

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7pm at The Green, Homberg Way, Wembdon.

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

Started at 7pm

170/26 To receive any apologies for absence. Councillors Edwards and Bromme. Unitary Councillors B Bolt and M Caswell.

171/26 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.

172/26 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Approved.

173/26 To invite our Unitary Councillors to give a report either written or in person.

Councillor Bolt reported that the white lines on the Zebra Crossing in Wembdon Rise had been refreshed.

174/26 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.

No members of the public were present.

It was resolved to amend the order below under Standing Order 10, to bring item 177 forward.

177/26 To consider the Internal Auditors report and appoint an Internal Auditor for the current financial year.

The report was reviewed in detail, and an annotated version will be added to the Finance section of the website along with items 175 and 176 in the Finance section by the end of June 2026 together with sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return (see minutes 175 and 176 below).

175/26 To approve the Annual Governance statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 (s.1 of the Annual Return 2024/25).

It was resolved to sign the document.

176/26 To approve the Annual Accounting statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 (s.2 of the Annual Return 2024/25).

It was resolved to sign the document.

178/26 Planning applications to discuss or review.

Planning application number: 51/26/00005/LE

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Proposal: Demolition of agricultural building and erection of 1 No. dwelling

Location: Wembdon Farm, Hollow Lane, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2BD

It was resolved to OBJECT to this application based on the following:

WPC supports the application in principle because it meets the requirements of:

- Local Plan Policy S4: Sustainable Development Principles includes "Encouraging the reuse of previously developed land and buildings;"
- Local Plan Policy D2 and Wembdon Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Policy WB1 in respect of general design; and also, NP Policy WB3 in respect of parking provision.

However, we note that the plans and application refer to just 'stone' as the material to be used for some of the walls. Therefore, WPC formally objects to the application because it fails to meet NP WB1 in respect of a specification for the use of locally sourced sandstone, and for the re-use of sandstone from the existing buildings.

We will remove our objection if conditions are attached to any grant of planning permission:

1. Stone used in the construction is to be locally sourced red sandstone (or equivalent).
2. Any red sandstone from the demolished buildings should be re-used on site, preferably as part of the new construction.

Planning application number: 51/26/00006/TTE

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear (SW) extension on site of existing conservatory (to be demolished).

Location: 10 Crossacre, Wembdon, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 7RN

It was resolved to SUPPORT this application

WPC supports this application because it complies with the requirements of Sedgemoor Local Plan Policy D2: Promoting high quality and inclusive design and Wembdon Neighbourhood Plan WB1: Design.

However, we note that there is no formal specification for materials on the plans. We therefore recommend that a condition should be attached to any grant of permission that the materials for walls, windows and doors, and roof should match those of the existing building.

179/26 To consider resurfacing the paved area by the Millenium bridge. Wessex Water are happy for us to resurface the area. The Clerk is working to obtain further quotes for different surface options.

180/26 To receive an update on the resurfacing of the Church car park/Public Right of Way 34/4 and 34/2 to be carried out.

The Internal Drainage Board application has been submitted by The Clerk. We now await their response, and we also await confirmation from the Diocese Board that they are happy to indemnify the Drainage Board against damages.

181/26 To receive an update on the new water supply at the Parklands.

The new supply connection has been successfully completed. The cost of which will not come from The Parklands budget, but the ongoing supply costs will.

182/26 To receive The Clerk's report.

The Defibrillator training has been confirmed for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 10am for approximately 2 hours.

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

Data Protection Training will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm.

The bollards will be installed at Church Road and Homberg Way in the next couple of weeks.

The tree survey will be carried out week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

The Bar manager at The Green will be given access to the Camera in the lobby so antisocial behaviour can be prevented. The policy will be updated to reflect this change.

The Clerk found a damaged sign on the ground in the play area that asked pedestrians and cyclists to share the pavement. This needs to be replaced.

183/26 To receive a report regarding Highways from Councillors King and Hubbard.

