

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 16th November 2011 in the Parish Hall
7pm – Group Photograph was taken before business commenced

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

E127 Apologies and Reasons for Absence :
None.

ACTION

E128 Police Report – CSO Dick Alford :

There is very little to be reported since CSO Alford's last visit here. Just one theft of vehicle batteries from a compound in Shobdon.

A reminder that from 8th November 2011 the new non-emergency telephone number for the police is :- **1 0 1**.

Halloween and Bonfire Nights both went smoothly with no anti-social behaviour. Neighbourhood Watch groups are being sent regular crime alerts.

The last 'Surgery' was held on 10th November, and they will continue every 4 weeks, so the next one will be on 8th December at the Market Hall.

CSO Alford wondered whether there may be an opportunity when the Shop is reopened that the surgeries could be held in there, as they are for the community's benefit.

The Chairman asked CSO Alford whether the bronze plaques on the War Memorial could be security marked by Smartwater. This could be arranged through the Police, but there is currently a free scheme to do this, offered by the War Memorials Trust. The Clerk was requested to follow this up.

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Cllr. Mifflin mentioned that she had recently had a lady cold calling at her house, asking whether she could buy the holly from a bush in her garden.

E129 Announcement of any interests from councillors : None.

A reminder was given to all councillors by the Clerk regarding the importance of advising the Council if there are any changes/additions to their Interests that may need to be made following the declarations given at the time of their election in May regarding completion of the General Interests Forms, and specifically the need to mention the following under the section entitled "**Land in the Area of the Authority:-**

- 1. You should include any land in the area of the authority in which you have a beneficial interest (that is, in which you have some proprietary interest for your own benefit). If you live in the authority's area you should include your home under this heading as owner, lessee or tenant.*
- 2. You should include any property from which you receive rent, or of which you are a mortgagee.*
- 3. "Land" includes any buildings or parts of buildings.*

The correct full declaration is required so that any person should feel that a matter before the Council could not be considered more/less favourably by a Councillor because of his possible prejudicial interest in the matter; and to avoid representations being made because a councillor has failed to observe the Code of Conduct.

The onus to do this is upon each Councillor, who has freely signed the Code of Conduct and therefore agreed to abide by it upon taking office.

E130 Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – October 2011

There were two matters arising:

- 1) Item n) PC-IRIS – the kit was passed to Cllr. Pierce to use on behalf of the Council, and not to the Lengthsman Administrator.
- 2) Cllr Duggan had e mailed that he wanted to know when the agreed 50 copies of the revised Parish Plan would be printed off. Cllr. Pierce mentioned that he had obtained a costing of £195.00 for this work. This was given approval by the Council, therefore Cllr. Pierce would arrange for the printing to be carried out as soon as possible.

These amendments would be made to the October Minutes by the Clerk and the Minutes would be resubmitted for authorisation by the Chairman at the December meeting.

RP

HH

E131 Financial Report - Clerk

Reconciliation of bank accounts for October has taken place.

Bell Tower Clock – New 3 year Service Agreement: - Total cost would be: **£741.60**

(Same rate of £206 per year as in 2007 – in advance, saving £61.20)

or annual payments of £267.60 x 3 = **£802.80**

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. K. Myers that this 3 year agreement is taken up – agreed by all.

First salary for the Lengthsman Administrator will be arranged for December payment.

Balances at end October 2011

Current Account:	£24,640.97
Tracker Account:	£5,927.55
Post Office Savings Account:	£11,347.79

Receipts since last meeting:

First half-year VAT reclaim received	£706.10
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Requested Payments to be made:

Herefordshire Citizens Advice Bureaux (donation agreed)	£50.00
Bell Tower Clock maintenance payments – 3 yr contract or annual	£741.60
Toilet Cleaner & Bins – November	£180.60
Toilet Consumables	£92.09
Hall Hire	£31.00
HALC Training Fees x 4 @ £25	£100.00
Lengthsman Invoice No. 2570	£514.20
Magazine Printing Dec/Jan	£260.00
Christmas Trees for village	TBC FOR NEXT MEETING

All above payments approved

E132 Planning

Letter circulated to all Councillors, from H. Council, explaining timescale for introduction of electronic service delivery.

