

Minutes Pembridge Annual Meeting 2015

Held Wednesday 22nd April 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. G. Evans Chairman, Cllr. A. Stokes, Cllr. A. Pace, Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. T. Bennetto, Cllr .J. Mifflin, Cllr. R. Phillips

Mrs P. Stokes, Mrs G. Lomax, Mr A. Lomax, Rev. B. Jacobs, Mr Hollis – School Head teacher, Mrs M. Albright, PC Alford, Mr B Pierce, Mr A & Mrs M Searles.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Cllr. P Rogers & Cllr. P. Thomas

2. Minutes of the meeting 7th May 2014

The minutes were approved. No matters arising.

3. Parish Council Chairman's report 2014/15.

This year the Council has again held eleven ordinary meetings. The Parish Council meets every month (other than August) and a notice and agenda are always posted on the Parish Council notice board (on the wall of the Red Lion) at least three days before each meeting. Members of the Parish are more than welcome to attend and although they may are not permitted to take part in any debate, there is always session for Parishioners to comment or ask questions.

This is my last report before the whole of the council has to stand down. I would like to thank all of the councillors who have served in the last year. The new council will currently be twelve in number, one of whom will be new to the role of parish councillor. At the first meeting, the new councillors will have to formally accept office, after which one of their first tasks will be to co-opt one further person to bring the council up to full strength. I would be grateful if anyone with an interest in becoming a councillor would contact either the clerk or me.

There has been one notable change in personnel in the last year. Heather Harding had been our Parish clerk for more than ten years until, on 15 July 2014 she advised me of her decision to retire at the end of September. I wish to put on record the thanks of the Council and myself for all that Heather has done for Pembridge and wish her well in her retirement. A selection panel was set up to deal with the appointment of a replacement clerk and we were unanimous in our choice of Rebecca Bissell. Becky accepted the role of clerk on 10 September and her contract began on 1 October. This left her very little time to familiarise herself with the role and she really did have to hit the ground running. Our expectations of Becky were high and I am delighted to say that we have not been disappointed. We are an active and relatively busy Parish Council, who place a heavy workload on our Parish clerk and Becky has coped admirably.

In the year to 31 March, 2015 the Council held the precept at £18,000 and details of the income and expenditure figures will appear on the Council website (www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk) after the external audit has been completed. For the year to 31 March, 2016, the Council has yet again held the precept at £18,000 and more detail will be made available on the website. The 2016 precept figure is once again lower than the

anticipated spending for the year and any deficit will be met by reducing the reserves held.

Each year, before being submitted for external audit, the Parish Council records undergo an internal audit. I am very pleased that Mr Keith Douglas has agreed to continue in his appointment as our internal auditor. The appointment is an honorary post for which Mr Douglas receives no financial reward and I am pleased to record our gratitude.

The Parish Council has had another busy year, dealing with a number of planning applications and other routine matters. We continue to make progress towards producing a neighbourhood plan and Councillor Andrew Pace will be giving an update a little later. We maintain links with the local police, who regularly attend meetings and report to the Parish Council. The Parish Council were pleased to accept an invitation from Mr Robert Hollis to visit Pembridge School and to hold our February meeting there. We welcome Mr Hollis to Pembridge and look forward to seeing our school continue to flourish under his leadership.

A few other points of note. It will not have escaped anyone's notice that the Pembridge surgery closed during the year. The Parish Council arranged meetings with representatives of Health Watch and NHS England but the decision to close the surgery had already been made and sadly there was nothing that could be done. The Parish Council continue to monitor the GP service and apply pressure whenever we can.

The impact of traffic is a perennial problem and the Parish Council continue to pursue improvements to the pavements, especially the raised pavement in High Street, the road surface and a solution to the unlawful use of Bridge Street by heavy goods vehicles. Speed along the main road continues to be an issue and we have entered into an arrangement with Titley Group Parish Council for the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device. The cost of the device has been shared between the two councils, each of whom will have use of it for alternate months. Volunteers will be required to set up the device and I am very grateful to Andrew Searles for his offer of help.

Details relating to all of these items and more can be found in the minutes of Parish Council meetings, which are posted on the parish council website (at www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk). The website is very well maintained on behalf of the Parish Council by Bob Pierce and it contains a wealth of information, which is sadly underused. So please, if you have never visited the website, make it a priority to do so.

