

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS REPORT

Future Housing in Herefordshire

The Council has published a Local Development Framework paper looking at options for future house building in the County. Between 2001 and 2021 13,200 houses should be built in the County. While the majority will be built in Hereford and the Market Towns the provision of housing in rural areas is a particular issue for debate. The need to meet local housing needs and support local services is important. I believe that if we are to have sustainable communities in the future, homes for economically active people as well as mature citizens must be provided. Where those houses are placed and what size of Villages and Hamlets should have building sites needs proper discussion. The development of this strategy will take place over the next 18 months.

West Mercia Crime Survey

In a recent survey on our local Police 33% of Herefordshire residents said that the Police were doing a good job, 35% believed they were doing a fair job and 14% believed they were performing poorly. My ward which includes Pembridge was one of three wards which felt least positive about the Police and complained they didn't see uniformed officers.

Pembridge was also high in identifying speeding traffic as a community priority. I have written to the Chief Constable and the Divisional Commander to ask what they are going to do to improve the situation.

On a more positive note levels of crime are very low in the County with a reduction in household burglaries of over 50% in the past three years. Anti social behaviour, Criminal damage and Drug use and dealing are identified as some of the main priorities to tackle in the future.

GP Practices in Herefordshire

The Council's scrutiny committee has received a report on the County's GP surgeries. The 2007 patient survey showed that the vast majority of patients were happy with current access to GPs with current 24hr and 48hr access considered very good. Those who were not happy would like to see additional evening hours and Saturday opening.

The retendering of the Out of Hours service should allow Herefordshire PCT (Primary Care Trust) to increase the opening hours as well as providing an improved service at the County Hospital. There is general concern that the Government's proposals (Darzi report) for major Health Centres or Polyclinics are not best suited for rural areas and our local GP surgeries, Community and Acute Hospitals are a better basis for responding to local health needs.

Cllr Roger Phillips

01544340269/01432260046

Email: rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY FOR PEMBRIDGE

The Herefordshire Council has a statutory duty to undertake Housing Needs Studies across the County and Pembridge has been scheduled for a survey to be completed this year. It will be a postal survey consisting of a questionnaire and a reply paid envelope, which will be sent to every household in the Parish to complete and return. The results of the survey will indicate if there is a housing need in the Parish and will support any future development for affordable housing. The last survey was carried out in 2003.

MIDDLEBROOK FARM

After 67 years April 2008 marked the end of the Edwards family as tenant farmers at the 62.5 acre Middlebrook Farm just outside the village. The fourth generation have closed the gates for the last time and have said a sad goodbye to Middlebrook. The Edwards' came in 1941 from Mansel Lacy and ran a successful dairy herd and local milk round. In 1995 the milk round ended and the dairy cattle were gradually replaced with beef cross. The livestock were sold at Ludlow and the farm dispersal sale was held at the end of April. In 1956, 1996 and 2006 the three consecutive generations of the Edwards farming menfolk all died suddenly while working at the farm. All three are buried in Pembridge churchyard.

Pembridge Surgery

Tel: 01544 388566 Fax: 388567

Doctor

9:20 - 11:30 Mon
15:30 - 17:30 Mon & Thur
9:00 - 11:30 Tue & Fri
8:30 - 11:30 Wed

Nurse

9:00 - 12:00 Mon & Wed
14:00 - 16:30 Wed

Prescription collection

9:00 - 13:00 Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri
14:15 - 18:00 Mon
14:00 - 16:45 Wed
14:15 - 17:45 Thur

Email: pembridge.scripts@nhs.net for repeat prescriptions only

Emergency doctor

Mon - Fri, 8:00 - 18:00, call Kington Surgery on 01544 230302

Outside these hours call PRIMECARE on 0845 600 8182

CURRENT LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS:

NAME TELEPHONE

Cllr. Garfield Evans	01544 388638
CHAIRMAN	
Cllr. Kenneth Myers	01544 388767
VICE CHAIRMAN	
Cllr. David Owens	01544 388422
Cllr. Alan Stokes	01544 387924
Cllr. Mrs. Julie Mifflin	01544 388414
Cllr. Brian Morgan	N/A
Cllr. Phillip Thomas	01544 388457
Cllr. John Purslow	01544 388060
Cllr. Mrs. Suzanne Smith	01544 388085
Cllr. Mrs. Patricia Lloyd	01544 340340
Cllr. Kevin Duggan	01544 388833
Cllr. Robert Pierce	01544 388682
Cllr. Roger Phillips	
Ward Councillor	01544 340269



Pembridge Parish News

A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

July - August 2008

QUALITY
PARISH
COUNCIL

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

EDITORIAL

Bit of a trial with a new layout this issue. I've tried to make it a bit easier to read with a change of type face. Please let me have your comments. Summer is moving on apace and the longest day is now behind us. I've not been impressed with the weather to date although the farmers are wanting rain. It just doesn't seem to have got going. Still, there's time!

