

2011/05

MINUTES of a Meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – D. Creed-Newton (in the Chair), R. Gill (RG) K. Nason (KN) T.Lloyd-Jones (TLJ) F. Beard (FB) J. Edgar (JE) C.Lowder (CL) S. Adam (SA) P. Stanley (PS) C. Dawkins (CD) A. Eldridge (AE) and Cllr. R. Stockton.

APOLOGIES for inability to attend the meeting had been received from M. Allfrey (health) R.Diamond and P. Diamond (personal) and M. Brooksbank (business). An apology was also received from Cllr. T. Johnson.

PERSONAL DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda –

- DCN, CL, KN & JE in Cradley Village Hall.
- SA & RG in drainage issues.

PREJUDICIAL DECLARATION OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda –

- RG - street naming of new development site.

MINUTES – Following a slight amendment the Minutes of the previous meeting were approved, taken as read, and signed by the Chairman on a proposal by CL, seconded by KN and carried.

PARISH PLAN Reports –

- TLJ advised that the Environmental Group were meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March.
- KN advised he hoped to get Communications Group to meet before next Parish Council Meeting.
- DCN advised he awaited Minutes for highways group meeting held in his absence.

PROGRESS REPORTS –

Rectory Lane – Following a three month delay, it was reported our submission had now been delivered to the appropriate department within Herefordshire Council. JE agreed to let Cllr. Roy Stockton have a copy of our final report which had been submitted to Herefordshire Council.

A4103 – Nothing further to report, but it was agreed traffic speeds had improved since new road markings had been put down in the Storridge area. The speed camera van was in regular attendance.

Drainage – Following meeting on site in December 2010 with Martin Jackson he had advised he would send us a Report. This had been received in January and did point out several problems. Copies of the Report were handed to all Councillors and it was agreed this matter should be put on the Agenda for the March meeting. Cllr. Stockton reported on events which he understood had

taken place during that week and RG reported he had inspected the sewage which appeared to be exiting into the brook at Brookside. Welsh Water had taken immediate action on his report to them.

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ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

**Street Name for new development (RG left the room)** – It appeared the Developer had the power to call the development whatever name he chose, and it had been decided by Herefordshire Council that the numbering would continue as 7-14 Finchers Corner. **(RG rejoined the meeting)**

**Donations to Churchyard maintenance** - CL advised expenditure figures and projections had been obtained from Cradley Church, Storridge Church and The Chapel. Following receipt, a meeting had taken place and the following donations were presented to the Parish Council for their consideration –

- Cradley Chapel – **Expenditure £292.40** – it was proposed the whole sum should be paid to them, less a deduction, which had previously been agreed for half the cost of shrubs, resulting in a donation of **£254.90.**
- Storridge Church – **Expenditure £723.** (less than budgeted) with a 75% recommended donation of **£506.00.**
- Cradley Church – **Expenditure £3,627.57** capped at £2009. but recommended donation of **£2,150** to include adding 3% for inflation.

**RESOLVED** – On a proposal by DL, seconded by PS and carried, the above recommended donations were approved and cheques would be presented for signature at the March meeting of the Parish Council.

**Diamond Jubilee Celebrations** – Clerk requested to advise that the Parish Council is not in a position to report back in time for the March meeting of the Dept of Culture, Media & Sport or The HM Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire.

**Litter problems at Storridge** – Cllr. R. Stockton proposed we ask Hereford Council to put a “litter sign” in the area.

**Grass cutting Quotation** – Following receipt of a slightly increased Quotation from 4 Seasons Ground Care Ltd it was agreed the grass had been cut on a regular basis with these new Contractors.

**RESOLVED** – on a proposal by DCN, seconded by FB and carried, it was agreed we accept this Quotation for grass cutting in the play areas for 2011.

**Localism Bill** – Copies of the proposals had been circulated to all Councillors.

**RESOLVED** – On a proposal by DCN, seconded by KN and carried, it was agreed that this was an item for consideration by the new Council following the Election in May.