It would be wrong of me to make my report without a mention of the work done by the Pride in Pembridge volunteers. They continue to work tirelessly to make the village attractive to locals and tourists alike and were rewarded by winning yet another Gold Award in the Heart of England in Bloom competition. On behalf of the Parish Council I congratulate them and thank them for all that they do.

As usual, I will conclude with some further thank yous. Thank you to the volunteers who help to keep the Parish running smoothly; to the teams of parishioners who involve themselves in the erection of Christmas trees and lights; to the Good Neighbour Scheme for providing such a valuable service. Thank you to Tony Norman who continues as tree warden and importantly, as our flood warden. Thank you to Clare Evans, the volunteer editor of Pembridge Parish News and thanks to Bob Pierce for looking after the Parish Council website. Thanks to Philip Rogers, who is our local correspondent for the Hereford Times and don't forget to contact him if you wish to get anything publicised.

Last but not least, my personal thanks go to the vice-chairman, Andrew Pace, and to all of my fellow Councillors for the many hours that they dedicate each year to Parish matters.

4. Parish Matters raised

None

5. Police report - CSO Alford

There have been 15 crimes for the parish of Pembridge between 01/04/14 and 01/04/15. This is less than 2 a month.

The crimes I looked at were Attempt Burglary Dwelling (2) this was the same house which was attempted to be broken into twice. Burglary Non Dwelling (Sheds workshops etc.) (4) Criminal Damage (2) and general theft (7) of which three were theft of catalytic convertors from vehicles in one night

The burglary dwellings are part of a series which have been happening all over North Herefordshire. A lot of work has been carried out by the CID and although no one has been arrested for them they do seem to have stopped. Your local policing team took the burglaries which happened on their policing area personally and increased their presence in the village to give re-assurance to residents.

The Burglary non-dwellings where workshops or sheds have been broken into are down this year. We feel this is partly down to the crime initiative which Kington Police introduced and is spreading across the force area known as "Stop that thief" Victims of crime are visited and offered the chance to try, and then purchase alarm systems at cost price. Well over 60 properties on our policing area have taken up this offer and no-one has suffered re-victimisation again.

The Crime Commissioner has funded some overt property marking kits and your local policing team held a property marking day at Weobley where over 70 items of property were marked. Again this is a very good deterrent in stopping the thief from stealing your power tools, mowers and pedal cycles etc. in the first place. We now intend to visit other villages offering the same service. We plan to have a property marking day at the village hall in the near future.

The police commissioner and the high Sherriff of Herefordshire made Rural Crime their number one priority this year. A lot of funding has been set aside for this. Special policing operations have been carried out to target poachers. It has been said for many years that poaching was the front for rural crime but now these persons are being stopped before they even get to go poaching and all their equipment and dogs are being seized. We have noticed that the number of people coming to our area has lessened considerably and rural crime is going down.

A rural and business forum was held in March chaired by the High Sherriff. Supt Sue Thomas who is in overall charge of the policing of Herefordshire was present. This was quite well attended and will be repeated next year. I would urge you to attend the next meeting, have your say and listen to what is being done to make Herefordshire a safer place to live in.

The pact surgeries are still held every 5 weeks on the car park of the Royal George. The next one is on Thursday 4th June between 2.30pm and 3.0pm.

The safer neighbourhood team also have a very good working relationship with the parish council. We will attend the parish council meetings when we are invited or requested so we can provide updates of what is happening around the area.

There are only three of us based at Kington cover the 28 parishes but we try and give of our time equally over the whole policing area. I know people want to see more of us and we will try and make this happen. We are waiting to attend a cycle course ourselves so that will make us more mobile and able to cover the rural villages much better. We will also endeavour to maintain speed enforcement in the village when duties permit.

On the whole we have a good year we will strive to make it even better but it is down to partnership working so please report any suspicious persons or vehicles by ringing in on 101. If you just get the registration number we will do all the necessary enquires and you never know that might just be the final piece in the jig saw we had been waiting for to detect or prevent another crime happening.

6. Head teachers report

It gives me great pleasure to speak as the new head teacher of Pembridge Church of England Primary School where I started in January after a term of waiting and supporting the school during the autumn school. I know the previous head, Kerri Finney, made a considerable impact in the life of the school where she started her teaching career. She had a lovely send-off at the end of the summer term and knows that the wider community sent her to Mordiford with their warmest wishes.