The village show is on again and will need all the support it can get if it is to continue in its present form so please get down on the day. There is also a new idea for marking your property, below, which would be good for cameras and laptops when left in your car.

I have just taken a guided walk around the village and it was a good opportunity for me to do some research so I didn't make a complete fool of myself. I must say it was quite hard but I've learned a lot about the history of the village. We are very lucky to live in such a historically rich location. Might be a book there.....

Well, as I write Wimbledon is about to start. All eyes will be on young Andy. Lets hope he fares better than the rugby team (I almost meant that) and the weather is good. I'm really looking forward to a hot July and August, lazy walks in the sunshine, drinks in the evening outside, barbecues at the weekend. Yeh, right.

Nights are drawing in, soon be picking apples, before you know it it'll be harvest festival. Blimey, I can almost hear the carol singers.....nooooooooooooo!!! it's summer!!!

Enjoy it while it lasts!

Glyn

P.S. I've had a lot of items to get in this issue so if I missed you out I apologise and will try and fit you in next time.

A SMART SOLUTION TO DETER THEFT

SmartWater is a colourless liquid solution that is simply dabbed onto the uneven surfaces of your valuables.

It can be used to code all sorts of items such as jewellery, ornaments, electrical items and even your motor vehicle. Each bottle contains a unique chemical 'code' which is registered to you - conclusively proving ownership. It cannot be easily seen by the naked eye and is almost impossible to remove. The liquid glows under ultraviolet light making it easy for the Police to detect.

The Police use it in undercover operations to catch and convict criminals. Criminals know about SmartWater and fear its power to forensically link them with the scene of a crime. So, by coding your valuables and displaying the SmartWater deterrent signs, you are sending out a powerful warning to any thieves and burglars operating in your area.

If you would like your property protected by smartwater please contact your local police community support officer:

CSO Donna Jones : 07970 602340 or visit the website on:

www.smartwater.com

VILLAGE SHOW BACK!! PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



After the disappointment last year, cancelling the show everything is looking good for this year. In the horse section we have dressage, clear round jumping, showing classes and gymkhana. There is the dog show with a wide selection of classes. The craft marquee has some lovely crafts on display. There are 103 classes in the exhibit marquee with special classes for beginners and local entrants. Please enter something, vegetables, cut flowers, floral arrangement, cooking, handicrafts and the children's section. Copies of the classes are available at the shop and online at www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk.

We have a great entry for the trotting races and other attractions include the dog display team, puppet theatre, Joey the Juggler, Looby Loo face painting, duck racing, ferret racing with "Fred the ferret". Hardy plant society are holding an "ask the expert" your gardening problems.

"Museum on the move" will be there to inform you

There will be lots of children's amusements and lots more.

Food available all day. Licensed bar.

DEATH OF PARISH ICON

I'm sad to report the death of Kath Aston. She had recently celebrated her 90th birthday with her daughter in Worcester. Kath was born in Broxwood and spent most of her life in the parish. She married Rowland and for many years they taught together at the village school. She was also Church Warden for many years and a stalwart of the British Legion as well as devoting a lot of time to local history. It was always a pleasure to read her series on the Victorian school. Her last appearance was to officially open the refurbished market hall. Our condolences go to family and friends.

Editor : Glyn Whiting tel: 01544 388497 email : glynwhiting@tiscali.co.uk Publication deadline : Aug15th 2008

www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk www.pembridgechurch.org.uk

NB : the views expressed by contributors are those of the authors and not those of the editor. View expressed in editorials are not necessarily those of the Parish Council

GET ACTIVE ! IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH !

