

# **PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 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. Mrs. S. Smith  
Cllr. R. Phillips  
Cllr. D. Owens

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

+ 2 members of the public

- B69. Apologies and Reasons for Absence -** Cllr. B. Morgan - No reason given  
Cllr. K. Myers - On Holiday  
Cllr. R. Pierce - On Holiday

- B70. Announcement of any interests from councillors -** None Declared

- B71. Guest Speaker on New Flood Warning System : Mr. Ernesto Lopez – Environment Agency Wales**

It was explained that a flood warning system for the River Arrow has recently been put into place, and that water height measurements can automatically be read at Titley Mill.

There are three trigger levels on the height of the water there:

.75 metre rise would initiate a 'flood watch'

1.4 metre rise would initiate a 'flood warning' and eventually an 'all clear' would mean that the danger of flooding had passed.

Residents of homes which lie within the recognized flood area will receive a leaflet by mail very soon, advising on how to protect your homes, and how to register to receive flood warnings by telephone, mobile, E Mail, Fax or SMS Text messages.

Anyone who does not receive this information by post, and who would like to register to receive flood warning information, should telephone the Environment Agency Floodline on Tel: 0845 988 1188. If you give your postcode to the call operator and ask to be signed up to receive free Flood Warnings for your area. Information leaflets are available. If anyone wishes to discuss any other matter relating to local flood warnings with the Environment Agency, you may call Mr. Tito Lopez – Flood Incident Management Officer, on Tel: 02920 245251. Please visit [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodline](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodline) for more information and to view the Flood Maps.

- B72. Minutes of last Meeting & Matters Arising – 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2008**

There were no matters arising and the Minutes were signed as a true record.

- B73. Financial Report (Clerk)**

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place.

Second half-year Precept of £9,500 has been received.

It was agreed that a donation of £50 be made to assist Pembridge School in their aim for a new hall floor, or similar project.

Zurich is restructuring and proposing to transfer the insurance policy to the UK branch of Zurich Insurance Ireland Limited on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. As Zurich has stated that there will be no changes to the premium, or the claiming procedure/law, there were no objections.

**HH**

**Balances at end September 2008:**

<b>Current Account:</b>	<b>£17,430.84</b>
<b>Tracker Account:</b>	<b>£5,894.89</b>
<b>Post Office Savings Account:</b>	<b>£10,949.04</b>

**Receipts since last meeting:**

Central Networks Wayleaves x 4	£49.86
Second half-year Precept	£9,500.00

**Payments made since last meeting:**

Toilet Consumables	£93.84
M. Meadow mowing – September	£47.00
Clerk's 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter salary	£1,022.00
Clerk's 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter expenses	£160.18

**Further Requests for Payment:**

Installation of a new hand-drier in Public Toilets	£475.64	
Freighter Service for 2009 – 2 visits @£38.78	£77.56	S137
BT – Purchase Price to Adopt Broxwood Phone Kiosk	£1.00	S137
Toilet Cleaner – October + Bins	£217.37	

**All above transactions were agreed by all.**

**B74. Planning****1 Planning Application was considered this evening:**

DCNW2008/2366/L	The Curl, Marston Lane Pembridge
Listed Consent application	Replace render with weatherboard, rotten frames and windows

**Comment: No Objection**

**Meeting Closed for the next two items****B75. Parishioners Questions**

There was a question raised concerning the future status/viability of the Shop/PO once the Post Office service is removed from its premises.

It was explained that the Parish Council and many residents had written to Post Office Ltd., requesting that a 'hosted' PO service is retained in the village Shop/PO in an endeavour not only to retain a Post Office service albeit as a restricted hours service, but thereby also bringing in people to make other in-shop purchases to assist in the shop's viability.

**B76. Ward Councillor's Report - Cllr. R. Phillips**

It was explained that Herefordshire Council has no funds in any Icelandic Bank.

The cluster of primary level feeder schools for future Lady Hawkins pupil intakes include (Pembridge, Almeley, Eardisley and Kington primary). The number of pupils is break even.

The first major phase of building at Pembridge School is almost completed. An Open Day for anyone who would like to look around may be arranged soon, as well as an official 'Opening Day' later this year.

The Mobile Library Service's recent consultation open evening held at the Parish Hall was very poorly attended, which was a disappointment.

**Meeting was Reopened**

**B77. Proposed Closure of Pembridge Post Office – Update by Cllr. Phillips**

The consultation period ran until 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008. Many letters were written by residents, Ward Councillor, and Parish Council in support of a replacement 'hosted' service in the village Shop. A response has been received acknowledging Pembridge's application, but no date has been given as to when we can expect a decision.

**B78. Affordable Housing Update – Cllr. K. Duggan**

Whilst an approach has been made to Marches Housing Association, it appears that they have no firm guidance or timescale as to how they intend to progress this parish's project. The councillors were all most disappointed in this lack of progress, and the Clerk was requested to write an request that a twelve month action plan be supplied to the P. Council.

HH

**B79. Introduction of the Parish Lengthsman Scheme**

The Chairman said that there had been one or two requests for the introduction of a parish Lengthsman to be considered again. This was agreed in principle. The matter will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

HH

**B80. BT Broxwood Phone Kiosk "Adoption" by Parish Council**

Clerk has applied as agreed; consultation period now runs to the end of November. The cost for the Adoption purchase of the kiosk is £1.00 inclusive of VAT.

The terms and conditions upon the purchaser of a kiosk were read out from BT's Contract. It was then agreed that the purchase should go ahead, and the Chairman signed the Contract. Clerk will mail this on to BT with the payment. Clerk will follow up with any other necessary action in due course. Upon completion all telephony equipment will be removed from the Broxwood red telephone kiosk, and it will be purely an attractive feature, and a completely non-operational phone box. It will continue to be lit at night : low electricity bill expected.

HH

**B81. Village Green Ecological Project**

Clerk has written to advise the Planning Department of the Ecological Project.

**B82. Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action**

- a) Conservation Area Boundary - proposed changes – resident's letter copied to all.  
An update is awaited from H. Council with regard to a public consultation meeting
- b) Traffic improvements in village – update awaited from H. Council.
- c) Affordable Housing Seminar organised by HALC – disappointingly on a midweek day. Clerk has written to HALC expressing councillors disappointment.
- d) Countryside Alliance Awards – nominations of Townsend Farm this year.
- e) Christmas Trees purchase. A supplier has been found for around 30 trees, who will supply prepared and netted trees at a very reasonable cost of £10 each in a variety of sizes. This was agreed. The Parish Council will need to purchase some more sets of lights for the trees. Agreed.
- f) Parish Freighter Service for 2009 – 2 dates have been booked: Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> March 2-4 pm  
& Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> June 11am–1pm
- g) Communities & Local Government – The making and enforcement of Byelaws – An invitation to give your views on proposed new procedure which will enable authorities to make certain byelaws without the need for scrutiny by the Secretary of State. Noted.

**ACTION**

- h) Shobdon Noise Abatement Group met earlier this evening very briefly; several complaints have been received and followed up on.
- i) **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December** - Pembridge Christmas Lights 'Switch On' will be combined with a Public Social Event at the Market Hall to which all visitors and residents are most welcome. Local shops have been invited to stay open late. There will be stalls selling a variety of goods, including one to be run by the School PTA. It is intended that Father Christmas will visit, and there will be music and carol singing, mince pies and mulled wine available.

**JM/PL**

**B83. Legal Item - New Feature**

The Council works as a **single body**. Any democratically made decision of the Council is binding on all the members, even if they are not in attendance at the meeting when a decision was made. Every councillor has a duty to keep themselves informed of decisions taken at Parish Council meetings, and what is being undertaken by the Council.

**ALL**

It is a **duty** of Parish Councillors to actually attend PC meetings, that is why they become disqualified if they fail to attend meetings over a period of six months, without receiving prior approval from the PC for that absence - e.g. long term illness, serving in HM forces overseas etc.

**B84. Next Meetings**

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall  
*December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 – 7.30pm Finance Working Group & any others – to set Budget/Precept*

**ACTION**

Meeting Closed at 9.25pm

## INFORMATION SHEET – 15.10.2008

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 recently Granted Permission:

- DCNW2008/1793/F**     **Oakley Cottage**  
Proposed garden room rear extension  
**Comment:**             No Objection
- 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
- DCNW2008/2018/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
- DCNW2008/2017/F** & **Bargates, East Street, Pembridge**  
**DCNW2008/2018/C**     Demolition of a single storey kitchen and part Conservatory. Proposed erection of a two storey and single storey extension.

### Planning Applications recently Refused:

- DCNW2008/1812/F**     **Fig Tree House**  
+ **DCNW2008/1813/L**     Partial demolition of existing lean to lobby and erection of a conservatory  
**Comment:**             No Objection  
**Reason:**                 The proposed works, by virtue of their form, design, detailing and siting would fail to be in keeping with the character and appearance of the traditional, historic character of the Grade II listed building and would fail to preserve the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

### Other Local Issues:

West Mercia Police Authority – Combined Equality Scheme – Noted.