

MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Tuesday, 8th January 2008 in Storridge Village Hall at 7.30pm following a meeting of the Planning Committee.

PRESENT – Councillors D. Creed-Newton (DCN) in the Chair, M. Allfrey (MA) F. Beard (FB) C. Lowder (CL) E. Mikata (EM) A. Eldridge (AE) J. Edgar (JE) P. Stanley (PS) R. Diamond (RD) J. Tudor (JT) and one member of the public.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from K Nason (KN) and R Gill (RG) and approval was given for their absence due to business commitments.

PERSONAL declarations of interest - the following were received –

- CL & RD – Cradley youth.
- MA – Drainage and sewage issues.

PREJUDICIAL declarations of interest – None received.

MINUTES –The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November 2007 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman on a proposal by CL, seconded by FB and carried.

CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS – The Chairman advised that a letter of resignation had been received from Katrina Turnbull who had now moved out of the District. As a result of this resignation there were now three vacancies on the Parish Council. Three applications had been received to join the Council – Mike Brooksbank, Mark Davies and Michael Sheriff.

- On a proposal by PS, seconded by JE and carried, Mike Brooksbank was co-opted onto the Council. He signed the Declaration of Office in the presence of the Clerk and joined the meeting.
- On a proposal by PS seconded by CL and carried, Michael Sheriff was also co-opted onto the Council.
- On a proposal by FB seconded by JT but not carried, Mark Davies was not co-opted onto the Council.

Severn Trent Water Representatives – Attending the meeting were Paul Gregory (Flood Manager) and Alison Walton (Flood Technician), both of whom had met with the Chairman to discuss problems with sewage in the Parish. They advised that Severn Trent do own the two stations which were under water during flooding, as a result of which they had failed to operate for some time. Ofwat had been advised but modifications may not qualify as critical at this stage. They advised they were not aware of regular problems at Kingsbridge (they had been shown photographs of a manhole cover near Kingsbridge which had regularly been pushed up) and Pound Bridge and asked the Parish Council to telephone them immediately there is a problem of sewage seeping into the brook.

Drainage Area Plan showing model of whole system in the Village was done in the mid 90s and is being computer modeled and updated at the moment, looking at new development and some results should be obtained within six months about whether drainage is satisfactory.

They advised that when a new development is proposed they cannot stop the right of connection, they can only ask that the Planning Authority put on some restriction of rate of outflow from the site. New legislation will be coming through by 2010. The “Pitt” review report is available to be downloaded from the Cabinet Office web-site regarding the Floods and accountabilities.

They agreed to (1) provide record of breakdown at Kingsbridge (2) look for the report regarding Brook House Farm in 2007 (3) produce interim report on the capacity of the system as a whole within six months (4) provide report on repair to bank at Pound Bridge and (5) come back to the Parish Council about the discharge system. Sincere thanks were expressed to both for their meeting with the Chairman during the morning and their attendance at the Council meeting in the evening.

MA agreed to get the tree removed which is causing a blockage in the brook, but as the field was let out, could not attend to this until later in the year, August/October time. It was felt the debris in the brook at Kingsbridge which was partially under the bridge was the responsibility of Highways/Bridge Dept.

Progress report on -

Extension to bus standing area at Buryfields – Clerk reported she had advised Herefordshire Council that the land owner did not wish to see the hedge removed but was quite happy for it to be cut back to provide extra depth and width to the proposed extension of the bus standing area – Clerk to continue to chase.

Tanhouse Lane junction – MA advised work appeared to have commenced at this junction

Parish Paths Scheme – JE advised working group had looked at “P3 scheme” which offered £50. Per kilometer to take on board repairs; the Parish Council have 52 kilometers of paths in the Parish. Meeting to take place with Tim Thompson next week to discuss matter and JE advised further report will be available at next meeting.

Parish Talk Grant –FB put forward a proposal for a Parish Guide which would list every Organisation in the Village and be distributed to every household.

CL and RD were to consider proposals and report back at February meeting with various costings to enable an application to be put forward for the Grant on offer through HALC of up to £300.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Parish Meeting – Fixed for 22nd April 2008 at Storridge. Proposals put forward for Keith Knight at Crumpton Oak Cider as a Speaker and also local Blacksmith – CL agreed to follow this up and advise.

Wicksteed Inspection at Chapel Lane - The Clerk advised she had booked provisional inspection, and enquired what level of inspection was required.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by MA, seconded by JE and carried, it was agreed to carry out an Accompanied Inspection with a Risk Assessment.

Cradley Youth – RD put forward proposals for the reconstitution of “Young People in Cradley” reporting that there was a Committee of Volunteers, funds of £1,400.were available (of which £200. were donated for the specific purpose of drug training), membership of 42 young persons, the Constitution was in the process of being updated and much enthusiasm in the Village for the group to restart. A Youth Leader would be required with payment for time and travel and it was proposed a small attendance fee for each child could be considered/introduced.