**Parish Meeting** – CL advised he had spoken to Adam Greaves who appeared keen to do a presentation at the Parish Meeting but advised holiday arrangements might be a problem. CL agreed to liaise with the Chairman in due course. KN agreed to deal with the refreshments, a budget having already been agreed.

2011/07

**FINANCIAL MATTERS** – The following Accounts had been received for payment –

- Cradley Village Hall hire fees £20.00.
- Clerks expenses and allowances £163.69.

**RESOLVED** - On a proposal by FB, seconded by PS and carried, these Accounts were approved for payment, cheques signed and original Invoices initialled.

**CL, DCN, JE & KN left the meeting – RG took the Chair-**

**RESOLVED** - On a proposal by FB, seconded by SA and carried, a donation of £2,480. was approved for payment to Cradley Village Hall Management Committee and a cheque was signed.

**CL, DCN, JE & KN rejoined the meeting**

**REPORTS** –

**Planning** – The Chairman reported that the following applications had been considered –

Tudor Cottage, The Old Barn, Stiffords Bridge – Conversion of outbuilding for use as additional accommodation incidental to the use of The Old Hop Barn as a single dwellinghouse – ***We recommend no permission is given until vacancy is obtained and the staircase removed. We understand that permission for this has been refused in the past, with good reason, and that there have been previous attempts to occupy this as a separate dwelling followed by promises to vacate. Further inconsistencies have been notified to you by the neighbour Sue Lim. We are uncertain where this building lies in relation to the legal boundary of the premises and you should ensure that no part of the changes to the building encroach on neighbouring property.***

Ashcombe House, Bosbury Road, Cradley – Single storey extension and internal alterations to include conversion of garage to kitchen – ***No comments.***

Wells Farm, Tanhouse Lane, Cradley – proposed certificate of lawful development for an existing use as a dwelling not used for agricultural occupancy – ***We have no definite evidence to refute the assertions made in this application.***

The Gables, Chapel Lane, Westfields, Cradley – retrospective application for two storey rear extension (dormer style) – ***We ask you to pay special attention that the details are in accordance with the listed building requirements of the extension.***

Land at Finchers Corner, Cradley – fell 1 x multi stemmed ash tree, covered by TPO – ***No good reason has been given for removal of the tree and the applicant had previously assured parishioners that its removal would not be necessary. We consider it to be an important landscape feature providing visual relief, a visual feature which will shortly be surrounded by buildings, and a local wildlife habitat. Its removal would be considerably detrimental to the area. The tree is known to be older than 35 years , older than the Arboriculturalist’s estimate, and is highly valued by parishioners. The reason for the original TPO would have been to retain the benefit of such***

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***trees to parishioners, and we see no cause for this to have changed. We enclose copies of comments which have been submitted to us from parishioners, and a picture of the tree that helps one understand its landscape value. We strongly recommend the tree be retained and maintained in accordance with the Arboriculturalist’s recommendations and that it be a requirement that the applicant takes all necessary measures, similar to those already taken for the oak tree on the site, to ensure that it is protected.***

The Chairman also reported on items received from Herefordshire Council concerning previous applications approved, refused or withdrawn.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at this point to allow public participation**

A request was received from Mrs. Beech for some traffic lights to control traffic flow at Finchers Corner narrow section.

Dick Harris raised the question regarding access to the new development from Huntingdon and the Chairman advised that this would come up for discussion under correspondence.

**The Chairman re-opened the Parish Council meeting**

**Playing Fields** – RG advised that consultations with Parishioners had resulted in one response. Some ideas for Chapel Lane site had been forwarded to Councillors to consider before the next meeting and it was hoped to get some representation regarding the Buryfields site at the next playgrounds meeting.

