

Covering Pebworth and surrounding districts

Pebworth Piper



February 2024



**Pebworth's
Got
Talent**

**Pebworth In Bloom
Talk Details**

100 Club

Rural Cinema



Welcome!



Rural cinema returns this month, and there is also a Pebworth In Bloom Conservation Talk on 'How to be a bad bird watcher', plus the usual Coffee on the Close and the other group activities that take place in the village hall.

Included in this month's edition are details of the Pebworth's Got Talent competition. We know there are plenty of talented people in Pebworth so we look forward to a hotly-contested competition!

Don't forget, if you are a local business or activity group (based in the parish) and would like to be featured in the Piper, please get in touch. Likewise, if you have a quirky collection or hobby that you'd like to share, we'd love to hear about it.

Best wishes

Karen

Happy reading!

Please contact the editors with any contributions, photographs, news and announcements for the **February Piper** on or before **20th February**.

Karen Pearson at kpearson@active-research.co.uk 2 Wesley Gardens or 07887 613301

Diana Beaumont at dianabeaumont@btinternet.com Meon House, Friday Street.



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VALE & COTSWOLD EDGE

The Parishes of Aston Sub
Edge, Dorsington,
Honeybourne, Pebworth,
Weston sub Edge and
Willersey with Saintbury

 VALE & COTSWOLD EDGE	Church Services - February			
	Pebworth	Dorsington	Honeybourne	Willersey
4th February Second Sunday before Lent			9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)
11th February Sunday next before Lent	11.00 am Holy Communion (Modern language)		11.00 am Morning Praise	9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)
14th February Ash Wednesday	6.30 pm Benefice Ash Wednesday Service at Aston sub Edge			
18th February Lent 1			11.00 am Holy Communion (Modern language)	11.00 am All Age Service
25th February Lent 2	11.00 am Family Service			10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)
3rd March Lent 3			9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)





Pebworth Rural Cinema

Friday 24th February



Tickets £5.00 each and £2.50 12 and under

Drinks from 7.15pm | Film 8pm | Delicious food available
before the movie and ice cream during the interval

PEBWORTH'S GOT TALENT !

Sat 9th March 7pm

★ TALENT SHOW

SINGING, ACTING, PLAYING THE SPOONS, RECITAL, MAGICIAN, POETRY, JOKES, DANCING, FLOWER ARRANGING, STORY TELLING, CARRYING EGGS... 😊 WHAT CAN YOU DO ? 😊



Pebworth Village Hall on Saturday 9th March 2024. 7pm start.
Ticket Prices Adults £3. Children £1. Under 5 's free.

Register your interest here or pm for a spot!

We need about 12 -15 acts 😊 Can be a song, small simple recitals, a poem, or full musical acts! Anything and everything goes. Proceeds to the village Hall. Voting will be democratic via table votes. 😊 Children and adult category for those that want to take part in the voting or acts can just perform as in a fun easy going variety show. Bar will be open from 7pm. 😊 Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult.

PEBWORTH *Party* IN THE PARK

Sunday 1st September
12-5pm



It's back! With all your favourite features!

- Red Barrows ● Dog Show ● Kid's Races ● Cow Pat Bingo
- Giant Sack Race ● Dance Displays ● Produce Show
- Classic Cars ● Tug Of War ● Egg Splat

If you are able to volunteer to help at this spectacular village event, please contact Oz Jordan on 07540 291949 or email

ozjordan@msn.com



**Pebworth in Bloom invites you to the
Annual Conservation Talk**

**“How to be a
Bad Birdwatcher”**

**Bob Topp will share his love and
knowledge of garden birds.**



**Sunday 18th February 3pm
Pebworth Village Hall .**

£5 (children free)

**includes fabulous Worcestershire cream
tea and Snatch and Grab Raffle**

Coffee on the Close

Mary's Room,

Pebworth Village Hall

1pm - 3pm



February	7th	21st
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Free Squash for the Children & Activities during the holidays!

Prices are:

Mug of Tea or Coffee - £1.00

Refill - 50p

Unlimited Biscuits!

Homemade Soup & Roll during winter

£2.00

This event is Cash only

For more information contact Jodi: 07944933001

PEBWORTH'S GOT TALENT!

It's on it's way! Pebworth's Got Talent: An evening of variety performance and a relaxed wonderful family event to kick start Spring!

SATURDAY 9th MARCH starting at 7.30. (Doors open 7pm)

Tickets are on sale now at the very reasonable price of £3 for adults and £1 for children. Under 5's are free. (Under 16's need to be accompanied by an adult)

All proceeds are going to Pebworth Village Hall Performance Fund for a stage and for lighting. There will be a bar providing drinks and snacks, and the team will be on hand to make the evening flow smoothly.

We are encouraging all local talent and all ages to try something, anything.... a bit of fun to bring in Spring! The Children's Section will be in the first half, and the Adults' Section after the interval.



Cygnets Ballet Group



Gary Knights
Magician

We are seeking **poets, singers, spoken word, guitarists, instrumentalists, actors, magicians, dancers** or anyone with any other talent, no matter how quirky. **All ages** are invited to take part.

