

07/22

MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Monday, 12th June 2007 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm following a meeting of the Planning Committee.

PRESENT – Councillors D. Creed-Newton (DCN) in the Chair. M. Allfrey (MA)

K. Nason (KN) F. Beard (FB) C. Lowder (CL) R. Diamond (RD) K. Turnbull (KT) E. Mikata (EM) and A. Eldridge (AE). Also attending were three members of the public.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from R. Gill and J. Edgar, and approval given for their absence due to business commitments.

PERSONAL declarations of interest - the following were received –

- KN – NCRA and the Village Hall.
- DCN – Village Hall and Village play.
- CL – Village Clock, and Village Hall.
- RD – Village play.
- MA & FB – Storrige Churchyard.

PREJUDICIAL declarations of interest – None received.

THE MINUTES of the Annual Meeting held on 18th May 2007 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Progress report on –

Buryfields Lease to NCRA – KN advised nothing further to report, but meeting of group would take place before the next Meeting when a report would be available.

Speed limit on B4220 – Signs erected – awaiting road markings.

Speed Indicator Displays – Awaiting dates for meeting with Police and Highways.

Riley Motor Cycling – FB advised this was taking place, mainly on a Sunday at Copley Farm – Clerk to write to land owner advising that complaints had been received and enquire what clearance he may have already obtained for this activity to take place.

Sewerage Management – MA advised that he and R. Gill were drafting a letter for the Clerk to submit.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Clock Insurance – It appeared the Church had not insured the clock. It would prove difficult for the Parish Council to insure something they do not own and which was in the care of the church. MA proposed clock be left uninsured.

RESOLVED – On proposal by KN, seconded by FB and carried that we ask the Church as owners to obtain a quote for the insurance, the cost of which the Parish Council would then consider meeting by way of a yearly donation.

Reply to letter from D. Hurle re donation to Storrige PCC – Chairman gave breakdown of history for the benefit of new Councillors and advised of the agreed donation of 70% towards maintenance of the Churchyard. The letter advising of the 70% allowance had not given any specific breakdown for eligibility of the donation. Tarmac work to the Church footpaths had been undertaken by the PCC following receipt of three Quotations, as agreed, but since this work had not been considered as churchyard maintenance in its entirety, the Parish Council had made a 50% donation towards this expense. The reduction was equivalent to a loss of about £400. to the PCC at a time when they were particularly in need of funds.

The Chairman asked whether the Parish Council wished to change the allocation of 50% which had been made.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by CL, seconded by KT and carried, it was resolved that no increase in the allowance should be made. The Chairman declared a personal interest and abstained from voting.

Painting at Chapel Lane play equipment – Painting had been carried out last year at the cost of approximately £1,660. Chairman advised paint is flaking off. It was agreed the Clerk invite the Contractor to return and make good where necessary.

DW

Extension of standing area for bus at Buryfields – KN advised usually 12/14 children waiting in the morning. Standing area needs to be extended by about 6ft. and the bank at the back of the waiting area has collapsed onto the slabs thus reducing the depth of the platform. Problem also occurring with delivery vans speeding down the lane.

RESOLVED – On proposal by AE, seconded by KN and carried that we write to Highways asking them to double the standing area, dig the bank out at the back of the platform, and also to erect a guard rail on the roadside to prevent children stepping off into the roadway.

ALSO RESOLVED – that Council obtain names /addresses for the speeding vans and write to the Companies involved.

ALSO RESOLVED that we enquire when the 20mph speed limit outside the School will be introduced.

Co-option of new Members – The Chairman advised of the confusion in information received following the election, and in particular, the need to co-opt new members to fill the four vacancies. On a proposal by DCN, seconded by MA and carried, Jonathan Tudor (JT) from Pixiefields was co-opted onto the Council, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk at 8.15pm. JT agreed to let the Clerk have his Declaration of Financial Interests for submission to the Electoral Office in due course. All members welcomed Jonathan onto the Parish Council.

FINANCE – On proposal by KN seconded by RD, and carried the following accounts were approved for payment -

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| • Lengthsman – May 07, final payment | £200.00. |
| • Cradley Community Play, donation | £250.00. |
| • MCB Landscapes, grass cutting | £164.50. |
| • Smiths of Derby, 3yr. contract fee. | £539.33. |
| • Clerks & Councils Direct subscription | £9.50. |
| • Clerk expenses/allowances | £252.10. |

DCN, CL & KN left the room

FB took the Chair – On a proposal by AE, seconded by MA and carried the Account to Cradley Village Hall Management Committee for drinks at the Parish Meeting amounting to £28.00. was approved for payment.

