

Covering Pebworth and surrounding districts

Pebworth Piper

January 2024



Spotlight On Wendi
Weller Art

A Review of
Christmas in
Pebworth

Pebworth Party In
The Park

Wassail



Welcome!



Happy New Year to all our readers.

There's plenty happening in the village this month to help you kick start your busy social life for 2024!

We will be introducing some new features in the next few months, some regular and some occasional. This month we have the Spotlight on Wendi Weller Art. 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

Happy reading!

Karen

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

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

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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 - January			
	Pebworth	Dorsington	Honeybourne	Willersey
7th January Epiphany			9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)
14th January Epiphany 2	11.00 am Holy Communion (Modern language)		11.00 am Morning Praise	9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)
21st January Epiphany 3			11.00 am Holy Communion (Modern language)	11.00 am All Age Service
28th January Candlemas	11.00 am Family Service			10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)
4th February 2nd Sunday before Lent			9.00 am Holy Communion (Traditional language)	10.00 am Morning Prayer (Modern language)





Christmas In And Around Pebworth

Santa Comes To Pebworth

Santa took a short break from his busy life preparing for Christmas to come and see the boys and girls of Pebworth. He was ably assisted by the amazing Pebworth Fire Fighters on his journey from the Masons Arms, where Vikki and Rob were serving mulled wine, round the village, finishing up at the Fire Station where drinks and refreshments were being served. A collection for the Fire Fighters' Charity raised £206.13.



Christmas At St. Peter's



Carols at Christmas

Oh come all ye faithful, and they did – you did. The church was full. Elbows jostled in pews, the choir clustered on red seats and the readers of lessons strode up to the altar, to tell us the news of the Coming. Even the stone columns, standing with the congregation, felt the words. For those of us behind them the words reverberated around the walls, filling the very air.

This was a time when the voices of the village could reach the Heavens with the carols of long tradition. The organist gave us volume that filled everyone with energy. Then the village choir began. Happy people made a happy, smooth and evocative sound. They followed the curving hands of the conductor through stairs of notes and rivers of volume. Necks creaked as they turned from the pews and cheeks glowed with appreciation - the long known words brought memories of school halls and chilly nights singing for pennies from the houses.

Everyone felt better by the end – much better. Better as men and women, and better towards the world. The faithful nudged their neighbours - their friends and wished each other a Merry Christmas as they returned to their families. The turkeys gabbled something too, as they gave their all to the cause.

If houses of brick could have a heart, Pebworth has a heart. The name is a thread that sews the village into the pageant of history. Many village men have come and gone and the best of the women have cultivated the busy life that grows so well in Pebworth. Liz©23



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
our
WASSAIL**



Sunday 7th Jan. 4pm

**Meet on recreation field to bless the orchard trees for
the coming season with song, noise and mulled cider.
All welcome - bring anything which will make a noise to
scare away evil spirits !**

Coffee on the Close

Mary's Room,

Pebworth Village Hall

1pm - 3pm



Held on 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month

dates can sometimes be altered due to other commitments

January	10th	17th
---------	------	------

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

Spotlight on.....

A Journey of Passion and Perseverance: The Story of Artist Wendi Weller

In a peaceful corner of Pebworth, a dedicated artist has been quietly making moves within the British Art scene.

In 2019, as the pandemic took hold, Wendi set up a dog portrait business called 'Molly & Maud' with friend and fellow artist Denise Liebermann. As pet portraits became popular, it was a fantastic opportunity to create art throughout lockdown.

In 2023 Wendi was thrilled when one of her dog portraits was chosen for the advertising banner for Broadway Arts Festival.

The festival, which is a charity, was started in 2010 and aims to raise awareness of the community's rich links with the arts. The festival is creating a sustainable environment within which to inspire, educate, encourage and support Broadway as an internationally recognised centre for the arts.



A couple of years on and inspired by her garden, Wendi now paints vibrant abstract botanical art and contemporary still life in oil.

In her abstract botanical pieces, Wendi invites viewers into a



wonderful world of vivid imagination and emotion. Through bold brush strokes, an explosion of colour, and an intuitive sense of movement; she transforms botanicals into abstract form, transcending traditional style.



At the other end of the spectrum, Wendi channels a different energy into her still life work. In her oil



paintings, she embraces delicate detail and subtle nuances introducing bold colour and expressive mark making. The result is a series of work that brings a deep



appreciation of the innate beauty found in the simplicity of the botanical world.

