

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 25th July, 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. G. Evans - Chairman

Cllr. D. Owens

Cllr. R. Pierce

Cllr. R. Phillips

Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd

+ 3 Members of the public

Cllr. P. Thomas

Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin

Cllr. J. Purslow

Cllr. K. Myers

Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith

1. Apologies & Reasons for Absence

Cllr. A. Stokes – on holiday

Cllr. K. Duggan – Family business

Cllr. B. Morgan – No reason given

ACTION

2. Announcement of any interests from councillors

Prejudicial Interest declared by Cllr. P. Thomas regarding a planning application for Weston Court, which is to be discussed this evening. Clerk will record this interest.

3. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 20th June 2007

There were two matters arising:

1) The Attendance List should have included Cllr. K. Duggan and Cllr. J. Purslow.

2) Finances – figure shown for Amenity Trust management charge was incorrect – should read: £3,771.28 not £3,711.28 (typographical error).

These 2 discrepancies on the Minutes have been amended, and the Minutes were then signed as a true record.

4. Parish Plan Review – Guest : Mr.Chris Gooding, Parish Plan Implementation Officer (H. Council)

It was explained that as Pembridge was the first parish to carry out a Parish Plan (2002) that it would be relevant for the parish to now consider a review of its Plan, and that this could be as extensive or simple as is required. There is greater support for groups now, and funding is available from both Herefordshire Partnership and Herefordshire Council. If Pembridge were prepared to be a 'guinea pig' parish to undertake the first review of a Plan, then it may be a good idea to incorporate into the review a 'Further Planning Guidance'. It may be prudent to select just the key issues that were raised in the initial Plan to concentrate on in a review; such as Traffic issues, Transport, Affordable housing and the Environment.

The meeting decided that it would first be beneficial for some councillors to attend the Parish Plan Workshop which is being arranged for parishes in the north of the county on 25th September 2007. The venue is yet to be determined. Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd and one or two other councillors agreed to attend the Workshop. Mr. Gooding requested support from Pembridge parish as it was the first to undertake a Plan. Clerk will advise when more information becomes available.

5. Parish Magazine Report / Community Access Point update

Guest – Mr. Henry James, Chair of the CAP Steering Group

The meeting was given an overhead presentation and advised that the CAP group has now received all the equipment ordered and this has been installed, including a broadband facility in the Parish Hall. Pembridge CAP has second highest usage amongst all CAP's.

The school children are now using the 6 laptop computers, video equipment and digital cameras. There is the facility available to be able to show films before they become on general release, which would mean that film shows could be put on as a fund raising and social gathering opportunity. Some essential funds have already been raised to offset the costs which will have to be met in 2 years time when all grant funding ceases, and the group take over ownership of all the equipment.

The official opening of the CAP facility is planned for September, and will be carried out by Kate Bliss from the TV programme 'Flog It'. Promotion of the CAP will take place later in the year.

With regard to the intended purchase of a printer to produce the Parish Magazine

There is a need to purchase an A3 colour printer, which would be added to the school's inventory for insurance purposes, and the premium for this would be paid for by CAP. It is proposed that a printer would be stored at the school with the other CAP equipment, but it would not be intended to be used by the schoolchildren. However, it could be used by the CAP group and they could advertise its use and charge for that use, income from which would be repaid to the Parish Council to recoup some of the outlay.

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Purlis that a printer is purchased, and this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith. On a vote, the majority were in favour.

Henry James agreed to check the market range and liaise closely with the Parish Council on the most suitable model at economic cost, which would be purchased in time to produce the September/October 2007 edition of the Parish Magazine.

6. MEETING WAS CLOSED TO TAKE PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS AT 9 pm

1. Resident was concerned about the review of the parish's Parish Plan and the possibility of merging important themes with those of other parishes, and thought it would be advantageous if priority areas of individual parishes were looked at. Noted.
2. Resident wanted general information with regard to a planning application to which he objected. The correct procedure to follow for objection was explained.
3. A letter which had been handed in to the meeting by local residents was read out, regarding the condition of road surfacing in Noke Lane, and their request to have improvements made. Agreed Cllr. Phillips would look into this with the Highways section.