Thus read the endorsement on the flyer in the Old Steppes. As a result five village residents met in the car park on the 4th June to venture out on the Hereford Walking for Health outing led by Judy. We stood in glorious sunshine whilst the, now obligatory, H&S caveats (formally - be careful and use your common sense) were dispensed. Ken Myers, the parish footpath warden cycled by to wish the venture well. The route started with a gentle warm up along to West End where we passed through the kissing gate into the meadow with its newly shorn flock of sheep. Crossing Curl Brook and turning up the slope we entered a hay meadow, to the West of Byletts, resplendent with many wild flowers. At the far side of this field we encountered the first and only real obstacle of the route, a stile, which we all managed. Before crossing the Arrow there was some inconclusive discussions on what some rather exotic blacked winged insects were. Passing the Leen we made towards the Mill, noting the alterations where the footpath crosses the bed of the former railway track. Re-crossing the Arrow the home straight was up Bridge Street to a welcome and healthy, zero units locally produced, drink taken at The New Inn. Sitting outside chatting it was universally agreed that it had been a most pleasant and worthwhile exercise. The initial plan is that the walks will be on the first Wednesday of each month starting at 10.00 from the village car park, however other timings or days could be considered dependent on the potential demand. Please contact Charlotte Dodson 01432 261864 for further details.

Next walk
WEDNESDAY 2- July 10am starting from the Village car park.

Housing Needs Survey for Pembridge

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W.I. NEWS

July 9th : Afternoon Train Ride. An outing to Titley Junction for a train ride and afternoon tea, leaving Pembridge Village Hall at 2.30 p.m. Cost £5.00.
July 21st: The Book Club will meet at Pat Baughs, Oak Cottage, Pembridge at 3p.m.
Aug 13th : Mrs Barbara Ward will speaking on "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People".

The Walking Group will meet on **June 26th**. All those interested can meet on the bridge in Pembridge at 2p.m.
Meetings ,unless otherwise stated, are held in Pembridge Village Hall at 7.30p.m.on the second Wednesday of each month.

Visitors are welcome and can contact the secretary, **Dianne Davis (01544 388399)** for further details.

Annual Parish Report

Please note that the annual parish report will not be sent out with the Parish Magazine but will be available to view on the Council website at :
www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk



This stunning fellow and his ladyfriend have set up home just next to us.

Saturday, July 5th 2– 5pm
Traditional Village Fete
Pembridge Village Hall

Something for everyone. Delicious refreshments. Lots of stalls including Cakes,Books and Produce. Plenty of fun – try your hand at Skittles, Darts and Tombola, or try your Luck on the Chinese Raffle.We always have stalls for the very young to enjoy as well, like Splat the Rat and The Fish tank game, plus a free play area with sand pit and toys.The whole family can enjoy an afternoon out that won't cost the earth! Donations of Cakes, Produce, Plants, Bottles, Books, Toys (if 2nd hand good condition only) and Sweets for the Childrens' Tombola are always gratefully received.

Pembridge Coffee Mornings
The Pembridge Coffee Mornings are held on the third Thursday of the month, in the Village Hall, between 10:30 and 12:00 noon. The next dates for your diary are July 17th and August 21st. Coffee is free with any donations going to charity. All are welcome. For further details, or if you need a lift, contact Jenny Johnston on 01544 340287 or Julie Read on 01544 388998. We look forward to seeing you there.

Cream Teas
There will be Cream Teas on sale at Pembridge Church, most Sundays from 3-5pm, throughout the summer.
June dates – 29th
July dates – 13th, 20th, and 27th
August dates - 3rd, 10th, 17th, Monday 25th and 31st
September dates – 7th and 14th.

Tim Hollinghurst will be performing an organ recital before the September 7th Cream Tea so look out for further details of this.

Looking Forward to the Flower Festival
23, 24 and 25 May 2009

The Preserves Stall
Over the three days of the festival there will be a stall selling jams, chutneys and other preserves. We would be grateful if any willing jam and chutney makers would like to make a little extra this year to donate towards the stall. So please get out those preserving pans and get simmering! We will be putting our own specially designed Flower Festival label on the jars, so just let us know what is in each jar you donate, Look out for future details, when we will let you know who will be coordinating the stall and where you will be able to drop off your donations.
Thankyou.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Parish Freighter Service for 2008 – Rubbish Removal
Two further Saturday dates have been arranged for the Freighter and small box van to be present at the Parish Hall during 2008. Any unwanted white goods or items of furniture can be collected, as well as general household rubbish (no hazardous materials please) :-
Saturday 9th August between 11am and 1pm
Saturday 8th November between **8am and 10 am**

Children's Playground
The Annual ROSPA health and safety Inspection of the children's playground equipment has recently taken place, and was found to be in good condition.