We already have interest from a dance troupe, some singers and instrumentalists, and we hope to have something from our lovely Pebworth First School. The judges will be there (for guidance and a bit of fun) but the winners of both the Children's and Adults' Sections will be decided by audience vote.



Louise Weldon
Singer/Actor

If you would like to enter to showcase your talent, please contact Debbie at debbiesings@hotmail.com or text her on 07742926227.

We will be needing a few helpers on the evening so, if you'd be willing to lend a hand, please contact Jane Cromack (jvcromack@aol.com).

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://pebworth-collective.square.site/> or by email from Jane Cromack (jvcromack@aol.com).

Meet our Policing Team



West Mercia
POLICE

Tuesday 27th February

10:00 - 11:00am

Langate Fields, Meon Way Gardens

Just pop and say hello or use it as an opportunity to raise concerns and find out what they're doing to tackle issues in our area.

If you cant make this event, there will be more in the future

You can also sign up to Neighbourhood matters to be kept up to date with information from West Mercia Police:

www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Email: eveshamrn.snt@westmercia.police.uk



A VILLAGE ALMANAC

By Charlotte Foskett

*'If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,
The half of winter is to come,
And more.
If Candlemas Day be wet and foul,
The half of winter is gone
At Yule!'*

The month has many dates that herald the stirrings of Spring or the beginnings of a New Year in the Far East!

- ✧ **February 1st** : In the Christian Calendar this is St Brigid's Day.
- ✧ **February 2nd** : Candlemas Day in the Christian Calendar or in the old Celtic Calendar, it is the feast of Imbolc. This is when Spring returns and the maiden earth awakens once more.
- ✧ **February 10th** : Chinese New Year. The year of the Green Wooden Dragon 🐲. It is a symbol of happiness.
- ✧ **February 13th** : Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day.
- ✧ **February 14**: Ash Wednesday. Lent Begins. And St Valentine's Day!!

February is the month of the pure, white milky snowdrops. The old country names for these beautiful first flowers of the new year are so whimsical. They have been known as Mary's Tapers, Candlemas Bells and February's Fair Maidens.



Moon Phases

New Moon : February 9th

Full Moon, known as the Snow Moon (traditionally this is the month for the most snowfall): 24th February.

Gardening Lore

Plant Rhubarb crowns.

Prune Autumn Cropping Raspberry bushes, Gooseberry bushes and Currant bushes. Prune Apple, Pear, Quince and Medlar trees. At the end of February if the ground is not frozen plant Broad Bean seeds into the earth and cover with cloches.



And finally it's **National Nest Box Week** from the 14th to 21st February. This is really the last time to get nest boxes up before nesting really begins.

Coffee and Chat

THE PAVILION



CAFÉ &
COMMUNITY SPACE

Registered charity number: 1196371

A friendly place to meet
other parents and babies!



At
The Pavilions,
Meon Vale,
CV37 8WB starting
5th Dec

**HOME
START**

South

Warwickshire

Term-time, Tuesdays 10.30am - 12noon
For more information, please contact Gemma
Proctor on 07783 427145 or
gemma@homestartsouthwarwickshire.org.uk

Do you have any unwanted Christmas presents?

If you do, please consider donating them to Pebworth
Party In The Park

As before, we will be running our Mega
Hamper Raffle and our ever-popular
Tombola stall.

So, if you have any food items (with long
shelf life), beauty products, toys, games or
any other good quality, unused items, we
would be very pleased to receive them.

If you are able to help, please contact Karen Pearson
on 07887 613301 or Jane Cromack on 07977 071233
or email KPearson@active-research.co.uk or
jvcromack@aol.com



PEBWORTH
Party
IN THE PARK

PEBWORTH
Party
IN THE PARK

Youth & Ambition

Episode Two

Eva was hungry, Earnest could see that. Her eyes: discs of summer blue set in a lake of snow absorbed him. Her face was soft, furred as a peach, touched with the reddening of stirring interest. Her expression was mild, musing, moulding - she floated his soul into the cosmos. Her perceptors took in his admiration. All females feel good when admired. In Eva's case, his expression pattern matched those at the warm end of the face-base. She registered his fixed grin as utter ecstasy. She linked back to the computers in the Control Centre in the shop. What to do with Spotty? Meanwhile, the pre-training routines clicked into action.

'Hello' What else would a fem-bot say? She was a romanta-bot, specially geared to provide love to the lonely. Earnest still had not moved. Eva raised a hand in a slow careful gesture to cup his chin. It would stop him from falling over, Despite her mechanical finger joints, it was gloved in a smooth, flexible material that would excite the touch neurons in his head. She touched. He expelled air. As intended it had shot hormones around inside his cranium. His hair stood at the roots. She pursed her lips and leaned forward to touch his forehead with hers. He embraced her, as closely as was possible, and wondered how to pay for her. She was supposed to be an earner - to enhance his entrepreneurial reputation that is. It came to him that he should walk the village with her. Especially, he had to pass the school where the haughty girls giggled together - discussing hunks no doubt. He had seen teenage girls determinedly walking dogs that they did not like, but several times in the same evening.

