

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Sam Matthews, The Green, Homberg Way, Wembdon, TA6 7BY.  
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## Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council Meeting

held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 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,  
S Bromme and A Mills Jones. Somerset Councillor B Bolt.

Parish Clerk Sam Matthews.

100/26 To receive any apologies for absence. M Caswell apologies for absence.

101/26 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.

102/26 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

103/26 To invite our Somerset Councillors to give a report either written or in person.

Councillor Bolt is kindly chasing the refreshing of the road markings on the Zebra crossing and the lack of light in the new streetlight in Wembdon Rise. He is also working hard to stop Hinkley buses using Wembdon village as a cut through when the traffic is bad or the road is closed.

104/26 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.

105/26 Planning applications to discuss or review.

Planning application number: 51/26/00002/ROR

Proposal: Crown reduce 1No. Lime (T1) (TPO Ref T1) in height and spread by approx. 2-3m all round leaving the tree approx. 11-12m in width and 13m in height.

Location: 18 Wembdon Orchard, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 7PH

No comment.

106/26 To consider resurfacing the paved area by the Millenium bridge with tarmac when the car park resurfacing is carried out. The Clerk has obtained consent from Wessex Water for the work and circulated a quotation for the area to resurfaced with tarmac and bollards along the road edge.

The quotation didn't include the bollards so it needs to be reviewed, and prices will be obtained for coloured tarmac. To be considered at the next meeting.

107/26 To receive an update regarding the resurfacing of the Church car park/Public Right of Way 34/4 and 34/2.

A meeting was held with the Parish Council, the Church and the Internal Drainage Board. It was agreed that the Church would offer the Drainage Board a liability waiver for any damage caused by the machinery during the regular cleaning of the rhyme. We are waiting to hear from the Drainage Board.

108/26 To review the village survey for suggestions to spend the anticipated Community Infrastructure Levy receipts and prepare to present the findings at the Parish Meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

Councillor Bromme and The Clerk will have a meeting to discuss the presentation for the Parish Assembly.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated 11/05/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

109/26 To receive an update on the new water supply at the Parklands.

The Clerk has requested an amendment to the installation of the new water supply, and this has been confirmed. Our contractor will be carrying out the work on our land in the next few weeks, and Wessex Water should complete their work by the end of June.

110/26 To receive The Clerk's report.

The Key clamp fence extension on the bridge to the Liddall field from The Green has been installed. The Clerk will now arrange for the stone gabion to be placed to the side of the end.

111/26 To receive a report regarding Highways from Councillors King and Hubbard.

The Clerk has again chased the double yellow lines approved last year. The Clerk has also been asked to chase two gullies in need of cleansing in Wembdon Rise, outside numbers 30 and 76, and to report the dropped kerb to the pavement outside 32A Wembdon Rise.

112/26 To receive a report regarding Footpaths and Verges from Councillors Phillips and Major.

The Clerk has obtained quotes to repair the footpath from Booth Way to Homberg Way and is awaiting approval from Highways. The quote was unanimously accepted pending Highways approval and a diversion route application outcome from Rights of Way.

The footpath on Wembdon Rise has been repaired.

The Clerk will report the fallen tree to Rights of Way in the footpath from Gypsy Lane to Meadow Lane.

113/26 To receive a report regarding Playing Fields and Common from Councillor Bromme.

The latest inspection report has been received, and the following points were raised:

There were few risks that were of concern, except worn chain links on the 3 bay swings that are highlighted as medium risk. To discuss next steps to remedy this at the meeting. The other is the need to replace worn fittings on the Climber Frame. This is already in hand, thanks to the Clerk. GB Sports will be replacing the ropes on the climbing frame soon at a cost of £299.95 +vat. There are other areas which are showing signs of wear and tear but now the risks are minimal, and the advice is to monitor,

114/26 To receive a report regarding Parklands from Councillor Edwards.

We have accepted a quotation from Halpin Robbins to review the Land Management Plan for the sum of £568.00 +vat. Review will be required every 5-10 years and will cost £200 - £300.

