



October 2022

Dear Members,

I am pleased to be able to let you know of our coming meeting on **Wednesday 12th October at 7.45pm at St Peters Upper Church** when we have our Annual General Meeting, and our main event is focusing on our newly published book “Bygone Pembury”.

We are looking to share with you our journey on the road to publishing “Bygone Pembury”, share some things that didn’t make the book, and to enable you to bring and share further stories and memorable events in the life of our village. We will have members of the committee as a panel to help this along, but we do hope you will also make the evening memorable with your contributions.

Maybe it has provoked looking out your own items of historical or social interest, and it would be good to bring these, or talk about them. As the book was a compilation from residents and ex residents of the village, so you may be able to contribute to a further volume. Maybe a volume 2 will be in the making!

The AGM is the opportunity to re-elect the members of the committee, who are all willing to stand for a further year, with the exception of John Evans, who is standing down after many years of active service. We shall be asking you to confirm the election of the remaining current members. New committee members welcome – do ask what this involves.

The accounts for last year are also attached for information. The main feature in the accounts is the cost of publishing “Bygone Pembury”. We are so grateful for all members who ‘stuck with us’ through the pandemic period and continued with their membership standing orders. As a consequence we felt we should make a gift to you of a copy of the book, and then sell remaining copies to put funds back into our accounts for future projects.

We know from so many of you that it has been well received and indeed it is the contributors’ efforts that have made this possible. I would again single out and thank Tony Nicholls for his dedication to this project, and so many others as named in the book.

To finance the book, we used some our own funds as well as receiving a donation and two loans to enable the printing of the books, and as I write we have sold enough copies of the book (since our financial year end) to enable these loans to be repaid in full, with further sales contributing to new projects, putting money back into the Society’s funds.

This has been achieved within one month of our publication date! Our next question is at what point shall we need a reprint, and how many, or shall we have enough material for a volume 2? Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the meeting.

We are continuing to monitor all planning applications and commenting as necessary on those we feel might have a public interest for residents of Pembury.

One of the major considerations during this last year was the consultation period for the Neighbourhood Development Plan, and we submitted a paper covering 7 pages of comments, corrections and thoughts.

We divided our response into three sections:

- 1 Key Issues that need prominence, policy and recommended solution(s) in the Plan,
- 2 Points that we have picked up that we think may need a correction or explanation,
- 3 The wider issues of road and traffic structures that need to be addressed by appropriate authorities together.

I have attached this Response to the Draft Plan for you to read, and it remains to be seen how much of this ends up in the final Parish Plan.

Our Planning Officer, Kathryn Franklin has written:

Planning Report - Autumn 2022

There are currently no planning applications under consideration in Pembury that we consider to be controversial. Unfortunately, however, we have to report a couple of recent cases that we, and the Parish Council, objected to but which the TWBC Planning Department have allowed. These are:

1. The very large extension to Sunhill Place to create 11 two bed units for sale on the open market and the further application to remove 7 large trees along the front boundary.
2. The demolition of the 2 redundant Police houses in Amberleaze Drive and their replacement with 4 new houses.

It remains to be seen whether or not these developments do have the expected detrimental effect on the lives of Pembury residents in general and the immediate neighbours in particular. The views of the immediate neighbours often seem to be dismissed out of hand or ignored by the planning department and this situation will only get worse if the Government's planned relaxation of planning law goes ahead.

There seems to be little progress on the new Local Plan which is currently with the Planning Inspectorate or the Neighbourhood Development Plan that is currently with TWBC Planning department. Given everything that has happened during the last 2 years the Pembury Society committee do wonder how relevant either of these plans are now.

Kathryn Franklin
Planning Officer

THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

GENERAL FUND	2022	2021
INCOME, from subscriptions and other income	<u>796</u>	<u>731</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings and activities	30	-
Stationery and postage	25	-
Insurance	204	184
Subscriptions to other Societies	25	25
Website development & IT	112	-
Total Expenditure	<u>396</u>	<u>209</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	400	522
Less: Transfer to Project Fund	- 1,500	<u>300</u>
General Fund balance for the year after transfer to Project Fund	- 1,100	222
General Fund balance brought forward	<u>2,655</u>	<u>2,433</u>
General Fund balance carried forward	<u>1,555</u>	<u>2,655</u>
PROJECT FUND		
Transfer from General Fund	1,500	300
Sponsorship for Book project	<u>250</u>	<u>-</u>
	1,750	300
Book project	- 3,970	<u>-</u>
	- 2,220	300
Project Fund balance brought forward	<u>934</u>	<u>634</u>
Project Fund balance carried forward	- 1,286	<u>934</u>
TOTAL FUNDS at 31 JULY 2022	<u>£269</u>	<u>£3,589</u>

The Financial Statement for the year ended 31 July 2022 has been approved by the Committee and by the Independent Examiner.

If you would like to contact us

Current Committee

Chairman:	David Hanes The Lodge, 7 Lower Green Road, TN2 4DZ	823174
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We look forward to seeing you at the 12th October meeting.

Every good wish

David Hanes

The Pembury Society



Autumn Meeting
on
Wednesday, 13th October
in
St Peter's Church, Hastings Road at
7.45pm

“BYGONE PEMBURY”

The story of the book

+ our AGM

Open to members and non-members. £3 admission for non-members