He and she stepped out. His hand holding hers, so that he could steady himself despite the delirium spinning in his head.

They passed the school - the haughty girls stopped chattering and gaped. He smiled, nodded, and mouthed the word: drabs. They looked, scowled at the fem-bot and reasoned that Earnest was a man of substance. Their assessments of him upgraded instantly. Some even called his name, nicely.

Now was the opportunity to sell their father's boxes of worms. He asked Eva to help breed the worms - she could scoop handfuls of the cold orange slithery specimens into used chip boxes with dispatch.



He and she went to the girls' houses with the worms and offered them for sale to their fathers. Their fathers, upon seeing Eva in her feminine glory felt strongly that they needed a daily dose of worms. They had to be brought to their doors by Eva. Earnest felt important and counted the money. He and Eva could be rich, when he had paid off the mortgage, and got his bike back.

Eva soon expanded the business and took the boxes of worms to the fathers and the father's friends by herself while Earnest counted the money. What is more, Eva could cook his supper after each day selling worms. She specialised in spaghetti smothered orange sauce.

Charles

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What's On In The Community At Meon Vale

Mon	10am: Badminton – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3 2pm: Pickleball – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £5 – (Graeme.smith30@btinternet.com) 4.30pm: Meon Vale Football (Ages 4-11) – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £5
Tue	10am: Walking Football – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3 10am – 11am: Stratford Food Bank – Meon Vale Leisure Centre Car Park (Referral Needed) 10:30: Mother & Babies in arms – Pavilion Coffee Shop (Contact Gemma 07783427145) 11:30: Bat & Chat – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3
Wed	10am: Bat & Chat – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3 2pm: Pickleball – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £5 - (Graeme.smith30@btinternet.com)
Thu	11am: Parkinsons HIIT - £8, Carers free – Pre Book (Contact Emma 07715884255) 12pm: Walking Football – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3
Fri	10am: Badminton – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £3 10am – 12pm: GCSE English – Pavilion Coffee Shop (Katrina.griffin-jones@solihull.ac.uk) 1pm – 3pm: GCSE Maths – Pavilion Coffee Shop (Katrina.griffin-jones@solihull.ac.uk) 1:30pm – Pickleball – Meon Vale Leisure Centre - £5 (Graeme.smith30@btinternet.com)
Sat	10am: Meon Eco Group – 3 rd Saturday of the month – Meet at the Pavilion

Stratford-upon-Avon
FOODBANK
DISTRIBUTION
POINT AT
Meon Vale
(beside Londis in car park)
Every Tuesday
Food hour from 10am-11am
3 Bailey Avenue
Meon Vale
CV37 8YE

Food Provided by
Stratford-upon-Avon foodbank

You need to come with your food voucher to access your food parcel

For more information:
info@stratforduponavon.foodbank.org.uk
07736929029

For more information on classes running at Meon Vale Leisure Centre contact:

reception@meonvaleleisure.co.uk

For more information on events running at The Pavilion Coffee Shop Contact:

steph@meonpavilion.co.uk

Foodbank

Please note that anybody with a food voucher can come and collect a parcel from Meon Vale (This includes families in Pebworth Village)

The Residents Association are holding their general meeting in Meon Vale Community centre (formally the Village Hall, behind Londis) in late February. Details to follow on Social media & noticeboards.

After the hectic festivities of the Christmas season it was good to relax at our first meeting of 2024 on January 10th. Penny Varley, a potter from Tysoe was a delightfully, engaging speaker, telling us of her career from the civil service to pottery night school classes to eventually a job she clearly enjoys enormously. Her display of jugs, mugs, platters and garden ornaments even jewellery such as pendants and earrings were passed round – thank goodness no-one dropped anything! There was a chance to buy favourites later after the meeting closed and while members enjoyed the delicious tea.



Members also had the chance to select a resolution to be discussed at the National Federation of WIs annual meeting in June at the Albert Hall. If a resolution is passed then it becomes the basis for a national campaign. This year our members chose Dental Health Matters and will urge the powers that be to ensure that everyone has access to an NHS dentist. Coming a close 2nd was the need to remedy the appalling housing conditions that far too many have to live in.

If you feel tempted to find out more about our WI this year, please contact our president Jenny McLeish (jenny.mcl@tiscali.co.uk) or go to www.pebworth.org for the year's programme. Guests are welcome for £4 which includes refreshments.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Wed 7th February. We will be learning more about the Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes, and we're expecting a man in black leathers to roar up on his motorbike.





Evesham Volunteer Centre – Community Car Scheme

Evesham Volunteer Centre provide an essential service benefitting predominantly elderly and disabled people who have no means of transport or cannot access public transport. We cover hospital, doctor, dental and social appointments. Our volunteer drivers will pick up clients in their own car, take you to your appointment, wait and bring you home. A sliding fare scale is applicable for all journeys and a cost can be given when you enquire.

If you require our service, please call 01386 45035 weekdays from 9:30am till 1:00pm.

We are always welcoming new volunteers!