RJP

THE MEETING WAS THEN RE-OPENED AT 9.15 pm

7. Financial Report (Clerk)

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place.

New Bank Mandate to amend signatories for the bank account was signed this evening, and will be submitted for authorisation to the bank.

HH/KM

Invoices have been sent to the next 3 parish magazine advertisers: £60 each p.a.

Balances at end June 2007:

Current Account at end of March:	£4,358.08
High Interest Account:	£5,644.54
Post Office National Savings Account:	£10,520.11

Receipts since last meeting:

Refund from Amenity Trust re Market Hall renovation underspend	£7,000.00
2 x magazine advertiser's annual payment x £60	£120.00

Payments made since last meeting:

JB Joyce & Co. Advance Payment for next 60 months'	
Servicing of Bell Tower Clock : to 31.5.2011	£1,029.30
Herefordshire Jarvis – M. Meadow Mowing x 2 May	£94.00
Pembridge Amenity Trust management charges Inv. No. 13	£3,771.28
Zurich Municipal Insurance Premium for 2007/08	£913.75
Toilet Cleaner – June + bin emptying	£199.75
Clerk's 1 st quarter salary	£729.14
Clerk's 1 st quarter expenses	£221.70
ROSPA Inspection Fee - playground	£43.26
Clearview – Public Toilet consumables	£73.21
Printing of Annual Report – 550 copies	£175.00
Land Registry (to register the Village Green)	£30.00

Additional Payments Requested:

PCC donation towards new lightning conductor for Bell Tower	£150.00
Strimming M. Meadow June	£35.00
Tree surgeon to fell 2 dangerous trees on village green	£180.00
Parish Hall Hire	£50.00
Toilet Cleaner – July + bin emptying	£205.62
Strimming M. Meadow July	£35.00
Mowing M. Meadow – June	£94.00
Printing Parish magazine + flyer (550 copies) – July/Aug	£356.71
Mowing M. Meadow – July	£94.00
Community First annual subscription	£38.00

All above transactions were approved

8. Parish Social Event for 2008

Item recently discussed at Open Meeting on 18th July. It was noted that it is important that any proposed event does not clash with any other planned parish events for 2008, bearing in mind the Church's Fete, the Show and any CAP fund raising events which will held.

9. Proposed Tennis Courts for the Parish

Item recently discussed at Open Meeting on 18th July. Cllr. Purls stated that he has written to the LTA England for advice on costings etc. and had been advised that in the region of £30,000 would be required for 2 courts. A £15,000 donation has been generously offered by a resident, which together with some grant funding, may mean that there would be a shortfall which the Parish Council would need to provide. Cllr. Purslow will report back to the next meeting in September, when he will hopefully have more information.

JP

There was some concern raised about the extent of ongoing usage of two tennis courts.

10. Amenity Trust Report

Public toilets repairs will be undertaken within the next few weeks. There is a broken window to the toilets, which the Amenity Trust will address. No further update on repairs to the bell tower ladder etc. just yet.

11. Parish Council Website Improvements Update

In the light of various difficulties in completing the new website, Cllr. Pierce kindly offered to take on the work of completing and maintaining it in a simplified format, for one year. This will need to be reviewed.

BP

Any suitable articles for inclusion on the website should be passed to Cllr. R. Pierce please. It would be particularly useful to keep the Contacts List up to date, as well as the Calendar of Events.

12. Millennium Meadow Progress Report

The redundant overhead power cables are awaiting removal and completion of the work. An estimate received for the cost to paint the surface around 2 pieces of play equipment as requested in the ROSPA inspection report, of c£75 was accepted. Clerk to arrange.

HH

The Suggestion to fix 6 ft fence panels along left hand side of the playground to stop the vegetation growing through and causing a hazard to small children was rejected. Instead it was proposed that the regular strimming work carried out on the Meadow should also include a trim along the fence to remove this hazard. Clerk to arrange.