Keep the Village Tidy Please
It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that since there is no longer a village cleaner, that the pavements and frontages of some of those properties mainly fronting the thoroughfare (A44) are becoming a little untidy, and weeds are being allowed to grow freely.

As the village has many tourists and visitors particularly in the summer months, the Parish Council would appreciate seeing residents taking a little time to keep the areas near their properties clear of weeds and debris in an attempt to maintain the attractiveness of the village centre.
Your co-operation would be very much appreciated by everyone. Thank you. There is now a new waste bin in West Street, and also one opposite Sandiford Plock.

Speed Activated Traffic Signs for the Village
The Parish Council is currently in discussion with the Highways Section of Herefordshire Council to consider the possibility of installing 2 illuminated speed activated traffic warning signs later this year. This is primarily to ensure the safety of our schoolchildren.

Proposed changes to the Pembridge Village Conservation Area Boundary
The existing parish Conservation Area Boundary was first designated in 1974 by Leominster District Council. It is currently under review for amendment and the timescales for this project are:- The Parish Council first has about 4 weeks in which to respond to the proposals to Herefordshire Council, then after further negotiations on the joint proposals, and agreement being reached on these, full consultation will next be required by means of a local Public Meeting by Christmas 2008. Thereafter Herefordshire Council's management plans will be published by April 2009.

Village Green Car Parking Area
Gone are the water-logged deep pot-holes! We hope that you like the newly renovated and reinforced car parking area. Our thanks are due to a generous local family who have kindly financed this project for the good of the parish.

The Museum on the Move (Tour Bus)
Has been booked to attend the Parish Show on 26th July. Do take time to have a look at their exhibition.
2 New Street Lights
It is hoped that if funding can be found, that 2 new street lights will be installed this year:-
One in Manley Lane and one at the top of Bridge Street.

We welcome the features that Kingspan will be placing in each future edition of this Parish News Magazine.

Next Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 16th July 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall. No meeting in August.
A Guest Speaker from Marches Housing Association will be present to talk about progress with the parish's Affordable Housing project.

ALL WELCOME



BIRDS, BATS AND BEES
Here in Pembridge we are fortunate to be surrounded by some very beautiful and fertile countryside, and it is important that we protect the variety of plants, trees and animals that make it so. That is no less true for manufacturers than it is for individuals, so in 2006, Kingspan Insulation commissioned a report from local Kington-based experts, Border Ecology, on the biodiversity of the Pembridge site.

Far from being a barren site, the results showed that it was actually a thriving habitat for a large number of species of plants, birds and bats, and Border Ecology were able to make a number of recommendations as to how this biodiversity could be protected and enlarged. Following on from this, Kingspan sponsored a student from Worcester University's MA in Sustainable Development Advocacy to explore what steps might be possible and to create a detailed action plan.

The first phase of the plan was put into action recently in a joint venture with local schools running from 16th May to 6th June, when children from Lady Hawkins' School, Wigmore High School and Shobdon & Kingsland Primary Schools were involved in creating bee and slow worm shelters and planting native wildflowers, climbers and shrubs. The children also put up boxes to provide new homes for birds, bats and insects, learning in the process about the variety of creatures and plants that inhabit their natural environment.

This is just the first phase of a year long project to develop the biodiversity of the Kingspan site and we are over the moon with the involvement of local schools and the energy, enthusiasm and positive "can-do" attitude of the pupils and staff alike. It has turned out to be a valuable learning tool for the children and hopefully an exercise that can be repeated.
But it isn't just the Kingspan site that has received attention: biodiversity in the village of Pembridge itself has also recently benefitted from funding from the Kingspan Insulation Community Trust with approval of a grant to develop and preserve the part of village green to the north east of the road bridge over the River Arrow as a conservation area. Feasibility studies are under way this year with a view to completing the project in 2009.

Other applications that have recently been accepted continue the environmental theme. At the Pembridge Show on 26 July, look out for the Arrowvale Environment Group, which will be promoting environmental awareness and encouraging people to take action to reduce their carbon footprint by distributing free low-energy light bulbs, vouchers for saplings and jute shopping bags, all funded by the Trust. A grant for the Pembridge Flower Festival in May 2009 has also been approved.
Meanwhile it isn't just the environment that the Community Trust supports: healthy exercise for young people is also an important element with recent applications for sports equipment for the pupils at Lady Hawkins' School being accepted. This latest round of grants will allow the further development of the highly successful boxercise classes and will further encourage budding gymnasts and rugby players.