Wednesday Volunteer Required: 9:30am till 1:00pm working on the transport desk answering calls and matching clients up with a volunteer driver.

Volunteer drivers use their own car to transport clients to and from their appointments and will get 45p a mile which is paid monthly to cover expenses. As a volunteer driver you can provide companionship to passengers who may be socially isolated and make new friends by being part of our team.

For more information please contact Helen on co@eveshamvolunteers.org.uk or call 01386 45035

Move over Bill Shakespeare



Publishing needs new ink

Creative Writing Class

Meet your own People

Thursday mornings 10:30

@ £90.00 per 10 w term

Methodist Hall

Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6BG,
connie.bott@mac.com Published Author



Stratford Blinds

We come to you
for all types of made to
measure blinds

**Call 01789 576026
for an appointment**



Despite overflowing rivers, streams, ditches, despite sodden gardens, despite endless rain at the beginning of the month, the first leaves of bulbs are starting to emerge.



And despite all the wet, the cold, the disappearance of cheerful Christmas decorations and lights, a goodly crowd emerged for the annual wassail on January 7th. We squelched across the recreation field towards the welcoming warmth of the

firepit, banging saucepan lids, blowing and shaking a variety of instruments and commiserating with Ken who had managed to fall over into the mud! The orchard trees were blessed with toast, smoke, song and cider so there's no need to worry about them in 2024!



It is hard to imagine Pebworth without trees – we are used now to the birch trees at the memorial area, the native trees of the Queen's canopy, the fruit trees at the allotments all of which PIB has added to the village landscape – but what a terrible shock for everyone in the early 1970s when the huge mature elm trees here had to be felled. Mags Phillips sent us this reminder of the response :

"Plant a tree in '73, plant some more in '74. The elm tree was nicknamed the weed of Warwickshire, but in the early 1970s it was

devastated by Dutch Elm Disease. We lost them all. We lived in Pebworth at this time so my late husband Nigel Phillips and John Forsyth, who lived in Broad Marston, gathered a team of great willing helpers and decided to replant scores of trees. These are everywhere in the parish and are now wonderful mature 50 year old specimens! Most special to me are the ones round the Close, especially the London planes, the ones at the top of the village (leading to Little Meadows) and so many along the parish boundary, especially near Dorsington." Thank you Mags.

The answer to the question "When is the best time to plant a tree?" is "20 years ago".

And another question we hope you can help us answer is "Which birds are thriving in Pebworth?". So far we have installed 16 bird boxes, 9 more specifically to encourage swifts and 3 for owls. The annual Bird Watch survey is taking place from 26th to 28th January – record the species and number of birds you see in one hour and, as well as sharing your results with the RSPB, please can you send them to Yvonne via email (ken.w.wood@btinternet.com). Last year goldfinches were the top of Pebworth's list.

Birds are on our mind too for our annual Conservation Talk at Pebworth Village Hall. Please put **Sunday 18th February 3pm** in your diaries. The title "How to be a Bad birdwatcher " is intriguing, isn't it ? Come along to find out more and enjoy a Worcestershire cream tea for £5. Children free. There will also be a Snatch and Grab raffle – sounds even more intriguing !



Pebworth Village Hall News



2024 planning is now well underway and Hall bookings, weekends dates in particular, are going fast so if you have a date in mind please get it booked in so as not to be disappointed. And make those New Year Resolutions easier by joining one or more of the great groups running during the week – the timetable is shown in the Piper and on the Village Hall noticeboard.



It is also at the beginning of the year that those of you signed up to our **100 Club** scheme will have your £12 standing orders taken. For those newer to the Village the **100 Club** is our longstanding fundraising scheme where you buy a number with your yearly £12 a year payment and the number is entered into a monthly draw for cash prizes. You will see the draw results published in the Piper. If you might be interested in joining the club, please drop Jane Cromack an email (at jvcromack@aol.com) and we can get your number added to the monthly draw pot.

Thank you to those who responded to our request to sign up to the **Easyfundraising** site – we had a really good response and your online shopping has been raising funds to help with the running of the Village Hall. For any of you regular online shoppers who missed the information please read on as the information is repeated below. As with the 100 Club the income we receive helps balance the books between our running costs and rental income which enables us to hold hire charges to as low as is possible.

Please consider making a donation to Pebworth Village Hall with your online purchases. It's going to cost nothing extra for you to make a donation, but over 8,000 retailers will give back to organisations with every purchase you make. Retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Curry's, M&S, Boots & Argos just to name a few.

