

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 16 April 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall
7.15 pm viewing Planning Applications, 7.30 pm Main Business

Present:

Cllr. G. Evans
Cllr. K. Myers
Cllr. R. Pierce
Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd
Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith

Cllr. A. Stokes
Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin
Cllr. J. Purslow
Cllr. B. Morgan

- B1. Apologies & Reasons for Absence:** Cllr. R. Phillips – Attending a meeting in Birmingham **ACTION**
Cllr. P. Thomas – In London
Cllr. D. Owens - No reason given
Cllr. K. Duggan – Family Matters (new baby)

- B2. Announcement of any interests from councillors**
Prejudicial Interest declared by Cllr. J. Purslow regarding a planning application at Pinecroft.
Clerk recorded this interest.

- B3. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 19th March 2008**

Matters Arising:

A62 Pg 2) Clarification to: "A request from a Hereford Builder's company to advertise in our magazine was considered, but it was decided not to follow this up at this time."

A62 Pg.2) Clerk confirmed that the Amenity Trust's income for the year will be made available for viewing at the next meeting.

A69 Pg.4) Clerk was requested to enquire whether Welsh Water would carry out some remedial works to the top third of the track leading over the Village Green near to the Long Meadow where the annual Show is held, which is in a poor state of repair with some deep potholes etc. This information has been requested and a response is awaited. **HH**

A70 Pg.5 e) The Clerk was asked whether there was an update on the Affordable Housing Project for the village. The Clerk is still awaiting an update and this will be ready for the next meeting. The delay must have been caused by the fact that the contact that the Parish Council had at Marches Housing Association, is no longer employed there. **HH**

A70 Pg.5 h) A local person is checking up on overweight lorries travelling into the village centre – there is no further update at the moment – possibly a delay because Bridge Street has been closed off recently whilst water pipes have been upgraded.

The Minutes will be signed as a true record once the above amendment (A62 Pg 2 Item 1) has been made.

- B4. Financial Report (Clerk)**

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place.

A handout of end year-end expenditure figures against budget has been mailed to all councillors.

A second half-year VAT reclaim has been submitted.

Annual Interest has been added to the Post Office Savings Account

Annual External Audit has been called for 31st July 2008. Internal Audit to be arranged first.

Account Balances at end March 2008:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Current Account: | £6,131.54 |
| Tracker Account: | £5,817.80 |
| Post Office Savings Account: | £10,949.04 |

Receipts since last meeting:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1 st half year Precept now received: | £9,500.00 |
| Cash donations to parish magazine | £15.27 |
| Grant for website development from HALC | £271.67 |

Payments made since last meeting:

| | |
|---|---------|
| T.A. Matthews solicitors – Re fees for Village Green work | £299.63 |
| Bearwood Ass's – Ecological Plan for Village Green | £460.00 |
| Website domain names charges and management | £173.16 |

Additional Payments Requested:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Glasdon UK Ltd. : 3 waste bins, 2 fixing poles and fitments: | £474.80 |
| Shaw & Sons Ltd. : 3 Minute Books with locking systems: | £255.74 |
| Toilet Cleaner + Bins – March | £205.62 |
| Casual Worker to repair and fit bins | £195.00 |
| Casual Worker to repair vandalised fence again in playground | TBA |
| Parish Hall Hire Jan/Feb | £25.00 |
| NALC - Local Council Review Subscription | £13.50 |

All above transactions were approved.