HH

13. Village Green Report

The management of the all the riverside trees on the village green has been organised to be undertaken by the Environment Agency in August 2007, as a one-off and free of charge project because the trees have been left to become overcrowded. This will entail the coppicing of several of the trees. The E. Agency's role is normally only to attend to any trees along the riverside which may pose a risk to flooding of the river. The E. Agency have advised a future maintenance plan of the trees over a 5/10 year rolling programme, to ensure their future good management. The Parish Council will undertake such work with the assistance of our Tree Warden, Tony Norman, and one other local qualified resident; such work will be carried out on a commercial basis.

The improvements to the car parking area, on a lesser scale than was previously planned, has now been looked into. This will entail an area of approximately 15 metres square, nearest to the entrance, where the surface is currently very badly pot holed. It is estimated that the work can be achieved for no more than the budget of £1,000.

A proposal was put forward that this project is accepted : Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd
Seconded by Cllr. D. Owens

It was agreed that Cllr. Purslow, Cllr. Pierce and Cllr. Myers will arrange for this work to be undertaken.

RJP

14. Burial Ground Space

The matter of there being only an estimated 2 years worth of burial spaced left in the burial ground has had to be addressed. The option of reutilising land which has had no burials upon it for over 100 years is currently being considered; this will entail the removal of some old but damaged trees. Other options with regard to the possibility of obtaining neighbouring land will also be considered.

15. Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action

a) Kingspan Environmental Trust – Cllr. K. Myers has now been contacted by Kingspan with regard to attending future Trust meetings as the Parish Council's representative.

b) School new parking policy letter – copy for all councillors. Contents concern a total ban of parking within the school grounds to come into force. The school has requested to be allowed parking use of the village hall car park on a regular basis, but this has been refused by the Village Hall Committee.

c) Suckley Lane missing area of hedging – Clerk will follow this up.

HH

d) Parish Plan Implementation Workshop – NW Herefordshire – Tue. 25th Sept. 6 – 8.30 pm

The purpose of the Workshop is to discuss outstanding issues from Parish Plan action plans that are common to all or most of the groups present. Invited HC officers will be present. Response needed by 3rd August. Venue to be advised.

ALL**e) Marches Housing Assn. – Annual Report for 2007****f) NetSolva website designer** – information available.**g) HALC N. Herefordshire meeting** – Mon. 30th July at 7.30 pm – Highways speaker – 7.30pm
Old Council Chamber, Leominster**h) New Noticeboard** information to be considered for Broxwood and Marston sites.**i) New bench for the v. green** – The set budget of £400 is not quite sufficient, need £452.
An increase in funding was agreed for this purpose.**j) Shobdon Aero Club** – Noise Abatement meeting was held – 17th July 2007

Cllr. Purslow requested to join these meetings – Clerk will arrange.

HH**k) Cancelled Pembridge Show – bad weather**– the Show Committee are left with debts of c£2,000, and they will arrange some social events to raise money to offset these debts.**JM****16. Planning Matters****Planning Permissions Granted:****DCNW2007/1114/F** **Lower Bearwood Farm, Bearwood**
Proposed single storey extension**Comments:** No Objection**DCNW2007/1277/F** **Dunelm, West Street, Pembridge**
Proposed first floor extension, new front porch & alterations**Comments:** No Objection, however some concerns about the
Large scale of the proposed extension**DCNW2007/1412/F** **The Gorsty, Gorsty, Pembridge**
Proposed conversion of garage to provide
ancillary living accommodation**Comments:** No Objection**DCNW2007/1237/F** **1 Broxwood Court Cottages, Broxwood**
Proposed two storey and single storey extensions**Comments:** No Objection**DCNW2007/1402/F** **The Yeld, Lyonshall**
Proposed building to enclose existing fuel tanks**Comments:** No Objection**Application Recently Refused:****DCNW2007/1359/L** **Hazeldene, West Street, Pembridge**
Listed Conversion of cottage into two dwellings,
rear conservatory and car space for each**Comments:** No Objection**DCNW2007/1358/F** **Hazeldene, West Street, Pembridge**
Conversion of cottage into two dwellings,
rear conservatory and a car space for each**Comments:** No Objection

