

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 17th September 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall
7.15 pm viewing Planning Applications, 7.30 pm Main Business

Present:

Cllr. G. Evans – Chairman
Cllr. P. Thomas
Cllr. R. Pierce
Cllr. R. Phillips
Cllr. B. Morgan

Cllr. K. Duggan
Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin
Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd
Cllr. A. Stokes
Cllr. K. Myers

+ 1 member of the public

B56. Apologies and Reasons for Absence -,

Cllr. D. Owens - No reason given
Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith - Health reasons
Cllr. J. Purslow - Abroad on business

B57. Announcement of any interests from councillors - None

B58. Minutes of last Meeting & Matters Arising – 16th July, 2008 +

Extraordinary Meeting of 27th August 2008

ACTION

The following matters arising were raised:

1) Concern was raised about the lack of contact from Marches Housing Assn. concerning the parish's Affordable Housing project, despite their representative's assurance the matters would be progressed with 2 councillors: Cllr. K. Duggan and Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin. Clerk had supplied Marches with these councillors' contact details. This will be followed up with Marches Housing Assn. and a report made to the next parish council meeting. The meeting was advised that Marches may be interested in purchasing another piece of land in the village to develop, and Clerk would endeavour to find out the owners details and pass these on.

KD

HH

2) The cost of the annual supply of Christmas Trees was queried, and it was suggested that perhaps a cap should be put on this item. Local 'green' sources of Christmas trees would be investigated, and hopefully decent sized trees could be purchased at no more than £10 each. Quotes would be sought and more information will be provided at the October meeting. It was suggested that perhaps funding could be arranged via the Kingspan Trust for the Christmas Trees. If so, an application would need to be submitted before the end of September.

JM/PL

3) It was noted that the electricity invoice for the Public Toilets for the last quarter year seemed rather high. After discussion it was agreed that the temperature of the hot water supply was extreme, and this would, when lowered, hopefully save power. A dysfunctional electric hand-drying machine, which was not turning off correctly, has been replaced, which should also help.

The Minutes of both Meetings were then agreed and signed as true records.

B59. Financial Report (Clerk)

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place.
 External Audit has now been completed successfully
 Second half-year Precept of £9,500 has been received.

Balances at end August 2008

Current Account:	£8,441.98	+ Precept in Sept.
Tracker Account:	£5,817.80	
Post Office Savings Account:	£10,949.04	

Receipts since last meeting:

BT Annual Wayleave payment	£26.32
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Payments made since last meeting:

Donation – Museum on the Move	£15.00	
Amey – M. Meadow Mowing July	£47.00	
Bearwood Associates – VG Conservation Plan V.2	£329.00	
Strim M. Meadow August	£40.00	
Toilet Cleaner – August	£217.37	
Amey – M. Meadow Mowing August	£47.00	
Printing of Parish Magazine (Sept/Oct Edition) – GW	£150.00	S137

Further Requests for Payment:

Annual Audit Fee	£358.38
Public Toilet cleaner + Bins - September	£211.50
NPower Electricity for public toilets	£152.76
Clerk's 2 nd quarter Salary	£1,022.00
Clerk's 2 nd quarter Expenses	£160.18

All above transactions were agreed by all.

B60. Planning**Refusal of Listed Building Consent:**

DCNW2008/1204/L	Upper Broxwood Farm, Broxwood Addition of solar water heating collectors
Reason:	Considered harmful to the special character and appearance of the Grade 2 Listed Building and policies of the UDP

Treework Applications – Passed to Tony Norman to comment upon :-

DCNW2008/2248/K	Rose Cottage, Market Square, Pembridge Fell 1 x Birch Tree
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DCNW2008/2091/K	Court House, Bearwood Lane, Pembridge Fell 2 x Lawson Cypress trees
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DCNW2008/2132/K	Westleigh, West Street, Pembridge Fell 1 x Poplar Tree
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Planning Applications for considered this evening:

Nil

Meeting Closed for the next two items

B61. Parishioners Questions

A resident remarked about the Kingspan Trust and thought it would be a good idea to obtain some funding for the Christmas Trees.