Other expenditure included venue hire, insurance, project costs and other expenses - present funds showed an annual shortfall of approx. £3,300. but advised that the group would look for funders and sponsors and would also apply for “charitable status”.

Chairman of opinion Parish Council should support the proposal for the Group to be re-started with an offer of some launch monies, and MA suggested an initial offer of £1,000. Clerk to enquire if it would be possible to increase the Precept by say £2,000. to enable some assistance to be offered - Finance Group to meet later in the month to discuss availability of funding from within the present Precept.

FINANCE – On a proposal by DCN, seconded by CL and carried, it was agreed to make a donation to Malvern CAB.

On a proposal by PS, seconded by FB and carried, the following accounts were approved for payment -

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| • Malvern CAB | £140. |
| • SLCC – Subscription | £91.00. |
| • Clerk expenses/allowances | £291.09. |

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Planning – The chairman reported that the Planning Committee had agreed to object to an increased development at Ridgeway Farm because of the extra traffic that this would generate in a narrow lane. He also advised on issues which had been approved, refused or withdrawn and informed Councilors that the planning appeal for transportable log cabins at “Reafields” had been rejected.

Playing Fields – CL advised that Katrina Turnbull had handed him the inspection book. He had carried out an inspection and will produce a list and pass it on to the Councilor next on the list. The Clerk advised that the tree had been removed at Buryfields by Peter Denley and that she awaited his Invoice. Clerk to check with Stuart Knight that he was happy with the work carried out.

Editorial Group – KN not in attendance so no report available.

Parish Plan Group/Conservation Area – JE advised meeting with Neil Robertson from Herefordshire Council next week who is responsible for altering the boundaries, which will result in the conservation area being reduced by up to 2/3rds in the Parish.

HALC – MA confirmed nothing to report.

Correspondence received –

Letter – Smiths of Derby – enquiring if PC had considered replacing front facing dial.

Letter – OFWAT – advising that information requested is not held by them.

Letter – Wicksteed advising playground inspection is due.

Letter – Herefordshire CAB seeking donation.

Letter – CVA Ledbury seeking donation.

Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding review of the Licensing Act 2003.

Letter – Herefordshire Council regarding public path diversion order – Footpath CD9.

Letter – MHDC AONB – advising survey to be carried out in district.

Letter – West Mercia Police Authority “your service 2008 and beyond”.

Letter – Herefordshire Council re County Flood Plan amendment No. 8.

Letter – Herefordshire Council with DVD “River Tales” and funding opportunities update.

Letter – Herefordshire Council with notification of felling Licence application at Winthill.

Letter – Ron Richardson regarding flooding at Ashvale Cottage.

E-mail – Rees Mills regarding Central Local Concordat.

E-mail – Rees Mills regarding Traffic Data and Analysis.

E-mail – Scotford Lawrence regarding Cradley brooks and flooding.

E-mail – Matthew Weston, Environment agency with monitoring & data assessment.

Literature received –

WCC – swap shop advert.

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.

Voluntary Sector Assembly – are you fit for funding.

Bus & train timetable update.

Nexusd – Rural community council funding leaflet.

Parish Plan Newsletter for Herefordshire from Community First.

Hereford/Worcs/Glos – part of the great daffodil appeal 2008.

Local Council Review – NALC.

The Clerk magazine.

Earth Heritage Trust – booklet on Geopark Way trail route.

CVA – Ledbury & District news.

West Mercia Police Authority – your views count.

HCC – winter gritting routes, monthly funding update and implementing action plans that emerge from the Parish Plan.

“Wagging tongues” advertisements.

Age Concern “River Tales” DVD.

HALC – Information Corner – public participation sessions at meetings, parish talk grant, parish meetings, training, date protection, new salary scales, Hereford Hospitals NHS Trust, West midlands regional spatial strategy and Red Cross Village Wardens scheme.

Newsletter Items – Severn Trent Water, Youth Group, Tanhouse Lane junction, Parish Talk new funding, Parish Meeting on the 22nd April 2008 at Storridge.

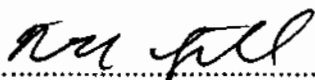
Urgent items and any matters for discussion at next Meeting –

Pot hole on Malvern Road; Clerk to ask grass contractors to put a step in at the Notice Board on Finchers Corner, dog fouling/recycling (PS to look into items) take up with Developers reinstatement of kerbs opposite Old School site, Clerk to ask Dave Finch to clean matting at Chapel Lane, JE agreed to speak with owner/occupiers regarding hedge on Bromyard Road below Ridgeway House, and Clerk to chase Bearswood Lane flooding issue.

Next meeting to take place on 12th February 2008.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed.....



Chairman.

Dated.....

