

# PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013 in the Parish Hall

**Present:** Cllr. G. Evans (Chair) Cllr. A. Pace, Cllr. Mrs. C. Evans, Cllr. Mrs. J. Mifflin  
Cllr. Ms. C. Fothergill, Cllr. P. Rogers, Cllr. P. Thomas, Cllr. R. Phillips  
Cllr. D. Owens (arrived later), Cllr. K. Duggan + 1 parishioner present

**G051 Apologies:** Cllr. M. Ratcliffe, Cllr. A. Stokes, Cllr. M. Ratcliffe **ACTION**

**G052 Announcement of any interests from councillors :**  
Cllr. Mrs. C. Evans - Planning application at The Leen (No. 130505/F) Noted  
Cllr. P. Thomas – Planning application at Weston Court Farm (No. 130757/F) Noted

**G053 Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013**  
There was one matter arising: G045 2<sup>nd</sup> para : Is there an update to when the Parish Council may hear about its application to join the P3 Footpath Scheme? Clerk advised that she had spoken to Amey and was told that they would be advising parish council's shortly. Clerk said that she would chase this again. Item to be placed on next meeting agenda. **HH**

**G054 Financial Report: - Clerk**  
Reconciliation of bank accounts for March has taken place.  
External Audit by Grant Thornton has been requested by 17<sup>th</sup> June 2013.  
Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2012/13 is: £6.80 per resident on the electoral register.  
1<sup>st</sup> Half year Precept will be received shortly.  
A handout was given to all councillors showing the final quarter expenditure for 2012/13.

**Balances at end March 2013:**

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Current Account:          | <b>£14,742.26</b> |
| Tracker Account:          | <b>£5,931.99</b>  |
| National Savings Account: | <b>£11,454.54</b> |

**Receipts since last meeting:** None

**Payments made since last meeting:**

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Electricity – public toilets | 18.62  |
| Lengthsman – Inv.No. 2709    | 761.40 |

**Requests for payment:**

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Toilet Cleaner & Bins – April              | 217.00 |
| Parish Hall Hire                           | 58.50  |
| 'Local Council Review' Annual Subscription | 16.00  |
| HALC – 1 X Training Fee (Clerk)            | 30.00  |

**All requests for payment were approved.**

**G055 Planning:**  
**130757/F Weston Court Farm, Pembridge. HR6 9JE**  
Erection of general purpose storage barn for agricultural use.  
COMMENT: NO OBJECTION  
**130505/F The Leen, Pembridge. HR6 9HN**  
Four new poultry houses each with control room. Five feed bins and ancillary infrastructure including a generator/amenity block.  
COMMENT: Pembridge Parish Council supports this application but would like it noted that there is a weight restriction in place on the river bridge, and therefore requests that no large vehicles should approach or leave the site via Bridge Street.

**Withdrawn Application**

Land SE at Milton Cross – Erection of photovoltaic solar panels and shed.

**Refused Application**

The Olde Steppes Shop, Pembridge – Conversion of bakehouse to holiday let.

**Treeworks Application – The Old Bike Shop, Bridge Street, Pembridge. HR6 9ES**

Reduce the height of 1 x silver birch tree by 33%. Passed to Tree Warden to comment.

**G056 Neighbourhood Planning – Cllr. A. Pace**

Update was provided by both Cllr. Pace & Cllr. Phillips.

All is progressing well.

A meeting on the topic is to be held by H. Council on 25<sup>th</sup> April, at which three councillors will attend : Cllr. Pace, Cllr. Rogers and Cllr. G. Evans.

Cllr. Pace had drafted responses to the proposed Core Strategy for the county 2011-2031, and the proposed Community Infrastructure Levy; copies of these responses were handed around the meeting for comment by councillors. After discussion it was agreed that the drafts should be amended in two ways: a) in the Core Strategy, that in fact the level of housing for rural areas could be increased on that which was proposed; and b) on the Levy – that the level set of £140 p sq m was far too high, and that this would discourage any development in the parish, and it should be reconsidered.

Cllr. Pace agreed to make these amendments and then e mail them to the Clerk for finalisation and submittal, as well as to the councillors.

HH

**G057 LDF – Herefordshire Council’s Planning Core Strategy (Draft) – Cllr. R. Phillips – Update**

Parish Council’s response to the consultation and proposed parish levy. Covered above.

**G058 Pride in Pembridge Group – Cllr. A. Stokes – Update on “In Bloom” Competition**

Now that the works on the sewers in Bridge Street are completed, a good clear up of the area will be carried out.