Treeworks Application – sent to Tony Norman (Tree Warden):

DMN/113105/K Land at The Barn, East Street, Pembridge
Fell 5 x Ash trees

Planning Applications for consideration this evening:

DMN/112894/F Yeld Farm, Lyonshall, Kington. HR5 3LY
Proposed four poultry units to house broilers with attached control room unit. Three feed bins with each pair of units. Ancillary Infrastructure would include a generator shed & office, a shower block & two sets of four gas tanks located on a concrete base, vehicle access and bund.

COMMENT: NO OBJECTION

DMN/113032/F Broxwood Court, Broxwood, Leominster. HR6 9JJ
 Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic array.
 COMMENT: NO OBJECTION

E133 Neighbourhood Plan Development & Progression of the Parish Plan Review – Feedback from recent HALC/CPRE/H. Council Presentation – Cllr. R. Pierce

Handouts of the presentation and some notes from the meeting have been circulated by the Clerk to all Councillors, as well as the 'Help Plan the Future of Herefordshire' brochure.

The Parish Plan Steering Group (PPSG) met early in November to establish a remit, and their priority is to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for this parish. The suggested number for the Group is up to 6 persons.

Here is the report by Cllr. Pierce on the recent training evening presentation:-

Parish Plan Steering Group Remit and First Report to the PC

The proposed formalised remit for the Parish Plan Steering Group (PPSG) is:

To establish and oversee a working group structure that will continuously review and update the Parish Plan and its associated Action Plans. Reviews will be presented to the Council as appropriate but at least annually.

The following are proposed as the first steps:

1. The Plan will be considered under the headings contained in the 2010 review, with the clarification of adding Planning to the Housing description:

- Housing/Planning•
- Environment •
- Leisure •
- Traffic•
- Business, tourism and farming•
- Welfare•

2. A sub-group will be established by the PPSG for each part including at least one PPSG member and having a remit set by the PPSG which would include the current Action Plans. The sub-groups will report to the PPSG and will be able to co-opt or consult other interested or knowledgeable individuals. Any Councillor may elect to be a member of a particular working group.

3. The issue of housing/planning and consideration of adopting a Neighbourhood Plan is an immediate priority and the PPSG itself should initially act as the sub-group for this part.

Parish Plan Steering Group 1 November 2011

Following this report there was a discussion as to the best way forward. Cllr. Pierce explained what had taken place at the recent training Presentation held at The Three Counties Hotel in Hereford.

There will be the need to produce a Neighbourhood Plan (although no compulsion to do so) with the aid of a professional Planning Specialist; as this was recommended.

The Plan would need to be accepted by the Planning Officers, and to do so it would need to be in cohesion with the existing Unitary Development Plan.

A group comprised of the PPSG (Cllrs. R. Pierce, K. Myers, A. Pace & Cllr. P. Rogers) as well as Cllr. D. Owens, will form the "Housing/Planning" sub-group whose priority would be the Neighbourhood Plan. The PPSG will report back to the Parish Council when some progress has been made.

Other Councillors are invited to join in any Parish Plan sections to be reviewed.

E134 It was noted that the Local Development Framework Consultation period ends on 28th November, so there is only a short time in which to respond. Cllr. Phillips highlighted the need to respond, in order for the parish's view to be recorded. There followed a discussion, and the Clerk was requested to write a response to include the following points:

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1. Request clarification as to whether Pembridge parish is being considered as a Rural Hub or a Regional Service Centre
2. Pembridge does not wish to be linked to Eardisland, as it has no strong links or ties with that parish.
3. Pembridge is one of the largest rural parishes in the county and has sufficient local services to be able to stand alone as a main parish.
4. All infrastructure requirements must be met.