**Editorial Group** – Next edition of the Newsletter ready to go to press and should be distributed over the weekend. Web-site still in use but KN advised he proposed to take down The Forum which was not being used.

**HALC** – No report available.

**Correspondence – RG left the room** – The Chairman advised regarding e-mail from Tim Evans dated June 2010 regarding site access during work in progress. Concerns were also raised concerning loose earth left around an open drain and it appeared the Developer had not put into effect all the promises he had made prior to commencement of the building works. The Chairman advised he felt the best course would be to request a site meeting.

***The Chairman closed the meeting at this point to allow public participation***

Dick Harris advised that he had met Tim Evans on site advising as follows – (1)The Developer had **not** said Huntingdon would not be used by large vehicles stating that he would not use the lane adjacent to the site because of high pressure water main, (2) the Developer had not approached either the Parish Council or Herefordshire Council with his change of undertaking, including whether he could carry on with the site under these conditions and (3)he had agreed to a weekly e-mail of his plans, although he stated he would not be held to it. Mr. Harris also advised that a site cabin had been delivered blocking Huntingdon for hours and that youngsters had cycled under the crane whilst the cabin was being offloaded.

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***The Chairman thanked Mr. Harris for his input and reopened the meeting at this time.***

The Chairman asked Councillors how it was considered this matter should be approached and it was agreed to request a site meeting once it was ascertained what conditions had been attached to the planning permission for the site.

**RESOLVED** – On a proposal by the Chairman, seconded by KN and carried, it was agreed the Chairman work with JE, TLJ and SA to arrange a site meeting with Tim Evan, representatives from Hereford Council, Severn Trent Water and other local parishioners in an attempt to resolve issues.

**OTHER CORRESPONDENCE –**

- 1) Letter, Herefordshire Council regarding footpath CD83 (sent to JE) and since replied to.
- 2) Letter, Herefordshire Council regarding availability of £17K for play facilities.
- 3) Letter, Herefordshire Council regarding precept payment dates.
- 4) E-mail, David Jones re street naming for land at Fincher's Corner.
- 5) E-mail Bob Haywood regarding litter problem in Storridge.
- 6) E-mails advising Churchyard expenditure from Cradley, Storridge and The Chapel.
- 7) News release regarding any proposed street parties to mark royal wedding.
- 8) E-mail, Tina Wood regarding affordable housing site in Cradley.
- 9) Letter, Bill Bloxsome, Herefordshire Council regarding oak tree at St. Katherine's field.
- 10) Letter, S.J. Morris advising that paperwork regarding Rectory Lane had been passed to Clive Hall in January 2011, in reply to our original letter dated October 2010.
- 11) Letter, National Trust requesting us to include their major volunteer recruitment campaign in our Newsletter.
- 12) Diamond Jubilee celebration letter.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS – Rectory Lane, drainage report regarding Fincher’s Corner, quote for grass cutting, Parish meeting proposals, Fincher’s Corner traffic management, and Diamond Jubilee and Localism Bill for consideration by new Council after May elections.

Following a request to KN it was RESOLVED on a proposal by the Chairman, seconded by RG and carried, that the Three Village Festival Group be given permission to use our distribution team for delivery of information concerning the forthcoming event.

REPORTS for further Agendas –

SALT – SA reported that he had enquired regarding the availability for additional salt for the A4103 during bad weather but because of health & safety issues this would not be available. However, it was reported that Millbank Garage at Storridge was prepared to store additional salt if required to do so.

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JE reported on meeting with Planning Officer Roland Close at the Church regarding lack of signage to the Church and the Village Hall and Roland Close had suggested a sign at the bottom of the lane adjacent to the notice board and also on the grass verge at Fincher’s Corner, but advised that planning permission would be required. It was suggested the Church consider their exact requirements and if necessary, apply for planning permission which would come before the Parish Council for consideration.

Next meeting to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> March in Storridge Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9pm.

D. Creed Newton

8<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Signed..... Chairman. Dated.....