

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 18th November, 2009 in the Parish Hall
7.15 pm viewing Planning Application, 7.30 pm Main Business

Present: , Cllr. G. Evans, Cllr. P. Thomas, Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd, Cllr. R. Phillips
Cllr. R. Pierce, Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin, Cllr. A. Stokes, Cllr. K. Duggan,
Cllr. K. Myers, Cllr. J. Purslow, Cllr. D. Owens

C133 ANNUAL GROUP PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN – 2 Absentees

C134 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith – Family matters Cllr. B. Morgan – No reason given

C135 Announcement of any interests from councillors

None

C136 Minutes of last meeting/Matters Arising from them – 21st October, 2009

Were read and approved. There were no matters arising:
The Minutes were then signed.

C137 Financial Report (Clerk)

Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place for October.
Budget/Precept to be set shortly for 2009/2010.
Precept must be submitted to H. Council by 31st December.
Local Government staff's annual pay increase is 1% from 1st April 2009.
External Audit has been signed off.

Balances at end October 2009

Current Account:	£20,275.27
Tracker Account:	£5,921.63
Post Office Savings Account:	£10,949.04

(The current account is boosted by the Lengthsman grant money)

Receipts since last meeting:

Magazine advertisers fees for 2009/10 x 7 @ £50 £350.00

Payments made since last meeting:

Nil

Requests for Payment:

Toilet Cleaner & Bins – November	£245.73
Repayment to Alan Stokes re Noticeboard expense	£10.00
HALC Training Fee for Cllr. Duggan	£20.00
External Auditor's Fee for 2008/09 Audit	£178.25
Village Green mowing for 2009	£400.00
Installation of SID & socket	£400.07

All above transactions were approved by all.

C138 Planning

Applications recently considered:

DCNW2009/1954/F Oakview, West Street, Pembridge. HR6 9DX
Proposed lean-to to rear and the repositioning/replacement
of a ground floor window and door to side elevation.

COMMENT: NO OBJECTIONS.
THIS HAS NOW BEEN APPROVED

Applications for consideration this evening:

DMNW2009/242/L **Old Oak House, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HA**
& **DMNW2009/2101/F** Proposed conservatory and utility extensions
and minor alterations

COMMENT: NO OBJECTIONS

DMNW2009/2266/F **Home Paddock, Lyonshall HR5 3JD**
Demolition of existing house and outbuildings and
erection of a replacement dwelling and ancillary garage

COMMENT: NO OBJECTIONS

DMNW2009/2544/F **Hill View, Bridge Street, Pembridge. HR6 9ES**
Conversion of existing garage to form annexe

COMMENT: NO OBJECTIONS

C139 Allotments Provision update – by Cllr. J. Purslow & Rev. N. Read (Arrowvale Group)

Nick Read was welcomed, and commenced by stating that there is a duty upon the Parish Council to provide allotments if the required number of applications had been made, and that he would like the Arrowvale Group to form a small management group together with the Parish Council. No available land is known at present to the Group, and it was the Group's wish that the Parish Council should follow this up and try to find suitable land.

Cllr. Purslow outlined the costs of setting up provision of allotments, taking into account the need for a disabled toilet and a water supply to be provided, as well as ongoing costs. If the Parish Council were to find suitable land then it would need to lease this for several years with a landowner, and arrange agreements to be renewed annually with allotment holders. There would be no planning requirement as it would be leased as agricultural land, and there would not be a 'change of use' of the land, as it would eventually return to being agricultural again. Cllr. Purslow is aware of 2/3 possible identified land areas.

Nick Read felt that as the Parish Council is a legally constituted body, it would be simpler for the Parish Council to apply for grants etc. He stressed that the Arrowvale Group want to work closely with the Parish Council towards the provision of allotments. Nick Read thought that bids could be made to the Evesham Trust, Kingspan etc; however Cllr. Purslow stated that there was little hope that Kingspan would assist in the current financial climate.

