

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 13th April 2026 at 7pm at The Green, Homberg Way, Wembdon.

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

133/26 To elect a Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Councillor King was nominated and unanimously supported.

134/26 To request the elected Chairman to sign the declaration of office.

Duly signed.

135/26 To elect a Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Claydon was nominated and unanimously supported.

136/26 To request the elected Vice Chairman to sign the declaration of office.

Duly signed.

137/26 To receive any apologies for absence.

A Jarvis, S Bromme and Somerset Councillors B Bolt and M Caswell.

138/26 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.

139/26 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th April 2026. Approved.

140/26 To invite our Somerset Councillors to give a report either written or in person.

Councillor B Bolt reported the following by email.

An update on the Zebra crossing markings on Wembdon Rise. This is now on the work schedule for this year. I have replied that the markings are almost non-existent and asked for it to be prioritised.

Regarding the Street light that was installed but not connected. Highways are awaiting National grid to contact the contractor to make the connection. I am bewildered by the reply and am waiting for further clarification.

141/26 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.

There were no requests to speak.

142/26 To review the Asset register, financial risk assessment, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. All documents reviewed with minor amendments.

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143/26 To approve the Annual Governance statement for the year ending 31st March 2025 (s.1 of the Annual Return 2024/25).

Carried forward.

144/26 To approve the Annual Accounting statements for the year ending 31st March 2025 (s.2 of the Annual Return 2024/25).

Carried forward.

145/26 Planning applications to discuss or review.

Planning application number: 51/26/00003/STP

Proposal: Change of use of land to provide up to 15 touring caravan pitches for use by Hinkley Point Construction workers for a temporary period of 5 years.

Location: Greenway Farm, 5 Skimmerton Lane, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2AX.

Unanimously agreed to SUPPORT with the following statement.

The application complies with WB7 of the Neighbourhood Plan, and we are happy to support this rural business.

Planning application number: 51/26/00004/TTE

Proposal: Installation of log burner flue/chimney

Location: 16 Meadow Park, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 7QE

No Comment.

7.15pm Councillor Edwards arrived.

146/26 To consider resurfacing the paved area by the Millenium bridge with tarmac when the car park resurfacing is carried out. Wessex Water are happy for us to resurface the area. The Clerk has requested an updated quotation from P Phillips to include the bollards and options for coloured tarmac but has not yet received it! This will be chased.

147/26 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.

The Internal Drainage Board have now agreed to the proposal of an indemnity from the church to allow us to resurface the whole area. An application must be sent to them at a cost of £50. The Clerk would like clarification as to whom will be completing the application. [GENERAL-Consent-Application-Form-2024-v2 -Editable-1.pdf](#). All agreed the Clerk will submit the application.

148/26 To receive an update on the new water supply at the Parklands.

The new standpipe was installed on Wednesday 6th May. The Clerk must meet Wessex Water on May 19th for a further inspection of the standpipe before they will schedule the new connection.

149/26 To receive The Clerk's report.

The gullies and damaged kerb in Wembdon Rise have been reported.

The cleaning of the solar panels on the lights will be carried out early June.

Still awaiting a date from GB Sports to replace the climbing ropes and rehang the swing seat.

150/26 To receive a report regarding Highways from Councillors King and Hubbard.

The problems surrounding Waldrons Lane had been on the agenda for two meetings but could not be addressed because the appropriate Highways people could not attend. At the meeting on 16th April the sole representative took it away promising to get back with the information. Before she did contact me saying that she had passed it on the relevant people, the work had started. Please see the Perry Green report.

The Enhanced Highways Maintenance scheme paper was discussed. The meeting agreed that the paper alluded to what the parishes would be liable for but did not say what Highways will be doing. The meeting agreed that it needed further work by Highways. Some parishes in other LCN's are not happy at all.

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National Grid has commenced a 6-week work programme installing a new cable under A39 Quantock Road. We will provide updates on the website as and when we receive them.

151/26 To receive a report regarding Footpaths and Verges from Councillors Phillips and Major.

The Clerk was awaiting approval from Highways to carry out the repairs to the footpath from Booth Way to Homberg Way. As they had not responded, The Clerk reached out to Rights of Way for assistance, and they wrote to Highways giving them 10 working days to respond or the work will be carried out regardless. This expires on Friday 15th May, at which point the work will be instructed.

The fallen tree in Gypsy Lane was cleared by Somerset Council.

152/26 To receive a report regarding Playing Fields and Common from Councillor Bromme.

The monthly report has been received from GB Sports, there are no new issues apart from those already in hand. The Clerk has received a quote for the repair of the spring on the lion, but the cost is quite high, so a quote for a new replacement (rather than a repair) has been requested. See item 165/26.