Simply head to easyfundraising.org.uk to sign up, selecting Pebworth Village Hall as the organisation you wish to support. Apple and Android users can also download the App - easyfundraising.org.uk

Thanks again to everyone for the support from
Pebworth Village Hall Management Committee



Pebworth Village Hall Weekly Groups

Jane Cromack

Sunday			
Monday			First Monday MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL 7pm
Tuesday	BRIDGE CLASSES 2pm with Juanita 07856 565639 www.strengthandbalance.co.uk	CHESS CLUB 6.30pm pebworthchess@gmail.com	MONTHLY SEWING GROUP 1pm SOUND BATH 7pm www.reikibydan.co.uk
Wednesday	HATHA YOGA 10am with Nikki Coope nikki.coope58@gmail.com	' MOVE IT OR LOSE IT ' EXERCISE CLASS 12.30pm with Krys Cave www.kryscavefitness.com	First Wednesday MONTHLY W.I. 7pm
Thursday	PILATES 9.30am with Nicki McGinn 07798 641593	SHORT MAT BOWLS 2pm	
Friday	HATHA YOGA 10am with Nikki Coope nikki.coope58@gmail.com		Last Friday MONTHLY RURAL CINEMA 7.15pm

For more information please contact Jane Cromack on 01789 720319
and look at the advertising notices on the various Village noticeboards,
Facebook and www.pebworth.org
or just go along on the day and say hello!

The Noticeboard

Mobile Library



Friday 23rd February

School Road layby	11:15-11.30 am
Broad Marston Road	11:35-11.50 am



FEBRUARY 27TH

SOUND BATH

EXPERIENCE

Valentine's Serenade

Indulge in a unique and soul-soothing experience this February with our enchanting event, "Valentine's Serenade". While the name may evoke thoughts of romance, this immersive sonic journey is designed for everyone, irrespective of relationship status! Escape the hustle and bustle of daily life and treat yourself to a rejuvenating session of sound healing. Let the harmonious vibrations guide you into a state of deep relaxation and inner peace. Let us weave a tapestry of sound using various instruments, creating an atmosphere that resonates with tranquillity and positivity. Embrace the opportunity to nurture self-love and well-being in the spirit of Valentine's month. Join us for an extraordinary sonic experience that transcends the conventional, promising a serenade for the soul that goes beyond the boundaries of romantic affiliations.

BOOK ONLINE AT [HTTPS://HIGH-VIBRATIONS.CO.UK](https://high-vibrations.co.uk)



PEBWOTH
VILLAGE HALL

18:45 – 20:00



BOOK ONLINE AT:

[HTTPS://HIGH-
VIBRATIONS.CO.UK](https://high-vibrations.co.uk)



[INFO@HIGH-
VIBRATIONS.CO.UK](mailto:info@high-vibrations.co.uk)

07944 866559

JOIN US!

The Home Upgrade Grant is ready!



Government funding is now available for free energy improvements to make homes warmer and reduce energy bills for eligible households in Worcestershire.

If your annual household income is £31,000 or less and you are not connected to mains gas for heating, then you could be eligible.

Improving Energy Efficiency in your home

Scan QR Code for more information



You may be eligible for the Home Upgrade Grant if you meet all the following criteria:

- Your property is not connected to the mains gas network for heating
- Your household income is £31,000 or less or live in a defined low income Government postcode
- Pay council tax to one of the following: Bromsgrove District or Redditch Borough Council, Malvern Hills District Council, or Wychavon District Council
- You own the home you live in or are a tenant in the private rented sector*
- Your home has an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating D or below. You can check online at www.epcregister.com**

* Funding is available for private rental landlords with 4 or less properties. NB a financial contribution of at least 33% is required. Contact Act on Energy for full eligibility criteria.

**If you are eligible, we will provide you with a free EPC assessment

For more information or to register:

Website*: www.warmerworcestershire.com

Call: 0800 988 2881

Email: advice@actonenergy.org.uk



If you qualify for the scheme, your property will undergo a free technical survey to see which measures would improve its energy efficiency the most.

Priority measures may include:



Wall insulation



Loft insulation



Cavity wall insulation



Air source heat pumps



Hot water cylinder insulation & thermostat



Heating control upgrades



Solar PV



Draft proofing

Secondary measures may include: Low energy lighting, Underfloor insulation, Double glazing and External doors.

Home Upgrade Grant phase 2 (HUG2)

What is HUG2?

The Government-funded scheme is designed to improve the comfort and energy efficiency of lower income homes that are not connected to mains gas for central heating (off gas) and have an EPC rating of D or below.

Worcestershire County Council is working in partnership with Redditch Borough and Bromsgrove, Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils to deliver this project. The project will end in March 2025.

Worcester City Council and Wyre Forest District Council are administering their own HUG2 scheme and information can be found on their websites.

Who is Eligible?

Homeowners and private tenants may be eligible if they meet the following criteria:

- Have a household income of £31,000 or less, or the property is located in a government defined low-income postcode.
- Have an EPC rating of a D or below – for homes that do not have a current/valid EPC certificate, an assessment can be funded if they meet all other criteria,
- The property doesn't have mains gas central heating,
- Pay council tax to Redditch Borough, or Bromsgrove, Malvern Hill or Wychavon District Councils. Those who are exempt will be asked to provide other evidence to satisfy they have an eligible postcode.

Landlords may also be eligible if they own less than 4 properties but will be asked to contribute at least one third of the total cost of the measures installed. The tenant must also meet the above Low-income criteria.

Installations may be subject to permission being granted. This may include planning permission or listed building consent.

How are we promoting this scheme?

We have been looking at low income and EPC data

to identify some potentially eligible properties. These will receive direct communication about the scheme.

