

PEMBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

Feb/Mar 2026

Keeping you in touch with your community

WELCOME

Pembridge has a lively events calendar which can be found on village notice boards, the Portrait of Pembridge website and village Facebook pages.
Look up events in the Parish Hall on its Facebook page or website.

Can you please report any new pot holes emerging on our roads straight to **Herefordshire Council Hotline on 01432 261800** or log onto their website. Its even easier to report it on the Herefordshire Council app and upload a location and photo.

When walking your dog in the Millennium Meadow please put your dog poop bags in the bin by the toilet. Thank you.

Parish Council Meetings in Pembridge Hall at 7.30pm

18th February

11th March

All welcome.

For Pride in Pembridge contact Jan Williams

07485 703096

For Film Nights Please contact The New Inn

01544388427

For Parish Hall Bookings contact 0800 061 4313 or booking@pembridgeparishhall.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish community Speed Watch

The Parish Council are hoping to set up a community speed watch in the village. Cllr Zagni has offered to co-ordinate the group and is looking for volunteers to join the group. If you are interested and would like to help **email: safizag@icloud.com**

Christmas Trees

Many thanks to the volunteers who arrange the fabulous Christmas trees every year in Pembridge. They are still the best for miles!

If you find a pothole—Log it with Herefordshire Council

Please report to the **Herefordshire Council Hotline on 01432 261800** or Herefordshire Council Website—Log on to **www.herefordshire.gov.uk** or download the **Hereford Council pothole reporting app** to your mobile and upload a photo.
Footpaths problems: Contact the Footpaths Officer Michael Hancock or the Clerk

Pembridge Royal British Legion

The RBL Poppy Appeal had another successful year in raising funds to support its work with service personnel, veterans, and their families. £9,729 was raised in the area from collections in Pembridge, Shobdon, Eardisland, Wigmore, Dilwyn, Leintwardine and Brampton Bryan. The RBL thanks the businesses, churches, and schools for hosting collections, the door collectors, and all who gave generously.

Portrait of Pembridge

Visit the Portrait of Pembridge website/Facebook page for all the news on up and coming local events. wwwportraitofpembridge.co.uk

Coffee Mornings

Pop along to the monthly Saturday Coffee mornings in the Parish Hall . There will be the usual lovely home-made cakes, coffee, tea chat and friendship. **Dates for your diary Saturday 15th February and 15th March starting at 10.30am.**

Pembridge Parish Hall

There are lots of new and exciting events happen in the Parish Hall, check the website and social media platforms for the latest events.

WARD COUNCILLOR NEWS

Herefordshire Council report—Cllr Roger Phillips

email: rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

2026 Council Tax The Government announced a " fair funding review " of English local authorities just before Christmas. It is deeply disappointing that the government is failing to sufficiently fund the additional costs of delivering services to residents across a rural county. The government's review which covers the next three financial years will cut £17.3 million (-23%) from Herefordshire's central funding by 2028/29, adding to previous losses such as the £7.1 million Rural Services Delivery Grant leaving changeling savings to be found to meet inflationary and service pressures. Our neighbouring English councils are similarly under pressure. The government's new funding model assumes local authorities will raise council tax by the maximum permitted without a referendum - 4.99% per year for the next three years - placing further strain on rural households who already pay 20% more council tax than urban areas. That increase means a band D equivalent charge to £2,067.63, representing an increase of £8.19 per month for 2026/27. The new formula fails to properly account for remoteness, increased and more complex needs for rural young people and the impact of an ageing population. In short, demand and costs for essential services are rising faster than funding increases. Herefordshire council`s draft revenue budget includes savings proposals of over £20 million, including redundancies, and measures to manage Directorate inflationary pressures via a centrally held Contract Inflation Fund. Details of the 2026/7 budget are in Cabinet papers on the council`s website.

Children`s services - These services were placed in special measures in 2022 with a commissioner appointed. I am pleased to report that Herefordshire Council's Children's Services have now been rated 'Good' overall by Ofsted, with each specific service area receiving a 'Good' judgement and the 'Impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families' judged as 'Outstanding'. This marks a significant achievement for Herefordshire, reflecting the hard work and dedication of practitioners, managers, elected members and partners who committed to deliver on the improvements. While not as visible as some council services the proper care and protection of the most vulnerable children in our county must always be a priority.

Herefordshire – the new Shakespeare County -The film Hamnet, which was filmed on location at Weobley and at the Cwmmau Farmhouse in Brilley, is being used by Visit Herefordshire to promote local tourism of our county. Visit Herefordshire is a stand alone organisation financed by larger local tourism business to advertise our county and support the visitor economy. Herefordshire Council worked closely with the film company and gets a mention in the closing titles.

New Highway contractors— Following a procurement process , M Group Highways has been selected as the preferred provider to deliver the county's new Public Realm Services contract starting in June this year succeeding from Balfour Beatty – who did not tender. The contract covers essential services that residents rely on, including the maintenance of roads and green spaces, highway drainage, street lighting, street cleansing, bereavement services, maintenance of bus shelters, rights of way and winter gritting. Under the new contract, the Council will take back day-to-day control of public realm services, with the provider delivering work at pre-agreed rates. This approach will give the Council greater flexibility and ensure services are high-quality, efficient, and provide better value for money.

Roger

PARISH WEBSITE

For news and event alerts please sign up to the parish website

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

USEFUL INFO

The New Inn	01544 388427
(11.00am-3.00pm & 6.00pm to 11.00pm closed Tues)	
The Red Lion	01544 388007
(Monday—Sunday from 12.00pm—12.00am)	
The Kings House	01544 388029
(Wed to Sat 11- 4pm & Sunday lunch 12pm)	
The Cider Barn	01544 388161
(www.the-cider-barn.co.uk)	
Pembridge Pizza	07812 127156
Open Fridays & Saturdays 5-8pm	
The Old Steppes	01544 388506
(Mon– Sat 9am—5pm)	
Old Chapel Gallery	01544 388842
(Wed-Sat 11am-4.30pm or by appointment)	
Tricia Hair Salon	01544 388665
(Tues, wed, Fri 9am-5pm—Thurs 9am –6pm)	

COUNCILLORS

Garfield Evans (Chair)	01544 388638
Kevin Duggan	01544 340092
Michael Hancock	01544 340799
Jo Williams	075817 51473
Steve Jones	079897 15075
David Owens	01544 388422
Wendy Powell	01544 340341
Mark Clegg	01544 388457
Marguerite Fothergill	01544 388279
Sapphire Zagni	07360 205777
John Mallet	01544 340858
Richard Jenkins	01544 388445
Roger Phillips	01544 340269

(Also our County Councillor)

Becky Bissell (Clerk) 01544 340747

Email:clerk@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

MOBILE POST OFFICE IN THE CAR PARK
Wednesday 2.00-2.45pm

If you would like to contribute news to the next issue please email clerk@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk with details by 15th March 2026.