



PEMBURY

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
MARCH 1977 ISSUE No.

12

Your new Council will soon complete its first year of work for the Parish, and we would ask you to note the coming Annual Parish Meeting. This will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00p.m. on Wednesday 16th March. The Agenda will include the report of the Chairman of the Parish Council and of the Tunbridge Wells District Councillors.

The meeting will include a colour film on street improvement schemes to introduce the Council's plans for marking the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations.

The Annual Parish Meeting gives everyone in the village an opportunity to question the work of the Parish Council and raise any matter that concerns you. It is a very special occasion in these days of more and more distant and unknown elected representatives. People in Tunbridge Wells town, for instance, do not have this opportunity and we hope therefore you will come and talk about our village.

c o n t e n t s

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| Pembury 2000 | 6/7 | <u>Editor</u> : D. Hawes Richards | |
| | | 54 Hastings Road. | |

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vacancy filled (again)

Yet another vacancy occurred on the Council at the end of last year due to the resignation for business reasons of Mr. Colin Holman.

As a result of the subsequent advertisement MR. BRIAN DELVES 34 Heskett Park, Tel. 3299, was elected to the Council.

MR. BALLANTINE has taken Mr. Holman's position as Vice Chairman of the Liaison Committee.

"ARE YOU FREE....?"

The Parish Council has to accept that from time to time resignations will occur during the normal span between formal elections.

These vacancies could be filled, if there is more than one applicant, by a village by-election. However, this would cost several hundred pounds each time and as there has already been 3 in less than 12 months so far, the Parish could have expended well over £1,000 by the time of the next full election in May 1979. Obviously expenditure of this kind should be avoided if possible. So far the vacancies have been filled by votes of the existing Council. But improvements are always being looked for, and

the Council would like to think that every parishioner knew of a vacancy.

Unfortunately this is not the case as the advertisement appears only in the Courier and on our notice boards.

In future it is hoped to use the newsletter as a means of reaching all residents and telling them of a vacancy.

For the moment the Clerk to the Council, Henry Plant, would like to know of anyone who would like to be considered, so that their name can be recorded for future contact. Pembury will welcome with open arms anyone who feels they can help to make our village a proper community again.

in the news !!

Or more correctly, in the Kent Messenger.

At the end of last year the Messenger added a village correspondent for Pembury to its existing team of reporters. She is Mrs. Hazel Hawes Richards of 54 Hastings Road and she will be looking forward to receiving news from villagers to put in her weekly column.

Mr. Paul Faithful continues his coverage of our news for the rival paper - The Courier.

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SPORTING TIE-UP

Efforts have been made over the past few months by the Parish Council to involve the sports clubs of the village in an agreed programme of development. At the end of January a small step was made in this direction when 6 Parish Councillors met representatives of the Bowls, Tennis, Cricket, Football and Netball clubs.

These meetings will be held every 3 months and to keep more frequent contact a representative of the sports clubs has been co-opted onto the Councils Amenities Committee. John Goulder joined the Committee at its January meeting and the village can only benefit from this change.

"Anyone for table-tennis?"

The Parish Council would like to find out if there are enough villagers interested in playing table-tennis to make it worthwhile providing tables. If you would like to play please talk to Henry Plant, 16 The Coppice. Tel: 3459. An offer to coach youngsters has already been made. Has anyone a table they would like to pass on to the Council?



It is hoped to start a programme of improvement to our Conservation Area to mark this anniversary of the Queen's accession to the Throne.

The Parish Council have hired a colour film on street improvement schemes to show at the Annual Parish Meeting on March 16th. They have invited all property owners in the Conservation area to see the film and hear the tentative proposals. It is hoped that after this meeting a joint action group can be formed of house and business owners and Borough and Parish Council representatives to work out a firm plan of action for the coming months.

The official day will be marked by the planting of trees on the Village Green to enclose a seat donated by the 1976 Fete Committee.



PEMBURY

PEMBURY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The last public meeting was held in October 1976 and a report on progress was made, and the need for further helpers was made clear to the village. At the meeting of the Council which was held on January 25th it was agreed unanimously by all the members of the Council that as they had been unsuccessful in generating the necessary enthusiasm within the village that it was their duty to resign. The resignations are tendered not because the Council no longer believes in the need for a Community Centre or that one will be built, but because the Association needs new helpers, new ideas, a new approach and new members. The Council agreed that the resignations would be tendered at a public meeting. The Association is NOT being dissolved as the retiring members of the Council believe that a Community Centre will be built.

The retiring members are: Dr. Loden (Chairman) Mr. George Sturgeon, Mr. Betts, Mr. Nankivell, Mr. Woods, Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. Delves, Mr. Goulder and the representative of the Parish Council. The secretary Mrs. Clarke has also tendered her resignation.

Gifts have already been made to the Community Association and Covenants have been signed. The land is available, the planning situation is in order and the drains have been laid. Within the last 12 months the entire project has become a reality. The village has said that it wants a Community Centre, present facilities are over-stretched and there is a need for new accommodation for leisure and sporting activities.

The resignations are to be accepted at a Public Meeting to be held at the Village Hall, High Street, on Monday the 7th March, 1977 on which date nominations for the new Council will be accepted.

BY 2000



community Centre

OPEN LETTER

It is now nearly six years since it was decided to build a Community Centre in our village. Many meetings have been held and many words spoken in that time and there is still no Community Centre.