B62. Ward Councillor's Report - Cllr. R. Phillips

In preparation for consideration of the introduction of an ordinary zebra crossing in the village some preliminary road checks on speeds and numbers of vehicles was currently being undertaken.

With regard to flooding of road, it was noted that landowners need to keep ditches clear.

Countryside Awards – It was proposed that Sally's Pantry and Townsend Farm both be entered under separate categories. Clerk requested some information on these outlets to add to the application forms. Clerk was requested to e-mail the application form to Cllr. Phillips to assist.

HH

Meeting was Reopened

B63. Proposed Closure of Pembridge Post Office – Cllr. K. Myers

2,500 Post Offices are planned to be closed by 2010. Each Post Office has been assessed for viability against standard criteria. Herefordshire is the last area to be considered, and to date there is only one Post Office which was proposed to be closed in this county, that has had that decision rescinded.

There was discussion concerning the pros and cons of Post Office Ltd's suggested alternative should the parish Post Office have to close – the mobile Outreach service, and generally it was felt that neither car park could be guaranteed to have space available at any particular time of the day, nor was it feasible to expect a queue of people to wait for service outside the vehicle in bad weather.

It was acknowledged that a far better suggestion for this parish's residents would be for a 'hosted' service to be provided within a village centre establishment in the warm and dry; and for any suitable locations which might become available to be discussed at another Public Meeting which will be arranged for Friday 26th September 2008 at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Notices will be prepared and distributed throughout the village.

Cllr. Phillips would also distribute information around the village and advise about the Public Meeting. The website would be updated.

KM
RJP
RP

The consultation period runs to 7th October 2008 with Post Office Ltd., but prior to that date and suggested parish alternative would need to first gain the approval of Postwatch

B64. Village Green Report - Cllr. Bob Pierce & Clerk

Following the Parish Council's recent gaining of the legal Title to the Village Green, the Clerk has checked with H. Council's Commons section with regard to what information they hold on properties/residents who have rights on Pembridge village green, and has been advised that these details will be brought up-to-date within 18 months in conjunction with DEFRA, as all the village greens and commons throughout the county will have to be similarly updated.

A decision on whether to 'green-over' the car parking area on the village green will be made at the November meeting

The Clerk was requested to send a plan and details of the proposed Conservation Project on the village green to H. Council's Northern Planning Officer to place on record.

HH

ACTION

B65. Millennium Meadow Report - Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin

Insurance cover for Bonfire Party on the Meadow on Nov 5th was discussed. An approach would be made to a local insurance broker for cover for a one-off event. The event has been advertised in the current Parish News Magazine. More information on the event will be available at the October meeting.

JM/GE

JM

Playground equipment – A specialist company has visited and been asked to provide a quote for necessary remedial works to the safety surface which has been vandalised, and other remedial works to the surface which are necessary. Clerk will chase this up.

HH

B66. Parish News Magazine

Clerk is finalising the 4 new advertisers who will commence their adverts in the Nov/Dec edition for one year. One of these people has requested that she place her own printed flyer in the first magazine as it has Christmas connections (she makes Christmas cards etc.) After discussion it was decided not to grant this request because a decision has previously been made to only have one inserted piece of paper, which will be used as an advertising flyer. Clerk will advise the applicant accordingly.

HH

B67. Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action

a) Conservation Area Boundary - proposed changes – resident's letter to be copied to all. Update awaited from H. Council.

b) Traffic improvements in village – H. Council has commenced initial traffic investigations.

c) An annual Risk Assessment may be necessary of the playground in addition to the ROSPA inspection and the monthly PC inspection of equipment. Cllr. Stokes will consider this.

AS

d) Affordable Housing Seminar organised by HALC has disappointingly been arranged on a midweek day, which is unsuitable for most councillors. Clerk to write to HALC and state.

HH

e) Highway concerns by a local resident (Details previously sent to all councillors by e mail). Clerk has responded, but other issues have now been raised by the resident. These were discussed and noted.

f) Land dispute by local resident who is claiming right to a triangular piece of land at the corner of Bridge Street and High Street where telephone box and bench are situated, and wishes to fence it off. After investigations it has been advised that this land is Highways land and cannot be claimed. Clerk will advise the resident accordingly.

g) Countryside Alliance Awards – Suggestion to nominate Sally's Pantry & Townsend Farm.

h) Mobile Library Consultation – Meeting to be held in Pembridge Parish Hall 7pm start on 1st October 2008, organised by H. Council. Details circulated.

i) HALC AGM Sat. 11th October at Brockington – more info to follow.