A company has been contacted to get some initial feedback on costs for a MUGA/ new playground equipment. Here is their website. [Garden Shopping – Garden-Shopping](#). They can do a free quotation, but I have sent an initial mail outlining our requirements just to get some idea for now. They are based in North Yorkshire but have country wide coverage.

153/26 To receive a report regarding Parklands from Councillor Edwards. Nothing to report.

154/26 To receive a report regarding the Parish Paper from The Clerk and Councillor Major.

Agreed to print in late May. The Clerk has contacted advertisers in readiness and will reach out to the local community groups for any upcoming events and reports they wish to include.

155/26 To receive a report regarding the Allotments from Councillors Claydon and Jarvis.

Two plot holders have been given notice to vacate and a third has given notice to vacate.

156/26 To receive a report regarding Perry Green from Councillor King.

The resurfacing of Waldrons Lane has been carried out all along its length. One and a quarter mile in total. It is appreciated that this work is overdue by three years due to the proposed cost at that time of £250,000. To meet its obligations, Highways opted to use a somewhat experimental fix involving reusing the scraped up existing surface, scalping's and concrete, laid on the existing foundations of withies and sandbags. Will it last? There is doubt, but the cost dropped to £100,000. Still a huge amount for such a seldom used road that only serves a dog training club. Our local MP has been contacted and a reply is pending. A tenth of the £100,000 could have been used to rectify the flooding problems in Perry Green.

157/26 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall from Councillor Phillips and The Clerk.

The Green will be installing a sign on Homberg Way to help people find the entrance.

158/26 To receive a report regarding Speed Indicator Device and Speedwatch from Councillor Hubbard.

Nothing to report.

159/26 To receive a report regarding Hinkley and EDF from Councillors Phillips and Hubbard.

No meeting to attend.

160/26 To receive a report regarding the Local Community Network from Councillors King and Hubbard.

The next LCN meeting is on 24th June at Spaxton Village Hall.

161/26 To receive a report regarding Parish Links from Councillor Bromme.

A couple of new items have been sent to the Clerk for inclusion in the Parish paper, summarising the results of the survey, and highlighting where to find information on activities in the village.

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162/26 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.

Direct Debit Scribe	-£14.40	*
Direct Debit (NPOWER)	-£54.38	*
Direct Debit (IONOS CLOUD LTD.)	-£51.60	*
Service Charge	-£8.50	
B/P to: RB Garden Services	-£800.00	
B/P to: Parish Online	-£92.34	*
B/P to: Neil Harrison plants etc	-£126.38	
B/P to: G W B Services	-£3,745.39	*
B/P to: Wembdon Cricket Cl	-£74.40	*
B/P to: SALC	-£25.00	
B/P to: TC Plumbing Heat	-£72.00	
B/P to: HMRC PAYE	-£507.41	
B/P to: G B Sports	-£216.00	*
LLOYDS BANK PLC Card		
Standpipe for Parklands	-£591.30	*
Ashridge Hedging plants	-£64.79	*
Monthly fee	-£3.00	
Total	-£659.09	
Income		
CCLA Investment Management Limited	£540.55	
SOMERSET COUNCIL Precept 50%	£63,750.00	

163/26 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.

The Clerk has delivered leaflets to all affected households requesting their comments on our proposal. We received two responses by email, one in favour of and one against the proposal.

The Council Unanimously agreed to proceed with installation of the posts after allowing a further 7 days.

164/26 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 for a suggestion which does not involve Highways. A response from Highways has been circulated which would require legal costs and plans.

The Clerk will speak with Rights of Way in the hope of installing two wooden posts slightly back from the bollards and permission to proceed should it be acceptable.

165/26 To consider a quotation from GB Sports to repair the rocker on the play area for £360.56 +vat, and a quote to replace the whole unit would be £1500 + vat and installation.

Unanimously agreed to repair the existing rocker.

166/26 To consider the creation of a working group to make suggestions based upon the survey results and for it to have a regular report item going forward.

Councillors S Bromme, L Edwards and A Mills Jones all volunteered. They will have a regular report item going forward named Community Infrastructure Levy Money projects.

167/26 To resolve to transfer £50,000 into the CCLA investment account and sign the paperwork to add Councillor Mills Jones to the same.

Unanimously agreed.

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168/26 To receive any matters of report.

The Parish Council are arranging a defibrillator training morning at the Green for anyone to attend, the proposed date is Wednesday 15th July.

Pawlett Parish Council agreed to share the data protection training, this will be arranged for June. It was also noted that we still have a vacancy on the Council which needs to be filled.

169/26 Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 8th June 2026 at 7.00 pm

Meeting closed at 8pm.