Cllr. Purslow outlined the Parish Council's concern that the overall costs of setting up such a scheme could be outweighed by the fact that relatively few people out of the total electorate would benefit, and the cost to the Parish Council would be a relatively high proportion of its annual precept. However, Cllr. Purslow felt that if land could be found close by the Village Hall and it proved possible to utilise the facilities of the Hall, namely a water supply and use of the existing toilet facilities, that would reduce set up costs, as well as being advantageous to a potential landowner. There would first be a need for the Parish Council to discuss this proposition with the Village Hall Management Committee and potential landowners.

Nick Read thought that perhaps the plots could be called Garden Plots rather than Allotments.

A councillor stated that the Parish Council has an obligation to consider applications for allotments, and he was disappointed that this was the first time a representative of the Arrowvale Group had attended and had not been to any of the previous Parish Council meetings when the matter had been discussed. In addition he considered that, the Parish Council now needs the Arrowvale Group to provide a definite plan and costings for consideration, as the Parish Council could not have an imbalanced cost to all residents.

Cllr. Purslow stated that it would be ideal if the Village Hall facilities could be utilised, as that could mean that there may be zero cost to the Parish Council when income from rents for the plots was taken into account.

There was a need for a close look at the potential financial implications, and that a common sense view was needed and to be proportional about it. There is a need for a key Arrowvale Group member to keep in communication with the Parish Council.

It was suggested that a small working group would be agreed for the future, but that initially Cllr. Purslow would liaise with the Arrowvale Group and report to the Parish Council in January.

C140 Affordable Housing Update

Clerk has written to Marches Housing Association, however no response has been received. Clerk was requested to follow this matter up.

C141 Street Lighting Update - Clerk

A New draft plan of the proposed lamp positions had just been produced, which was shown to the meeting with a request that any comments or suggestions of changes were decided this evening, in order that these could be fed back to Russell Pryce the following day, prior to his meeting with the power supplier. There was one unsatisfactory position noted, which the Chairman would follow up himself.

The implementation of the scheme would now be in either February or March.

Clerk has written to the three residents who own properties that currently have wall lamp fixtures to advise them that the fixtures will be removed and replacement lamp poles fitted nearby.

The soft orange coloured lighting has been agreed.

C142 Introduction of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) in village

Clerk has forwarded a copy of the first month's SID data to Kington Police and requested that the Traffic Police comment upon the data, as it was generally considered that too many motorists were still speeding. A response has been received, stating that Hereford traffic police are looking at the data and will advise back in due course. Also, Herefordshire Council's Road Safety section has advised that the 85thile speed reduced from 48mph before the SID to 37 mph during deployment, which is a significant reduction for the first deployment.

A questionnaire was completed by the council to be sent back to the Road Safety team.

C143 Lengthsman – Cllr. K. Myers

A presentation was made of a protocol produced by the Management Team for the management of the Lengthsman Scheme, for the approval of the Parish Council. This flowchart has been sent to all councillors in advance, and was gone through carefully by Cllr. Myers to explain it thoroughly. Some members wished for the inclusion of a programme of routine maintenance throughout the parish, particularly in regard to ditch maintenance and the clearing/cutting of grips to prevent flooding.

The meeting also agreed that there should be no monthly financial restriction on necessary works and that the Management Team would be able to commission any works required regardless of cost. There is, however, a requirement for the Management Team to report to each meeting regarding any current work being undertaken by the Lengthsman. It was agreed that the flowchart would be altered accordingly, and redistributed by Cllr. Myers. Further, Cllr. Stokes was requested to prepare a Scope of Works for the next meeting in December. All councillors were encouraged to request maintenance works to be carried out wherever necessary, and to assist, Cllr. Pierce would e mail out a map of the parish showing the roads, to all councillors.

Councillors were requested to mark on the map exactly the position of works needed, as well as a description of those works, and return this to one of the Management Team.