The Council and I have therefore decided that the time has arrived to make way for new blood and a fresh approach. It is our intention to resign and the resignations will take effect at a public meeting.

I hope that all those who have the interests of the village and its future at heart will ensure that a new team is elected and that the Centre which will form the heart of community life will be swiftly completed.

A. Loden

Chairman of the Community Association Council

Pauline & Peter Mills

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let's have a committee

The English seem to glory in setting up a committee, this usually means nothing will get done. Hiding behind the umbrella of collective responsibility is much easier for an individual than backing his or her personal judgement come hell or high water.

Nowhere is this more true than in the present grey area of Parish and Borough co-operation. In Pembury we are part of a Parish Joint Advisory Committee, a Parish Council Chairmans Committee and a Tunbridge Wells Area Committee of the Kent Association of Parish Councils.

The reader would be quite right to ask at this point - what on earth has all this to do with me? And the answer at the moment in all honesty must be - very little.

The principle of Borough/Parish collaboration in a widely flung Council area like ours is obviously right. We need to look no further than the future programme of construction on the A21, or the proposal to route a giant electricity pylon line over our heads to realise that there must be continuous contact between Town and Country.

The practice however seems fraught with every possible pitfall. The Parish Joint Advisory Committee has been in trouble over who should represent the Borough Council viewpoint on it, and whether Council Officials and elected Councillors should be involved. Should the Press be present? Should minutes be taken? Where should it meet?

Out of this exasperation was born an informal Parish Chairmans Committee to discuss matters of common interest to the rural areas

Through all this activity, some of it sudden, some painfully slow, the Area Committee of the Kent Association of Parish Councils has continued to rumble on its quiet way.

Somehow out of all this has to come a real understanding of each others problems and a proper joining together of Town and Country.

The situation is not helped by the very name itself of our District Council. Walking down Cranbrook High Street reminds one of nothing at all to do with Tunbridge Wells Council. It does not feel part of it, anymore than many other parts of the "Borough" do, and it is the result of this shot-gun marriage that is now bringing a flood of joint bodies onto the Parish scene.

A. F. BRUCE

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Sunhill Court wins prize

One of our very few attractive modern buildings has received recognition by the Department of the Environment.

Sunhill Court has been HIGHLY COMMENDED in the "Awards for Good Design in Housing" for 1976 given by the Department.

Architects were Henry Osborne Associates, and the complex of flats and common rooms were built by John Jarvis Ltd., both of Tunbridge Wells.

Sunhill Place, next door, has been included by the Borough Council in our newly created Conservation Area, and it is hoped to start work on the flats on the other side in the spring.

These new flats have been designed by the same architects to harmonize with Sunhill Court and the Parish Council are hoping to reach agreement with the Housing Association to enable this part of the High Street pavement to be widened.

for your diary

- MAR 16 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - V. Hall 8p.m.
18 By Pass Campaign Fund Raising Party V. Hall 8p.m.
(Tickets Tel.2779)
19 Pembury Ladies Lifeboat Guild - Disco - RC Hall 8p.m.
28 Pembury Society - Spring Meeting - V. Hall 8p.m.
- APR 1 Evening WI - "Bewl Bridge Reservoir" talk by
Water Authority V. Hall 7.45p.m.
3 Pembury Society - Footpaths Walk - Bo-Peep 2.15p.m.
4 Parish Council - Dower House - 8p.m.
12 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 3 - 5 p.m.
18 Darby & Joan Club - Bring & Buy Coffee Morning 10a.m.
18 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
23 Evening WI - St. George's Day Barn Dance -V.Hall
26 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5p.m.
28 Hort. Soc. - "Our Village" Miss M. Standen -V.Hall 8p.m.
- MAY 2 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
6 Evening WI - Resolutions for NFWI AGM - Mrs. J. Capewell
7 Pembury Soc. - F/paths Walk - Stonecourt Bus Stop 2.15p.m.
9 Hort. Soc. - "Floral Art" - V.Hall 8p.m.
10 Darby & Joan Club - Spring outing to NORTHIAM - tea out
16 Parish Council - ANNUAL MEETING - Dower House 8p.m.
18 Outgrown Childrens Wear Sale -V.Hall 10.30 - 12noon
20 Evening WI - Silver Jubilee Barn Dance, St. Marks Hall,
Birling Road, T/Wells.
21 Hort. Soc. - Plant Sale - Woodside Rd. Allotments 2p.m.
24 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5p.m.
26 Hort. Soc. - "Gardens of the Past" - Mr. G.Fry V.Hall 8pm
30 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
- JUNE 3 Evening WI - Fashion Show - V.Hall 7.45p.m.
5 Pembury Society - F/paths Walk - Camden Hotel 2.15p.m.
7 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5p.m. CANCELLED
13 Hort. Soc. - "Floral Art" - V.Hall 8p.m.
13 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
21 Darby & Joan Club - RC Hall 2 - 5p.m. Queen's Jubilee tea
& Old Tyme Music Hall
25 Hort. Soc. - Annual Summer Show - Open to public at 4p.m.
Village Hall
27 Darby & Joan Club - Summer outing to BRIGHTON
- Every Friday - W.I. Market - V.Hall 10.30 - 11.30a.m.
Every Monday - Pembury Old Tyme Dance Club - RC Hall -
7.45 - 10.15p.m. (20p Members 25p Non-Members)