Public Meeting held on 26th October 2011 – Cllr. G. Evans

Handout of some notes from the meeting have been circulated by the Clerk, to be considered at the Finance Meeting in December. Some action requests that were raised by residents, and the Clerk was requested to write to a resident (or landlord) of the property in Bridge Street that has a large tree overhanging the pavement and engulfing the street light, thus making it very dark to walk along there when dark.

HH

There were other problems in the village relating to overhanging shrubs etc across pavements making access difficult, and it was agreed that to begin with a general mention in the forthcoming parish magazine would take place, to see whether that resolved the matter.

Meeting closed for next 2 items

E135 **Parishioners Questions:** No parishioners present.

E136 **Ward Councillor's Report:**

You should have received in the last week your form to register for fast broadband as I indicated last month. Please return by post or online so we have the clear evidence to demonstrate to the prospective contractor of the strength of potential customers, and ensure we extract the right level of investment from the company concerned. The contract is to deliver improved broadband to all of rural Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. If you have lost your copy please go to www.fastbroadband4herefordshire.org.uk

This month has also seen the publication of the annual state of Herefordshire report which contains a wealth of information about our County. The Key Findings of the 2011 State of Herefordshire report are now available on the Facts and Figures website www.herefordshire.gov.uk/SoH

Marches Redundant Building Grants Programme

We have received a 1.5 million grant from the Governments Growth Fund to support small businesses and start-ups in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford to bring unused buildings back into productive economic use.

The scheme will provide up to £ 50,000 to small businesses to transform redundant buildings with the aim to create over 300 direct jobs. This is similar to the previous successful scheme we used to run.

Budget Savings

Following the Cut in Government grants we have made over £ 10 million of savings in 2011/12 in the 145 million council budget we now need to prepare for a further £ 7 million reductions in 2012/13. The aim is to identify the savings in the way we deliver the services rather than the services themselves.

During the last year we have minimised the reductions in services. In our parishes the mobile library service has been stopped, some changes to bus services and tourist information centres have been outsourced. We are hoping to have a small community run library in Lyonshall and volunteers have had a meeting with the council to operate it at coffee mornings in the village hall.

At a recent meeting I attended which looked at all locally owned public property it was pleasing to note that Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority will be keeping open all our local fire stations including Kington, Eardisley, Kingsland and Leintwardine.

The Police consider there may be some savings to join up their station in Kington with the fire service. On the Health front the new Surgery in Kington is being build and plans are also afoot for a similar build at Leintwardine.

There will be presentations from the Council and local NHS at Lady Hawkins on 22nd November at 7.30pm.

Public Health Annual Report

The annual report has been published giving information on the health and well-being of the local population.

Not surprisingly the levels of cancer and heart disease are the biggest problems in our County. Herefordshire experiences significantly lower mortality rates from cancer at 150 per 100,000 than west Midlands 175 per 100,000 and 172 per 1000,000 in England. The opening of the new centre in Hereford will now mean that local people can get treatment locally rather than travel to Cheltenham.

Heart mortality rates have fallen by almost 50% since 1996 but that is less than regional and national figures. High levels of cholesterol, obesity and hypertension are three main risk factors. NHS health checks programme invites all people between 40 -74 to be regularly checked over.

Another concern for us is the falls particularly in older people. In 2010/11 there were 760 fall related admissions of older people to the Hospital in the county with 200 hip fractures. The cost on the local NHS is put at 2.48 million pounds plus social care costs. The County is developing a prevention strategy, which encourages greater awareness and activity.

The number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads has fallen with 61 being the recorded figure for 2010. The disproportionately high level of young people 16 to 25 is a major concern and 18% of the figures are motorcyclists.

The full report can be found at www.herefordshire.nhs.uk/156.aspx

Royal George Lyonshall

The George has been put up for sale by the owners Punch Taverns and following a recent public meeting attended by 117 people a bid to purchase the pub by the community is being considered. A prospectus will be coming out at the end of the month but if you want to know any more details or information contact the Lyonshall website (www.lyonshall.net) for updates, or phone Chris Smith 01544 340598 or Paul Avery 01544 340409.