There are several aspects of village green restitution work needed following the Welsh Water contractors leaving the site; including levelling out ruts in the grass, compacting part of the car park surface, and grass reseeding in areas. There may be a need during this work to erect a temporary fence to protect the area whilst the new grass gets established. Also, there is some reseeding work required to the roadside banks in Bridge Street.

Tidying and weeding group continues to meet on Monday and Thursday mornings – anyone welcome to come along and join in.

It was noted that the stone edges to pavements in the village are becoming increasingly loose and dangerous – with an accident just waiting to happen. Recently the parish was advised that this remedial work is scheduled for October commencement; however all agreed that it needs a higher priority than this. Noted. A risk assessment is due to be carried out shortly with an Amey representative and Cllr. Phillips will be present

Also, it was reported that the traffic ‘bell’ at the top of Bridge Street by the café has been hit and dislodged. Clerk was requested to mention this to Amey and request that it is repaired.

Cllr. Phillips agreed to check with the local Police Community Support Officers, to ask whether dated and timed photographs of offending vehicles could be submitted for their prosecution.

HH

RJP/HH

**Meeting to be Closed for the next two items**

**G059 Parishioners Questions**

One parishioner mentioned the following:

- \* The school wall is bulging, close to the war memorial on the A44, and that she will follow this up with the school. Agreed.
- \* It should be noted that the work being carried out by the Pride in Pembridge Group is brilliant.
- \* It was felt that when responding to planning applications which the parish council wished to support, that it is not really sufficient to just comment 'No Objection'. Really something more positive should be said to encourage the planning officers to give permission to such applications.
- \* Suggest that when responding to The Leen planning application, that reference should be made to lorries to and from the site not having access via Bridge Street. Noted.

**G060 Ward Councillor's Report – Cllr. R. Phillips**

Cllr. Phillips' report for April has been circulated to all councillors by e mail.

Local highways are constantly being reported with pothole problems, and this should continue. Rhyse Lane takes heavy traffic, as well as Weston & Nutfield and the straight mile (Broad Road). Please keep reporting these issues to the 'streets' e mail address, so that they get logged for repair.

Budget update –so far £9m savings have been made and a further £2m to be saved. This equates to around 1/3 funding lost. It is anticipated that by year 2015/16 approximately ½ of previous funding will remain. Many services will be reduced.

Some Recycling Banks for glass are to be removed during w/c 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013, leaving banks just in the more high profile areas. Possibility that green wheelie bins may be available as a replacement at the village hall site.

[Concern was raised at potential loss of the village hall recycling banks as this would cause a great deal of inconvenience to residents who don't have a wheelie bin as a means of disposing of their glass bottles and jars, and Clerk was requested to see whether wheelie bins could be installed as replacements for the glass banks. It was hoped that if this could be achieved, that the wheelie bins would not be misused by trade waste glass.]

It was noted that there had not been any development with the coping stones for Luntley Bridge and Clerk was requested to follow this up.

HH

HH

**Meeting was Re-opened**

**G061 Parish Council Insurance – Cllr. A. Pace**

The full insurance policy has been read through, and flaws in the policy wording have been raised through the council's brokers, with Aviva. More information should be available for the next meeting.

AP

**G062 Lengthsman – Cllr. A. Stokes (absent)**

A final Lengthsman invoice (for 2012-13) should be cleared shortly, and once this has been done, then the Administrator can claim the final part of the grant for 2012-13).

**G063 War Memorial Clean Up – Cllr. P. Rogers**

Consideration was given to councillors undertaking the work themselves; however a reasonable quote has been received from a local company. After discussion there was a proposal that the quotation should be accepted. Agreed by all. Clerk will arrange for the work to be completed before to the end of June – prior to the In Bloom judging date.

HH

**G064 Next Parish Council Meeting Date:**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall **ANNUAL PARISH OPEN MEETING**

**All welcome.**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2013 at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall

**PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING WITH ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

All councillors are requested to be present please.

**INFORMATION**

- \* Electricity price capped from 1.4.2013 to 31.2.2014, for use in public toilets.
- \* Western Power Distribution – advice on what to do in event of a power cuts etc.
- \* Letter of thanks received from Miss Finney for the donation made by the Parish Council towards the purchase of items for the new Spiritual Garden at the school.
- \* Councillors' reports are required for 8<sup>th</sup> May Open Meeting please (copies to the Clerk).
- \* HALC's EGM is on Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm in Berrows House.

Meeting Closed at 9.00 pm