Applications which were considered this evening:

- DCNW2007/2092/F** **Land adjacent to A44 road, part of Pittfield Farm, Pembridge**
Retrospective application for retention of 2 stables and storage space, siting of one horse trailer and improvements to existing track
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/1900/F** **The Old Oak House, Pembridge**
Proposed change of use and conversion of barn into a 2 bedroom holiday cottage to include single storey extension.
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/1901/L**
Listed **The Old Oak House, Pembridge**
Proposed change of use and conversion of barn into a 2 bedroom holiday cottage to include single storey extension
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/1907/F** **Milton Farm, Pembridge**
Proposed steel portal framed building extension for cold storage of seed potatoes and farm implementation storage with workshop.
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/2016/F** **Yewtree Cottage, Gorsty, Pembridge**
Proposed first floor rear extension and new garage
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/2196/F** **Mere Cottage, Woonton, Hereford**
Proposed two storey and single storey extension to an existing dwelling
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/1876/L**
Listed **Church House, Market Square, Pembridge**
Remove internal landing ceiling
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/2247/G** **Acorn Cottage, East Street, Pembridge**
Discharge section 52 agreement (1975 L37) in order to separate Acorn Cottage from the Old Oak House
- Comments:** No Objection

DCNW2007/2165/F

Victoria Place, East Street, Pembridge
Proposed relocation of existing garden trellis**Comments:** No Objection**17. Next Meeting Date***No Meeting in August 2007.*Next Meeting: Wednesday 19th September 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.**MEETING CLOSED****18. Ward Councillor's Report – Cllr. R.J. Phillips****Road Signs**

The Council undertook its legal duty and collected all temporary road signs in many of the north Herefordshire Villages earlier this month. While all these signs are illegal and in some cases present a highway safety issue I protested about the manner in which this was done.

Most of the signs are advertising local community and charity events while those for "pick your own" are advertising businesses that are having big problems with the weather without someone taking away their directional signs.

There does need to be some control on these signs, where they are sited and how long they stay put but a more diplomatic solution to the problem involving the support of Parish Councils would have been more constructive.

Rotherwas Ribbon

You will have heard of the recent archaeological find while the building of the Rotherwas Access road has been going on. The find is not of the visual significance of Stonehenge and is not in my opinion a huge tourism attraction for our county. (Arthur's Stone is far more impressive). English Heritage have visited and inspected the site and are very satisfied with the work the Council has done to excavate and record it. We are awaiting a report from them with a view to protecting the site and to covering it. I visited the site on Tuesday and have agreed that it should receive a protective covering, which means public viewing will no longer continue.

Summer 2007

This summer has been a near disaster with all the rain for many homes, businesses, events and infrastructure in our county. Despite considerable disruption no lives have been lost in our county, or serious injuries. The Council is working with Advantage West Midlands to lobby for support for Market Towns and their hinterlands. Nadine Kinsey based in Kington covers this Parish and would be keen to hear from any business, at this stage it is difficult to confirm any or what funding may be available, but it would be helpful to have information and details. The increased cost to highway maintenance is a budget pressure, which we will be lobbying Government about. If there are any potholes or bad damage not yet reported please let me or the Council know direct on 01432 260000.

Consultation on Redevelopment of Hereford ESG

Proposals for the redevelopment of 100 acres of Hereford City are out to consultation. An exhibition of the plans is on in Broad Street and will be going round the Market Towns, including Leominster and Kington. The proposals include more Retail, Leisure and Car Parking facilities, 1000 new homes, new canal basin, remodelling of roads and the opening up of public spaces including the Blackfriars Hospital.

Local Schools

Pembridge School are finalising their plans for major refurbishment and rebuild of the School for next year. Lady Hawkins School will be celebrating the 375th anniversary of the founding of the school on 29th September 2007.

Meeting ended at 11.20 pm