In October the school received its phone call from Ofsted announcing that it was to be inspected for the following two days. I rushed up from St Paul's Primary School in Hereford armed with chocolate biscuits and flowers. I couldn't have wished for a better team to work with. The acting heads [Sarah Palmer and Hazel Watkins] were a formidable pairing and led the school admirably through the inspection with me as a 'silent partner' taking it all in, number-crunching and churning out data and information the inspector wished to see. The hard work of all – staff, children, governors and parents – was commended with an outstanding judgement in all areas – still one of very few schools in the county to have achieved such a feat.

Though the outstanding grade was celebrated by all, the school continues to move forward. Government expectations have been raised in all subject areas and we now face the prospect of identifying children's achievements in different ways to what teachers and parents have been used to for the last few years. The goalposts continue to be shifted but we must continue to be focused on achieving the best we can with the funding we receive.

Pupil numbers are key to gaining more money. We currently have 88 children – nine wonderful Y6 will depart in July and we will receive eight or ten new reception children in September. Numbers for next year are stable but I would like to see at least 12-15 children each year as we do have that capacity. Currently the parents of 32 children who live in the catchment choose to send their children elsewhere. There will be reasons for this: other good and outstanding schools may be easier to get to on the way to work, parental income provides for private schooling, the lack of daily pre-school opportunities are a limiting factor but we are building closer links with the village's pre-school, and lastly we simply need more families who can afford the local house prices to sustain the school in the future.

Looking ahead, I would like to see our beautiful grounds and outdoor spaces used even

more. We live as part of a rural economy and all children should be taught how this can work whether they are from farming families or not. The school has a strong Christian heart and this is developing as Brenda and I seek to create more ways of using both church and school in their support for one another. Our East School House is nearing the completion of its refurbishment and will offer an additional rental home for Pembridge.

It was wonderful to hear of the contribution the children made to the village's WW1 commemorations, and we are helping to support St Mary's Festival of Music and Flowers this May. The school's success is about making use of any fantastic opportunity from within the community but also, equally, the people of Pembridge using our school and grounds. I was pleased to show the Parish Council around the school in February and would be delighted to take other interested people to see one of Pembridge's greatest assets in action.

7. Village Hall Report

The Village Hall remains a busy village facility with several regular hirers including Pre School, The Parish Council, Pembridge Auction, Heli Club, Messy Church and Fitness Club. We also have a wide range of parishioner bookings throughout the year such as birthday parties, funerals, the occasional wedding reception and other events.

However some long term regular bookings have ceased recently including Mums and Tots - which closed due to the lack of local Tots. Pre School has also discontinued their Tuesday trial.

The committee are mindful that we need to balance the needs and expectations of parishioner's with some level of regular income to remain entirely self-funded – which is often a difficult task, especially as the building will probably require some upgrading in the near future.

I would like to offer sincerest thanks to Sarah, Chris and Joyce, who volunteer untold man hours to ensure the hall remains viable and open. Sarah Parkinson in particular dedicates unfathomable amounts of personal time to the hall with a varied job description that can (and does) include fixing a repeatedly faulty industrial boiler, investigating a urinal that won't flush, investigating a urinal that flushes too much, resolving the unauthorized occupation of the car park, assessing litter and dog poo issues, as well as the constant bookings, maintenance and general organization that is required to run a small business such as the VH.

It should also be noted that Joyce did tender her resignation as Treasurer two years ago but agreed to stay until a replacement was appointed – willing candidates would be made most welcome.....

The committee have invested heavily into the fabric of the building recently – a new boiler, complete redecoration and the new oil tank took more than £10,000 expenditure from reserves. We are very grateful to PIPs for the re landscaping of the front of the village hall – the bollards and plants were donated and paid for by Border Oak. Likewise we are grateful to the Parish Council for arranging the recycling area which will see a huge improvement.

The day-to-day costs of running the building (which are surprisingly significant) are typically met from income, but we have been drawing from reserves to meet any shortfall and have made a loss in recent years due to investment and the cost of heating (we are oil based).

8. Pride in Pembridge Report

2014 was another very good year for the Pride in Pembridge team, resulting in a gold award in the RHS Heart of England campaign.

We will be entering Pembridge again this year in the RHS Heart of England 'In Bloom' campaign, and expect judging to take place in the first two weeks of July.

When we established Pride in Pembridge it was certainly not to enter campaigns or competitions, but to maintain our beautiful village as best we could, for the benefit of all who live, work and visit Pembridge.

Judging by the many comments and compliments that we have received from many parishioners and visitors we hope that you will agree our efforts are not in vain.