A wider marketing campaign will help us to reach other households along with working with community partners including parish councils, charities and community groups and collaborating with existing cost of living support schemes.

What types of measures can be considered?

The project has a 'fabric first' approach which prioritises insulation and may require improved ventilation to meet installation quality standards (PAS2035/PAS2030).

The funding prioritises certain energy efficiency measures including:

External/internal wall insulation
Loft insulation/room in roof insulation
Cavity wall insulation
Air source heat pumps
Hot water cylinder insulation and thermostat
Digital/smart heating controls

Other measures may be recommended such as: solar PV; low energy lighting; underfloor insulation; double glazing; night storage heaters; high temperature heat pumps; solar thermal, direct electric heaters, high retention storage heaters.

All measures are subject to a government value-for-money assessment and available funds.

An eligible home will need a survey to determine the most suitable energy efficiency measures.

All works and services carried out will be undertaken in compliance with the latest versions of PAS 2030 and PAS 2035, TrustMark and the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS), where applicable. All contractors will be appointed for the delivery of the project.

To apply, residents are to contact their local energy charity, Act on Energy 0800 988 2881 For more information visit

www.warmerworcestershire.com

On-call firefighters required for Pebworth Fire Station

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) is looking for more on-call firefighters to cover Pebworth Fire Station.

Anyone interested in the paid role must be aged over 18, live or work within five minutes of the Stratford Road station and be able to respond to emergency calls whenever needed.

The surrounding area includes a maximum-security prison, high-speed railway lines, recycling centres and other local manufacturing businesses found on the industrial sites.

Pebworth is staffed solely by on-call firefighters who are professionals from a wide range of backgrounds which can prove helpful when responding to incidents.

The station boasts a Dennis Sabre fire engine, which is a first-line attack appliance, carrying a crew of up to six firefighters along with



firefighting and rescue equipment.

The building and facilities are still relatively recent having been built in 2011 to replace the previous structure in Broad Marston Road.

HWFRS is looking to recruit enthusiastic, community-minded applicants from all walks of life for the on-call roles.

The most important qualifications are common sense, compassion, commitment, discretion and teamwork.

Potential firefighters must be available on Tuesday evenings for drill nights which are weekly training sessions at the Pebworth station starting at 7pm.

HWFRS offers a range of contracts where the number of hours and times to be available on-call can vary to suit personal and professional circumstances.

Full training, uniform and personal development are provided alongside many opportunities to gain additional skills and qualifications that will be of use outside the Service.

The Service only asks for an average level of strength and fitness and will provide full support in helping people understand and achieve this.

For more information on joining, visit www.hwfire.org.uk/join-us/retained-firefighter/ or email gflower@hwfire.org.uk.



Pebworth Parish Council

Abridged Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2022.

Edited by **Diana Beaumont**

Full minutes can be found at

<https://www.pebworthparishcouncil.co.uk/community/pebworth-parish-council-20229/parish-council-minutes-2023/>

Next Meeting:

5th February 2024, 7pm at Pebworth Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Richard Weller, James Pearson, Simon Shiers, Samantha Parkins & Jodi Cotton

In attendance: District Councillor Judith Ciotto and Mrs D Bowles (Clerk)

Also in attendance: 3 members of the public.

Apologies Considered for Absence:

Cllr David Cranage – approved

Open Forum: The Chairman suspended the formal meeting for the Ward Members and public participation.

- Queries were raised regarding flooding on Friday Street and grip clearance works, particularly along Honeybourne Rd outside Wesley Gardens. Cllr Weller advised that the Cllr Cranage is looking into various issues around flooding.
- a) County Councillor Adams sent his apologies and provided a report which is appended to the minutes.
- b) District Councillor Ciotti advised that –
 - Expressions of Interest for the fifth round of Community Legacy Grant are open until 20th February 2024.
 - West Mercia PCC - Safer Roads Grant Round 2 opened on 11th December, deadline for any clarification questions is 25th January and the closing date is noon on 2nd February. Clerk confirmed this information had been forwarded out via the E-News system.

The Chairman closed the open forum and reconvened the meeting at 19:05

Planning Matters:

- a) **W/23/02296/FUL** - Removal of existing agricultural buildings and replacement with a 2 bedroom dormer bungalow and garaging at Meadowbank Farm Dorsington Road Dorsington Pebworth Stratford Upon Avon CV37 8XB. Following the December Parish Council meeting the following comments were made :
- The development is outside the SWDP2 Development Boundary.
 - It is adjacent to the Pebworth Conservation Area.
 - As this will be the first dwelling that would be seen on entering the village from the north from the direction of Dorsington Village please ensure compliance with the Design Code (P3 page 33) of Pebworth Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Decisions:

- b) **W/23/01487/HP** Proposal: Extension and renovation to existing property. Location: Far View, Back Lane, Pebworth, Stratford Upon Avon, CV37 8XA. **Application Approved.**
- c) **W/23/02224/HP** Erection of single-storey rear extension, conversion of garage to ancillary accommodation, replacement windows and other external alterations. Location: The Old Barn, Back Lane, Pebworth, Stratford Upon Avon, CV37 8XA. **Application Approved.**

Finance:

- a) It was **resolved** to approve the third quarterly bank reconciliation, account balances and income and expenditure budgets. Cllr Cotton initialled.
- b) Council considered the budget and precept recommendations from the finance group and agreed a proposal put by Cllr Weller and seconded by Cllr Pearson that the precept for 24-

25 to be £48,200. The proposal was unanimously agreed; Clerk to inform Wychavon District Council.

