

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 20th July 2011 in the Parish Hall
7.15 pm viewing Planning Applications, 7.30 pm Main Business

Present: Cllr. G. Evans (Chair), Cllr. P. Thomas, Cllr. R. Pierce, Cllr. A. Stokes
Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin, Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. R. Phillips, Cllr. P. Rogers, Cllr. K. Myers
Cllr. A. Mizrahi, Cllr. Ms. C. Fothergill, Cllr. A. Pace

E080 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin – Organising Pembridge Show

E081 Announcement of any interests from councillors - None Declared

E082 Police Representative – CSO David Bowden

Children at Pembridge school have recently under gone Bicycle testing, and all had passed.

A police surgery had recently taken place on 14th July, and the next one is planned for 18th August, at 11am at The Market Hall.

There have been two recent crimes a) Damage to a lock at Moor Court Church, and b) theft of machinery from a local farm between 22nd and 26th June.

Speed Enforcement is to take place in Pembridge on an unannounced date.

It was noted that the recent S.I.D. data showed quite a high proportion of motorists still travelling too fast through the village, and the proposed speed enforcement has been arranged as a consequence.

If anyone would like to obtain a copy of the monthly Police Bulletin, they could do so by contacting Kington Rural Police. Clerk will mention this in the magazine.

E083 Minutes of last meetings/matters arising from them – 15th June 2011

Two matters arising:-

- 1) Pg024-E070 Clarification was requested to the wording, to accurately describe the difficulty in walking between the riverbank and the green as the foliage is rather dense.

- 2) Pg025-E075 The name of the new employee is Mr. D. Hemuss.

These alterations were made and the Minutes were then signed as an accurate record.

E084 Financial Report (Clerk)

Reconciliation of bank accounts for June has taken place.
Accounts have been submitted to the External Auditor.

Balances at end June 2011

Current Account:	£19,569.03
Tracker Account:	£5,926.81
Post Office Savings Account:	£11,347.79

Receipts since last meeting:

None.

Receipts since last meeting:

None.

ACTION

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Payments made since last meeting

HMRC Tax for 1 st quarter year for 2 employees	£342.40
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Requests for payment:

HALC Training Fee for 1 councillor	£25.00
Hall Hire	£71.50
S.I.D. Deployment Fee for May	£120.00
Millennium Meadow Mowing – June	£53.10
Toilet Consumables	£159.66
Lengthsman Invoice No. 2538	£691.80
Magazine Printing – Aug/Sept. edition	£260.00
Toilet Cleaner and Bins – July	£192.40

All above payments approved

Leominster Shopmobility has submitted a request for the Parish Council to hold a fund raising event to allow them to purchase premises of their own. After discussion it was decided to place this as a feature in the parish magazine.

HH**E085 Participatory Budgeting - Clerk**

A hand-out prepared by HALC on the 3 suggested processes and timescales was given out.

An explanation about this method of allowing all residents to participate in the Council's budget/precept setting process was given, and further, how it would involve setting aside a percentage of the precept to be spent at the choice of the electorate, providing it was for a legal and justifiable reason.

The Chairman read out a detailed statement which had been prepared by the Clerk from notes taken during a training course that she had attended on the topic, and a copy will be supplied to all councillors prior to budget setting later in the year.

Following this, there was general discussion, and it was decided that the timescale was too short for putting PB in place for 2012/13, and that the Parish Council would not submit to HALC an 'Expression of Interest' in taking up PB at the moment. This was agreed by all.

As the Council has £10,000 of its money already ring fenced, in case of loss of any local services and the possible need to contribute to these, it was considered appropriate to hold a Public Meeting to gain some input from local residents as to their ideas for making improvements in the parish. An initial date of Wednesday 2nd November was set, if the Clerk could book the hall for that date. Also, a small feature would be placed in the next edition of the parish magazine, with further details in the following edition to include a tear-off slip for ideas, to be completed and returned to the Clerk in case people couldn't get to the public meeting. Other means of promoting this aim would be achieved by website, e mail list and the noticeboard. That way, as wide as possible means of consultation would be applied.

HH**E086 No Planning Applications for consideration this evening**

There were no planning applications for consideration this evening.

Planning Applications Reviewing Method to become electronic shortly - Clerk

Herefordshire Council will be expecting all parish and town councils to review planning applications within their area on-line from this autumn. A link to applications will be sent out by e mail to the parish council's new dedicated e mail address and forwarded to councillors by the clerk, although back-up paper copies will be continued for a year before they are finally ceased.

In order that the plans, which accompany applications can be centrally viewed and discussed by all councillors at meetings, it was mentioned that there would probably be a need to obtain a lap-top computer for the purpose. It was decided that the redundant CAP lap-top and projector could probably be used, and Cllr. Duggan was asked to check this soon, and to confirm back with a definite answer at the next meeting.

KD

E087 Mobile Libraries – Probable reduction in service - Clerk

The Mobile Library Service throughout Herefordshire is due to cease entirely from September 2011.

Having sought information from Herefordshire Council as to actual usage of the service by local residents, the facts are as follows:

There have been seven registered users, although not all seven have necessarily been regular users of the service on all visits. During the last six months of service visits the average number of users per visit was four, while the average number of items borrowed each time the mobile library was in Pembridge was twenty five.

Based on the above figures, it was regrettably not considered that they were sufficiently high to justify the continuance of a service by other means.

E088 Bus Services – Probable Reduction in Services in 2012 – Clerk

There are three bus routes that serve Pembridge – Numbers 495, 496 & 497.

These services are all on a 5 year contract, which will end in September 2012. Subsidies will remain in place until then. However, it is not currently known what will happen to the services after that date.

Meeting closed for next 2 items**E089 Parishioners Questions – No parishioners were present.****E090 Ward Councillor's Report – Cllr. R. Phillips****Noise from Shobdon Airfield**

Cllr. Phillips had attended a meeting today of the Shobdon Noise Abatement Group at Shobdon Airfield. He stated that everyone is aware that the Tiger Helicopter company has a contract to train Algerian pilots from Shobdon Airfield for the next 12 months, and it is these helicopters that seem to be the main cause of noise concern locally. Unfortunately the Tiger Helicopters representative was not present at the meeting, however, it is hoped that he will be present on 21st September at the next meeting. Cllr. Phillips has stressed to the Group that the aircraft must fly by the correct routes, to avoid causing nuisance.

If anyone wishes to complain about noise issues from the airfield, they will need to formalise these by ensuring the details get placed on the website when they contact the airfield – the information needed is: the time and date of the incident, and if possible, the aircraft call sign. The next meeting of the Noise Abatement Group is scheduled for 19th October.

Schools

The current number of pupils at Pembridge school is 104 and this will rise in September to 108. Dilwyn school management may change shortly.

Village Sign

A new village pointer sign has been designed by the Highways team to combine several signs onto just one, and doing away with the existing clutter. The new sign points up Bearwood Lane to:- Bearwood, Luntley, the School and the Village Hall, as well as a brown section showing the Church and Dunkertons Cider Mill. It was agreed at this meeting that the Market Hall should be added to the sign if possible, as this is an historic and important building in the village.

RJP

Damage to properties

Some residents have reported that the close continual heavy traffic passing through the village is shaking their properties, and there is concern that this will cause damage to the structure of them. This will be followed up.

Cllr. Phillips confirmed that air pollution levels were satisfactory, as they had been checked some years ago.

ACTION

Proposed meeting with Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of parishes in the Ward

Cllr. Phillips confirmed that he would hold a meeting for Chairmen and Vice Chairmen in September to specifically discuss the Localism Bill and housing issues, and 'whole' parish development. This will include consideration of the level and type of housing best suited, the building line etc.

RJP

Meeting Re-opened

E091 Charter between Herefordshire Council and Parish Councils

One or two Councillors had sent their comments on the Charter to the Clerk in advance. Following some discussion, the required response date to HALC of 26th August on this topic was noted, but it was agreed that the Parish Council had no specific comment to make.

E092 Parish Plan Review – Cllr. G. Evans

Cllr. Pierce was invited to give an update as he has been working on incorporating the revision points and agreed Action Plans into the complete original Plan document. Cllr. Pierce suggested that when his work was completed, he would then e mail it out to all councillors for any additional comments to be taken into account, and approval, by say the end of August; then the final document would be placed on the website.

RP

Thereafter, later in the year the Plan's Action Points will be further considered.

E093 Lengthsman Scheme update – Cllr. A. Stokes

The following three items of work were discussed and approved:

Repainting of the post van no-parking hatched area; removal of a tree stump and earth border at the pedestrian entrance to the Millennium Meadow, and application of a tarmac surface.

The current Scheme Administrator will retire as from the end of September 2011.

It was proposed that the replacement Administrator should be Mrs. Carrie Pierce, as from 1st October 2011. All agreed this proposal.

E094 Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action:

- a) **New Insurer** is now in place for a 3 year fixed term. Noted.
- b) **Training Courses for councillors.** The Chairman encouraged as many councillors as possible to attend the interesting and informative courses held by HALC, stating that there is always something new to learn to make councillors more effective.
A list of courses was handed out for all councillors to retain and refer to.
- c) **Problem with residents parking** in the space reserved for the Mobile Post Office van. This has now been resolved and there should be no further problems.
- d) **Annual Parish Report** is now on the website freely available. Noted.
- e) **Annual ROSPA inspection** report of the playground has been received. Cllr. Stokes mentioned just one item that needs repair as a 'high risk' item, and this is in hand.
- f) **Untidy area around Steppes shop** and village centre generally. Cllr. Stokes mentioned that he has formed a 'Pembridge Pride' group which will encourage residents to give up a few hours per week throughout the year for general tidying up. The next organised Litter Pick will take place on Sunday 9th October.

ALL

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- g) **Query surrounding public footpaths** near Forge Crossing – this has now been resolved by the supply of some up to date footpath maps by Cllr. P. Rogers.
- h) **Noticeboard lock problem** – currently cannot unlock the noticeboard. Cllr. K. Duggan agreed to take see whether he can manage to unlock it. **KD**
- i) **Six apple trees** have been applied for under the Herefordshire Council Scheme to be planted on public amenity land; we await to hear whether the Parish Council is successful in its application.
- j) **There will be repairs to the A44 road** between The New Inn and Manley Lane, with a road closure one Saturday 24th September.
- k) **HALC's Northern Area Meeting** will take place on Tues. 26th July at 7.30 pm in Leominster Council offices in West Street, Leominster . Guest Speaker will talk about how to manage Parish Records and be compliant with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the FOI Act 2000.
- l) **HALC are seeking a councillor nomination** for their Executive Committee. Noted.
- m) **A Parish Council group photograph** will be arranged for Wednesday 16th November, prior to the monthly meeting. **ALL**
- n) **Affordable Housing project** – Funding is not now available, as the Developer, Marches Housing Association was unsuccessful it its bid for HCA funding, and the Association is now reviewing its options in terms of the future developments it can undertake. They have said that this will take a while and that they will update the Parish Council as and when they have any further news. Cllr. Phillips agreed to discuss the situation with Marches Housing Association.
- o) **The Speed Indicator Device** will be in place in the village during August and November. **RJP**

E095 Next Meetings:

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Wednesday 21st September 2011 at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall

Wednesday 19th October 2011 at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall

+ Public Meeting to be arranged.

Wednesday 16th November – Group Photograph before start of meeting.