B5. Planning:**Treework applications – details sent to the Tree Warden to deal with:**

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| DCNW2008/0725/K | Old Rectory, Bridge Street, Pembridge Reduce by 20%, and rebalance crown on 1 Beech Tree. Reduce crown on 1 Yew Tree. Fell 1 Silver Birch & 1 Spruce tree. |
| DCNW2008/0734/K | Bank Cottage, High Street, Pembridge Pollard 1 Ash Tree |

Applications which were considered this evening:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| DCNW2008/0781/F | Home Paddock, Lyonshall Proposed demolition of existing house and outbuildings and erection of a replacement dwelling and ancillary garage |
| Comment: | No Objection |
| DCNW2008/0777/F | The Old Inn, Bearwood, Leominster Amended design to proposed outbuilding approved on NW2002/1284/F |
| Comment: | No Objection |
| DCNW2008/0852/F | Pincroft, West Street, Pembridge Proposed rear conservatory |
| Comment: | No Objection |

Application recently Refused:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| DCNW2008/0491/F | Manley Field, Pembridge Proposed erection of a poly-tunnel and storage building/shed for bee keeping use |
|------------------------|--|

Meeting Closed for the next two items**B6. Parishioners Questions**

No parishioners present this evening.

B7. Ward Councillor's Report – Read by the Chairman in Ward Councillor's absence

My apologies for tonight's meeting but I have a meeting in London with Local Government Minister Hazel Blears on Immigration and its impact on rural areas. Report read in absence.

Vehicle Activated Signs

The cost of these could be significant, as well as the responsibility. I think a Highways representative from H. Council coming to a Parish Council meeting might be useful.

Travellers Site

This will need to be cleared up before new travellers are offered plots.

Kingspan Works

I have contacted Kingspan regarding their works to their entrance and the amount of debris on the road, following a complaint.

Conservation Area

The Council is reviewing some of its Conservation Areas and is consulting on a re-drawing of the one around Pembridge. I have had a meeting with officers and suggested they come to discuss the boundaries with the Parish Council before August. They have also indicated properties that might be potentially listed.

Rotherwas Road

The new access road to the Industrial Estate will be opened next month. It is a great boost to the 140 companies and the 1,000 jobs at Rotherwas and offers potential for more employment. It is the first large road scheme build around Hereford since the opening of Greyfriars Bridge in 1968.

Edgar Street Grid

Stanhope have been appointed as the developer for the Cattle Market site. Beginning development in January 2010. The need to improve Hereford as a shopping centre has been highlighted by the closure of Chadds. (It is estimated that as much as 70% of Herefordshire retail spend goes outside the County). The aim is for the new development to compliment the existing city centre. Waitrose, BHS & Debenhams have all shown serious interest in coming.

Meeting to be Reopened at 8.25pm**B8. Amenity Trust Report – Cllr. Evans**

Car Park drainage issue – blocked drain will be cleared and situation monitored.

B9. Parish Council Website Update – Cllr. Pierce

The schedule for the Parish Show has been inserted.

The HALC 'Parish Talk' grant which was applied for to offset costs of developing the website has been successful, and funding has been received.

The website is now up and running at: pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

B10. Parish Magazine Update

There was general discussion about the following topics:

a) Following a request from Kingspan to advertise in every edition of the Parish News Magazine the Clerk has requested a sample editorial, and this is awaited.

After further discussion there was a proposal that the Parish Council agrees to accepting these regular features for the sum of £500 for one year, with a maximum of a half page allotted per magazine edition, with the understanding that the Parish Council retains editorial rights and may amend copy received.

This proposal was voted on and the majority were in favour.

b) Update on how best to reduce future printing costs. Advertisements will all be printed in just black and white in future editions on the inserted flyer. The costs to produce the main magazine commercially, as against in-house on the parish council's printer were compared.

It is proving far too costly for purchasing black and coloured ink toner cartridges for our printer, and it is therefore cheaper to get the magazine printed commercially.

There was a proposal to use a commercial printer, which was voted upon, and the majority were in favour of this course of action. No objections.

There was a second proposal to sell the parish council's printer on the open market as soon as possible, which was voted upon, and the majority were in favour.

Cllr. Mrs. Smith had reservations about such a speedy decision to sell the printer.

c) Requests from other non-local companies, who have businesses outside of Herefordshire will not be permitted to advertise on the parish magazine's flyer page.

