Friday. The possibility of a second member of staff is being considered.

84/26 To receive a report regarding Speed Indicator Device and Speedwatch from Councillor Hubbard.

The battery in the mobile SID has been changed, and is still located at the junction of Skimmerton Lane and Moore's Lane. The Community Speed Watch team are planning to meet next week, which I shall be attending.

85/26 To receive a report regarding the Transport Forum and the EDF Forum from Councillor Phillips.

The next meeting is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Councillor Hubbard hopes to attend.

Councillor Phillips will be attending the next Stakeholder meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

86/26 To receive a report regarding the Local Community Network from Councillor King.

The next meeting will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

Highways meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March has now been cancelled.

87/26 To receive a report regarding Parish Links from Councillor Bromme.

88/26 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.

27-Feb-26	Harry Brooks Tree services	£800.00	
27-Feb-26	Teak Oil	£25.99	
27-Feb-26	G W B Services Grass cutting and bins	£3,751.99	*
27-Feb-26	SALC - Training	£25.00	
27-Feb-26	Parish Magazine Printing	£1,042.02	

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated 13/04/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

27-Feb-26	G B Sports	£1,860.00	*
27-Feb-26	SLCC membership	£221.20	
27-Feb-26	HMRC PAYE	£316.83	
20-Feb-26	IONOS CLOUD LTD. Website	£15.60	*
02-Feb-26	Scribe accounting	£14.40	*
23-Feb-26	LLOYDS BANK PLC card fee	£3.00	
	Trees for Parklands	£393.12	*
	INCOME		
19-Feb-26	Allotments	£60.00	
03-Feb-26	CCLA Investment Management Limited	£610.93	
03-Feb-26	Advertisements	£25.00	

89/26 To consider a speaker for the Annual Parish meeting, to be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April.  
Suggested to review the Parish Survey results. And resolve to offer refreshments after the meeting.  
Unanimously agreed.

90/26 To consider adopting a new IT policy, a revised Data Protection policy, a revised Website Accessibility statement and to review the Website terms and conditions.

All will be circulated prior to the meeting.

All new and revised policies were unanimously approved and adopted.

91/26 To consider the installation of wooden posts along the grassed area in Church Road between Greenacre and Shepherds Close as it is severely damaged by vehicles parking on the grass. We will also need to make the area good. Two quotes will be circulated prior to the meeting. The area should be maintained by Somerset Council.

The Clerk will now obtain consent from Highways to install the posts, and we will review at the next meeting. Both quotes were very reasonable. It was agreed to accept the quote from Kev Flay for the sum of £427 for the supply and installation of 6 wooden posts, and to make good the damage caused by vehicles.

92/26 To agree the revised Roles and Responsibilities for the Parish Councillors.

Agreed

93/26 To consider using The Green as the public correspondence address for the Parish Council.

We already have consent to use The Green as the address on all title deeds, and these will be amended soon. It has been proposed that we request permission to use it on all public documents rather than The Clerk's home address.

Unanimously agreed. The Clerk will approach the Village Hall Trust to request their permission.

94/26 To resolve to add Councillor A Mills Jones to Unity bank and CCLA investment bank as a signatory.

Unanimously agreed and signed,

95/26 To consider our response to the Somerset Association of Local Council's survey.

Unanimously agreed for the Clerk to submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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Dated 13/04/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

96/26 To consider what further measures should be put in place to prevent unauthorised vehicles from gaining access to Parklands via the entrance next to the pedestrian crossing on Homburg Way.

The Clerk will contact Highways to request permission to place a large concrete block in the gap to stop anyone gaining unwanted access.

The Clerk will also obtain a quote for a large quarry stone. The cost of the concrete block will be under £200.

97/26 To consider the use of Artificial Intelligence within the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is not intending to use Artificial Intelligence at this time but will continue to review their stance on a regular basis.

98/26 To receive any matters of report.

Councillor Major has updated the mobile phone/tablet version of the website so it is more user friendly.

99/26 Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.00 pm