On Good Friday, I met up with a volunteer, and we filled two dumpy bags with the chippings that were mistakenly left at the top of the Parklands. Using our pallet truck, we moved them to the hedge opposite the Stumpery. On Saturday I met up with two volunteers, where we worked on maintaining and preparing the Prairie border, for the new season. Councillor Claydon will arrange for two dumpy bags of chippings to be delivered to the allotments soon.

The gardener will be onsite this Thursday working on the sensory borders.

Weather permitting, I will be working there at the weekend.

115/26 To receive a report regarding the Parish Paper from The Clerk and Councillor Major.

We need to set the next print deadline and approve the new printing company suggested. Sample copies will be circulated at the meeting. They will be around 40% cheaper than our current supplier.

116/26 To receive a report regarding the Allotments from Councillors Claydon and Jarvis.

It was unanimously agreed to have the stone topped up on the track up to a cost of £800.00 when the Booth Way footpath is repaired. Item 112/26.

117/26 To receive a report regarding Perry Green from Councillor King.

The planned work that was due to start at the end of January outside The Malt House has now been put on the list for 2026/2027. No firm date currently.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

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The flooding issues outside of Great Orchard, Moores Lane have been viewed by Highways who say, "The problem that you reported has been inspected but we have decided that action is not needed at this time. This is because the problem is not a safety issue and not severe enough for us to fix it. We will continue to monitor the problem when we do our planned inspections and plan work in to fix the problem if the issue gets worse". I'm sure the residents at Great Orchard do not agree with that decision.

I have had a statement, not a complaint, from a local caravan park owner that her bookings have collapsed this year due to the noise from the piling for the Bridgwater Tidal Barrier. The issue has been taken up with the Environment Agency, but their response is that there is no proof that the drop in bookings is their fault. So, the sound of banging 12 hours a day for 5 and a half days, is not proof enough?

118/26 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall from Councillor Phillips and The Clerk.

The Clerk has approached Highways regarding their request for road signage and is attempting to obtain an answer, the Parish Council agreed to suggest they go ahead as we have no objection. Land drainage to the overflow car park has been carried out.

119/26 To receive a report regarding Speed Indicator Device and Speedwatch from Councillor Hubbard.

The Speedwatch Team met on 18/03/2026 at the top of Wembdon Hill. The results are as follows:

78 vehicles monitored in 1 hour (60% of usual volume at this location).

13 vehicles exceeding 25mph.

Highest speed 47mph. 1 other vehicle over 30mph.

Parking on the double yellow lines at this location has reduced significantly.

The Mobile SID is still at the top of Sandford Hill on the junction of Moore's Lane and Skimmerton Lane going eastbound (Inbound). The batteries were replaced on 31/03/2026 and they are still lasting between 2 and 3 weeks.

The data from the FIXED SOLAR SIDs was downloaded on 05/04/2026 and a summary is below. The speeds recorded remain generally constant, although there was a slight increase in average speeds, with the maximum speeds still of concern.

I am still in contact with the Police Speed Enforcement team and still hopeful they will be arranging a speed monitoring exercise soon.

120/26 To receive a report regarding the Hinkley and EDF from Councillors Phillips and Hubbard.

## Matters Arising

Wick Car Parks (2 Off) are still being used but an appeal is ongoing.

Fly parking is still an issue in the area and a new system of monitoring the situation called the Geographic Information System (GIS) is being implemented although it is not gone live yet. Expected to be live by the next meeting (25th June). Unfortunately, only EDF will be able to input information into GIS so reporting from the public will remain the same.

## New Matters

The cost of Hinkley is now considered as £50 Billion based on initial costings, but ONLY £35 Billion based on 2015 costings.

The Peak Workforce is now only expected to be 13,500 – 14,000 and not the 15,000 previously stated.

Increased accommodation is to be via Caravan Sites the Bream Campus. The new proposed Campus at Junction 24 will not be built. It was stated that the number of Houses of Multiple Occupation would not to be increased. There are currently 202 Somerset Passenger Solution vehicles.