Our work continues throughout the year, I have lost count of the number of bags of litter that have been picked off the roadsides, probably a hundred or so.

We continued work in winter and early spring clearing the moat, and will plant more spring bulbs at this site in the autumn.

We have helped plant more trees in the conservation area, and are still looking to get funding to extend the boardwalk.

A more recent project is to build a small stone wall at the school entrance to protect the grass bank there and to help keep the pavement mud free.

With a little help from friends, we hope to get the wall built next Saturday.

If I can just say, the chap who is going to build the wall is not part of the team but has willingly offered to do the work free of charge.

I want to thank all those other individuals, many who are not directly involved with PIPs, but whose support makes what we do feel valued. I also want to thank the Parish Council and numerous businesses for their financial support.

Finally I would like to thank everyone in the group for giving up so much of their time to make our village what it is today. Thank you Adrian and Gilly Lomax, John and Barbara Petrie, Philip and Judith Rogers, Pat Teale, Yasmin Strube, David Williams, Sue Ellis,

I would like finish by saying that we not only enjoy working in the village, but enjoy the company and the social side of what we do, and would encourage anyone who could give a few hours each month to join us. Some of us are not getting younger.

9. Pembridge Amenity Trust Report

The Charity was set up in 1996 to handle the Car Park & toilets, by using a charity umbrella it saved rates being charged by Herefordshire Council as charities are exempt. The lease of the car park and toilets from Herefordshire Council is scheduled to run for another 10 years, with an expiry date of 15 March, 2025. The running costs of the car park and toilets are underwritten by the Parish Council

Bell Tower is owned by the Parish Council who leases it to the Amenity trust. The running costs of the Bell tower are underwritten by the Parish Council.

The Millennium meadow is managed by a sub group.

The Market Hall is also leased to the Amenity Trust and kept in good order.

The Amenity trust holds watercolour paintings from 1840

The Amenity Trust has 7 trustees including the Rector, I would like to thank them for their input and support throughout the year.

10. Parish footpaths report.

During the year the following repairs / improvements have been carried out to the footpath network

New off road footpath marker post and footpath signage from Noke Lane on PM6 – SA28

New steps and handrail from Noke Lane onto PM6

A new stream crossing bridge on PM43

Repairs to footpath marker post from straight mile onto PM29

New stiles on PM29

A large ash tree fell onto a stile on PM25/PM59 on Dump Lane rendering the site dangerous.

This resulted in a footpath closure until the tree was removed. The path is now reopened

New gates have been ordered for PM59

A tree has fallen across a stile on PM29 resulting in a temporary footpath closure until the tree is removed.

Further replacement gates for stiles are planned for 2015 – 2016.

11. Pembridge Charities report.

Alms house Occupancy:

There are currently three Alms-houses vacant.

Some building works are required.

Alms house Charges:

Throughout the year, charges remained unaltered to qualifying tenants as follows:

Single Bedroom £25.00 per week for alms people and £87.50 per week for tenants (non alms)

Double Bedroom £37.50 per week for alms people and £125.00 per week for tenants (non alms).

Trustees:-

Mrs. Clare Price, Reverend Brenda Jacobs, Mrs. Barbara Norman, Dr. David Griffith

Mr. David Owens, Mr. Richard Smith, Mr. Richard Gwilliam, Mr. Garfield Evans

Clerk:

Mr. Michael Coleburn continued as clerk to the trustees.

Charity Address: Mr. M. Coleburn, Jubilee Cottage, Upper Hardwick, Pembridge. HR6 9HE

Telephone: 01544 320115

Email: pembridgecharities@live.co.uk

Charity Registration:

Registered Number: 216294

12. Parish Council website report.

Site address: www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

For those who haven't seen it, the website includes a map and statistics for the Parish, a noticeboard section and a list of Council meeting dates plus any other local events that I've been given. There is access to Council minutes going back to January 2007, details of how the precept is allocated and copies of the Pembridge Parish News also going back to January 2007. You can send a message from the website to the Council, to the newsletter editor, the Parish Hall secretary or to me, without having to know email addresses. The site also collects together details for the Kington and Kingsland doctor's surgeries, the times for the mobile Post Office service, a link to the local bus timetables on the Herefordshire website and the Police surgery times. You can also register on the site to receive agendas by email in advance of each Council meeting.

Topical items on the noticeboard section at the moment are the results of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Questionnaire and details of the twelve people nominated to stand for election as Parish Councillors on 7 May.

