

## PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes for the Meeting

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 7.30pm – Pembridge Parish Hall

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Garfield Evans (Chairman), Andrew Pace, Tom Bennetto, Wendy Powell, Marguerite Fothergill, Sam Mizrahi, Kevin Duggan, Roger Phillips, Safi Zagni, Michael Hancock, Stephen Jones and Clerk R Bissell.

0 Police representatives present.

0 Members of the public.

#### 147/23. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr David Owens.

#### 148/23. Declaration of interest and written requests for dispensation on agenda items.

There were no declarations of interest made. The Declaration of Interest book was available to sign.

#### 149/23. Approval of the minutes.

The minutes of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were **Approved** unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

#### 150/23. Open session.

**Ward Councillor report:** Cllr Phillips

- Financing is secured for Herefordshire Council to re-instate the southern link road.
- The Recyclables and Waste Collection Contract award continues with FCC Environment following a thorough and robust procurement process. The current collection and service will remain an alternate weekly either Black or Green Bin collection. The new contract, which starts on 1 September for an initial term of eight years.
- Cllr Phillips has approached the local policing team regarding enforcement of the 20mph and they have indicated that they will enforce but not publicise. They would also be supportive of a community speed watch if there were enough volunteers.
- There is a small triangle of earth on the Rhyse Lane turning to Cabal, Cllr Phillips discussed options for improvements and suggested re seeding with either grass or perhaps wild flowers.

**Members of the Public:** None.

**Police Report:** Not in attendance

Remember to call 999 in an emergency or 101 to pass information on.

If you require a visit to discuss security concerns contact Felix Rawlinson: 07971051480

#### 151/23. Planning applications for comment.

Planning Application recently received:

- 240644 – The Cruck Barn, Weston Court Barns, Weston, Pembridge, HR6 9JE - **SUPPORT**  
Proposed installation of wood burner and flue.
- 240640 – The Leen, Pembridge, HR6 9HN - **SUPPORT**  
Proposed erection of two covered slurry tanks.
- 240437 – The Leen, Pembridge, HR6 9HN -- **SUPPORT**  
Proposed erection of a roof cover over existing silage clamp.
- 240540 – 4 Bridge Cottages, Pembridge HR6 9EY- - **SUPPORT**  
Ash tree on river bank reduction of 50%.
- 233188 – Pembridge PC, War Memorial, Pembridge Primary School, Pembridge HR6 9EA - - **SUPPORT**  
Installation of bronze plaque stating seven names of missing soldiers.
- 240470 – The Grove, Noke Lane, Pembridge, HR6 9HP-- **SUPPORT**  
Retrospective application for the proposed conversion and change of use existing redundant agricultural buildings to commercial premises for Grove Design.

Recent Planning Applications recently considered awaiting determination:

- 240131 – Land at No1 St James Cottages, Broxwood, Pembridge, HR6 9JH- **SUPPORT**  
Proposed erection of a single unit of 1 bedroomed holiday accommodation.

- 240209 – Market House, Bearwood Lane, Pembridge HR6 9EA- **SUPPORT**  
Removal of Horse chestnut tree and replace with Silver Birch or Beech tree.
- 240203 – 1 Westway, West Street, Pembridge, HR6 9DX. - **SUPPORT**  
Proposed ground floor extension.
- 233205 – Crabtree Barn, Broxwood, HR6 9JJ- **SUPPORT**  
Proposed addition of porch extension and change of use of land from agricultural to residential.
- 231763 – Marston Grange, Pembridge, HR6 9JA. - **SUPPORT**  
Conversion of former school building and attached single storey range to stabling and liveried horses. Proposed hay and manure stores. Continued use of land for grazing and removal of condition 3 of 211861 so that riding arena can be used by liveries.
- 224271 – Pembridge Surgery, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HA- **SUPPORT**  
Proposed change of use from surgery to dwelling to include dormer window on north elevation and proposed new garage.
- 221052 – Townsend Farm, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HB- **SUPPORT**  
Proposed erection of 19 dwellings and associated infrastructure.

#### Planning Decisions:

- 233686 – Lower House, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HA- **SUPPORT – WORKS CAN PROCEED**  
Proposed works on Ash tree.

#### **152/23. Clerks report**

- I have instructed the company Parish Council Websites to make the new website live. Confirmation of the domain transfer has been approved by JISC.
- Further information has been forwarded to the Planning department for listed building permission on the war memorial and the application is now live. A grant funding application is near completion for a match funding from the War Memorial Trust.
- Parishioner correspondence regarding PM60.
- Contacted the PC solicitor to chase up the boundary agreement for the village green encroachment.
- Responded to parishioner regarding village speeding and requested police attendance.
- Herefordshire council have published some details on grant funding available for the Lengthsman, Public Rights of way and drainage. The clerk asked Councillors to consider and suggest proposal for the grant funding. *Clerk to register an expression of interest in the drainage funding.*
- Provided detail for the speed indicator device to be reprogrammed

*All other items are being dealt with and are ongoing.*

#### **153/23. Half Year Finance Report and Approve Payments.**

##### **Financial Report**

Bank reconciliation up to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 is complete using VT cashbook.