Wendi is now living her dream of becoming a full-time artist, currently exhibiting in two esteemed

Cotswold galleries: Spencer House Gallery, Tetbury and Burford Garden Company.

The source of inspiration for many of Wendi's paintings is her beautiful garden. She opens the garden and studio each year to raise money for the National Garden scheme and its supporting charities which in Pebworth, collectively, has raised in excess of £20,000 in the last 7 years.

In addition to her art work Wendi is a dedicated teacher. Sharing her knowledge and passion with aspiring artists of any age, teaching workshops in 'Painting Abstract Florals', 'Draw and Paint Your Pet' and 'Lino and Block Printing' all of these in the beautiful setting of her garden studio at Maple Barn, Pebworth. To enquire about workshops, to buy or commission work, please contact Wendi below:



www.wendiweller.com | hello@wendiweller.com |

Facebook @wendiwellerart | Instagram @wendiwellerart | 07716923982



A VILLAGE ALMANAC

By Charlotte Foskett

*'If St Paul's Day be fair and clear,
It does betide a happy year,
But if it chance to snow or rain,
Then will be dear all kind of grain.'*

St Paul's Day is January 25th!

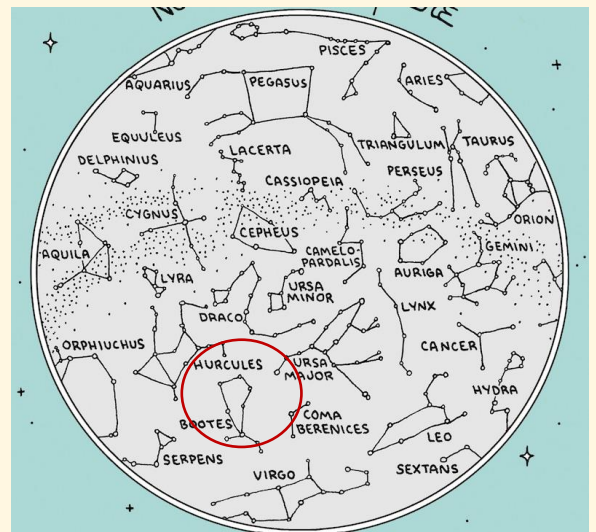
January is not a month of new beginnings and energetic exertions. This is how the modern world would like us to view the month but traditionally this first month of the new year was always peaceful and quiet. It should be a deep, reflective time to rest and retreat like Nature is doing. The month is traditionally one of the coldest of the year when the frosts are heavy and we experience some snow fall. It is time to believe in our wildest dreams and search within ourselves for inner peace.

Our Starry Skies!

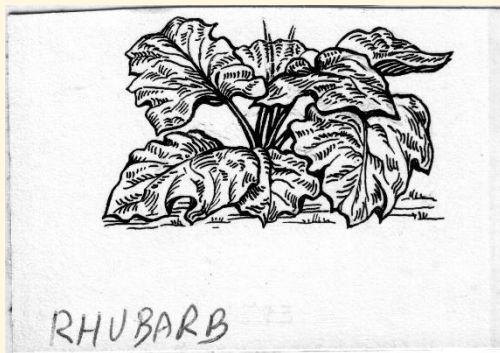
At the beginning of the month Venus will be visible each morning from 5.30am onwards for about two hours, and in the evening Jupiter will be seen in the cold dusky skies at around 5pm. And look out on the evenings of January 3rd to 4th for the Quadrantid Meteor Shower. It will be best be seen from 7pm on the 3rd through to 6am on the 4th. The meteors appear to radiate from the constellation Boötes near The Plough.

January's Full Moon is known as the Wolf Moon and is at its peak on 25th January.

The first new moon of 2024 is on January 11th.



Gardening in January



This advice applies after the rising of The Wolf Moon.

A time to chit potatoes.

Plant garlic bulbs and rhubarb crowns if ground is not frozen.

Sow onions and leeks in seed trays.

Plant bare root roses and fruit trees.

