ACTION

PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes for the Meeting
Wednesday 21st January 2026 7.30pm – Pembridge Parish Hall

Councillors Present: Cllrs Garfield Evans, (Chairman), Marguerite Fothergill, Safi Zagni, Mark Clegg, John Mallett, Wendy Powell, David Owens, Roger Phillips, Richard Jenkins and Clerk R Bissell.
PSCO Felix Rawlinson present.
0 Members of the public.

113/25. Apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Hancock, Jones, Williams, and Duggan.

114/25. Declaration of interest and written requests for dispensation on agenda items.
There were no declarations of interest made on agenda items. The Declaration of Interest book was available to sign.

115/25. Approval of the minutes.
The minutes of the meeting of 17th December 2025 were **Approved** unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

116/25. Open session.
Ward Councillor report: Cllr Phillips reported:

- Cllr Phillips gave a bleak review of government funding for Herefordshire Council over the coming years with reductions in grant funding year on year. This puts the Council in a challenging position providing services with less funding. Full details will be in his monthly update.
- Cllrs Phillips, Evans and Zagni along with the Clerk met with Simon Hobbs, Herefordshire Council Accident Officer on West Street to discuss HGVs mounting the pavement. There was no satisfactory solution to this problem. There is not enough room for bollards on the pavement allowing safe pedestrian access and flexible bollards on the roadside would not be suitable. The outcome, although not ideal, was to monitor at present and encourage more visibility via speeding reductions and the introduction of the Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Cllr Phillips has been involved in discussions regarding the planning application for the Olde Steppes.

Members of the Public: None
Police Report: PSCO Felix Rawlinson was in attendance and reported:

- Recruitment of a new police officer, Steve Thomas.
- There were no new incidents to report.
- Speed Enforcement undertaken on 11th December 2025 was effective reducing speeds. More enforcement will be undertaken going forward.
- Following the discussion regarding vehicle mounting the pavement, PSCO Rawlinson advised parishioners to use operation snap with any footage to report dangerous driving.
- There is a policing team PACT surgery at Bloom and Grind on Saturday 4th April at 12.00pm.
- 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.

117/25. Planning applications for comment.
Planning Application recently received, reviewed and decisions made:
None
Recent Planning Applications recently considered awaiting determination:

- 253227 – The Olde Steppes Shop, High Street, Pembridge - **SUPPORT**
  Division of existing property to form 2 separate independent properties.
- 252905 – Corner House, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HA**- SUPPORT**
  Conversion of existing building from 2 to 3 self-contained apartments with storage.
- 221052 – Townsend Farm, East Street, Pembridge, HR6 9HB. **- SUPPORT**
  Amended plans and reports on erection of 19 dwellings and infrastructure.
- 241285 – Barn at Lowe Farm, Pembridge, HR6 9JD. **- SUPPORT**

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Conversion of redundant farm building into a dwelling

- 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.

Planning Decisions:

- 253445 – Village Green, Bridge Street, Pembridge – **SUPPORT – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**
  Various works to trees on the Village Green.
- 224271 – Pembridge Surgery, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HA- **RECONSULTATION PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED - APPROVED**
  Proposed change of use from surgery to dwelling to include dormer window on north elevation and new garage.
- 252572- Yew Tree House, Pembridge HR6 9JA **– SUPPORT -APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**
  Proposed repairs to existing timber framing and replacement of infill panels.
- 252759 – Terracotta Barn, East Street, Pembridge, HR6 9HB **- SUPPORT– WORKS CAN PROCEED**
  Crown & thin a T1 sycamore tree to allow more light and reduce line on laurel hedge to 8' in height.
- 252859 - Victoria Place, East Street, Pembridge HR6 9HB- **SUPPORT– WORKS CAN PROCEED**
  Dismantle silver birch tree to the ground.

118/25. Clerks report

- Planning approved for tree works on the village green
- Rhyse Lane Closed on 19th – 26th January from Lower Lane to Milton for culvert works.
- Liaising with contractor to undertake works on the Village Green
- Meeting with Cllr Zagni to prepare for Community Speed Watch requirements on 22nd January.
- Completed Q3 accounts.
- M Group Highways Ltd has been selected by Herefordshire Council as the preferred provider to deliver public realm services across the county, replacing the current arrangement with Balfour Beatty Living Places.
- Met with Simon Hobbs on 14.1.26 to review traffic issues on West Street.

All other items are being dealt with and are ongoing.

118/25. Finance Report and Approve Payments.

Bank reconciliation for 31st December 2025 complete using VT cashbook.
Q3 accounts complete and shared with Councillors. The clerk provided extra detail and answered several councillor questions regarding spending. Councillors were satisfied there was no concern for risk at this time.
Barclays Business Premium rate is reducing from 1.10% to 1.05% from 24th March 2026.

Balances at 31st December 2025.

Current Account:	£ 11705.30
Tracker Account:	£ 24206.24 (including £70.42 interest)
National Savings Account:	£ 12336.68

Income since last meeting

None.

Requests for payment: ALL APPROVED

Toilet Cleaner, Clerk salary & HMRC for January 2026 as previously agreed by Parish Council
NEST pension contribution as per agreed payment schedule

G A Morgan	Christmas Tree 2025	£950.00	+VAT
West Mercia Energy	Electricity Toilets Nov 2025	£39.97	+VAT
Viking	Stationery & Ink	£110.85	+VAT

120/25. NPPF Consultation Comment and Rural Affordable Housing Enabler Project. JM

No comment for the NPPF consultation. Cllr Mallet offered to liaise with the rural affordable housing enabler working group and will attend working group sessions when possible.

121/25. Parish Council Coffee Morning 21st March 2026. ALL

Cllr Fothergill confirmed that the Parish Council are hosting the coffee morning in the Parish Hall on 21st March 2026. Volunteers and cakes required.

122/25. Policing priorities. Clerk

Quarterly policing priorities were confirmed as Thefts, Speeding and Traffic issues and Anti-social behaviour. *Clerk to advise.*

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123/25. Village Green Update.

The Village Green Illegal Encampment Options: - The clerk met with the contractor to install the ditch and bund along the village green driveway. He advised possible access to free telegraph pole off cuts which could be used as well or instead of the ditch and bund. Further investigations into costs and suitability will continue and be reported back to Parish Council with new costing options for discussion. Clerk

124/25. Correspondence.

- None

125/25. Future Agenda from Councillors and members of the public.

None.

112/25. To confirm date of next meeting: Wednesday 18th February 2026 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Meeting Closed at 8.30pm.