HH

Fixing of future cost for an annual advertisement on the magazine's flyer page is still to be agreed. Clerk to first advise councillors of dates for renewals for first tranche of advertisers. It was suggested that yearly renewals should thereafter be standardised at a set date.

HH

There was a proposal to keep the size of each advertisement at ¼ page, which was agreed, rather than reducing them.

It was decided that there should be an 'Editorial Board' of members set up, to assist the Editor with making general decisions about the content of the magazines. This will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**ALL
HH**

B11. Village Green Report :

Update on the development project for the village green: There is no further news on the ecological project at this moment in time. The ecological survey will first be carried out in 2 months time.

KM

Update on temporary improvements to the car parking area: The loose stone will be laid on matting to infill potholes next week – this is for temporary improvement only, as a grant application has been submitted to the Kingspan Trust for a more permanent solution to the parking area using grasscrete blocks. It is anticipated that the result of this application should be known in May.

KM/BP

A reply letter has been received from the Land Registry at Telford regarding the Parish Council's letter stating disappointment at not being able to register title to the village green at this time, a copy of the Land Registry's letter has been sent to all Councillors. The Parish Council had also asked whether there was any way that it could be informed if another party tried to register title, and was told that the only way this could be achieved was for the Parish Council to take out a 'Registration of a caution against first Registration'. It has been explained to the Parish Council by its solicitor that it already has certain intervention powers, i.e. to take steps to protect the land against unlawful interference and institute proceedings against any person for any offence committed in respect of the land. Also, the Parish Council has powers to make By Laws on the Village Green. In the light of this, the Parish Council will take no further action at this time.

The yellow salt bin, which was inadvertently positioned by the Highways Department on the village green, has now been removed.

B12. Millennium Meadow

Update on removal of illegal sign from lower entrance gate – The Amenity Trust Chairman is following this up and has requested to see a plan showing the land ownership rights first.

The BMX track has had to be levelled for insurance purposes.

The seat adjacent to the playground fence is insecure, and needs to be repaired & secured.

HH

There has been further damage to the playground fencing – with 30 palings now having been vandalised, removed and stolen. The Clerk will arrange for these to be replaced and screwed back into place prior to the oncoming playground inspection. There was some discussion as to whether the perimeter fence should be removed permanently from the playground, but it was decided to retain it on health and safety grounds.

HH

B13. Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for action – Please also see Information Sheet

- a) Vehicle Activator Speed Warning Devices for village and being planned, and Clerk was requested to arrange for a Highways Department speaker to come to the June Parish Council meeting to explain all about them.
- b) A Pay increase to casual worker for regularly emptying 3 additional waste bins shortly was agreed. Increase by £10 per month.
- c) Herefordshire Partnership PACT meeting – Wed. 30th April at Lady Hawkins L. Centre 7pm All Councillors have been advised about this meeting.
- d) A Parish Plan Review is being undertaken as the original Plan was completed in 2002 – A brief synopsis of 'where we are with this' will be given to the 7th May Open Parish Meeting, but it will not be published as part of the year's Annual Report, as it first needs to be developed further.
- e) Museum on the Move (Climate Change Exhibition). This has been booked to attend the Summer Show in July.
- f) Shobdon Airfield Noise Abatement Group met recently and decided to change the flying route into and out of the airfield, to avoid receiving noise complaints from residents. It should be encouraged that if aircraft stray off the path, parishioners should complain to the airfield with the time and description of the planes. The route plan and details will be placed in the parish magazine
- g) Calor Gas Village of the Year Competition 2008 – to be reviewed at next meeting.

HH

KD

JP/HH

B14. Next Meeting Date

Next Meeting will be the Parish Open Meeting on Wednesday 7th May 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

Next Full Meeting will be the Parish Council's Annual Meeting on Wednesday 21st May 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

ALL

Election of Officers will take place – If there are any Nominations for Chairman or Vice Chairman would these please be sent to the Clerk in advance.

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND BOTH MEETINGS

MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 9.45 pm