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



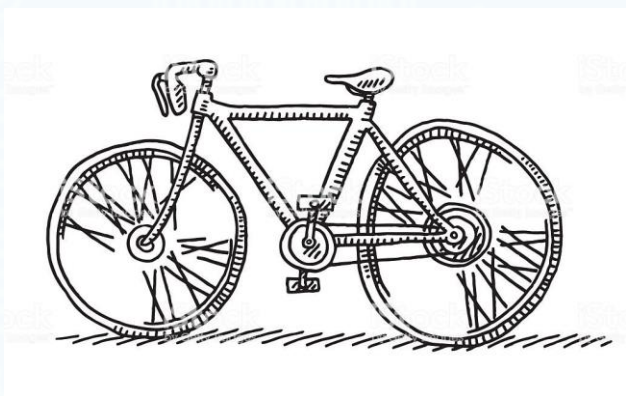
Youth & Ambition

Episode One

Earnest was diffident. At least that is what the sixth-form girls said – they had tested his vocabulary. It was a trial they applied to any hunky meat who spoke to them. Hauteur was their test. Acne absence was another.

He did have attractive points. The bathroom mirror told him that - his quiff was a cliff of gel. Accordingly, he had high standards where girls were to be chosen. When gyrating on the dance floor, he would select the best available, but few met his standards, mostly because he did not ask them. He compared them to the quality found in the centre folds filed on top of his wardrobe. They were short of that in all dimensions. What was he to do? Life was surging past. He had to make his first million by his thirtieth birthday bash. To show his stature in life and in business, he had to have a trophy girlfriend.

The neon lights drew him to a side street, in Evesham. The crowded window offered an answer: he could get a loan against his bike and buy a romanta-bot. In a few months his



reputation for acumen and achievement, if only potentially, would be spread around the Saturday Market by envious boys and jealous girls. He would make a monetary and social

profit. His new business venture would be: breeding and selling fishing worms. For these, he had been assured there was demand. He just had to borrow his uncle's garden shed for a few months. The Avon fisher folk offered a ready sale for the product. He could use old chip boxes attractively to contain them.

He forged his father's name on the contract, with a blotchy felt pen, and, leaving his five-gear bike as surety, he wheeled his box home.

The girls in the village were curious. Some deigned to speak to him – to enquire about the box and his lack of bike. He lifted his chin and strode on. What need had he of local drabs?

The box would not fit through the porch. He unwrapped it in the garage with the door shut.

The romanta-bot found all this rather clumsy she had been charged up before leaving the shop and all this bumping along the pavement was not her thing. She expected a smooth customer. She broke out of the wrappings and stood before him.

Earnest was enraptured at first glance. She was not. Her brow said as much. Earnest began composing a sonnet – it seemed the right thing to do. He set about praising her beauty. She stood at about his height, being a human, he had an inch or so to grow. Her face had been shaped after much study of the reactions of men to various forms of females. She, Eva, so suited Earnest. that his chest throbbed, and now his body throbbed.

What was an eager young man to do with a fully trained beauty-bot?

See next episode >>

Charles

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JANUARY 30TH

SOUND BATH

EXPERIENCE

Winter's Embrace

Step into the enchanting embrace of winter's tranquillity at our 'Winter's Embrace' sound bath on January 30th, 2024. As we embark on the first sound bath journey of the year, let the soothing tones guide you through a serene experience, enveloping you in a tapestry of harmonies that echo the promise of new beginnings. Immerse yourself in the resonating melodies that mirror the quiet beauty of the winter season, allowing you to release the old and welcome the fresh possibilities that await. Join us for an evening of rejuvenation, as we harmonise with the gentle whispers of change and embrace the tranquil energies that mark the start of a new chapter in 2024. Discover the serenity within and let our 'Winter's Embrace' sound bath be your sanctuary of renewal.



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!



Pavilion Coffee Shop

The Pavilion Coffee Shop is now open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm, offering barista coffee service and an amazing selection of cakes. It is located opposite Londis by the children's play area. It is a registered charity so please come and support it.



Foodbank

The Foodbank now distributes every Tuesday morning from 10am to 11am on the car park next to Londis. See poster for more details.

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

Litter Pick



Jodi Cotton, one of our parish councillors has requested that Wychavon District Council carries out a litter pick on the open space between Bennetts Rise and Regan Avenue.

It's been a month of 'deliciousness' for our members - delicious food and delicious scents!

First the buffet that miraculously appeared at our December meeting was something to behold. So much choice, so many dishes! Thanks to our members who all brought one dish to share. They and our guests were then entertained by Paul from the Worcester-based Discover History group with his revelations about how the Tudors celebrated the 10 days of Christmas. Everyone enjoyed learning the bizarre etiquette, the importance of clothing (those of us in navy blue were very high class while the poor things wearing grey were the lowest of the low), why no-one ate the pastry cases, the importance of salt and then children with buckets. Don't ask!

