



PEMBURY

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 1976 ISSUE No.

10

"DIG FOR VICTORY"

A hollow sounding slogan from long ago - or is it? You may be surprised to hear that the Parish Council has a waiting list of over 30 parishioners anxious to take on the cultivation of an allotment. Marvellous. Except for the fact that there aren't any empty ones to take on.

The Parish Council is well aware of the demand and has asked the Borough Council if it has any land in its ownership in the village that could be put to this use. Unfortunately, word has now been received that no help will be forthcoming.

So we have to examine fresh ideas. How about 'share a garden'? Is your garden too big for you, but suitable for a keen, unsatisfied, would be allotment holder to get busy on the cultivation to your mutual benefits? The Parish Council Clerk, Henry Plant, 6 The Coppice would be only too happy to put you in touch. It would ease his burden in having to refuse applications and provide a householder with some home grown vegetables.

c o n t e n t s

Allotments	1	Community Centre	9
Parish Council News	3	"If my people..."	11
Silver Jubilee	5	Village Diary	12
Pembury 2000	6/7	Editor: D. Hawes Richards	

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Planning and your Local Ombudsman

The Parish Council has recently had to consider a situation which could well provide a lesson for the future for many of us in the village. The actual details do not matter in this particular case but the problem brought together two matters about which we hear a great deal and which directly affect us. One is the Town Planning Laws and the other the Local Ombudsman.

In this case planning permission was granted for the erection of some houses in "outline". In other words no details were shown. In most cases this probably would not have mattered, but unfortunately the development was behind existing properties and once building started it became painfully obvious to a few of these householders that everything was not as supposed by them. The new houses were correct in position, but in one specific instance very much above in elevation, and quite unacceptable.

Representations were immediately made to the Borough Council, local MP, and local Ombudsman.

The Council and MP were not able to intervene and therefore the Ombudsman was the last hope.

On the face of it the problem these householders had was exactly one that the office of Ombudsman was created to solve.

In this case he could not and the lesson to be learned from this decision is of very great importance. Once planning permission has been granted in whatever form - "outline" or "detail" - that is the end of the matter. Only the local authority buying back the permission, by means of a compensation to the applicant, can prevent the building work being carried out. In these times of general money shortage that solution has no hope.

So if you are worried about the effect of a planning application adjoining your property go along to the Dower House and ask to see all the plans submitted. You have a right to do this. If you are not 100% satisfied that your interests are being safeguarded then talk to the Chairman of the Parish Council who will put you in touch with a Parish Councillor who can advise you. As these particular parishioners have now found to their cost, the opportunity to object has been lost forever.

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vacancy filled

The vacancy on the Council mentioned in the last Newsletter has now been filled by the election of Mr. A.B. Ballantine, 6 Maidstone Road. Tel. 2156. Mr. Ballantine had previously offered himself for election to the Borough Council in May of this year and has been very active in the current By-Pass Campaign being promoted by the Pembury 2000 Action Committee.

The vacancy also means a change in Chairmanship of the Council's Amenities Committee. Mrs. Walter is the new Chairman.

Finance has also seen a change. Mr. Oxley has found himself unable to continue in the chair of this Committee and this has now been taken over by Mr. B.D. Walsh.

pembury school

It would greatly assist your school in their planning of classes for the Infants if they knew more accurately the number of children in the area due to come to school each year. Would you please register your child as soon as possible after their fourth birthday. Admission forms can be obtained from the school office in term time.



Is it really 25 years since the famous message winged its way to the Treetops Hotel in Kenya to the then Princess Elizabeth and her husband. Apparently it is - or at least it will be in a few months time.

Preparations have now started for national celebrations to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Queens Accession to the throne. The Borough Council are considering drawing up a central register of all local activities and the Parish Council have been asked to provide information within their area for it. The Parish Council are more than happy to act as a focal point for Pembury's contributions and dates, times, places of events and persons responsible for them should be sent to Henry Plant, 16 The Coppice.

Any information received from Secretarys of local organisations will of course also be useful for the next editions of the newsletter.

Pauline & Peter Mills

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community Centre

One amenity of our Village that is much talked about at the present time is the building of the Community Centre on the Recreation Ground. Does it have to be a new building? This newsletter asks this question because another Parish of roughly the same size as ours has bought an existing building. Again, does it have to be financed by direct subscriptions? £80,000 was raised to purchase and equip this centre. The rates were increased for three years and the owners, the District Council, were very co-operative and allowed deferred payments without interest. This avoided the problem of borrowing money at high interest rates.

Some rooms were retained by the Parish Council for letting to community organisations for occasional meetings and to provide an Information Room to house footpath maps and other items of Parish interest. The remainder of the accommodation has been let to community organisations for this sole use.

Have we a suitable building? Downingbury Farm buildings are largely empty and unused, but if cottage industries are located there as suggested in Pembury 2000 why should it not become the focus of the new Village. Or alternatively, what about building over the Camden car park - an ugly 'hole' in our Village Green by any standards. Perhaps a combined development with the petrol company who want to demolish the present Camden Garage.

However, this is all thinking aloud - what is needed immediately is your attendance at the special Village meeting in the Village Hall on October 13th at 8.00pm to hear a progress report on the present proposals from the Community Centre Council.

A. F. BRUCE

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"if my people..." a spiritual musical

"If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land".
(2 Chron. 7:14).

Our nation in trouble, in need of divine intervention? Who can hear or read the news of the day and doubt it? Corruption in government, scandal in politics, prices skyrocketing, more workers jobless every day, energy resources dwindling, crime rampant, the atmosphere poisoned ... not just in our nation, but everywhere.

What does God want us to do? Jimmy and Carol Owens, the musicals authors believe the Holy Spirit is saying to Christians everywhere that the time has come for all the people of God to come together to intercede in prayer for their nation - in their homes and in their churches - that God intends to use us as instruments of healing and revival.

The musical will be performed at the Upper Church, on October 10th at 6.30pm.

for your diary

- OCT. 1 Pembury Evening W1 - Apple and Pear Council Film
V.Hall 8 pm
2 "Roof Raising" - Supper Party - R.C. Hall 8 pm
4 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
10 Upper Church - Spiritual Musical - "If My People..."
6.30pm
11 Horticultural Society - "Floral Art" - V.Hall 8 pm
12 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
12 Parish Council - Dower House 8 pm
13 VILLAGE MEETING - COMMUNITY CENTRE - V.HALL 8 pm
16 Cubs and Scouts - Supper Dance 8 - 11 pm
18 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
23 Pembury Society - Footpaths Walk 2.30pm
23 Cubs and Scouts - Jumble Sale - V.Hall 2 pm
25 Pembury Society AGM - Village Hall 8 pm
26 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
28 Horticultural Society - Twenty Questions V.Hall 8 pm
- NOV. 1 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
5 Pembury Evening W1 - AGM V.Hall 7.45pm
8 Horticultural Society - Floral Art - V.Hall 8 pm
9 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
9 Parish Council - Dower House 8 pm
15 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
20 Conservative Association - Jumble Sale RC Hall 2.30pm
23 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
25 Horticultural Society - Wine & Beer Making V.Hall 8 pm
29 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
- DEC. 2 Conservative Association - Whist Drive - V.Hall
3 Pembury Evening W1 - Painting on Ricepaper - V.Hall
7.45pm
7 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
7 Parish Council - Dower House 8 pm
13 Horticultural Society - Floral Art - V.Hall 8 pm
13 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
21 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5 pm
? Conservative Association - Xmas Dance - V.Hall

Every Friday - W.1. Market - Village Hall - 10.30 - 11.30am