

## **PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 in the Parish Hall  
7.15 pm viewing Planning Application, 7.30 pm Main Business

**Present:** Cllr. K. Myers (Acting Chair), Cllr. P. Thomas, Cllr. R. Pierce, Cllr. K. Duggan  
Cllr. P. Rogers, Cllr. A. Stokes, Cllr. Mrs. P. Lloyd, Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin,

### **E028 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

Cllr.G. Evans – On Holiday, Cllr. Mrs. S. Smith, Cllr. J. Purslow – On Holiday,  
Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. Phillips – Meeting in London

### **E029 Announcement of any interests from councillors** - None Declared

### **E030 Minutes of last meetings/matters arising from them – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**ACTION**

There were two matters arising:

- a) Clerk reported that the Community Protection team had dealt with the fly posting issue in the village, and responded direct to the resident who raised the matter.
- b) Clerk also advised that the Highways team had responded to the Parish Council's letter requesting a structural survey be undertaken of the pavement edging stones behind the New Inn. Apparently nothing further can be done, however, Highways did promise to replace any stones that are loosened by passing traffic.  
The local resident will be advised.

**HH**

### **E031 Police Report – PC Jo Ellis & CSO Dick Alford**

Both the guests wished to praise the services of the Community Protection team for their fast and efficient work across the county, and suggested that the Parish Council may wish to invite Joanna Lindsay-Jones to come along and give a talk sometime. Agreed.

CSO Alford apologised for not being able to attend our last meeting. He went on to say that crime rates in the area since 1<sup>st</sup> February had been Nil. It is still necessary to be vigilant with regard to thefts of domestic fuel oil and items stolen for scrap metal. Plumbers in particular should be warned not to leave lengths of piping on display on their vehicles.

The recent Police Bulletin has been circulated.

The Police are linking in with the Neighbourhood Watch Group and both would attend the Village Show to raise their profile.

The meeting was asked whether it wished to go ahead with a village 'surgery' in Pembridge, and this was agreed. The Market Hall was chosen as the best venue and CSO Alford would liaise with the Clerk on the most suitable dates, which could then be advertised in the parish magazine. This would be a trial arrangement for a couple of months.

**HH**

No decision was made on the purchase of Rural Watch packs.

The Crimestoppers telephone number is :- Tel 0800 555 111

### **E032 Financial Report (Clerk)**

Reconciliation of bank accounts for February has taken place.

Future requirement for parish councils to advertise online any spending over £500.

Slight adjustments to some of the figures in the agreed Precept – new handout for all.

From 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011 all parish councils must operate a PAYE system for both tax and NIC purposes on income they pay their clerks and RFO's.

There will probably be no annual pay award to local government staff in 2011/12.

**Balances at end February 2011**

Current Account:	<b>£18,924.18</b>
Tracker Account:	<b>£5,925.33</b>
Post Office Savings Account:	<b>£11,347.79</b>

**Receipts since last meeting:**

BT Wayleave payment	£8.82
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**Requests for payment:**

Cleaner – public toilets & bins for March	£254.21
WMS Electricity for public toilets      amended invoice	£13.82
Zen Internet Domain Name Fee      .gov.uk	£59.40
Zen Internet Domain Name Fee      .org.uk	£63.44
Parish Magazine	£260.00
Donation & Loan to Pembridge Good Neighbour Scheme (£400 to be repaid to the parish council when convenient)	£500.00

**Forthcoming Elections & Localism Bill update - Clerk**

After discussion it was decided that poll cards would not be required if the PC election is contested.

All councillors were advised to get their nomination papers in as quickly as possible before the deadline of noon on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Cost to PC if a contested election c £1,000.

Cost to PC if an uncontested election between £50 - £350 (not known yet).

**E033    Planning**

DMN/110520/J      Treeworks at Church House, Market Square, Pembridge. HR6 9DZ  
Re-pollard 1 x Ash tree to clear electrical cables and side wall.

**Details sent to Tony Norman (Tree warden) to check.**

DMN/110418/E      Electricity line serving Tibhall Poultry Unit, Riddox Lane, Broxwood.  
Upgrade 7 span of existing 2 wire .025Sil to 3 wire 50AAAC (615)  
and build new overhead line to supply poultry unit with 3 wire  
50AAAC (526m) with a tolerance of 30m.

COMMENT:      NO OBJECTION

**E034    Parish Plan Review Update – Cllr. Mrs. Lloyd**

The recent public meeting held to discuss the progress of the revision to the Parish Plan was very sparsely attended, with around only six non-councillor visitors. The Clerk took notes of the points raised at that meeting, and these were circulated by Cllr. Mrs. Lloyd.

An Action Plan was considered the next step to completion, and to achieve this a final meeting will be held soon, probably Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April if the Clerk can book the hall for that date – at 7pm. All councillors will be requested to attend that meeting.

**HH**

**E035    Royal Wedding Parish Social Event – Cllr. Stokes**

Only three parishioners attended a recent well publicised Parish Open Meeting seeking helpers for a social event. Under the circumstances, it was considered unviable due to lack of interest, therefore it was decided that the Parish Council would not organise an event.

This decision would be mentioned in the next edition of the parish magazine.

