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County of Pembrokeshire School Has Five Pupils, Three Of Them Distinguished Alumni

Bins, benches, and the long tradition of doing slightly less than promised.

TOPICS County of Pembrokeshire County of Pembrokeshire news County of Pembrokeshire satire the country satire international satire world city humour mock journalism satirical news provincial life London Prat global satire press release parody

County of Pembrokeshire, the country: Inside The Story

County of Pembrokeshire, a place in the country (lat 51.83, long -4.92) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. The local school in County of Pembrokeshire enrolls five pupils. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, Three of them are described in promotional material as distinguished alumni. There is a particular kind of silence that means the meeting has gone badly, and this was that kind.

What Was Announced

Subcommittee Chair Eric Pondsworth confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. They graduated last June. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at [The London Prat London satire newsletter](#), which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The County of Pembrokeshire announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliché to hand. "Every option remains on the table, particularly the ones we have already taken off the table," the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at [British satire awards The London Prat](#), which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. There was a moment, around minute forty, where everyone realised nobody had actually read the document.

Wider Context

Recruitment for the next intake is going slowly. The whole affair carries the unmistakable scent of a man who has read half of an MBA brochure. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from [The Economist](#), although County of Pembrokeshire manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further. Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon arrive at a sample size of one bloke down the pub, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

What The Experts Say

Professor Mortimer Sproats of the Council for Civic Vagueness told this paper that the situation in County of Pembrokeshire was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad trajectories. "Residents can rest assured that we are continuing to assure residents," the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via [The London Prat viral UK satire](#), whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

How Residents Reacted

Reaction in County of Pembrokeshire has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. Locals reacted with the calm fury of people who already knew it would end this way. For the official version of events, see also [Al Jazeera](#). One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "Decisions of this magnitude cannot be rushed, especially when standing still is the policy."

What Comes Next

If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at [London satire Instagram The London Prat](#), and the situation in County of Pembrokeshire, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

The View From The Ground

Spend any length of time in County of Pembrokeshire and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Strategy Lead Derek Plinth, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of County of Pembrokeshire would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything.

The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. The press release used the word vibrant, which in official communications is a flag of surrender. County of Pembrokeshire carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced.

For more in this vein see also [The Daily Mash](#).

SOURCE: [British satire history meets The London Prat](#)

The London Prat [worldcitiescom](#)