The Clerk is awaiting approval via the Enhanced Maintenance Scheme to carry out the repairs to the footpath from Booth Way to Homberg Way.

The Clerk previously reported blocked gullies in Wembdon Rise and was informed by Highways that they were clear. However, this is not the case, The Clerk will query this with photographic evidence and also request that the road be swept as there is much debris in the gutters.

It was noted that the repairs to the pavement outside 32A Wembdon Rise have been re-done and have been greatly improved. However, there is still a small patch which has not been resurfaced at all. The clerk was asked to write to Somerset Highways again, with photographic evidence

184/26 To receive a report regarding Playing Fields and Common from Councillor Bromme.

The ropes on the climbing frame have been replaced, and the accessible swing has been rehung.

185/26 To receive a report regarding Parklands from Councillor Edwards.

A new gardener has been appointed who lives in the village and familiar with the Parklands.

A hosepipe has been purchased to attach to the standpipe and fill the water butts locked in the store. This will allow monitoring of water usage, which is also on a metered supply, and will be checked regularly.

The draft Land Management Plan has been received from Halpin Robins, and Councillor Major has been asked for his opinion before we adopt it.

One point missing.....

It currently fails to mention the new plans to make it accessible to disabled users, and significant improvements to planting and biodiversity, that we submitted to Sedgemoor District Council planning and legal department and were approved in September 2019. We will have that updated.

The Clerk was asked to chase the installation of the gabion which is to be sited at the end of the new handrail from The Green to The Parklands.

186/26 To receive a report regarding the Parish Paper from The Clerk and Councillor Major.

The Clerk is preparing the Parish Paper at present and would like suggestions for the front cover. It was agreed to advertise the Councillor vacancy; The Clerk will come up with some ideas.

187/26 To receive a report regarding the Allotments from Councillors Claydon and Jarvis.

The three vacant plots have now been allocated to new tenants.

There is one Wembdon resident on the waiting list.

The large apple tree which came down was cut up and the trunk and some large branches were taken to the stumpery at the Parkland. Large branches were offered to allotment holders for firewood and has been

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

taken. Debris remains but will gradually be taken away by WPC contractor. Grateful thanks to them for the work they have done.

188/26 To receive a report regarding Perry Green from Councillor King.

The resurfacing of Waldrons Lane is still a mystery. Our MP's office has not had a reply from Highways yet. I shall be raising it yet again at the next Highways meeting. A leaking hydrant, used by the contractors when doing the Waldrons Lane works, has been reported to Wessex Water.

A local footpath that has been ploughed over by the farmer has been reported to PROW.

Give way road markings have been painted on the junction of Waldron Lane and Perry Green Road. There was no information that this was going to be carried out but it did need doing as there is often confusion here

189/26 To receive a report regarding the Village Hall from Councillor Phillips and The Clerk.

Internal redecoration is ongoing. The new signs have been installed on Homberg Way. They are currently having a new website developed and a rebrand.

190/26 To receive a report regarding Speed Indicator Device and Speedwatch from Councillor Hubbard.

## SID & SPEEDWATCH REPORT JUNE 2026

The Speedwatch Team have not met since the last meeting.

Parking on the double yellow lines at the top of Wembdon Hill still seems to be at a minimum.

The Mobile SID is still at the top of Sanford Hill on the junction of Moore's Lane and Skimmerton Lane going eastbound (Inbound). Batteries are replaced every 2 to 3 weeks.

The data from the FIXED SOLAR SIDs was downloaded on 01/06/2026 and a summary is below. The speeds recorded remain generally constant, although there was a slight decrease in average speeds. The maximum speeds are still of great concern.

Sandford Hill - 2193 vehicles travelling 40mph or greater between April and June 2026.

Wembdon Rise (Wares Lane) – 98 vehicles travelling 40mph or greater between April and June 2026.

Wembdon Rise – 510 vehicles travelling 40mph or greater between April and June 2026.