Paul told us that bringing in greenery was hugely important so Sue's wreath making workshop the following Saturday was upholding an ancient tradition as all the foliage had been foraged from Pebworth gardens. It was another afternoon of 'deliciousness' as some gorgeous wreaths and



table centrepieces were produced, and home made cake and tea were served.

And then the 'deliciousness' continued when a group were welcomed to Margie Shiers' fabulous perfume shop "Scents on the Green" in Broadway, where Margie, with help from Wayne and Simon, treated us to fizz, chocolates and a wonderfully illuminating talk of the history of perfume. Memories were recalled of perfumes we'd loved as teenagers and we also learned the importance of Chanel No 5 at the coronation in 1953. What a super evening – thank you Margie! And so, another WI year ends with lots of happy memories made and with our wishes for a merry, healthy and peaceful Christmas from all our members.



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 10th January when we will be welcoming Penny Varney, a ceramicist.

Are you a Graphic Designer? Or do you have Graphic Design skills?

The Pebworth Party In The Park team is looking for someone to help with designing flyers and the show programme.



If you are able to help, please contact Karen Pearson
on 07887 613301
or email KPearson@active-research.co.uk



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

Steve's Pop Up Farm Shop

Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday

08:30 - 13:00

Located at

The Masons Arms, Pebworth



*Rob & Vikki will have the pub open serving
Teas & Coffees*

Selling Fresh Local Vegetables,
Herbs & Eggs

Steve - 07341828744



What a mixture of weather we've been having but no snow yet!

We really didn't expect so many to turn up in freezing fog to clear the churchyard and the Town Pool car park of leaves at the beginning of the month. Our regular volunteers were joined by some new to the village and to the joys of volunteering! Thank goodness Tristan and Oscar, being young and energetic, turned up to help load the trailer and many thanks to Nick for taking the huge amount of leaves back to Little Meadows farm for us.



And we're never sure how many will turn up for the annual lighting of the Christmas tree but Yvonne had a good feeling this year so Ursula made 90 mince pies and Jenny made extra gallons of mulled wine, just in case. A

huge crowd (over 80) was tempted out by the mild weather and by the joyful sound of our bellringers, to sing familiar carols and to be amazed that we now have TWO Christmas trees! You can take your pick – simple white lights or a blaze of colour. We missed church warden Liz who would have blessed our trees but she had a delightful substitute in Clara who had come all the way from Quinton to help out. It was a wonderful hour of festive cheer.



The community section of the RHS in Bloom campaign is hugely important in the marking scheme and has always been the main focus of Pebworth in Bloom. We have, at last, received our report for the 2023 judging which we intend to share when we've recovered from Christmas and with which we were absolutely thrilled – there might be even better news to follow!

Our next community event will be on Sunday 7th Jan 2024 at 4pm when we hold our annual wassail at the heritage orchard next to the allotments. Meet at the memorial area, wrap up warm (wellingtons are also a good idea) and bring anything which will make a noise – musical instruments, pots and pans, whatever.

by **Jenny
McLeish**

Wildlife Photos



Sent in by our readers



Frosty Cobwebs

**By Cathrin Jones (L)
and Sam O'Grady (R)**



**Frosted Cow Parsley
Head
By
Sam O'Grady**





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

Flag Days For January 2024

Tuesday 9th Birthday of Princess Of Wales (42)

Saturday 20th Birthday of Duchess of Edinburgh (59)

Mobile Library



Les Madden

School Road layby
Broad Marston Road

Friday 26th January

11:15-11:30 am
11:35-11:50 am

100 Club Christmas Draw Winners

£100

S Burnett

£50

M Briggs

£30

J Cromack

£12

V Watson

Congratulations!

Robyn



Stratford Blinds

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

**Call 01789 576026
for an appointment**

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 6th October 2023.

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:

4th December 2023, 7pm at Pebworth Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Richard Weller, Simon Shiers, David Cranage & Samantha Parkins

In attendance: District Councillor Hannah Robson and Mrs D Bowles (Clerk)

Also in attendance: 2 members of the public.

