

PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 19TH MARCH 2018

Minutes of the Pembury Parish Annual Meeting held in the Village Hall, High Street, Pembury on Monday 19th March at 8pm

Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst, Chair of Pembury Parish Council, presided.
The notice convening the meeting was read.

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR.

The Chair welcomed Borough Councillors Paul Barrington-King, Mrs Sue Nuttall and David Reilly, 11 Parish Councillors and 54 parishioners to the 123rd Annual Parish Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES.

There were no apologies.

3. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 23 March 2017 be signed as a correct record.

4. AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 2016/17 AND FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS FOR 2017/18.

The accounts for 2016/2017 had been audited by an external auditor and no issues had been raised. These had been circulated to everyone in the Pembury Village News, were available at the meeting and were on the website.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair made a report on the work undertaken by the Parish Council last year including:

a) Planning

- Acting as a statutory consultee for planning applications in the parish.
- Decisions are still awaited on Owls Nest and Sturgeons, but these are due to be considered by the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's planning committee.
- Representation to TWBC's planning committee to object to the Cornford Court development proposals. Pembury Parish Council reported its disappointment at the Planning Committee's decision to approve the application.

b) Amenities, Christmas Lights, Pride in Pembury

- The Scarecrow competition
- Picnic on the Green.
- Pride in Pembury.

- Firework display. The bucket collection was donated to the Scout and Guides to contribute towards an accessible ramp into the headquarters. The total amount was £3,136.
- New benches in the Recreation Ground and the Burial Ground.
- New lidded litter bins in the Recreation Ground.

c) Environment, Environmental Issues incorporating Allotments and Burials

- Allotment holders and the committee undertook two clear-up days.
- We are now installing plaques on the new Memorial Wall and plants were donated by Notcutts.
- The box hedging was replaced with a post and chain fence.
- Bulbs were planted around the War Memorial and at Woodsgate Corner with help from the Scouts and guides.
- Litter pick days.

d) Pembury Village News

- Delivered to every home in the village quarterly.

The Chairman thanked staff and councillors for their work. She also reported that this would be her last meeting as she was retiring shortly.

6. REPORT FROM KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR.

Cllr Barrington-King reported on his role as County Councillor and projects he had undertaken in the village. Various matters were raised by members of the public including:

- whether a footpath would be de-lineated;
- whether there would be a pelican crossing at the Pembury end of the footpath;
- speeding in Henwood Green Road, Lower Green Road and the High Street and whether there could be a 20mph speed limit by the school;
- whether there would be significant disruption on the A21 when more major works were carried out, and whether access to the hospital would be kept open; huge diversions were planned;
- concern was expressed about the proposed access to the Woodside recreational facility if the planning application for change of use from agricultural to recreational was granted;
- concern was expressed about the timing of the buses in relation to bus pass use.

7. REPORTS FROM TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

Cllr Mrs Sue Nuttall reported on her role as a Borough Councillor. Her main concerns were:

- the amount of proposed new developments and the lack of infrastructure.
- the granting of planning permission for Cornford Court.

Cllr David Reilly reported on his role as a Borough Councillor and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance. He reported on:

- reductions in funding from Central Government would lead to increases in council tax.
- working hard to ensure that Pembury protected its Green Belt.
- Working with Pembury residents regarding planning applications.

- His concern for the approved planning application for the expansion at Cornford Court.
- The Local Plan would be published for consultation during the summer.

Various matters were raised by members of the public including:

- Strong concern about the granting of the Cornford Court application.
- A resident reported that 1,300 houses were to be built in Pembury and he was disappointed that Pembury did not have a Neighbourhood Plan.
- A resident asked if new builds and refurbishments would be accessible for all disabled people.
- A resident asked about the proposed new Civic Development.

8. OPEN FORUM

A request was made to adopt the Financial Report, but this was not required.

A query was raised about the proposal for a large retirement complex along the Pembury Road which was outside of the parish boundary.

Concern about heavy traffic along the A228 causing accidents and collapsed drains was raised. It was reported that Central Government had withdrawn the A228 from their programme as they would only fund work on strategic routes.

9. CLOSE

The Chair was thanked for her tireless work for the village during her time on the Parish Council.

The meeting was closed at 9:32pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date:
