

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 19th September, 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. G. Evans - Chairman
Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd
Cllr. R. Pierce
Cllr. R. Phillips

Cllr. P. Thomas
Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin
Cllr. J. Purslow
Cllr. K. Duggan
Cllr. B. Morgan – Part Time

+ 1 Member of the public

1. Apologies & Reasons for Absence

ACTION

Cllr. K. Myers – Family Business
Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith – Family Business
Cllr. A. Stokes
Cllr. D. Owens

2. Announcement of any interests from councillors

Personal Interests declared by Cllrs. Mrs. J. Mifflin & Cllr. R. Phillips regarding a planning application for the School, to which they are Governors. Clerk will record these interests.

3. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 25th July 2007

These were signed as a true record.

4. Financial Report (Clerk)

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place.

The signatories for the bank account have now been updated to include Cllr. K. Myers.

Paperwork for the new signatories for the Post Office National Savings Account will need to be put in place as soon as possible. Clerk has form to be signed by Cllrs. Evans & Myers.

HH

Reminder received from H. Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services that parish councils should in future budget for election costs. For a parish of this size (c825 electors) the cost would be:

Nomination Process: £70.00, Election Process: £650.00, Casual Vacancy: £2,000.00

nPower have asked if we'd like to secure electricity prices for 12 months as a direct debit payer, by signing an Agreement – Rejected.

British Heart Foundation – wish to raise funds by utilising one of our Christmas Trees. Agreed

HH

Advance Notice/Request – Clerk requested consideration of any aspects of additional expenditure which may be required for the year ahead (April 2008-March 2009) and would like this information by early October, in order to draft the budget/precept requirement in early November. This obviously requires some 'thinking ahead' regarding projects of all types that may be required.

Balances at end August 2007:

Current Account at end of August:	£10,700.67 (Not including Precept)
High Interest Account:	£5,644.54
Post Office National Savings Account:	£10,520.11

Receipts since last meeting:

Magazine advertiser's fee x 2 @ £60	£120.00
Cash donations to parish magazine	£14.73
Part premium refund from Zurich Insurance (Removal of Farmers Markets from policy)	£26.25
BT Wayleave cheque	£26.32
September – 2 nd half year Precept	£9,000.00

Payments made since last meeting:**August**

Toilet Cleaner – August + bin emptying	£205.62
Audit Fee Hacker Young	£158.63
NPower electricity for public toilets	£79.83
Computacenter – new computer printer for parish magazine	£2,067.38

September

Strimming M. Meadow	£35.00
Playground repairs	£79.60
Mowing M. Meadow – August	£94.00
Glasdon – New Seat + fixing kit	£484.68
Parish Magazine printing – Sept./Oct	£175.00
Toilet Cleaner – September + Bins	£199.75

Additional Payments Requested:

Clerk's 2nd quarter salary and expenses are due at the end of September.

All above transactions were approved.

5. Parish Social Event for 2008 - Update

Geoff Hardy has agreed to take on the forming of an Events Group to help run some parish social events. Initial ideas include a family Halloween get together on the Millennium Meadow in October 2007, and some other event around the time of the Woodcock Fair in 2008. Clerk will advise Mr. Hardy to liaise with the Chairman of the Amenity Trust over the use of the M. Meadow. Also, Clerk will advise Mr. Hardy that an Events Group would not have to report to the Parish Council. Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd volunteered to assist the Events Group, and she would make contact with them.

PL

6. Proposed Tennis Courts for the Parish - Update

The meeting was advised that to date there has not been a tremendous amount of support for two tennis courts for the parish, although it was acknowledged as being early days with regard to following up potential support. The School has said that courts would indeed be an asset, and that it would be prepared to contribute to running costs at a moderate level. It has been estimated that the required funding for two courts would be in the region of £40,000. There was then general discussion concerning the need for the continued and ongoing support of a tennis club, with dedicated members who would be prepared to raise funds, particularly in year three and thereafter, to ensure the upkeep and maintenance of the courts. It was recognised that a good business plan would need to be put in place. It was decided that a feature article would be placed in the next edition of the parish magazine to seek further supporters, and to further discuss the matter once LTA and other funding opportunities had been followed up. Clerk will place this item on the next meeting's agenda.

JP

HH

7. Amenity Trust Report

Public toilets repairs are almost completed.

Consumables will be ordered shortly.

No further update on repairs to the bell tower ladder etc. just yet.

8. PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS

A resident asked about funding of parish projects.

9. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR. R. PHILIPS

Highways

The meeting tonight must discuss the proposals for more signage in the village arising from the Safer route to Schools project requested by the School.

Highways went overboard on the collection of signs on the verge. While there is a need to have a policy on this in the interest of safety and appearance I have suggested that it be done in consultation with HALC.

Much of the Parish has been covered by the pothole surface team. Are there any outstanding areas? Work at Milton Crossroads continues at a certain pace.

Herefordshire Jarvis has been sold to the Amey Group and the new company Amey Wye Valley is now the contractor. The Council retains a 20% ownership of the company.

Planning

There are ongoing planning issues at Weston Court barns.

Funding Fair

The 7th Annual Funding Fair is being held at Aylestone School on Wednesday 24th October from 9.30am to 4.30pm. It has information on the funding of community projects. It is however evident that the impact of the Olympics is having on the level of opportunities in the future.

Schools

Pembridge School has drawn up plans for a rebuild on the 1970's building and refurbishment of the old school.

Lady Hawkins School celebrates the 375th anniversary of it's funding this month. The GCSE results across the county were the best ever, but Lady Hawkins' results were a back on the previous year.

Summer 2007

The Government has given the Council £130,000 to distribute to households affected by flooding. This is a very difficult task to be fair, and the Council is involving the Parish Councils in identifying the households. The Clerk and I have liaised on this. The Council has suffered approximately 3.5 million pounds worth of damage, particularly to Roads, Schools and Bridges.

MEETING WAS RE-OPENED AT 8.40 pm

Cllr. Morgan left the meeting at 8.45 pm

10. Parish Council Website Improvements Update

Work to complete the new website is going ahead and it is hoped to advise back in a week or two. It was suggested that the Website Group be reformed to follow its progress.

11. Affordable Housing Update

An update on the project is still awaited from Marches Housing Association.

RP/KM

12. Parish Magazine

ACTION

Delivery of a new printer to produce the magazine from Nov/Dec edition 2007 is awaited.

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

Henry James has liaised closely with the Parish Council on the most suitable model at economic cost, which has now been ordered and for which delivery is awaited in time to produce the November/December 2007 edition of the Parish Magazine.

SS/KD

13. Millennium Meadow Progress Report

Strimming along the fence to remove the hazard of vegetation encroaching into the Playground has now commenced on a regular basis. With the development of the Meadow in mind, it was suggested that more members of the Millennium Meadow Group were badly needed, and that a feature would be placed in the next parish magazine asking for new members.

JM

14. Village Green Report

A new bench seat has now been delivered and it has been arranged for this to be fixed securely onto the existing concrete base very soon. Thanks to Cllr. Pierce for supervising this

The Chairman advised that the Vice Chairman (in his absence) had requested that 3 matters be considered tonight:

Parking Area

- 1) That there is the possibility of a low cost and more temporary repair job being carried out, but that he was not in favour of this.
- 2) It was suggested that instead, the Parish Council could apply to the Kingspan Trust for the fuller repair job to be undertaken, but as 2 or 3 smaller projects, which would mean there would be a need to apply for 3 separate applications for funding to the Trust, which may be more successful. Previously the Parish Council had had its application for the full sum of c£14K rejected simply because there were other more worthy applications being considered, which meant there was insufficient money left for Pembridge's application.

There was general discussion about this.

There was a Proposal that the above option 2 should be accepted.
This was Resolved. All in agreement. An application to be submitted at a later date.

- 3) It was further suggested that the north- east side of the road, should be developed as a nature reserve, with a pathway by the river and a viewing platform for otters. This is a further project for which an application for funding could be put in to the Kingspan Trust, and the Vice Chairman is willing to submit such an application by the current deadline of end of September.

There was general discussion about this.

There was a Proposed that the above option 3 should be accepted.
This was Resolved. All in agreement.

15. Burial Ground Space – Update

The option of reutilising land that has had no burials upon it for over 100 years is still going ahead, however decisions about this are primarily in the Church's province.