Apologies Considered for Absence:

Cllrs Cotton and Pearson – approved

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

- Query was raised regarding flooding on Friday Street. There has been no update from Severn Trent Water. Resident is extremely upset regarding foul water overflowing close (and sometimes in) to his property when there is heavy rain. The Parish Council acknowledged that the system cannot cope, and Severn Trent Water has been made aware several times. He stated that this has become worse since the pumping station was installed. Cllr Weller advised that monies will be put into the budget to look at the overall flooding in that area. District Councillor Robson has some contacts at Severn Trent Water and is happy to support the Parish Council and residents.
 - Two new watering cans have been purchased as replacements at the burial ground.
- a) County Councillor Adams sent his apologies.
b) District Councillor Robson continues to chase planning for responses.
District Councillor Ciotti sent her apologies and provided the following report:

- Community Transport (Evesham Volunteer Centre) would like to visit to publicise the private car/ volunteer driver service they provide in the Evesham area including Pebworth. The clerk suggested they would reach more people by attending Coffee on the Close so has put them in touch with Cllr Jodi Cotton.
- Meanwhile I have been finding out about public transport as Pebworth is not well served. Wychavon's funding offer has not been taken up in this area by community groups so it has been paused while the strategy is reviewed. Demand Responsive Transport (DRC) is a WCC initiative supplying funding to help residents in rural areas without car or bus options to request individual journeys by minibus. It has been successfully piloted in Bromsgrove and in June another pilot began in the Malvern Hills area. This could be offered in the Pebworth area in the future if a need is demonstrated. Pebworth could be the case study in this ward because it is, I believe, the parish most poorly served by public transport. There would be a consultation report in the first instance. Wychavon DC is waiting for more details from WCC.
- Severe Weather Emergency Protocol: Night shelters are now open for rough sleepers. Residents are encouraged to report if they see someone sleeping rough. <https://bit.ly/3DYn0XU> On this Website or Call Streetlink on 0300 500 0914

The Chairman closed the open forum and reconvened the meeting at 19:40

Planning Matters:

Considered:

- a) Meadowbank Farm, Dorsington Road, CV37 8XB: Removal of existing agricultural buildings and replacement with a 2 bedroom dormer bungalow and garaging. Following discussion Cllr Cranage to forward comments to the Clerk for onward transmission to Planning.

Considered between meetings:

- b) The Old Barn, Back Lane, Pebworth, CV37 8XA: Erection of single-storey rear extension, conversion of garage to ancillary accommodation, replacement windows and other external alterations. Following consultation via email Clerk responded with: The Parish Council notes that this dwelling is within the Conservation Area and on the Conservation Area Appraisal Map is categorised as "an unlisted building of local distinction".
- c) Elm View, Chapel Road, Pebworth, , CV37 8XJ: Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of nine dwellings, creation of new vehicular access into site along with private driveways and gardens, alteration and extension of retained outbuilding at Elm View and alteration and extension of Walnut Tree Cottage. Following the last Parish Council meeting comments are available to be viewed at: <https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/23/02156/FUL> Copies are available from the Clerk.

Decisions:

- d) The Forge, Back Lane, Pebworth : A dilapidated, old stable building that is no longer used would be demolished and rebuilt into an outbuilding as a living space with one bedroom and a kitchen/living room area as open plan for extra accommodation for family use. Approved Subject to Conditions.
- e) Cherry Orchard, Back Lane, Pebworth, Two storey front extension, and first floor rear and side extensions. Planning Refused.

Council & Community Matters:

It was resolved:

- a) To defer applying for a Community Legacy Grant to the January meeting – applications open in January.
- b) To accept the Community Grant application form and terms and conditions with minor changes. Clerk to place on website.

- c) To allow permission to use the Close and the Recreation Ground for Pebworth Party in The Park on Sunday 1st September.
- d) To defer the update from Cllr Cranage regarding flooding Friday St once he has spoken with County Cllr Adams to the January meeting. Members noted the damaged manhole cover opposite The Masons Arms to Severn Trent Water has been repaired.

The Close & Recreation Field

Cllr Shiers reported that a quote has been provided for £450 to clear the ditch at The Close. It was resolved to accept the quote. Clerk has received acknowledgement that Rooftop Housing will share the costs.

Cemetery:

Remedial works to the headstones have been completed.

Lengthsman/Handyman Matters:

To free up the salt in the grit bins VAS data was made available following the meeting and is attached to the minutes as Appendix B.

Policies:

- a) Members considered the adoption of a Biodiversity Policy. It was felt that PIB are experienced regarding this; Cllr Shiers to request they become involved with this. Members reviewed the Dignity at Work Policy – agreed

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Pebworth.

Future dates:

5th Feb, 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 21:00 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: December 2023

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Dear Residents,

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and I wish you a wonderful 2024.