Call your Local Police 101

From the 8th November 101 will be the number to call when you want to contact the police- when it's less urgent than 999.

101 should be used to report less urgent crime or disorder and for general police enquires. 999 should still be used in an emergency where there is danger to life or risk of injury, a crime is in progress and the offender is still at the scene. For more information visit www.police.uk/101

Local Police Surgeries

Royal George Car Park **Lyonshall**

Thursday 10th November at 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 8th December at 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Shobdon Post Office

Saturday 19th November 9.30am to 10.30am

Market Hall **Pembridge**

Thursday 10th November at 11.00am to 12 noon

Thursday 8th December at 11.00am to 12 noon

Olympic flame is coming to Herefordshire

On 27 July, 2012, the eyes of the world will be on London for the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games as the Olympic Flame arrives at the Olympic Stadium for the lighting of the cauldron to signify the start of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

In the build up to the start of the event, the Olympic Flame will make its journey from Greece and arrive in the UK on 18 May 2012, ready for the Olympic Torch Relay to begin the following day.

Representing peace, unity and friendship, the Flame will start its 70-day journey at Lands End and proceed around the UK towards the stadium carried by 8,000 torchbearers.

LOCOG are proud to confirm that on May 24 and 25 2012, the Olympic Flame will reach Herefordshire.

Torchbearers will carry the Olympic Flame through **Leominster**, **Ledbury**, **Bartestree**, **Lugwardine**, **Hereford** on 24th and **Ross** on 25th they will host a welcome on behalf of their surrounding communities.

Meeting Re-opened

E137 Public Toilets Management - Chairman:

Following discussion it arose that there had been two instances when the public toilets had not been opened early in the morning. However, it was mentioned that the cleaner had now made other arrangements for a keyholder to open up if he was not able to for any reason. Cllr. Myers mentioned that he had met an Amey representative who attended to take water samples for Legionella analysis.

ACTION

It transpired that the hot water in the basin/s was too cool and thus potentially allowed the growth of the Legionella bacterium. If the temperature was increased to kill off the bacterium this could be a safety hazard, and so Cllr. Myers proposed that the best solution was to cease heating the water by disconnecting the heater. This was agreed with majority in favour.

JM/GE

Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin mentioned that there had been a report that the urinals were leaking, and needed attention. The Clerk and Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin will liaise over getting a plumber to do the necessary repair works.

HH/JM

Parish Matters Arising/Correspondence for Action:

- a) Pommunity Herefordiensis - Pembridge has been fortunate to be selected to receive 6 local species of apple tree. Clerk will collect them Friday 25th November; and a planting team is needed to plant the trees on Sunday 27th November at 10.00 am commencing at the Village Hall site. Volunteers needed please. An advertising feature will be arranged to meet the terms of receiving the free trees.
- b) Speed Indicator Device (SID) will be in the village in 2012 during the months of: Feb, May, Aug & Nov.
- c) NALC Legal Briefing – The Bribery Act 2010 – copy supplied to all Councillors.
- d) Legal Matter – Handout of advice by Paul Clayden on : ‘The role of councillors’.
- e) War Memorial – is to be marked by ‘Smartwater’ to protect against theft of its plaques – Clerk was requested to apply for grant funding.
- f) Review of Herefordshire Wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission. Meeting on 22nd November at 7pm at Brockington, Hafod Road, Hereford
- g) More free trees offered by the Woodland Trust – Declined.
- h) Councillors’ ideas for parish improvement to be budgeted for in Dec. Please advise Clerk
- i) Bonfire Night event was very successful, with more people attending than previously.
- j) The Christmas Tree switch on night and parish social event is Friday 2nd December at 6pm.

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E138 Next Meetings:

Wednesday 7th December (Finance Meeting only – to draft Precept/Budget for 2012/13).
Wednesday 14th December.