

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 19th September 2012 in the Parish Hall

Present: Cllr. G. Evans (Chair), Cllr. Mrs. C. Evans
Cllr. Ms. C. Fothergill, Cllr. A. Pace, Cllr. P. Thomas, Cllr. K. Duggan
Cllr. M. Ratcliffe, Cllr. T. Bennetto

F112 Apologies: Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin , Cllr. A. Stokes , Cllr. R. Phillips & Cllr. Mrs. C. Evans **ACTION**

F113 Announcement of any interests from councillors :
None.

F114 Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 18th July 2012
(No meeting in August)

Four points were raised as matters arising:-

- 1) Update on cleaning of War Memorial. Clerk explained that a form will need to be completed to see whether a grant may be available from the War Memorials Trust for 50% of the total cost of cleaning the stonework and the bronze. The Trust require substantial information, and it was mentioned that Mr. Bob Anderson may be able to assist with some history of the War Memorial; so the Clerk will follow that up. Also required are 2 or 3 quotations from qualified people who may be able to carry out the renovation work, which the Clerk will obtain.
- 2) Affordable Housing – is there any news? No there is nothing to report at the moment.
- 3) Plaques for the Millennium & Diamond Jubilee trees donated to the village – nothing further to report at the moment. Chairman to follow this up.
- 4) The results of the recent 'In Bloom' village competition are as follows:

Pembridge won Gold in the 'Village ' category, (population 300 -1000 residents) and were 'Village ' category winners in the Heart of England in Bloom 2012 campaign.

As category winners we have been recommended by the RHS judges to enter the Britain in Bloom campaign for 2013.

Note: to achieve gold you must score 85% or more in 3 areas, Horticultural achievement, Environmental responsibility and Community Participation. We actually scored 90% and as such were category winners in the Heart of England area, which covers Shropshire W Midlands, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

Congratulations were passed to anyone who has helped to gain this success. Cllr. Rogers has placed press releases about it, in the Parish News Magazine and the local newspaper.

The Minutes were then signed as a true record.

F115 Financial Report (Clerk)
Reconciliation of bank accounts has taken place for August.
A new External Auditor has been advised for the next 5 years:
Grant Thornton UK LLP. Last date to submit Precept for 2013/14 is 31st January 2012.

Balances at end August 2012

Current Account:	£18,502.17
Tracker Account:	£5,929.79
Post Office Savings Account:	£11,393.23

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

Receipts since last meeting:

Wayleave	£26.32
Ist Half Year Lengthsman Grant 2012/13	£2115.00

Payments made since last meeting:

Lengthsman Invoice No.2646	£482.16
Information Commissioners Annual Fee	£35.00
Audit Fee for 2011-12 Audit	£342.00
Cleaner – public toilets & bins for August	£223.20

Requests for Payment:

Toilet Cleaner & Bins – September	£217.00
Millennium Meadow mowing – July	£55.04
Millennium Meadow mowing – August	£55.04
Electricity for public toilets: 1/6 to 31/8	£20.42
HMRC payment for 2 employees 2 nd quarter	£211.60
Clerk's 2 nd quarter salary	£846.08
Clerk's 2 nd quarter expenses	£220.97

F116 Planning

There followed some discussion about how unsatisfactory and generally difficult it is for councillors to carry out their role properly in commenting upon planning applications that come before them, if they continue to be expected to do this in a purely electronic way. It was said that deciphering the differences on plans of the 'before development' and proposed after development' were very difficult on screen, and that it was far easier to do so when looking at print-offs of paper plans displayed for all to view.

The Clerk was requested to contact the lead Planning Officer at Herefordshire Council to highlight the Councillors' concerns and to enquire as to whether it would be possible to reinstate paper copies of all plans into the future, and not just until the end of November 2012 – the previously set deadline for their cessation.

Tree Application sent to Tony Norman for his consideration DMN/122421/K:
Pembridge Rectory :

Re-pollarding 1 x Goat willow. Fell 1 x Willow, 1 x Picea Abies and 1 x Sorbus Aucuparia.**There were no Applications for consideration at this meeting****Applications recently considered:**

N/121953	One and a half storey dwelling at site Adjacent to the New Inn, Pembridge
Comment:	The parish council supports this applications provided that the access To the site, and the New Inn car park, remain unchanged.
N/121911	Same site as above.
	Application to remove the Section 106 payments as work will commence Within 12 months.
Comment	The parish council supports this applications provided that the access To the site, and the New Inn car park, remain unchanged.

