PEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes for the Meeting
Wednesday 17th June 2026 7.30pm – Pembridge Parish Hall

Councillors Present: Cllrs Garfield Evans, (Chairman), Marguerite Fothergill, John Mallett, David Owens, Richard Jenkins, Safi Zagni, Mark Clegg, Jo Williams and Clerk R Bissell.
2 members of the public.

27/26. Apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Duggan, Jones, Powell, Hancock and Phillips.
28/26. 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.
29/26. Approval of the minutes.
The minutes of the meeting of 20th May 2026 were **Approved** unanimously and signed by the Chairman.
30/26. Open session.
Ward Councillor report: Cllr Phillips provided a written report:

- June update has been circulated, including the Herefordshire Council budget balanced for 2025-26.
- New Wye River charter has been signed by all local authorities in the Wye catchment area.
- The new Herefordshire Council Chief executive Paul Satoor has joined and will be visiting the Arrow ward at the end of July.
- The highway arrangement with M group is settling in and picking up outstanding issues this month.
- Met with parishioner at Westonbury junction with the highway safety officer.

Members of the Public:

- Parishioner concern raised regarding overflowing bins on the village green. *Clerk advised that bins are collected Monday and Friday by Herefordshire Council. Any overflowing bin can be reported on the Herefordshire council website.*

Police Report: Police Officer Stephen Thomas provided a written summary with no incidents to report. 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.
31/26. Planning applications for comment.
Planning Application recently received, reviewed and decisions made:
None
Recent Planning Applications recently considered awaiting determination:

- 260966 – Land at Monies Corner, Pembridge, Herefordshire. - SUPPORT
  Erection of self-build agricultural workers dwelling
- 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**
  Conversion of redundant farm building into a dwelling
- 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:

- 260916 – Agricultural building, Pitfield farm Pembridge, HR6 9HY**- SUPPORT-APPROVED**
  Prior approval for change of use to two dwelling houses

ACTION

32/26. Clerks report

- Return visit to the village green from Adrian Hope Tree Services to inspect Ash trees – no concern. However on the opposite side of River Arrow, one ash tree should still be felled by owner for safety if possible.
- Met with several playground suppliers to discuss playground repairs and fencing.
- Advertised the Lengthsman role and spoken with several interested parties.
- Newsletter printed and delivered – Note: the locals who deliver the newsletter is retiring this month with new couriers in place for next time.
- Annual financial statements forwarded to PKF Littlejohn.
- Published and displayed the end of year period of exercise notices
- Made an application to Kingspan Planet Passionate fund for playground equipment.
- The new Herefordshire Council public realm contractor. M Group started 1st June
- Rubbish left on the village green by excess visitors collected and removed
- The traveller residing on the village green moved on – Site left tidy.
- Renewed Parish Council insurance with Zurich
- Insurance claim for damaged Speed Indicator Device complete and funds awarded for a replacement.
- Requested brush clearance at end of Curl View on Bridge Street

All other items are being dealt with and are ongoing.

33/26. Finance Report and Approve Payments.

Bank reconciliation for 31st May 2026 complete using VT cashbook.

Balances at 31st May 2026.

Current Account:	£ 20914.20
Tracker Account:	£ 24267.52
National Savings Account:	£ 12336.68

Income since last meeting

None.

Requests for payment: APPROVED

Toilet Cleaner, Clerk salary & HMRC for June 2026 as previously agreed by Parish Council

NEST pension contribution as per agreed payment schedule

West Mercia Energy	Electricity Toilets Apr 2026	£52.84	+VAT
Barrington Print	Newsletter June/July26	£115.00	
James Ross	Mowing May/June	£472.00	

34/26. Medieval Event on the Millennium Meadow 2027

Local parishioner approached the Parish Council for support to hold a medieval enactment event on the Millennium Meadow again in 2027. Councillors were advised on previous costs including damage to the gate which is still outstanding. Following discussion, Councillors **AGREED** the event is good for local businesses in the village and it would support it supplying water from the toilet block. Private Portaloo installation would need agreement from the Amenity Trust to cover these costs.

35/26. Lengthsman Contract 2027

Clerk

Councillors reviewed the tenders received from Glen White, Marches Ground Maintenance and MJH contracting, who all offer a good service at competitive rates. After discussion it was **AGREED** to offer the contract to MJH contracting and Glen White jointly who provide a range of services. *Clerk to contact and arrange contract and works schedules.*

36/26. School Marking Consultation.

Clerk

Councillors discussed the proposed lining works outside Pembridge School and have no objection. *Clerk to respond.*

37/26. Traffic Concerns on the A44 by Westonbury Mill Gardens

Following parishioner correspondence highlighting an accident and concerns regarding speeding traffic at the entrance to Westonbury Water Gardens, Councillor Phillips and Herefordshire Council accident safety officer visited the site and advised the parishioners as to what action may be considered.

ACTION

38/26. Speed Indicator Device replacement.

Clerk

The clerk confirmed an insurance claim payout of £3024 excess has been awarded to replace the Speed Indicator Device on West Street. Councillor reviewed the quotes and **AGREED** to purchase a like for like replacement from Stock signs. *Clerk to arrange*

39/26. Village Green Matters.

- **Tree Report**
  The clerk confirmed that Adrian Hope Tree Services had completed the spring visit regarding ash die back and confirmed there was no further action required.
- **Visitor Activity**
  Following a very warm and busy May bank holiday the village green beach area saw many visitors. Unfortunately, BBQs damaged benches and a huge amount of rubbish was left behind which was cleared up by the Parish Council binman. Herefordshire Council are contracted to empty the parish bins Mondays and Fridays. The extra rubbish was collected by Herefordshire Council, and a plan is now in place for overflowing bins on the village green.
- **Works update**
  The clerk confirmed there had been a problem with obtaining the posts so works are delayed.

40/26. Correspondence.

Clerk

Website contact offering recompense for damage to a picnic bench on the village green during a visit. Councillors **AGREED** to request a donation. *Clerk* to advise

41/26. Future Agenda from Councillors and members of the public.

None.

42/26. To confirm date of next meeting:

Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 15th July 2026 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm

No August meeting planned.

Meeting Closed at 8.42pm.