At the start of the New Year, we can look forward to another 12 months of Pebworth community activities – there is always something going on in our village and surrounding area and this is the time to plan ahead; why not join one of the many clubs, or join in at the local pub playing crib? Or just pop in to the pub and meet up with friends.

Please put in you diary Sunday 1st September 2024 which is the date for the **Pebworth Party in the Park** which I am sure will be another fantastic day of fun, frolics and festivities.

County Council News

At this time of the year the County Council is setting its budget for 2024/25 year. It looks like it is going to be a year of hard choices as pressures on the council are increasing with the aging population and the increased pressures on Children Services. For example, when I was first elected over 10 years ago, the number of children in Council care was around 400. Today it is 1089 and the cost is nudging £100m per year.

Many councils around the country are feeling the same pinch and have cancelled many vital services such as mending the potholes! However, in Worcestershire, we will continue to invest in our roads and pavements over the coming 12 months to keep them some of the best in the UK. We are also always looking to be more efficient and cost effective, and we are continuing to do this in 2024.

NEW drains under the Honeybourne Bridges

Owl Homes did manage to use their road sweeper to clean the debris under the bridges in December, but we will need to keep an eye on the debris and mud that gets washed off the fields onto the road and ultimately ends up in these new drains.

Other updates on flooding – Broad Marston

Still a little fine tuning to the inlets into the 2 x Flood plains is needed to help the flood plains take great capacity. Hopefully this will happen in Spring.

There was some water on the road in front of the Broad Marston Manor entrance, but the road was still passable. This water was mostly coming from the field opposite Cotswold View. A few years ago, the ditch on the right hand side (as you drive out of Broad Marston) was dug out and the soil used to build a bund in the field. This bund has now eroded and disappeared, and in my opinion this ditch needs digging out again, and the soil used to rebuild the bund.

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 this ditch. They paid for it last time to be done, and I would strongly recommend they do it again. I spoke to Nick Farmer who did it last time and he is happy to quote to do it again.

Other updates on flooding – Honeybourne

Honeybourne PROW volunteers have agreed to dig out the ditches along the High Street. Also some of the outlets under the raised pavement have been blocked off on a temporary basis to see if that stops water coming back onto the road from the brook.

Network Rail gives the green light to the new Honeybourne Railway Station Car Park

I am keeping pressure on the WDC and Network Rail to complete this project, and I'm chasing them every month.

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.

- **I have reported the sunken road opposite the entrance to Pebworth Nursery to Highways.** WCC are going to dig to investigate. No date set when.
- **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 suffered foul water coming up through the manhole when we had the heavy rainfall recently. They have promised to take action. I have heard nothing since so I will chase.
- **Flooding at Chalk Farm , Buckle Street** –Ditch on RHS to be dug out by farmer and new grips dug by WCC
- **Welford Bridge Closed**

> Christmas - bridge open
Sat 23 Dec - Mon 19 Feb

> Closure:
Tue 20th Feb - Wed 19 Mar
(Foot & Cycle Access only)

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

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



Solar panel theft.

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?

Officers have conducted various drop-in sessions across the area. Please keep an eye on social media and Neighbourhood Matters for future dates. Even if the session is not in your village, you are more than welcome to attend any drop-in session to speak with us. This is a great way for you to understand what we are doing in your village, and if there is something

that you believe we are not doing, it's a great way to tell us.

Officers have attended various schools within the area to do presentations on topics such as antisocial behaviour (ASB), hate crime and social media. We have also held a drop-in session within a school lunch time which proved very popular with the students. We had approx. 50 students come and speak to us about various topics. It's a great to engage with people who may not get a chance to see us normally.

We have also held various meetings with agencies we work closely with such as Housing Associations and Trading Standards. Multi agency working is vital for us in order to share intelligence and build on our already great relationship. You will have seen recently on our Facebook page that we recently seized approximately £14,000 worth of illegal vapes, counterfeit cigarettes from shops in Evesham town centre. As well as multi-agency working, the Safer Neighbourhood team have attended a cross border meeting with Warwickshire, Thames Valley and Gloucestershire police forces. Again, this is vital as it allows intelligence to be shared between the forces regarding a variety of issues/nominals. These meetings are extremely helpful in sharing information to combat cross border crime.

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/>

Drop in Sessions

We now have access to a community engagement van so the team can set up a mobile "office" to allow us to speak with residents and provide advice and crime prevention information.

Keep up to date via Neighbourhood Matters (NHM) for future dates and locations. We have a new community engagement calendar on NHM which will highlight our events.



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