

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 11th December 2013 in the Parish Hall

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

G170 Apologies: Cllr. D. Owens

G171 Announcement of any interests from councillors :
None.

Police Report

One crime has been reported locally between 10th November and 10th December :

A daytime theft of staddlestones from a property in Bearwood.

The next PACT meeting will be held on 2nd January 2014 in the Steppes Shop between 11 and 12 am.

There will be a Drink Driver Campaign running between 1st December and 1st January.

Please take additional care during the Christmas period and ensure that your properties are safe and secure. If you have to go out in the evening, then please take precautions: leave a radio playing, lights on a timer, lock all doors and outbuildings, don't leave any valuables out in the garden.

Please report any unusual or suspicious behavior by persons, or of vehicles, on 101 number.

ACTION

G172 Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 20th November 2013

One minor amendment was made to attendees list; the Minutes were signed as a true record.

G173 Financial Report - Clerk

Reconciliation of bank accounts for November has taken place.

Current Account: **£30,643.99**

Tracker Account: **£5,933.47**

National Savings Account: **£11,454.54**

Receipts since last meeting:

Parish Magazine Advertisers Fee 2 x £50 **£100.00**

Payments made since last meeting:

Toilet Cleaner & Bin emptier – November **£227.50**

Donation to Pride in Pembridge Group for Parish Social **£100.00**

To celebrate winning Gold Awards

Requests for payment:

Toilet Cleaner & Bins – December **£234.00**

Parish Magazine Production – Nov/Dec **£235.00**

Village Mowing during 2013 **£470.00**

Clerk's Salary for 3rd quarter year **£854.67**

Clerk's Expenses for 3rd quarter year **£252.94**

Annual payment to Clerk for use of 1 room as office **£150.00**

HMRC staff payments for 3rd quarter **£213.60**

Receipt of paper copies of planning applications **£72.00**

For period: 1/4/13 to 31/8/13 18 @ £4 each

Approval was given for all necessary payments.

G174 **Budget/Precept – Confirmation of Draft Figure – Cllr. G. Evans & Clerk**
Following the recent finance meeting and further discussion it was decided to provisionally confirm the **Precept requirement for 2014/15 as being £18,000**; this will need to be ratified at the January parish council meeting, when more information is known about Herefordshire Council's plans regarding passing over an element of lost precept to parish councils, or not.

G175 **Planning applications for consideration :** None.

G176 **Children's Playground Surface & Equipment Repairs – Cllr. A. Stokes**
A belated visit to the playground has been made by another specialist firm from Shrewsbury; however in the meantime it was arranged for the playground surface repairs to be carried out either next week or during the first week or so of January, depending on weather conditions by Redlynch Leisure; as was agreed at the last meeting because of the need to get the work completed quickly.
Other minor repairs to swing top shackles can be carried out in-house.

G177 **Housing Needs Survey – Clerk**
This will be required to be undertaken, but has been deferred until next April/May to allow for the planned Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire to be sent out to all households beforehand.

G178 **Previously Unseen Vintage Photographs of Village – Cllr. G. Evans**
There are about 90 photographs available from the time of their original publication in the Sunday Times newspaper; however, it is intended to display around 30 or 40 of them in 2016 : In the 50th anniversary year of their original publication. The cost to print and frame them will be about £50 each, and it is intended to sell them follow a period of display.
It is hoped that some grant funding will be available to offset the cost of preparing the photographs for display.

Meeting to be Closed for the next two items

G179 **Residents Questions:**
None.

G180 **Ward Councillors Report – Cllr. R. Phillips**
Cllr. Phillip's report has been circulated to all councillors in advance of this meeting.
Additional information given by Cllr. Phillips included:

The Post Office mobile van has not been providing the level of attendance that was agreed, and a complaint will be made.

Shobdon parish has just had a road resurfaced, which is good news.
It was noted that there is a need to resurface the road near Weston bridge, and this will be reported.
There are more problems occurring in West Street with dangerously loose kerb stones.

The Herefordshire Council Budget Consultation is ongoing, and councillors were requested to consider responding on aspects of highway maintenance and public toilet closures.

Pembridge doctor's surgery opening times continues to be a problem, and letters of complaint have been submitted to a higher authority to see whether the situation can be improved.

Meeting Re-opened

G181 1st World War Centenary Events – Clerk

The local branch of The Royal British Legion recently held its first meeting at which WW1 commemoration events were discussed. There will be events planned over the 4 year period.

The first event planned for next year will be a Church Service held on 3rd August.

The Pride in Pembridge group will be planting red poppies around the village to mark the occasion. They will also submit a donation request to the Parish Council for funding for new planters. It is very much hoped that local children will be involved with planting etc.

There are some trees around the front of the School site, close to the War Memorial, which will be tidied up in readiness for 2014 commemoration services there.

G182 Glass Recycling Bins – possible problems with overflowing (over filled bins)

The Village Hall Committee is still concerned about the problems with the bins being overfilled, which mainly seems to be being caused by trade misuse by dumping large quantities of empty bottles in the bins, whereas the bins were solely intended for the use by those residents who do not have their own wheelie bin in which to dispose of domestic glass.

Additional Notices will be displayed on the bins highlighting ‘Strictly No Trade Use’.

If there is no improvement then the bins will have to be removed and/or resited elsewhere in the village soon.

G183 New Parish Warden needed – Cllr. A. Stokes

Following discussions with the local Police it has been decided that there is no longer a requirement for the village to have its own Warden. These days information is quickly passed electronically between the local Police and Parish Councillors, and the Neighbourhood Watch Team. Mr. John Petrie has agreed to be the named person connected to Neighbourhood Watch who will receive the Police regular bulletins for circulation, as well as the Parish Council Clerk.

G184 Other Items for discussion:-

There is a capping stone from the public toilets roof which has become loose and dislodged.

The Pride in Pembridge Group will look at repairing this.

The Bell Tower Clock annual service agreement will need to be renewed following next year’s maintenance visit.

It was acknowledge that a new 4 year pay in advance contract would probably be the best option and provide a considerable saving over the normal annual fee.

The Pride in Pembridge Group are considering asking Kingspan for a grant to extend the walkway down by the riverside, as the ground there continues to be very wet and difficult for visitors to walk across.

The letter sent by the Parish Council in response to the H & W Fire & Rescue Service restructure has been acknowledged. Copies were sent to Bill Wiggin MP, Pembridge Ward Cllr. and Kingsland Fire Station.

G185 A Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year is wished to all councillors and residents and businesses.

G186 Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday 15th January 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

All Welcome