16. **Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action**

ACTION

- a) **Training courses** available – details circulated – please advise Clerk if you are interested in attending any of the courses. Clerk stresses the need for all councillors to be trained in a variety of subject matters. However, Basic training on how to be an effective councillor is an essential course, particularly for all new councillors. It is not always possible to ‘learn on the job’, and expert advice and guidance are needed.
- b) **House Flooding victims** – 4 nominations from Pembridge have been put forward to H. Council for consideration of financial assistance being offered if grant funding is received from Government.
- c) **New School Signage in Village** – Request by School for eight new signs to be placed around the village : 4 ‘School’ warning signs and 4 ‘Oncoming Vehicles in middle of road’ signs, as part of the Travel Plan. A Plan of the signs’ proposed positions was circulated. After discussion it was decided that just 2 signs would be requested: one on the corner of Suckley Lane, and the other further back down Bearwood Lane nearer the village centre. All other signs would not be approved.
- d) **Alcohol Licence request from Ye Olde Steppes Village Shop.** Approved.
- e) **Bus Services changes** between Leominster and Presteigne (services 493/4), and Leominster and Kington (services 495 & 496). Details circulated.
- f) **2 Letters received from a resident about highway flooding** near entrance to eastern end of the village – 20th July 2007 – copies circulated. The residents have been advised by Highways section of H. Council about some remediation work being slotted in to the next financial year – 2008/09.
- g) **Parish Plan Review** - discussion as to whether to go ahead with this. The surgery meeting planned for Tuesday 25th September has just been cancelled. Clerk was requested to see whether a small local meeting could be arranged between 3 councillors and the Parish Plan Review Officer.
- h) **Economic Regeneration Officer (North)** Nadine Kinsey– new officer post to cover Bromyard, Kington and Leominster. Advantage West Midlands’ Market Towns Initiative currently only funds Leominster.
- i) **Community Forums** – dates were circulated in advance of the meeting.
- j) **Shobdon Airfield Noise Complaint Group** meet – Mon. 15th October 2007.
- k) **Planning Seminar** – 25th September in The Hall, Leominster Community Centre: 7-9 pm
- l) **New Bus and Train timetable** received – valid til 23rd February 2008.
- m) **Changing Spaces Programme (Lottery Funding) – A total of £234 million** will be available to help communities in England improve their environment. Funding will be available within 3 priority areas: community spaces; local community enterprise; and access to the natural environment. This could be useful perhaps for developing the Millennium Meadow.
- n) **H & W Earth Heritage Talk** – Wed. 19th September - Geology & Landscape of the Arrow Valley 7.30pm til 9pm
+ **Slide Show** on Thursday 15th November 7.30 pm til 9pm at Kington Masonic Hall .
- o) **Local Development Framework – Core Strategy.** 14 Key Issues which the PC is invited to comment upon. Clerk distributed a questionnaire, and requested that it either be returned direct, or to next Parish Council meeting.on17th October if interested.
- 2 local Roadshows regarding this topic have been arranged:
Kington: Lady Hawkins Leisure Centre Tue. 16th Oct 4.30 - 7.30 pm
Leominster: Methodist Church, Green Lane Thurs. 11th Oct 3.30 - 7.30 pm
- p) **Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire** – National Honours for Individuals, and the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service for voluntary organisations. Applications are requested by 30th September 2007.
- q) **Unwanted domestic appliances** can be collected and refurbished and sold at competitive prices. The information would be placed in the next parish magazine.

ALL

HH

HH

ALL

ALL

HH

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| r) Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) Forums – new volunteers sought to help influence the way healthcare is organised and delivered. Contact Clerk if interested. | <u>ACTION</u> |
| s) Older People’s Prevention Services Small Grant available – between £250 & £10,000 – aim is to promote wellbeing and prevent the need for formal care services. | ALL |
| t) Growing Older in Herefordshire Strategy – 5 aims: Communication & Information, Community Safety, Employment & Retirement, Health & Independence, Transport & Access –Clerk holds details.. | ALL |
| u) Adult Learning Opportunities in your local parish – ideally for groups of 10 or more, on computer topics, charged at £3.50 per course hour (50% of this if in receipt of certain benefits). This would be in direct competition to the parish’s Community Access Project, and would therefore not be followed up. | |
| v) Climate Change Action x 2 :- Reduce your Impact, and Drive down Food Miles – Noted. | |
| w) HALC uncertain future due to possible removal of grant funding to run it. Clerk to complete questionnaire on level of satisfaction on service provided by HALC. | HH |
| x) Speed Indicator Device (SID) are now available to loan from Herefordshire Council: Clerk will place this item on the agenda for the next meeting. | HH |

17. Planning Matters

A PHOTOCOPIED VERSION OF THE ADOPTED HEREFORDSHIRE UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (UDP) HAS BEEN RECEIVED – IT IS STILL SUBJECT TO A LEGAL CHALLENGE RELATING TO THE QUASHING OF THAT PART OF THE PLAN WHICH RELATES TO THE ALLOCATION OF LAND FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT BULLINGHOPE. A FULL PRINT OF THE PLAN WILL BE UNDERTAKEN ONCE THE APPLICATION TO THE HIGH COURT HAS BEEN RESOLVED AND A REPLACEMENT DOCUMENT WILL BE ISSUED.