There is little to report that is different to last year. The statistics from the server logs are not able to distinguish between automated and human visitors but it does seem that access by real people might be up to 30 per day. I suspect that it is not really that high in terms of genuine interest in the site.

Over the last twelve months, the top three search sites which took visitors our site were google.co.uk, google.com, bing.com, yahoo.com and baidu.com which is a Chinese language search site. Last year baidu.com was in second place, so the Chinese are losing interest. By far the largest number of visits were made directly rather than via a search, which means either the address was typed in or, mostly likely, the visitor had clicked a bookmarked link. A small number of visits are made each month from a link on the kington.org website which is a commercial site promoting Kington and surrounding villages, not the Kington Town Council website.

If this was a commercial site, the lack of data about visitors and their activity on the site would be addressed by employing Google's analytics facility but this would mean using cookies and I would have to add a warning to that effect.

The other aspect that would concern a commercial site is the difficulty of using the site on a mobile phone. The text appears very small and the navigation buttons are too close together to be used easily. At the moment that doesn't seem to be something that we need to worry about.

13. Parish Lengthsman report

Herefordshire Council with Balfour Beatty have introduced a New Lengthsman scheme from April 2015.

The New Scheme covers all the aspects that were completed previously, e.g. drainage, ditching, verge cutting etc., but now includes an element called Enhanced Public Realm Maintenance (potholing)

There is an option not to include EPRM, and Pembridge Parish Council have opted out of that part of the scheme.

Pembridge Parish has 17.4km of C roads and 20.6 km of U roads, making 38km in total. We will be able to claim £120 per km, giving a total grant of £4560.

The new scheme does not allow for payment to an administrator as previously, so our parish clerk will carry out administrative duties in relation to the Lengthsman work.

The P3 Public Rights of Way scheme is now included with the new Lengthsman Scheme, we have in the parish 49km of path (footpaths) which is funded at the rate of £50 per km, which equates to £2450.00.

Previously the Parish Council were paid in advance of work being completed up to the grant limit, now we will be reimbursed on receipt of invoices from the lengthsman.

We have produced an Annual Maintenance Plan for 2015 which shows expected spend against a number of work types, both routine and reactive.

We will be working more closely with our 'localities officer' from Balfour Beatty to make sure that our Parish is maintained to best possible standards.

14. Good neighbour scheme - Mrs P Stokes

It is a pleasure to report another successful year full the Pembridge Good Neighbour scheme.

This is now the fourth year of running the project and although it seems we have had a decline in the parishioners asking for our help over this year we have in fact done the same amount of jobs as last year, which is a 40 separate requests. This equated to 84 hours of volunteer time.

We still have an enthusiastic volunteer force who are willing to undertake the requests, and I would like to thank them for giving up their time so freely.

Our most successful venture has been our monthly coffee morning, this is held on the third Saturday of the month and we are seeing the numbers attendant growing month by month. We have equated 40 hours of extra volunteer time to run the coffee morning and here again I would like to thank publicly everyone who bakes and provides a lovely cakes and biscuits. Thanks also go to the other groups such as PiPs, WI, Parish Council and the church have each run coffee morning for us that has also proved to be very successful.

We have also had enquiries from other villages about our scheme, the last one being Peterchurch and we are always willing to pass on any information.

Over the next year we will make sure the efforts to make sure that as many people as possible know about the scheme in the village, and if anyone here knows of anyone who could benefit from the scheme please do not hesitate to get them to contact us. Last but not least a big thank you to the Parish Council for supporting us in this venture.

15. Shobdon Airfield noise abatement group - Cllr Rogers

During the course of this year very few complaints have been received by the airfield and none reported to the council. The majority of the complaints arise from over flying in the Noke Lane area. Some reports of noisy helicopters were received but these were often attributed to SAS / army activities of those of the emergency services.

The airfield continue to accept reports of infringements of the noise restricted area by telephone or email and such reports are logged and discussed at the twice-yearly meetings between the airfield and representatives of the community.