- c) Cllr Pearson and Clerk to complete the Reserves Form.

Council & Community Matters:

- a) Members noted the email regarding the National Planning Policy Framework. Clerk to contact Wychavon District Council regarding advice on reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan.

Following County Councillor Adams' report it was **resolved** in principle for the Parish Council to pay for some ditch clearance works at Broad Marston and some flooding alleviation works at Friday St. Permission from landowners to be provided before any work commences.

The Close & Recreation Field

Members noted the canopy lift works have been carried out on the trees at The Close.

Cemetery:

It was **resolved** to grant permission for the pre-purchase of an Exclusive Rights of Burial in the burial ground. As per the rules of the burial ground, permission can be granted where a request is made for a spouse or very close relative to purchase a single grave directly adjacent to a grave for an interment. This request complies with these regulations.

Lengthsman/Handyman Matters:

VAS data was made available following the meeting and is attached to the minutes as Appendix B.

Policy Reviews:

- a) Health & Safety
- b) Complaints Procedure

It was **resolved** to adopt the draft Disciplinary Policy and a Grievance Procedure

Matters Raised by Members: The following matters were raised by Council Members for consideration for future agendas:

- a) Clerk to email Rooftop Housing regarding a property in Elm Close that is possibly causing a health and safety issue.
- b) Quinton Parish Council is arranging regular first aid training; Cllr Cotton to attend this weekend.

Cllr Shiers queried whether the Parish Council would be happy to share costs for new metal railings to be installed along part of the boundary edge of the burial ground to match existing railings. He will obtain quotes and bring back to a future Parish Council meeting.

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 5th February 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Pebworth.

Future dates:

11th Mar, 8th Apr, APM – 22nd Apr, 13th May & ACM, 3rd Jun, 1st Jul, 2nd Sep, 7th Oct, 4th Nov, Budget meeting – 25th Nov, 2nd Dec

Closure of Meeting: The Chairman closed the meeting at 19:40 hrs

You can contact the Parish Council via the clerk at clerk@pebworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Your District Councillors are Judith Ciotto (Judith.ciotti@wychavon.net) and Hannah Robson (hannah.robson@wychavon.net)

County Councillor Report – Pebworth

Month: January 2024

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Dear Residents,

Not a lot to report so far this month. The County Council is still in the middle of Budget setting for 2024/25. It looks like your council tax will be increased by 4.94% (2% ring-fenced for adult social care and 2.94% to deal with all the other services). As mentioned last month there has been a large the increase in pressures from Children and Adult services. For example, the home to school transport has increased by nearly £10m in the last 12 months due to the increase in the number of children with Special Educational Needs, and many of them requiring transport to schools outside of the county. However, as mentioned last month, our investment in roads and pavements will continue at the same high level as previous years to keep them some of the best in the UK.

By next month the budget should be finalised and I can tell you more.

NEW drains under the Honeybourne Bridges. WCC Highways cleaned the debris/mud from the right hand side of the first bridge which was causing pooling of water partly across the road. This will need to be monitored as debris and mud gets washed off the fields onto the road and ultimately ends up in these new drains.

Other updates on flooding – Broad Marston: As mentioned last month, I have asked the Pebworth Parish Council to see if there any monies left from the Cala Homes Flood alleviation maintenance fund (£5000) to help clear the ditch opposite Cotswold View. They have come back and agreed in principle to get this work done and to use the soil to build a bund in the field to stop water flowing onto the road.

Other updates on flooding – Honeybourne: See the drone photographs of the flood plain upstream in Honeybourne before the Gate Pub which held back a huge amount of water - estimated on holding back over 10,000 gallons of water. If this flood plain had not been built in the last 18 months, the pub would



have been flooded.

In places the water was 5ft deep. The tiny figure on the bank in a fluorescent coat is me !

Highways:

There are still some road and footway maintenance in progress in Worcestershire please check

<https://one.network/> to see all the temporary road closures on a regular basis.