##### **Balances at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Current Account:          | £ 7334.66                              |
| Tracker Account:          | £ 16183.96                             |
| National Savings Account: | £ 12214.20 (including £93.78 interest) |

##### **Income since last meeting:**

None.

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

Toilet Cleaner, Clerk salary & HMRC for March 2024 as previously agreed by Parish Council

NEST pension contribution as per agreed payment schedule

| PAYEE                      | SERVICE   | NET      |      |
|----------------------------|---|----------|------|
| Zen (Direct Debit payment) | C Panel for email                               | £77.88   | +VAT |
| Clerk Expenses             | Exp Mar24                                       | £62.42   | +VAT |
| West Mercia Energy         | Elec toilets Jan24                              | £ 35.59  | +VAT |
| Parish Council Websites    | Balance for website costs and hosting to 1.3.25 | £749.05  | +VAT |
| S Price                    | Ditching works                                  | £1370.00 |      |
| J Ross                     | Mowing  | £120.00  |      |
| Kington Building Supplies  | Key Cutting                                     | £11.58   |      |

**154/23 Councillor Vacancy**

The clerk confirmed that one application had been received from Mr Mark Clegg who was in attendance. Mr Clegg confirmed his interest and eligibility. Councillors then **AGREED** and invited Mr Clegg to join the Parish Council. *Clerk to arrange induction and relevant form completion.*

**155/23 Mowing Contract 2024**

Parish Council received one tender from Mr James Ross. Councillors **AGREED** to appoint Mr Ross for the 2024 mowing season. *Clerk to arrange confirmation and insurance details.*

**156/23. Footpath PM60 off the A44 by the Verdun.**

Footpath Officer, Cllr Hancock confirmed he had followed up on parishioner complaints regarding stiles on PM60 just off the A44 by the Verdun Oak. He visited the landowner and explained regulations and has now referred the concern to Herefordshire Council Public Rights of Way team.

**157/23. West Mercia Smartwater Project**

The clerk provided information on the “we don’t buy crime” smartwater project being offered by West Mercia Police. The project offers 25% off smartwater kits, 100% cost for signage, advertising posters and police volunteer support. Smartwater kits cost £8.90 each however, for the parish to be eligible to join the scheme it would need 280 homes to show an interest in the scheme to secure the 25% kit funding. The Parish Council would then be expected to fund the remaining 75% of the purchase price at £2670. Councillors discussed the project, as previously there was no parishioner interest, it **AGREED** not to accept.

**158/23. New Plaque on War Memorial.**

Parish Council has recently made a planning application to erect a new bronze plaque etched with the names of seven missing fallen soldiers. The clerk has also investigated grant funding from the War Memorials Trust. As part of this process quotes are required from two contractors who are suitably qualified and might undertake the works and both quotes around £2600. The war memorial trust has advised this would be a low priority application and funding if allocated may take some time. The advice confirms the Parish Council could apply for a 50% match funded grant where £1300 would need to be funded from Precept. Councillors discussed the project and **AGREED** to continue to support the project, seek funding and look for alternative ways to raise funds.

**159/23. Update on the Verdun Oak Project.**

Cllr Pace updated Councillors:

- The Approval in Principle (AIP) has now been granted by Balfour Beatty and the clerk has shared a draft licence agreement which was **APPROVED** unanimously by Councillors. Work on the installation is hoped to start on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- An official opening of the sculpture will be on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April following with an Afternoon Tea in the Parish Hall.

**160/23. Correspondence.**

- Herefordshire Council Consultation on licensing of sex establishments- **NO COMMENT**
- Herefordshire Council Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation revisions of the rural settlement hierarchy implications meetings on 19 /20th March. – **No attendance**
- Herefordshire Council Gambling Policy review consultation - - **NO COMMENT**
- Pembridge Primary school consultation proposal for academy status – **NO COMMENT**
- Early engagement on Hereford Council Local Transport Plan briefings throughout the county during March and April – 12.4.24 9.30 -12.00pm in Kington- **Clerk and Cllr Pace to attend.**

**161/23. Future Agenda from Councillors and members of the public.**

None.

**162/23. To confirm date of next meeting as**

**Ordinary Parish Meeting: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm**

**Annual Parish meeting: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm**

Meeting Closed at 8.35pm