- N/122005 Bartbety Barn, Bearwood
Proposed conversion of redundant agricultural barn to form single dwelling
With attached open garage bay and secure storage.
- Comment: No objection.
- N/122101/FH Byletts Cottage, Pembridge, Leominster
Alterations to replace flat roofs with pitched roofs.
- Comment: No objection

F117 Millennium Meadow – Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin

The Chairman said that Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin will discuss this topic at the next meeting.
It was also confirmed that the annual Bonfire Party will also be held on the Meadow.

F118 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr. A. Pace

A Public Meeting will be held in the Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 24th October to gain residents views and opinions on the best way forward with the development of a parish Neighbourhood Plan, to help to control building over the next few years.

2 Handouts were passed around the meeting:

- a) Some background information on how and why the Neighbourhood Plan Scheme has been introduced into parishes, and what is aimed for. This item will be placed in the Parish Magazine to enable all residents to be aware of it.
- b) This Parish's Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group's 'Terms of Reference'. It was hoped that this could be officially adopted this evening, however a small amendment is needed first. Therefore it was agreed that the final version would be e- mailed around to all Councillors for their approval, to avoid delaying until the next Parish Council meeting.

Two relevant items that will be required to be completed by participating parishes, are a Service Level Agreement and the completion of a Questionnaire – both have been provided by Herefordshire Council.

F119 Public Rights of Way – Cllr. P. Rogers

There are to be two new footbridge's over a stream: one on the curtilage of Lowe Farm, and another nearby. Also, one stile will be exchanged for a kissing gate.

The parish has 47 kilometres of paths – one of the largest parishes in the county. Amey (Herefordshire Council's contractors) cannot afford to strim the footpaths. However, a new P3 Scheme is being introduced in 2013 whereby the sum of £50 per kilometre of footpath can be applied for, solely to strim footpaths.

It was proposed that this Scheme should be applied for now, to be sure that Pembridge's application would be considered. This was agreed by all. Clerk to attend to it.

HH

F120 Flooding – Sandbags storage

It was agreed that there was no need to have any other main storage site for the sandbags, other than The Leen Farm; however, some householders who have experienced flooding in the past, would be offered the opportunity to hold a small stock of sandbags at their own premises in case of emergency. A few Councillors would ask these residents and report back to the Clerk.

The Clerk will arrange for the annual restocking of sandbags to The Leen Farm.

HH

F121 Magazine Advertisers' Annual Fee charge – For renewal soon

After discussion it was decided that there would be no change to the annual fee of £50.00.

Meeting to be closed for the next two items**F122 Parishioners' Questions**

None.

F123 Ward Councillor's Report – Cllr. R. Phillips

Cllr. Phillips has e mailed around his September Report to all councillors in advance of this meeting.

Additional matters of interest included:

This is officially becoming the wettest summer for a hundred years and in these modern technological days we will still feel the impact of a poor harvest. The impact on food prices will bound to be felt this winter with not only less food produce but also of an inferior quality. Trailers that hold 20 tonnes of wheat last year although still full this year struggle to weigh 15 tonnes due to the poor bushel weight.

The Olympics were awesome and we have several local people involved with the paralympics. Many of you will recall that in January 2006 we opened a new swimming pool in Leominster after the other one was closed some years before. The costs at the time were £2.25 million (250k raised by local community) the rest paid for by the Council (council tax payers). Sasha and Nyree Kindred who live at Credenhill both previous paralympic gold medal winners train regularly at the pool and it is pleasing to realise the facility has such famous patrons.

Last year we were successful in preventing the transportation of large and long component parts for wind turbines in mid Wales. The other problem is how the electricity is connected to the national grid. The proposal to build turbines at Pentre Tump New Radnor will mean connecting them to Bullocks Mill sub station outside Kington and I understand this will be done underground via Stanner/Floodgates rather than down Hindwell Valley and Titley. If anyone hears differently please let me know.

Hopefully we will still have some sunny weather before summer is over and the next month sees plenty of local events to enjoy.

Roger

KINGTON SHOW Saturday 8th September at The Ovals Lyonshall

The largest one day show in the County with large displays of live stocks, dog show, horticultural classes

105th Weobley Ploughing Match on September 29th at Moorcourt Farm Between Pembridge and Lyonshall by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Eric Price

Free entry to this day long activity of ploughing classes including vintage tractors and horse ploughing, sheep dog trials, cookery, vegetable, craft and children's competitions.

h.Art week 8th - 16th September FREE ENTRY

This annual event will take place again with over 100 venues throughout and adjoining Herefordshire. The Council covers the administration of this but otherwise it is self-financing.

There are venues in all our wards so please go along during the week and see the exhibitions. This is an excellent example of us supporting individual artists and creative industry within the County.

Visit the website www.h-art.org.uk<<http://www.h-art.org.uk>>

Herefordshire Heritage Open Days Thursday 6th to Sunday 9th September FREE ENTRY
Nearly 50 sites across the County will be open at various times across the four days.

