

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 19th March 2014 in the Parish Hall

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

H034 **Apologies:** Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. Cllr. M. Ratcliffe, Cllr. G. Evans

H035 **Announcement of any interests from councillors :**
None.

H036 **Police Report**
None

ACTION

H037 **Minutes of last meeting/matters arising from them – 19th February 2014**
The Minutes were signed as a true record.

1 Matter Arising:

G180 Cllr. Phillips has now invited Allan Lloyd of Healthwatch to attend the April meeting of this Parish Council. Anyone is invited to attend.

H038 **Financial Report - Clerk**
Reconciliation of bank accounts for February has taken place.
New Financial Regulations are awaited from NALC shortly.
The External Audit of parish council's accounts has been called for 9th June 2014.

Balances at end February 2014:

Current Account:	£28,899.19
Tracker Account:	£5,934.21
National Savings Account:	£11,540.45

Receipts since last meeting:

Parish Magazine Advertisers Fee	X 2 @ £50	(1 by Bacs)	£100.00
BT Wayleave grant			£8.82

Payments made since last meeting:

None

Requests for payment:

Toilet Cleaner & Bins – March	£234.00
Clerk's 4 th quarter Salary at end of March	£854.47
Clerk's 4th quarter expenses “ “ “	£196.79
HMRC quarterly payment re staff salary deductions	£213.80
Photographs of 2 councillors for website	£30.00
Annual parish council website domain name renewal fee	£59.40
Electricity charge for public toilets: 1/12/13 – 28/2/14	£21.51

Approval was given for all necessary payments.

H039 **Authorisation to request Internal Auditor to act for the Parish Council with accounts**
Approval granted by complete majority vote.

H040 Planning applications for consideration :

None.

Treeworks application sent to Tree Warden to comment upon:-

P140448/K The Oaks, East Street, Pembridge. HR6 9HA

Mature spruce (2) – Hazard so require felling

H041 Village Green 5 yearly full tree inspection etc – Clerk & Cllr. Stokes

Tony Norman the parish Tree Warden has recently raised some points for decision by the Parish Council:

1. That he could purchase 3 replacement trees on behalf of the parish council, for ones that had died, and send the invoice to the clerk for payment/reimbursement.
2. That he could request Dan Wenszek to carry out a full 5 yearly inspection of the trees on the village green (and to supply his written report to the parish council clerk), as well as requesting Dan to carry out his assessment of the WW1 Oak which looks as though it needs some treatment and to advise the parish council on what is needed.
3. Noticed that a tree has been felled at the front of the school recently, and it was suggested that he liaise with the school over a replacement tree.
4. It is good that some necessary felling of trees on the village green is to be undertaken free of charge in exchange for the wood, and that the branches are left for the wildlife.

HH

All above points agreed.

It has previously been agreed that the Amenity Trust would appreciate Tony undertaking a simple report of the status of the trees on the Millennium Meadow. Thanks to him for this offer.

Cllr. Stokes requested that the Pride in Pembridge (PIPs) Group be given approval to have a wavy pathway mown into the Village Green, almost alongside the track to the farm, as an encouragement for children and families to walk & utilise a new area of the riverside bank up near to the farm entrance. It is planned to clear away scrub and brambles and provide two benches for families to appreciate the far-reaching views. The PIPs Group is keen to get on and clear the area as soon as possible.

General support was given to the clearing of the bank side scrub and brambles idea, on a vote.

Cllr. Stokes said that the PIPs Group were also seeking approval to re-arrange the signage on the village green to improve it, and make the area seem more welcoming. It was mentioned that some of the warning signs to the public had been put up at the recommendation of the parish council's insurers to comply with its public liability cover, and with wording approved by the parish council.

Also, the car parking area is beginning to look a little worn, and could do with another supply of scalpings being spread over it.

A decision on the rearrangement of the riverside signs and purchase of benches and scalpings for the car park would be made at the next meeting in April.

Cllr. Mrs. Mifflin mentioned that with regard to the village centre Summer Gardens Competition: prize for best kept frontage, and prize for best hanging basket, that a local firm had offered to provide wooden plaques suitably worded for the prizewinner in each section to display on the front of their properties. It was agreed that the Parish Council should be mentioned on the plaques, as hosts of the competition. There will be no cost to the Parish Council.

JM

General support was given to this idea, on a vote.

H042 Neighbourhood Planning – Cllr. A. Pace

The questionnaire to go out to residents has been completed, and it has been arranged that an analysis of the answers to its questions will be undertaken by 'Orchard Consulting'.

A page has been created on Facebook, which is linked for the parish council website.

The timescale for the questionnaire to be sent out to residents is now around mid –May, with the whole N. Plan being completed by October 2014 and ready to be published.

It was suggested that as there is a need for a Public Meeting regarding the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, that this should be combined with this year's Annual Parish Open Meeting on 7th May.

It was proposed that the Neighbourhood Plan discussion should be held first, and all the individual's reports, and open question time, to take place afterwards.

Approval granted by majority vote.

The Neighbourhood Planning training course on 29th March will be attended by Cllrs. Pace & Rogers.

H043 Housing Needs Survey

This has been deferred until June this year, to avoid the questionnaire distribution to all households clashing with the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire.

Meeting was Closed for the next two items

H044 Residents Questions:

None.

H045 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:

Cllr. Phillips mentioned the problems with getting potholes at Weston resolved.

There has been further unsatisfactory service by the mobile Post Office van, with it regularly just not turning up, and being told at a later date that there were problems with the van or there were problems with its on-board computer. Whichever is the reason it would seem that the service is not fit for purpose on a regular and reliable basis. People, many of them elderly, are just being left to stand for long periods waiting for the van, which may or may not turn up when it is supposed to.

After discussion it was decided that this is not a national Post Office problem, but a local one; and the Clerk was requested to write to the local provider and see what can be done to improve matters.

HH

Meeting Re-opened

H046 Lengthsman Administrator Vacancy – Clerk

Mr. Ken Wheeler. Ken takes over as Administrator from April onwards.

H047 Glass Recycling Bins – possible problems with overflowing (over filled bins) - Clerk

Two councillors recently attended a meeting of the Village Hall Committee to discuss the recent problems. It was agreed that the glass collection wheelie bins should stay on site, providing the Parish Council agrees to set them on a firm base, away from car parking spaces, and to have built a 3 sided bund around it, and to agree the costs for this.

There was a proposal for this course of action.

Approval granted by majority vote.

H048 Water Meter reading for end of January at Public Toilets: Clerk

Reading for February is: 864.5 Monitoring to continue for one year.

Reading for January is: 861.4

Reading for December was: 858.4 These have been advised to Welsh Water.

H049 Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday 16th April at 2014 at 7.15 pm for a 7.30pm start to business, in the Parish Hall.

All Welcome