There is a Community Forum on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May and a Main Site Forum on 4<sup>th</sup> June. More information to follow.

SSG (Hinkley Point Stakeholder Group) Meeting (17/03/2026) Summary Report attended by Councillor Hubbard, who has circulated a report. Next meeting to be held on 15/09/2026.

121/26 To receive a report regarding the Local Community Network from Councillors King and Hubbard.

Councillor King attended the LCN meeting online, but unfortunately there was no sound. He is hoping that Councillor Hubbard, who attended in person, can give an update.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

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Dated 11/05/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

The next Highways meeting is either on 16th or 28th April. The last one was cancelled because no one from Highways could attend.

122/26 To receive a report regarding Parish Links from Councillor Bromme.

The fun run planned by St Joseph's school for Good Friday did not take place in the Parklands because of poor weather.

123/26 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.

Bank fees	-£9.25	
Wessex Water Parklands new supply	£2,277.60	*
New padlock for allotments	-£15.00	
PAYE / NI	-£405.87	
G W B Services mowing and bins	£4,109.59	*
SLCC CiLCA fee for Clerk training	-£346.50	
Chubb Bulleid - Legal fees	£1,014.00	*
SALC Councillor training	-£400.00	
Website	-£15.60	*
Scribe accounts	-£14.40	*
LLOYDS BANK PLC monthly fee	-£3.00	
Key clamp fencing from Black Bull	-£412.49	*
Income		
CCLA Investment Management Limited	£490.83	

124/26 To consider cleaning the panels on the solar lights at a cost of £10 per light and resolving to have this carried out bi-annually. There are 9 lights in total.

Unanimously agreed.

125/26 To consider a final review of Policy changes for Assertion 10 compliance. Unanimously agreed. These will be shown on the screen at the meeting as very minor amendments.

126/26 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.

Response from Highways below:

*In relation to the stretch of green grass that splits Greenacres and Church Road, there doesn't appear to have ever been any bollards here. It's clear that residents are not able to (or choosing not to) park in the allocated off-street parking allocated. And if choosing to park on the road outside their house, they are then bumping up on to the grass to create enough room for cars to pass.*

*If the parish council want to do anything about this, such as installing bollards, it would be at their expense as this would be deemed as an enhanced highways service.*

The Clerk will produce a leaflet to be delivered to each property near the area so they can be consulted about our proposal.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

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# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

127/26 To consider General Data Protection Regulation training for Councillors. The Clerk will provide options prior to the meeting.

Under the new Assertion 10 rules Councillors must understand GDPR rules and guidelines. Training is best practice but is not a statutory requirement. We must consider how best to achieve this. The Clerk has found a company who is happy for us to share the training with Pawlett Parish Council. The total cost is £495 +vat split between 15 Councillors, so £33 per person. This will be a bespoke 2-hour live online session with recordings for any members who cannot attend. This will be on Pawlett's next agenda for their agreement. The Chairman also reminded all Councillors to be mindful when using their Parish Council email address, as they are acting on behalf of the whole council, not as an individual.

128/26 To consider assisting a resident with parking issues in Greenacre.

Details circulated prior to the meeting regarding issues with restricted driveway access due to parked vehicles. Highways have suggested we may be able to assist with a request for 'keep clear' road markings. Unfortunately, this sort of issue has come before the Parish Council in the past and we have never been able to help successfully. We sympathize with the property owner but feel we are unable to assist.

129/26 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 is awaiting news from Rights of Way as they have offered to place a further bollard. They are not willing to approve a large, fixed item. This will be chased by The Clerk.

130/26 To consider a request from The Green to cover the cost of an onsite defibrillator for the foreseeable. A letter had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Parish Council are happy to take on the provision of a defibrillator at The Green but would like to ask for an annual contribution of £50 from The Trust, The Cricket Club and The Football Club. We will also need to investigate alternative housing for the bleed kit which is currently in the same cabinet.

131/26 To receive any matters of report. None.

132/26 Date of The Annual Parish Council meeting: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.00 pm

Annual Parish Assembly Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm with refreshments to follow.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.