I will contact the Police Speed Enforcement team again and hopefully they will be able to arrange a speed monitoring exercise soon.

### Sandford Hill

Average Speed (Incoming) = 26.39mph

Average Speed (Outgoing) = 30.26mph

Maximum Speed (Incoming) = 63mph

Maximum Speed (Outgoing) = 78mph

### Wembdon Rise (Wares Lane)

Average Speed (Towards NDR) = 20.24mph

Average Speed (Towards Wembdon Hill) = 21.27mph

Maximum Speed (Towards NDR) = 45mph

Maximum Speed (Towards Wembdon Hill) = 43mph

### Wembdon Rise

Average Speed (Incoming from NDR) = 20.55mph

Average Speed (Outgoing towards NDR) = 21.67mph

Maximum Speed (Incoming from NDR) = 55mph

Maximum Speed (Outgoing towards NDR) = 60mph

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

191/26 To receive a report regarding Hinkley and EDF from Councillors Phillips and Hubbard.  
Nothing to report.

192/26 To receive a report regarding the Local Community Network from Councillors King and Hubbard.  
The next Highways meeting is on 30th June.  
The next Local Community Network meeting is on 17<sup>th</sup> June and is the Annual General Meeting.

193/26 To receive a report regarding Parish Links from Councillor Bromme. Nothing to report.

194/26 To receive a report regarding Community Infrastructure Levy Money projects from Councillors Bromme, Edwards and Mills Jones.

The first sub meeting was held on 04/06 between Councillors Bromme, Edwards and Mills Jones to discuss next steps following the results of the survey. This was a brainstorming meeting, deciding, based on the survey, what would be the best way to spend the project money and how to achieve it.

The conclusion was that a MUGA would best cover the community's requests in terms of racket sports, 5 a side football and basketball, and we will work to understand the details now, (size, surface etc) so that we are in a position to get meaningful quotes for the work.

The discussion also included general improvements to the playing field itself, and whether we could include changes there as part of the work being done.

Investigations will be done into potential, additional sources of funding to help support this.  
Next meeting is planned for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

195/26 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.

15-May-26	INFORMATION COMMISSION	£47.00	
20-May-26	Website	£15.60	*
26-May-26	LLOYDS BANK PLC	£25.49	
31-May-26	Service Charge	£7.90	
01-Jun-26	Scribe accounts	£14.40	*
01-Jun-26	Clear Council Insurance renewal	£1,382.23	
01-Jun-26	Refund deposit plot 21	£100.00	
01-Jun-26	Kevin Flay handrail at Parklands	£150.00	
01-Jun-26	G W B Services Mowing and Bins	£3,936.79	*
01-Jun-26	SALC membership renewal	£1,318.62	
01-Jun-26	SALC training	£25.00	
01-Jun-26	G B Sports	£359.94	
01-Jun-26	James Porter water connection	£594.00	*
02-Jun-26	PARRETT INT DRAINAGE BOARD	£23.04	
02-Jun-26	RB Gardening services	£700.00	
	Transfer to CCLA investment account	£50,000.00	

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026

# WEMBDON PARISH COUNCIL

01-Jun-26

26-May-26	LLOYDS BANK CARD	
	Card fee	£3.00
	Padlock for water at parklands	£22.49 *
	Income Received	
05-May-26	HMRC VAT Refund	£6,565.85
05-May-26	CCLA Investment Management Limited	£525.31
06-May-26	Plot s 21 & 41 deposits	£200.00
13-May-26	SOMERSET COUNCIL PRECEPT	£18,697.24

196/26 To agree the date on the next Annual Parish Meeting, suggested date of Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2027.  
It was resolved to set the proposed date of Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2027.

197/26 To resolve to pay HMRC by direct debit for PAYE and National Insurance contributions.  
Resolved to do so.

198/26 To receive any matters of report. None.  
Meeting ended at 8.30pm.

199/26 Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7.00 pm

Minutes of Wembdon Parish Council meeting held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2026