

PARISH COUNCIL OF WEMBWORTHY

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th January 2016 7.30m pm at the village hall.

1/ Members present, Chairman Councillor Graham Penter, Councillor George Markou, Councillor Lawrence Peters and Councillor Steve Tickner.
Councillor Dave Phillips is still unwell.

2/ PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No members of the public present.

3/Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were agreed as correct.

4/Matters arising from the minutes.

a) Road signs for the village.

The new “Wembworthy” village sign is finally being delivered next week after much chasing by Councillor George Markou and will be paid for by District Councillor Margaret Squires from her locality budget, costing £215.28. This is because Devon Highways were not prepared to do this.

The “Slow down for children” and “Twenty’s plenty” signs will be going up at the same time as the village sign and will be done by the Councillors.

b) The Transparency Code and Website.

Dates for MDDC training end January 2016 so Councillor Steve Tickner can attend and get access to the Wembworthy page so that future Agendas, Minutes, and Audits can be published in accordance with the TC.

c) Grass cutting tenders.

A combined tender will be advertised on 18th January and the clerk will set up a Facebook page for the first time to do this as well as posters locally.

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5/ MDDC Grass Verge Cutting Consultation.

The PC has been asked to look at the grass cutting undertaken by the district council as “the recent Tough Choices consultation carried out by Devon County Council (DCC) has resulted in the decision to reduce the specification on cutting grass verges on land owned by DCC across our district. The suggested specification will maintain visibility at road junctions and restrict the width of the grass that is cut on the roadside verges to approx 1 meter.” The DCC have also reduced funding to MDDC by £30k, so it was proposed that the PC consider paying for the work MDDC provides. This would be at a set price of £3.51 per 100 square meters with 4 cuts per year (total £51.80) or MDDC would withdraw from providing this as a service. A meeting has been offered by the Grounds maintenance representative Paul Osmond and this was proposed by the chairman to check the land area mentioned in their letter as it seemed out of date anyway before a decision was reached.

6/Update on the Councillors specialist areas.

Graham Penter – Church and Chapel liaison – nothing to update.

George Markou – Planning applications - nothing to report for planning.

Village Hall Liaison. - The village hall is holding a Big Breakfast on 13th February 2016 to raise funds for the hall.

Lawrence Peters – Roads and Hedges – potholes have been repaired on the road to Petty Ford. A new flag is needed for the flagpole as looking very frayed, and an additional notice board has been requested for the bottom of the village.

Dave Phillips – Neighbourhood watch and Bridge Reeve – not present

Steve Tickner – Newsletter and website – to report back to next meeting once training completed. .

It was reported that the village Broadband meeting on 2nd December 2015 was well attended With BT representatives present, and some improvements have already been noted.

7/ Accounts

a/Balance in bank £4226.97

b/Cheques signed as in Agenda

£180 Evergreen Gardening Services for churchyard grass cutting 2 monthly instalment.
£500 to Wembworthy Village Hall as a donation towards the replacement of fascias and guttering.

8/AOB and items for next meeting's Agenda.

Grass cutting tenders to be finalised.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Date of next meeting Thursday 14th January 2016