DCN, CL & KN rejoined the meeting

Accounts to year ending 31st March 2007 – on a proposal by CL, seconded by RD and carried, the Accounts to 31st March 2007 were approved as drawn by our Internal Auditor, Terry Robshaw.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Planning – DCN reported on planning applications dealt with at the earlier Planning meeting. MA raised the query regarding the Cradley stone which had to be incorporated into the new buildings taking place on the old school site. CL advised he had been told that only old decayed stone had been taken away, the stone to be incorporated in the new building was at the back of the site and that within two/three weeks this should be in use. He has the contact name and numbers and it was agreed this should be closely monitored.

Playing Fields – CL advised he had met with KN who has agreed to take over the chairmanship of the playing fields committee and it was hoped that JE will push forward with the footpath committee.

KT has agreed to carry on with the inspection rota.

Editorial Group – KN advised Reporter has been finalized and delivery on the main road through the Village is being looked into.

On a proposal by DCN, seconded by CL and carried, an approved expense for production run-off by Village Hall was agreed with a running allowance of £90., with no limit required for posting.

Parish Plan Group – Nothing further to report.

aw

07/24

HALC – Chairman reported HALC had commented on the election shambles which showed very bad leadership from Election Office at Leominster. Finance working group has been set up to look at HALC budget and questionnaire survey is to be carried out concerning how satisfied Parish Councils are with HALC services.

Correspondence received –

Letter – Don Hurlle, Storridge PCC concerning donation, copy supplied to all Councilors.

E-mail – regarding election advice and that there would be no forced election for Cradley PC.

E-mail – Steve Jay saying that he and Brian Hall would look at Bearswood Lane this week to see if all existing drainage systems are working as they should be. Drains in the lane may need a little maintenance following the winter months and if this is the case, they will arrange for the fully empty or the high pressure jet to visit the site. *g* *gaw*

Letter – Herefordshire Council re felling licence application for Coombe Farm. ***MA agreed to inspect and advise Clerk if Parish Council should comment on proposal.***

Letter – Herefordshire Council enquiring of need for supply of sandbags. ***It was agreed to mention sandbags in Newsletter, asking anyone in need of some to let us know so that the PC could arrange as storage space for large delivery was limited.***

Letter (copy) from Ron Cottam to Amy West at Herefordshire Council confirming works undertaken in the Dene were in order to improve drainage and stop huge run-off of water.

Clerk to write Mr. Cottam that we believe there is a leakage from the pond and that during recent heavy rain, run off of water had returned and was quite deep.

Literature received –

HALC Information Corner dealing with election aftermath, various training booking forms, Clerk's salaries, Local Area Agreements and the single plot, Primary Care Trust and Herefordshire Standards Committee.

Northern Area Planning Sub-Committee for 29th May 2007.

The Clerk magazine.

Museum on the move.

CVA – Ledbury & District Summer 2007 news.

Herefordshire Partnership – launch of the Pride of Herefordshire Awards.

Chairman closed the meeting at this time to allow public participation

Mr. Johnson attending from Tanhouse Lane advised that he had met with five members from Herefordshire Council and had been advised that the improved junction at Tanhouse Lane would be completed by the end of September. Mr. Johnson thanked the PC for their support in this matter and raised concerns regarding the speeding of traffic on the Ridgeway Cross to Bromyard Road.

Chairman re-opened the Parish Council meeting

Newsletter Items – Welcome Jonathan Tudor as co-opted member of the Council, advising that we were still looking for new members, bus standing area at Buryfields, various items still in hand and that the Footpaths Committee should be up and running again soon.

Urgent items and matters for discussion at next Meeting –

Tree has been removed from the stream, but sign remains.

Culvert at Kingsbridge needs to be dug out and re-built and debris in the stream by the shop – ask Council to clear the debris. CL agreed to monitor the situation.

It was agreed to have an Agenda items for the next meeting concerning various Highway issues.

The Chairman expressed thanks to members for the flower arrangement at the Cradley Flower Festival.

Next meeting to take place on Tuesday, 10th July 2007 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed..... *D. Paul West*

Dated..... *10/07/2007*

Chairman.