POLYTUNNELS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT – INITIAL CONSULTION BOOKLET OUT.

Treework applications: All passed to Tony Norman for consideration

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| a) DCNW2007/2508/K | West End House, West Street, Pembridge
Crown reduce to 5ft and prune a hazel hedge and fell one cherry |
| b) DCNW2007/2551/K | Eastview, East Street, Pembridge,
Reduce and reshape by a third an ash tree |
| c) DCNW2007/2375/K | Hazeldene, West Street, Pembridge
Crown lift 1 walnut |

Applications recently Withdrawn:

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.
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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.
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Comments: No Objection

Planning Permissions Granted:

DCNW2007/1321/F	The Leen, Pembridge Erection of new farm building for livestock
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DCNW2007/1876/L Listed	Church House, Market Square, Pembridge Remove internal landing ceiling
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- DCNW2007/2165/F** **Victoria Place, East Street, Pembridge**
Proposed relocation of existing garden trellis
- DCNW2007/1817/F** **Marston Grange, Marston, Pembridge**
Re-siting of driveway
- DCNW2007/2016/F** **Yewtree Cottage, Gorsty, Pembridge**
Proposed first floor rear extension and new garage
- DCNW2007/1907/F** **Milton Farm, Pembridge**
Proposed steel framed building extension for cold storage of Seed potatoes and farm implement storage with workshop
- DCNW2007/2092/F** **Land adjacent to A44, part of Pittfield Farm, Pembridge**
Retrospective application for retention of 2 stables and storage space, siting of one horse trailer and improvement to existing track

Applications currently awaiting decisions:

- DCNW2006/3978/F** **Kingspan Insulation Ltd., Torvale Ind. Estate, Pembridge**
steel portal framed production and storage buildings, lorry park, alterations to internal roadways and new access.
- Comments:** Pembridge Parish Council has no objection to this application
Provided that:
a) any additional security lighting is angled downwards.
b) That all drivers of HGV traffic entering and leaving the site are made aware of using the agreed route, and are not to travel through Pembridge village.
- DCNW2006/3978/F** **Kingspan Insulations Ltd., Torvale Ind. Estate, Pembridge**
Steel portal framed; production and storage buildings, lorry park, alterations to internal roadways and new access.
Revised access arrangements. No further comments made
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/2196/F** **Mere Cottage, Woonton, Hereford**
Proposed two storey and single storey extension to an existing dwelling
- Comments:** No Objection
- DCNW2007/2326/F** **The Oaks, Marston, Pembridge**
Proposed area for the display of decorative garden products
- Comments:** No Objection. Previous reasons for the refusal of the application have now been addressed in the new Design & Access Statement.
- DCNW2007/2476/F** **Upper Broxwood Farm, Broxwood, Leominster**
Conversion of adjoining granary to additional residential accommodation.
- Comments:** No objection.

Applications which were considered this evening:

DCNW2007/2897/F Pembridge C of E Primary School, West Street, Pembridge
Proposed extension to form new hall, admin & heads room.
Internal remodeling and provision of enclosed link with associated works

Comments: No Objection

DCNW2007/2659/L Brick House, West Street, Pembridge
Listed Replace conservatory with new garden room extension

Comments: No Objection

DCNW2007/2659/F Brick House, West Street, Pembridge
Replace conservatory with new garden room extension

Comments: No Objection

REQUEST TO MODIFY OR DISCHARGE A PLANNING OBLIGATION GRANTED

DCNW2007/2247/G Acorn Cottage, East Street, Pembridge
Discharge section 52 agreement (75 L37) in order to
separate Acorn Cottage from the Old Oak House

Agricultural and Forestry Buildings and Operations – Planning Permission is required:

DCNW2007/1603/S Thunderbox Cottage, West Street, Pembridge
Proposed storage building for beekeeping equipment

DCNW2007/2272/S Lower Green Farm, Pembridge
Proposed cattle housing building

18. Next Meeting Date

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 17th October 2007** at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

MEETING CLOSED

Meeting ended at 10.15 pm

