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MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Tuesday, 15th July 2008 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – Councillors D.Creed-Newton (DCN - in the Chair), C. Lowder (CL) E. Mikata (EM) P. Stanley (PS) R. Diamond (RD) K.Nason (KN) A. Eldridge (AE) F. Beard (FB) P. Diamond (PD) M. Allfrey (MA) R. Gill (RG) M. Brooksbank (MB) J. Tudor (JT) and Cllr. Rees Mills (RM).

APOLOGIES for absence were received and duly approved from

- M. Sheriff due to holiday arrangements.
- J. Edgar due to family commitments.

PERSONAL declarations of interest - the following were received –

- RG & DCN declared a personal interest in the Royal British Legion application for payment of agreed funds from Calor Village of the Year Competition prize monies.

PREJUDICIAL declarations of interest – None received.

MINUTES –The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th June 2008 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Progress report on –

Nexus Grant – CL advised he had been unsuccessful with trying an increased request for funding from Nexus.

He proposed he look at the costs involved in producing the Cradley Guide printed at Cradley Village Hall with support from some local advertising and he agreed to report back at the next meeting.

Clerk's training Course – Clerk advised application for Bursary had been successful and was advised that repayment would be made shortly.

Herefordshire Council Primary Strategy for Change – PD advised paperwork had been sent off as agreed at the last meeting, and an acknowledgement had been received. Nothing further to report.

Rectory Lane – The Chairman advised that J. Edgar had met with Tim Thompson from Herefordshire Council with regards to Churchfields Lane, and that an inspection had also been carried out at Rectory Lane. It had been agreed that Rectory Lane was dangerous and in need of repair. The Chairman agreed to pursue this matter.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Payment to Royal British Legion – Following a request from British Legion to receive the sum of £750. allocated to them for roof repairs from the funds received in Calor Village of the Year competition - on a proposal by KN, seconded by EM and carried, it was agreed that we release the funds and the item would be placed on the August Agenda for payment.

Payment of Accounts for drinks at public meeting in June – Discussion followed regarding payment of these funds from the Parish Plan Account. A proposal was made by MA that we pay this bill on the understanding that by the next Council meeting the Clerk has a letter from the Parish Plan Group authorizing her to spend this money. This was seconded by JT and carried and a cheque was signed in favour of Cradley Post Office for the goods received.

It was confirmed that the chairing of groups within the Parish Plan group will not be headed by Parish Councillors.

FINANCIAL MATTERS –

Accounts for payment – The following accounts had been received -

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| • Clerks expenses/allowances | £153.87. |
| • Viking Direct, stationery | £48.45. inc VAT. |

On a proposal by FB seconded by RG and carried, the above Accounts were approved for payment and cheques signed accordingly.



COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Planning – The Planning Committee Chairman reported that the following applications had been received from Herefordshire Council Planning Dept –

Wandara, Westfields – dormer window – No objections.

Barnetts Cottage, Greenhill – remove side porch and replace with utility room – No objections.

October Cottage, 3 Cradley Court, Chapel Lane – proposed fence – No objections.

5 New Cottages, Westfields – first floor extension – No objections to amended plans.

Clerk to enquire from Herefordshire Council why we do not seem to receive full details of applications approved, refused or withdrawn.

Churchyard Committee – CL advised nothing further to report.

Playing Fields – KN advised that a new rota was starting next week and he proposed to rota himself in once a month so that he can keep a careful check on items for attention. The grass and the hedge need cutting and KN agreed to contact Den Horne regarding the hedge. Both the aerial flyer and the netball post remain under repair.

KN agreed to look into the question of painting the equipment.

Editorial Group – Final approval will be sought at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Newsletter being re-designed in size.

Parish Plan Group/Conservation Area – It was reported that the Parish Plan Committee met recently and that the planning for real exercise will take place in September. RD advised she had spoken to John Stagg regarding the conservation area and he agreed to look at the submission which has been made by the Parish Council and will let her know if there is to be any response to it.

HALC – MA advised that HALC were meeting later in the week.

Correspondence received –

Letter – CL regarding availability of dog fouling signs and it was agreed he and MB will look into receiving some free dog fouling signs next week.

Letter – NAIC advising that application for Clerk's training bursary fund had been approved and that bursary payment will follow shortly.

Letter – RB Legion requesting payment of donation from Calor Village of the Year fund.

Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding Parish Planning and Road Safety and availability of speed indicator devices for exclusive use of communities that have signed up to the Parish Planning process.

Letter – Herefordshire Council reference polytunnels supplementary planning document and advising that a supplementary planning document is available on the website.

Letter – Herefordshire Council requesting information regarding people sleeping rough in the Parish.

Letter – Herefordshire Voluntary Action inviting us to attend a meeting regarding models of good practice and action plans for future needs regarding flooding in the area.

Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding PACT meetings (Partners and Communities Together) on 4th August at 7pm.

Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding removal of telephone boxes – a reply had been sent by the Chairman in the absence of the Clerk on holiday.

Letter – Herefordshire Council enclosing 21st Edition of Funding Directory and invitation to funding fair in October.

Letter – Herefordshire Council enclosing revised bus timetable, leaflet outlining handyperson scheme and affordable warmth strategy and also letter from Chairman of Standards Committee with Annual report.



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Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding Seminar on Post Office closure programme - the Chairman agreed to attend the Seminar and report back to Parish Council at next meeting.

Letter- Rees Mills to Andrew Middlecote at Herefordshire Council regarding flooding problem at Ashvale.

Literature received –

Poster regarding “Laying up of the colours of the 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry on 19th July 2008” on Castle Green Hereford.

Local Council Review magazine advising on new powers for Parishes.

CAB AGM on 24th July 2008 together with nomination form and Annual Review.

Newsletter Items – Dog fouling, release of £750. funds to RBL as previously agreed for roof repairs and that the application for Nexus Grant was not being pursued but advising that the Council were looking at possible advertising space/funding to assist in The Cradley Guide being reintroduced.

Urgent items and any matters for discussion at next Meeting –

KN requested an item be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting advising that the PC nominate a “Recognition of Village of the Year award” for anyone who has done something for the Village during the year, and that the possibility of a “Skateboard park” in the Parish should also be added to the August Agenda.

Next meeting - 12th August 2008 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed.....
Chairman.

Dated.....12 August 2008.....