Entry is free to all sites and some are normally private while others like Berrington Hall and Croft Castle are normally opened and charged. For more details about sites contact our Museum Development Officer 01432383381 or sknox@herefordshire.gov.uk

Flavours of Herefordshire Festival 2012 Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th October FREE ENTRY. This event used to be held at the Racecourse but this year is being held at the Cathedral Close and Castle Green. Entertainment for the Family, children`s fun and activities. Live Cook offs and demos all weekend. Mary Berry, Stefan Gates and Tony Tobin will be celebratory cooks.

Details from 01432268430 or VisitHerefordshire.co.uk

Highways

The bad summer has done considerable damage to the highways in particular the Bearwood/Luntley lane being officially closed for the last two months which is planned to be reopened this month. Please report potholes or highway concerns to streets@herefordshire.gov.uk or phone 014322618800.

As in previous years I will be arranging a meeting with Amey team and my Parish Councils to discuss highway concerns and in particular items and projects for inclusion into next financial years capital programme. All my parish councils operate a lengthsman scheme financed by Herefordshire Council where smaller light work on drainage and maintenance is under the PC direction if you think you know of any works let them know.

Kington Car Parking charges

Following the 28% reduction of government grants to local authorities all the councils charges are being reviewed including Car parking. Locally for Kington this will mean only a small 10p increase on the Mill Street Car Park. This car park brings in £7,500 income after VAT per year. All the other car parks in council control in Kington will remain free.

Royal George

The application to build a new dwelling in part of the car park and garden of the pub has been withdrawn by the owners. The matter was due to have come to committee last week. I understand that an amended version may be submitted un which case it will be treated as a new application but I have made it clear it must still go to committee.

Parish Plans

Lyonshall, Shobdon and Pembridge are all in the early stages of developing their Neighbourhood Plans. Lyonshall has a public meeting on the Thursday 27th September in the village hall to kick off their consultation with the parish.

These plans will sit with the Local Development Framework and be the identification of future housing sites within the parishes.

The meeting was then re-opened.

F124 Decision on local deployment of Speed Indicator Device for next year

It was agreed that the Speed Indicator Device does slow the speed of through traffic down, therefore it will be booked for 4 dates in the village in 2013.

HH

F125 Lengthsman – Any issues

There were no particular issues relating to the Lengthsman, except that there was a request for a small article to be placed in the Parish News Magazine explaining just what the Lenthsmen`s role is and what he cannot do. Clerk would ask the Scheme Administrator to do so. Repairs to pot holes on bye roads is not something that the Lengthsman is permitted to do.

HH

F126 Purchase of a Wreath for the War Memorial

It was proposed that the Chairman would again lay a wreath in November at the annual Memorial service. This was agreed by all. Clerk will purchase the wreath.

HH

F127 Next Parish Council Meeting Date:

Wednesday 17th October 2012 at 7.30 pm

PUBLIC MEETING – Wednesday 24th October at 7pm in the Parish Hall

Meeting Closed at 9.45 pm

INFORMATION SHEET

- Notice that the Standing Orders will be reviewed and updated at the November meeting.
- All Councillors have signed up to the new Code of Conduct, by completing their 'Interests' forms.
- Under the Local Government Boundary Review, Herefordshire has requested single member wards.
- Luntley Bridge repairs are still under review by Amey's Bridge Manager.
- The Clerk has completed a newly required piece of training on the 'General Power of Competence' for Parish Councils, and passed the CiLCA examination.
 Notice that the Parish Council should now consider adopting the new 'General Power of Competence', as this is now the 'first' method of expenditure (rather than the existing Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972), for any expenditure that does not already have a specific power.
 More information will be provided later on, for consideration at the November meeting.
- Shobdon Airfield Noise Abatement meeting took place on 5th September; and some improvements to systems were noted: The Military has been made aware of correct local flying routes, the airfield website has been improved, and a telephone logging system for complaints has been introduced. The contract for the training of helicopter pilots has almost ended, so there is generally less movement and noise now.
- Details have been circulated about a consultation as to possible use of rebated red diesel fuel for gritting rural areas.
- Updated information is awaited on the Parish Council's request to Amey to fill in a step down into the road from the pavement opposite The New Inn.
- A Council Tax Support Consultation was e mailed to all councillors on 3rd September.
- Community Broadband provision is progressing.
- A Consultation is open on the Local Transport Plan 2012-15 until 16th November, and 'Your Community Your Say' meetings are being held to discuss this and other issues, to which all local residents are invited. Dates of local meetings are : Kington: Burton Hotel 10th October, Weobley Village Hall 1st October and Leominster – Bridge Street Sports Centre – 15th October. All at 7pm til 9pm.