- **Sunken road opposite the entrance to Pebworth Nursery.** WCC are going to dig to investigate. Date set for April but they will try and do it sooner. I have added pressure to get it done ASAP because in the recent cold spell the water turned to ice and thus very dangerous – see below



- **Dropped kerbs requested opposite 2, and 3, Chapel Road for mobility scooter.** Order given to proceed and install – no date given yet.
- **I had a meeting in November with Severn Trent and again reminded them about the foul sewer manhole in School Rd and Friday St** which suffer foul water coming up through the manhole when we had the heavy rainfall recently. They have promised to take action. I have chased again, and got a reply saying they are looking into it!
- **Flooding at Chalk Farm , Buckle Street** –Ditch on RHS to be dug out by farmer and new grips dug by WCC
- **Welford Bridge Closed**
 - > Closure:
 - 8th January – 23rd February (Foot & Cycle Access only)
 - 24th February – 24th March (Temporary traffic lights)

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

County Council Divisional Fund

Applications for the Divisional Fund are invited from local community organisations that are manned by volunteers and require a little help to buy equipment or services. To apply, please contact me on adams.pebworth@gmail.com

The following grants have been requested, and some have already been approved & paid

1. Honeybourne Village Hall – grant to help provide a Senior Citizen lunch for the Coronation
2. Honeybourne School – grant to help build a “Growing Hope” garden
3. Honeybourne Bowls Club – grant for a contribution towards a new mat
4. Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust – grant for new tables
5. Pebworth Bells – grant to help improve their Website
6. Freedom Day Centre – grant for a defibrillator
7. Cleeve Prior Art Club – grant for portrait training
8. Coffee Mornings in Pebworth Village Hall – grant requested for soup kettle and hall hire
9. Offenham Cricket club – grant towards an artificial wicket for training
10. Honey Tots Playgroup, Honeybourne – grant requested for some play equipment
11. Badsey Film Club – grant requested for a new projector
12. Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust- grant for laptop
13. Honeybourne Public rights of way volunteer group – grant for a strimmer
14. Vale Landscape Heritage Trust – grant for some tools

Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams, can be contacted on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277 or www.alastairadams.org.



Who are your local Neighbourhood Officers for the ‘Rural North’ area?

Your local Neighbourhood Officers are PC Alex Prentice and PCSO Bradley Sansom. They can be contacted by emailing eveshamrn.snt@westmercia.police.uk.

We are actively involved with social media accounts, please follow them for updates on our work, and local events/news. These are @EveshamCops (Twitter) and @EveshamSNT (Facebook).

What have we been up to?

With regards to speeding complaints, we ask that you direct your speeding concerns to your Parish Council who will direct the issue to our Road Safety Team. Data boxes can then be distributed to areas of concern that will give us an accurate measure of the speed of vehicles. Once this has been collated, the Road Safety Team will be able to address the area of concern and action appropriately.

Your local officers have been working very closely with our local housing associations and meetings are had regularly to share information regarding ongoing cases that are relevant to both partner agencies.

Weekend drop in sessions/engagement sessions are attended throughout the month on the weekends to try and see people that might not be around in the week. If there is something you wish to discuss please feel free to contact the team on the above email address.

We were again invited to a local care home in the area for coffee and cake and have been invited to some further coffee mornings around the Rural North patch. These sessions are a great way for us to engage with people that may struggle to see us normally.

All of the above is sent through Neighbourhood Matters as well as any engagement sessions we run. We are encouraging people to sign up to this service

as it's a great way of finding out what we are up to and where we will be. Please ensure you sign up to this free service.

Take a look at the website for further information:

<https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>



INFO FROM PEBWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Check <https://one.network/> to see all the temporary road closures on a regular basis.

Report it... <https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/report-it>

All under one roof! Wychavon District Council has provided a number of things that can be reported online from the comfort of your own home whether it be flytipping or abandoned vehicles to compliments and complaints.

<p>Council Tax & Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit fraud • Change in circumstances • Moving in or moving out of a property 	<p>Parking and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Pay & Display' Ticket Machine Faults • Highways Defect • Street Light Fault • Appeal against a parking fine/ charge • On street parking • Report a pothole
<p>Homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetlink 	<p>Housing</p> <p>Report an empty home</p>
<p>Environment and animals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discarded needle or syringe • Dog Fouling • Graffiti And Fly Posting • Japanese knotweed • Nuisances (smoke, noise, light, accumulations, dust/odour, insects/flies, bonfires) • Over Grown Shrubbery on pathways (Worcestershire County Council) • Problem with a litter or dog bin • Abandoned Vehicles • Damaged Street Sign • Dead Animal • Fly Tipping • Travellers on public land • Untidy front gardens • 	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report a planning enforcement issue <p>Refuse Collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report a missed bin collection

Pebworth Village Contact List

Role/Organisation	Name	Email Address	Contact Number
Pebworth Piper Editor (Also Pebworth.org and Pebworth Village Facebook Page)	Karen Pearson	kpearson@active-research.co.uk	07887 613301
Village Hall (Enquiries & Bookings)	Jane Cromack	jvcromack@aol.com	01789 720319
St Peter's Church Warden	Elizabeth Spencer	Pebworth.church@gmail.com	01789 720078
Women's Institute	Jenny McLeish	jenny.mcl@tiscali.co.uk	01789 720064
Pebworth In Bloom	Yvonne Wood	ken.w.wood@btinternet.com	01789 720296
Vicar		Currently vacant. Please contact Craig Bishop, Chipping Campden	01386 841927
Church Bell Tower Captain	Neil Garner	Pebworth.bells@gmail.com	
Petrus Editor	Claire Poore	editor@thepetrus.co.uk	01386 832800

If you would like to be added to this list or can suggest other useful contacts, please let me know at kpearson@active-research.co.uk