

## PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Wednesday 16th September 2015, 7.30pm in Pembridge School Hall

**Councillors Present:** Cllr. G. Evans, Cllr. T. Bennetto, Cllr. C. Fothergill, Cllr A. Pace, Cllr M. Hancock, Cllr A. Stokes, Cllr J. Purslow, Cllr P. Thomas, Cllr J. Mifflin, Cllr P Rogers and Clerk R Bissell.

3 members of the public.

Apologies received from Police representative & Ward Councillor.

### 81/15. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs, Owen, Phillips, & Duggan.

### 82/15. Declaration of interest and written requests for dispensation on agenda items.

The register of interest was available to sign and declarations were made.

### 83/15. Open Session

*The chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.*

Apologies received from Police representative & Ward Councillor and the Clerk read their reports.

#### Police report.

- Burglaries at Pembridge Church - Brass candlesticks were stolen. Several sheds/outbuildings - Power tools and pedal cycles stolen. Extensive police enquires have been carried out but to date no information has been forthcoming.
- The next PACT surgery is this Thursday (18th September) at the shop between 11am and 11.30am.
- Please encourage everyone if they are going out in the evenings to put lights on. Use time switches so that the lights go on and off at different times and in different rooms
- The local policing team from Kington will be at Pembridge Village Hall Saturday 19th Sept between 10am and 1pm for overt property marking.

#### Ward Councillor Report.

- **Highways**
- Resurfacing of Rhyse Lane, Suckley Lane and Bridge Street Junction.
- Parish Clerks meeting with Lara Edwards covering lengthsman scheme repair reporting 2016/2017 highway program and foot paths.
- Request for Highway resurfacing in the village from A44 past the Market Hall to the Rectory.
- No progress with kerbs and pavements. Contact with BBLP regarding the Byletts entrance, bollard at Pump House the School wall and Rhyse Lane.  
Requests for speed limit on Rhyse Lane will be passed to the Parish Council and Police.
- Eardisland and Monkland are also considering speed limit measures in their areas.

#### Budget

- Savings of over £40 million need to be identified to offset the reduction in Government funding and increased care costs. There may be a reduction in the lengthsman grant and would advise the precept be increased by 25%. Continued savings of £37 billion has been indicated by Parliament.

Next April the new living wage will be £7.20.

**Public** - Mr Searles gave an update regarding works to the Old Post Office the traffic lights now dismantled. The Chairman brought forward correspondence from item 86/15 to discuss regarding a concern with vans parking the car park. Mr Searles confirmed his usage in the car park and ensured

Clerk

the Post Office space was vacant. The Parish Council are now satisfied, the clerk will write to concerned parishioner.

*Meeting resumed 8.15*

#### **84/15. Confirm and take matters arising from the Minutes of Meeting 15th July 2015.**

The minutes of the meeting of 15th July 2015 were **approved** unanimously and signed.

#### **85/15. Confirm and take matters arising from the Minutes of Meeting 11th August 2015.**

Cllr Mifflin & Cllr Purslow advised apologies as away on holiday.

Cllr Hancock to contact owner of Manley lane to trim hedges.

Cllr Rogers requested the correspondence of item 79/15 be forwarded to Cabinet member & Environment agency. *Clerk to arrange.*

The minutes of the meeting of 11th August 2015 were **approved** unanimously and signed.

#### **86/15. Planning applications received.**

- 152207 - Weston Court, Pembridge  
Change of use from Agricultural to one dwelling. -  
Comment- SUPPORT - A good use of a currently redundant building.

#### **87/15. Clerks report**

Archiving of files over next few months - Council agreed to store Clerk to obtain quotes.

Clerk requested Councillors search for new internal auditor 2015/16 - Cllrs Stokes & Bennetto to follow up potential leads. Clerk reminded Precept preparation and potential spend for 2016/17 to be considered.

Clerk gave a report of the meeting held with Arrow ward clerks with Lara Edwards and Cllr Phillips.

#### **Financial report.**

Bank reconciliation for July & August complete using VT cashbook.