16. Ward Councillors report - Cllr Phillips.

- This year has been a difficult year for local government with grant cuts of 40% equating to £49m saving in Herefordshire Council and this will continue. The Social care budget is the biggest expense and is a national problem. Herefordshire council have a £140m budget for 2015 with an expected surplus of £400,000. This includes funding for the 2 roads, the A49 -A465 bypass and Edgar St to Aylestone Hill.
- Resurfacing - Weston, Milton, Rhyse lane, Sarnesfield, and Eardisland all done. For 2015/16 A44 Bridge Street junction, Milton to airfield, Rhyse lane and kerbing in village.
- The police conduction operation Dove along Bridge Street to stop heavy vehicles traveling over the bridge.
- The inspector's report for the Core Strategy is expected in July and adoption due in October.
- Travellers have settled in the car park again, PC should consider a transfer of the land from Herefordshire council.
- Pembridge School should be congratulated with their "outstanding" Ofsted. They will also be celebrating 150 years in 2016.
- There are still problems with Kington surgery after the closure of the surgery in Pembridge. We are still working through the issues with Kington and hopefully obtain FOI on the finances. On a positive note a drop surgery will be opening soon and will offer a very good service.
- Give thanks to all Parish Councillors, clerks and Vince Playdon at BBLP.

17. NDP Report - Cllr Pace

This will be a short update on the NDP as it is intended to call a Public meeting on this subject in the near future.

To date the Steering Committee/Parish Council has

1. Obtained grant funding for the activities undertaken so that there has been no cost to Parish funds to date.
2. Created a Survey Questionnaire, Land Availability Questionnaire and Housing survey.
3. Distributed and collected the surveys.
4. Commissioned an analysis of the Survey which is now available on the Parish Website.

At the end of January we, as were other Parishes, instructed to return the money we had not spent of our grant (approx. £4000) to Government, I do not understand and have been given no sensible reason for this but we have done as requested.

As a result of this the Parish Council agreed that we should proceed economically until we could obtain further funding. I am pleased to report that following a meeting last Friday we are now able to apply for further funding and we shall be doing so shortly. Once we are in receipt of funds we will be able to progress matters.

The next issue I should mention is Herefordshire Council's Core strategy and its likely impact on the Pembridge NDP. The Core Strategy has recently been the subject of an inspection. The Inspector found some basic mathematical defects in the Strategy with regard to the rural areas, namely that the housing target for these areas of 5,300 was not met by the

calculations submitted by Herefordshire Council. She has therefore recalculated the sums and modified the Core Strategy with regard to the rural areas. Herefordshire Council advise that these modifications have five key messages:-

1. The Rural Housing Target remains 5,300
2. New Builds and permissions granted since April 2011 are included in the 5,300.
3. NDP's are to identify MINIMUM levels of new development in each Parish but may reflect historic levels of windfall permissions.
4. New Developments to be focused within or adjacent to existing settlements.
5. NDP growth targets are indicative and local evidence and environmental factors will determine the appropriate scale of development.

On Monday we were advised by Herefordshire Council that, specifically for Pembridge, the Inspector's changes mean that instead of having to build 30 new houses between April 2011 and April 2031 the target is 61 new houses. I think this figure is reached by growing the number of households (508) in the entire Parish by 12 per cent as opposed to the previous calculation which was based on the number of houses in the village. However, it should be noted that the new houses will not be spread throughout the Parish but will have to be in or adjacent to the village. You should also be aware that according to Herefordshire Council there are 17 completions/planning permissions granted since April 2011 so that the net figure to be built would be 44. However I am not confident of these figures and the Ward Councillor is having them checked.

Once we have a clear and confirmed understanding of what is required by the Core Strategy the next steps will be:-

1. To Hold a Public meeting to disseminate confirmed data and obtain further feedback.
2. If wanted hold focus groups on specific areas of concern or interest.
3. Produce a Draft NDP and put this out for comment and consultation.
4. Submit the finalised NDP to Herefordshire Council for approval.
5. Submit the NDP to an independent examiner.
6. Put the examined NDP to a Parish Referendum

Before I finish I would just like to thank all those who have helped in the process to date and I would like to ask anyone who might be interested in joining the steering group to get in touch with either myself or the Clerk. We still have a long way to go and help is very welcome.

Parishioners Questions

Rev Jacobs would like to discuss the insurance on the Bell with the Parish council.

Questions were raised to Cllr Phillips regarding the highways and lack of funding to support the A44 Leominster relief road, which has no evidence or documentation to support at present. Other problems on the A44 can be elevated when Hereford roads are completed and funding sought.

The concern with the pavements in the village and damaged caused by extra heavy traffic - can the village use pollution as evidence? Highways have been notified but lack of funding continues to hold repairs.

18. Date of next meeting to be arranged and advertised.