Key National, Regional & County Speakers will be present.

This is an important meeting and as many councillors as possible should attend.

j) HALC Training courses available:- **Thurs. 25th September** – Affordable Housing Seminar at Left Bank, Hereford. 10 am – 3.15pm Lunch included

ALL

Wed. 1st October – 'Are you Breaking the Code?' 7-9pm Brockington

Wed. 15th October – Cross Border Event at Knighton Community Centre 9.30 am to 1pm followed by lunch

k) Government guidance on accessing the new Power of Wellbeing is awaited.

B68. Next Meeting

Wednesday 15th October 2008 at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall

There will be a guest speaker from the Environment Agency to talk about a proposed new flood warning service for the Kington, Pembridge and Eardisland communities.

Meeting Closed at 9.35pm

INFORMATION SHEET – 17.9.2008

If you are interested in knowing more about any of the following matters will you please contact the Clerk within the next week.

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

- DCNW2008/0567/F** **Plot Barn 1, Weston Court Farm, Weston, Pembridge**
Proposed amendments to previously approved barn conversion.
Comment: No Objection
- DCNW2007/3354/F** **Bearwood Cottage, Lower Bearwood, Pembridge**
Proposed removal of rear porch and erection of a single storey extension
Comment: No Objection
- DCNW2007/3725/F** **Weston Court Farm, Weston Plot 3**
Retention of unauthorized works Plot 3 (Breaches of planning control)
Comment: No objection
- DCNW2007/3726/L** **Weston Court Farm, Weston Plot 3**
Listed Retention of unauthorized works Plot 3 (Breaches of pl. control)
Comment: No objection
- DCNW2007/3737/L** **3 Glannarow Cottages, Bridge Street, Pembridge**
Listed Re-statement of lime plaster to internal walls, now oak boarded floor covering. Repairs to oak frame, new joists and replacement window to N. elevation
Comment: No objection
- DCNW2008/0985/F** **Lower Green Cottages, Pembridge**
Proposed replacement cottages with garages and vehicular access
Comment: No Objection
- DCNW2008/1812/F** **Fig Tree House**
Partial demolition of existing lean to lobby and erection of a conservatory
Comment: No Objection
- DCNW2008/1793/F** **Oakley Cottage**
Proposed garden room rear extension
Comment: No Objection
- DCNW2008/2018/C&F** **Bargates, East Street, Pembridge**
Demolition of a single storey kitchen and part of conservatory. Proposed erection of a two storey and single storey extension
Comment: No Objection

Other Local Issues:

Bell Tower Clock winding gear has been repaired at no cost, as it is under a maintenance contract.

The Bell tower clock maintenance company has recently requested to know whether any asbestos is present in the tower. Duncan James was asked to check, and he has reported that to the best of his knowledge there is no asbestos present. Clerk has confirmed back.

Proposed Trash Bash and Spring Bulb planting at entrances to village – to be discussed at the October meeting.

Continued .../

Recycling in the County – From autumn 2009 it is proposed that kerbside recycling will be extended to cover nearly every property. Recycling will be collected every fortnight and can be mixed together in a wheeled bin that will be provided free of charge to each household. For those properties that do not have space for a wheeled bin, they will continue to recycle in plastic bags.

Herefordshire Funding Fair – 29th October – 9.30am to 4.30 pm, free lunch Aylestone School

New Bus & Train timetable available.

Review of H. Council's Planning Service – Clerk has completed a questionnaire as it had to be submitted by 16th September 2008.

Consultation on Crime and Disorder & drug misuse in Herefordshire – volunteer to complete a questionnaire please.

Festival & Events – Free CD-Rom to those involved with or planning to organise events and festivals. Clerk has details if interested.

Kington Area Regeneration Partnership Meeting – MAP, The Old Police Station, Market Hall St., Kington – Wed. 24th September 2pm