#### Balances at end August 2015:

Current Account:	£21482.61
Tracker Account:	£ 5938.71
National Savings Account:	£11627.00

#### Income since last meeting:

Open reach Wayleave £ 26.32

#### Requests for payment: Approval to be requested

Toilet Cleaner salary for September 2015 as previously agreed by Parish Council	
Clerk's salary for September 2015 as previously agreed by Parish Council	
HMRC	£ 131.20
Clerks Expenses September	£ 97.78
Clerk Home working Expenses year 2014-15	£ 200.00
One Stop Print Shop-parish mag	£ 270.00
ICO - data protection	£ 35.00
Viking - Printer cartridges	£ 81.54
Richard Mills- Ann maintenance work sign cleaning	£ 453.60
Clean My - Toilet Consumables	£ 211.38

All request for payment were **APPROVED**.

#### **88/15. Donation to Pembridge School PTFA**

The Chairman advised that after taking advice, the Council cannot legally provide a loan or the full sum originally agreed in agenda item 67/15 to the school for their trim trail project. Parish Councils cannot loan public money. Under section 137 funds are proportional to the members of the parish they benefit and in this case the suggested maximum donation that could be made would be £500. The Council considered this and Cllr Purslow proposed to donate £500, seconded by Cllr Pace **-All Agreed** to support the project for the reduced sum.

#### **89/15. Policies**

Policies had been circulated for discussion and approval.

The Complaints procedure was discussed and **Adopted - agreed by all.**

MH  
Clerk

Clerk  
AS/TB

The Volunteer policy was discussed. Cllrs had concerns of the liability it would have on the Council and should be considered with regard to the insurance position. All volunteers are insured and Cllr Stokes proposed not to adopt the policy until this was clarified. The policy was not adopted by a majority and may be reviewed for future.

The Equality and diversity policy to be carried forward to future meeting.

#### **90/15. Footpath Officer Expenses**

The PPO is entitled to claim travel expenses which can be reclaimed under the P3 scheme. **All Agreed** to expenses entitlement for the PPO. Claims to be signed by chairman.

PR

#### **91/15. Village playground equipment.**

The yearly playground inspection report highlighted several areas requiring attention. Cllr Bennetto confirmed minor repairs had been undertaken. Cllrs discussed the provision of services for all children in the parish and the state of repair of the playground and agreed to form a working group to research outcomes and legislation. This will be led by Cllr Rogers to include interested members of the community. A meeting has been arranged at the playground to meet a sales company for initial ideas on 28th September 2015 at 9.00am.

#### **92/15. Management of public areas.**

Judging of Pembridge in Bloom concluded once again in Gold!

Cllr Stokes requested guidance on PiPs works, as the group had received some criticism. The Council discussed the public areas and it was **Agreed** for PiPs to continue to manage these areas. The Village Green should be maintained for family use and strimming around benches and an area for picnicking should be incorporated. The meadow should be mown for hay.

AS/TB

#### **93/15. Toilet block.**

Cllr Bennetto raised concerns with the state of repair of the toilet block and listed potential works. A working party of Cllr Bennetto & Cllr Stokes will review the condition of the whole block and involve the toilet cleaner. It was **Agreed** by all to delegate powers for any minor works/repairs and redecoration to be done to a limit of £500 (designated).

#### **94/15. Update on the Neighbourhood Development Planning.**

Details have been circulated and Cllr Pace advised a meeting on 22nd September, where it is hoped members will confirm firm availability so the NDP can be progressed further.

Clerk

#### **95/15. Correspondence.**

- Hereford Council Community Governance review proposal.  
Council discussed the current arrangements for the Parish Council and agreed it worked well there should be no consideration to reduce the number of councillors or change boundary.  
Clerk to reply.
- Hereford Council Precept request for 2016/17.  
Clerk reminded Councillors to consider precept requests as Herefordshire Council would be providing less services in the future and Parish Councils may be expected to fill these short falls.
- Parishioner correspondence regarding pavements.  
Cllr Rogers confirmed the pavements have been a constant problem the Parish have been tackling over several years and are finding it hard to provide a positive outcome. Meetings with residents, Highways and Cabinet member and health & safety reports have failed to include a budget for the capital works. The matter is still with Herefordshire Council. It is hoped further letters and parishioner pressure on Herefordshire Council can progress an outcome. Clerk to reply.

Clerk.

#### **96/15. Future Agenda from Councillors and members of the public.**

None.

#### **97/15. To confirm date of next meeting as**

**Wednesday 21st October 2015 - Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council - Parish Hall at 7.30pm**

Meeting Closed 9.58pm