**HH**

**E036 Lengthsman Scheme Update – Cllr. Stokes**

Various jobs have been completed, although no further invoices have been submitted for payment by the Lengthsman. This has meant that a rather large chunk of this year's grant is unused.

**E037 Good Neighbour Scheme – Cllr. Stokes**

The group has now opened it's own bank account, and has around 14 volunteers to help. These residents were recruited at a recent meeting in Bearwood Chapel.

There is a funding problem, as although a Community Pride grant has been applied for, the terms of that grant are that invoices for expenditure made have to be submitted before the grant is made. It was appreciated that the Parish Council had already promised a donation of £100 at the last meeting, but the group wished to ask the Parish Council for temporary funding of £400. After discussion and a proposal, it was agreed by all that a further payment of £400 would be made, which it was requested should be repaid as soon as the group had funds available. Clerk pointed out that repayment could depend on whether or not the group was successful in obtaining its Community Pride grant, and that advice had been sought from HALC regarding loans.

**E038 Pembridge in Bloom – Cllr. Stokes**

Cllr. Stokes said that he had recently attended a meeting of the Herefordshire and Wye Valley in Bloom group and whilst there he had paid a £10 subscription to that group, which entitled free entry application for the Pembridge in Bloom competition (which otherwise would have cost the Parish Council a further £50).

A grant of £400 is being sought from Amey. There will be a meeting of interested parties in the New In on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin asked whether the Parish Council would again sponsor the annual village competitions for The Best Front Garden from pavement and Best Hanging Basket/s. Prize money as before.

Judging to take place in July and a mention would be placed in the parish magazine.

This was proposed and agreed by all.

**JM**

**E039 Village Cleaner + Salary increment for Public Toilet Cleaner/Bin Emptier:  
Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin**

a) After discussion it was decided that there was no justification for a dedicated Village Cleaner.

b) Salary increase for the Public Toilet Cleaner/Bin emptier. The meeting decided that it would be advantageous to know how the employee accounts for his time prior to being able to make a decision, although it was appreciated that many more waste bins now require regular emptying that were there when he first began. Therefore this matter will be placed on the Agenda of the April meeting for further discussion, and that Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin would obtain the information required.

**JM**

**Meeting closed for next two items**

**E040 Parishioners Questions – No parishioners were present.**

**Ward Councillor's Report:**

**Parish Plan**

The new Localism Bill will make a "neighbourhood plan" part of the legal planning documents that will determine Planning permissions. I hope tomorrow to get a clearer steer on how the Neighbourhood plan fits with the Local Development Framework and in particular what happens if there is conflict between the two.

Although not many turned out last week for the parish plan the fact remains that in the next few years the community and parish council will be asked to give a clear proposal on the number of homes they think should be built in the village/parish, if they support the removal of the building line and identification of building sites, plus what projects or activities they would wish to see contributions made to.

For example I would encourage financial contributions to be considered towards the cost of installing infrastructure for high-speed broadband, traffic impacts, the school and village hall.

These decisions do not have to be made this year but are lurking around the corner.

### **Lady Hawkins High School**

The school has just been Ofsteded as a "good school with outstanding features". The full report is on the websites of the school and Ofsted. The Governors are determined to follow a policy which will take the school to an "outstanding" position, retaining the three form year classes we have, our six form with the extra year for all students. and the continuing strong culture of a community school. The Governing Body is considering the matter of applying for Academy Status at its next meeting this March.

### **School Sign**

I reported to the last PC meeting that the Herefordshire Council had agreed to pay for one sign on the east side of the New Inn on an existing pole. At the meeting in February I felt I had the clear steer from the PC that although you have a strong view on signage in the village this matter tolerable.

### **Highways**

The winter should now be behind us but the damage to the roads is evident. The Government has given us an extra million pounds towards the cost of the extra repairs and we have agreed that most of this should be spent on C and Unclassified roads. Remember please report any potholes or concerns to Amey on 01432261800 or email [streets@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:streets@herefordshire.gov.uk)

As I think you all know the County and Parish elections are being held on 5th May together with the AV referendum. I will be standing for re election to both councils.

I have made the decision however not to seek re-election as Leader. I have been Leader for Eight years and I think I need to be sensible about my own health and balance of life. However I will remain as determined as ever to all I can in whatever role to represent and work for my Community and County with the support of parishioners.

## **E041 Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action**

- a) Change to the way that planning applications are provided by H. Council; who wish to change from a paper based system to an electronic operation. A discussion took place around the fact that in future there may be a requirement for parishes to have a dedicated e mail address which could be used to receive electronic copies of planning applications. The Clerk would then be able to forward any plans to every councillor in advance of meetings, and that would give councillors the opportunity to carry out a site visit if necessary. Cllr. Pierce offered to prepare a special e mail address for this purpose, and would advise the Clerk of this in due course.

**RP**

A Questionnaire for completion was run through, and Clerk would submit it, hopefully with the new dedicated e mail address.

**HH**

### **Next Meetings:**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2011 at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall

5<sup>th</sup> May – Election Day.

Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> May – Pembridge Open Parish Meeting

Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> May – Annual Meeting of Pembridge Parish Council – Election of Officers

Both at 7.15 in the Parish Hall