C144 Village Christmas Trees & Lights and Outdoor Social Event - Cllr Mrs. Mifflin

39 trees have been ordered, and some more may be required. The Parish Council's contribution of £300 had covered the cost of 30 of the trees. It was hoped that donations collected on the night would offset the additional expenses. The lights for the trees are available.

Two of the trees in Broxwood will be fitted with solar lights.

The team of helpers will be working all day on the last Saturday and Sunday of November.

The official switch on will be on Friday 4th December

Friday 4th December at the Market Hall. Various stalls with goods for sale will be available, as well as Father Christmas in attendance with presents for the children.

There will be carol singing, a Christmas cake raffle, hot drinks and food available.

Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin then requested a little more funding from the Parish Council for 2 sets of replacement lights for around the Market Hall. The previous lights were many years old and had disintegrated. Initially Cllr. Mifflin then said that she would cover the cost of these, and the Parish Council agreed to look at the situation again at the January meeting.

Meeting Closed for the next two items

C145 Parishioners Questions

None.

C146 Ward Councillor's Report (Cllr. R. Phillips)

Will be sent out later, however the following matters were reported.

Pembridge School

The second phase of the school refurbishment will be completed around March 2010.

There is already a new hall with a marvellous sprung floor, which is available to the community to hire.

Lady Hawkins School's new Headteacher has arrived. Their new eco classroom has won an award.

HALC are organising a meeting for Clerks etc. entitled "An evening with Amey" outlining how parishes can work closely with Amey.

The Local Development Framework which will replace the Unitary Development Plan is in its consultation draft. Pembridge has been included in it as a "main" village, and as such will probably need to accept by 2026 around 100 new residential homes here, c35 of which will be classified as "affordable". Sites will therefore need to be found over a number of years. It is hoped that over the next twelve months some decisions can be arrived at. Section 106 Agreements could provide help to local causes, including possibly the Parish Hall.

It is hoped that there have not been too many problems with the introduction of the bins for the new recycling collections.

Meeting Reopened

C147 Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action

- a) Parish Freighter has been booked for: Sat. 28th November: 8am -10 am at the Hall Car Park. Freighter charges will rise to £380 per visit in 2010 – Noted.

- b) Cllr. Duggan to undertake the HALC 'Hall of Fame' training course – 2nd Dec.
- c) Playworld Systems – Clerk has written requesting remedial works to the playground. No response has been received, but Clerk will follow this up.
- d) Adoption of the Broxwood Telephone Kiosk – Clerk has sent information on necessary upkeep of the kiosk to BT specifications to Cllr. Mrs. Lloyd, to follow up when necessary with a group of local residents.
- e) Annual Remembrance Sunday wreath from the Parish Council has been laid this year and will be carried out annually hereafter. It would be useful to advise British Legion.
- f) Changes are taking place to internal operational boundaries of the Environment Agency which will be implemented by April 2010 following a Board meeting this December.
- g) Points raised in Andrew Teale's e mail that has been circulated to all councillors:
 - * Re-siting of the CAP Printer – It was decided that as the printer is part of the initial Package of CAP equipment, which it needs to stay with all the other equipment.
 - * Improved Signage to the School – This can't be achieved, despite requests to the Highways section of H. Council, who state that instead, individual events could be granted temporary short term advertising if necessary. The best way forward though would be for the school to change it's address.
 - *Use of the School's facilities. Noted. Clerk to confirm to Headmaster.
- h) Gift agreed for the Internal Auditor. May be a need for 1 or 2 other gifts. This was agreed by all.
- i) Request from a resident in Manley Crescent to have trees lopped which are overhanging her garden, which has been passed to the Village Hall Management Committee for consideration.

C148 Next Meetings in the Parish Hall:

Wednesday 2nd December 2009 – Finance Group meeting to set budget/precept for 2010/11
 Wednesday 16th December 2009 at **7.15 pm** Parish Council meeting

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm