

MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held in Cradley Village Hall on Tuesday 13th September 2011 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – C. Lowder (CL – in the Chair), K. Nason (KN) W. Harries (WH) M. Allfrey (MA) T. Lloyd-Jones (TLJ) A. Eldridge (AE) C. Smith (CS) F. Beard (FB) M. Brooksbank (MB) S. Davies (SD) S. Adam (SA) and B. Gordon (BG). Also in attendance were District Councillors T. Johnson and C. Attwood and three members of the public.

APOLOGIES for inability to attend the meeting were received and approved from R. Diamond who was on holiday and A. Symondson due to a family bereavement.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST received in items on the Agenda –

- K. Nason -Cradley Village Hall – personal.
- C. Lowder -Cradley Village Hall – personal.
- S. Adam - Drainage issues – personal.
- M. Allfrey - Land adjoining the school – prejudicial.

MINUTES – The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th August 2011 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

REPORT by District Councillor T. Johnson

- He confirmed Herefordshire Council had won an Enterprise Zone grant.
- The planning application is in for the old market site in Hereford.
- He had approached Bill Wiggin about an official opening of the Buryfield play area site.
- He had spoken with Mr. Gwillam from Bourne Villa about the threatened wheel clamping at Chapel Orchard and had agreed to take the matter up with R. Close.
- District Councillor C. Attwood advised on the formation of a Cluster Group for Parish Councils in the area, with the exception of Ledbury Town Council, regarding the forthcoming Locality Working issues.

PARISH PLAN REPORTS – No reports available from any Group.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING – The Clerk had circulated all Councillors with letters and analysis from Kat La Tzsar. The question of occupancy of small flats at The Leys was discussed and it was agreed that they were not solely for local use and let on a basis of need. It was agreed that when the survey was carried out, there were many interested parties looking for local properties but concerns were expressed over the two properties at Old School Close which were now on the market and it appeared they were difficult to sell. It was generally agreed there is a need for smaller rented properties which people could afford.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by TLJ, seconded by KN and carried it was agreed the Clerk notify the relevant authorities “that given the current availability of affordable houses at

Old School Close and the anticipated properties at both St. Katherines and Dragonwyck (total of six properties) the Parish Council consider that the immediate need is covered and therefore we propose putting this requirement into abeyance until a further need is proven".

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By Prior agreement, M. Brooksbank left the meeting at 8.10 for a business meeting.

UPDATE REPORTS –

Rectory Lane – Meeting arranged with members from Herefordshire Council for later in the month and that the Chairman, D. Creed-Newton, M. Hames, R. Gill and J. Edgar would be attending. D. Creed Newton had kindly agreed to take notes and it was hoped that the meeting might head towards a positive conclusion of this lengthy matter.

TRAFFIC ISSUES – A4103 – Review completed and the conclusion was that at Storridge the existing 50mph limit was most appropriate and that reduction would not result in a noticeable reduction in vehicle speeds, indeed, experience had shown that it was possible they may increase. Clerk to request full details of the review.

20mph OUTSIDE SCHOOL – It was reported that three schools have temporary 20mph zones outside them and they are currently being assessed by Amey as to how effective they are in reducing speeds. Once established they will then be able to work through the list of schools who have requested them, but that they are fairly expensive to implement (hence the review) and assuming they find them effective, it is still unlikely they will be able to progress many each year. Clerk to request a note of the full costings of implementing the 20mph speed zone.

COWLEIGH ROAD – Highways at Worcestershire County Council had spoken with F. Beard regarding the problems and advised that they were endeavouring to contact the owner of the property who lived in Essex and would report back to us in due course. In the meantime it had been noted that the pipe gushing water onto the road had been diverted.

MOBILE LIBRARY – TLJ confirmed she had spoken with Royal British Legion who had confirmed that there was only someone manning the building at night, and whilst they did have some available space, they would be looking for some recompense. In the absence of R. Diamond it was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until next meeting.

DRAINAGE ISSUES – SA advised nothing further to report but hoped to get Cllr. C. Attwood to look into the issues.

DOG FOULING – Some signs made for display in play areas at Chapel Lane and Buryfields. Following an incident at Buryfields, some signs also being made regarding drinking of alcohol and overnight camping. Thanks expressed to S. Adams for provision of the signs F.O.C. KN will attempt to find some frames to enable Byelaws to be displayed.

PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS – Questionnaires sent out, some replies received with varying responses and some requests for a public meeting. KN will urge response to the

Questionnaire in the Newsletter, and it was agreed to discuss the matter and hopefully reach a decision at the October meeting.

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TRAINING DATE – Provisionally booked with Lynda Wilcox for 1st November 2011 at 7.30pm. The provision of tea/coffee agreed, and Clerk to advise both Colwall and Mathon PCs in the hope that some of their Councillors will attend the training session at a suggested figure of £10. a head. Clerk to enquire whether Storridge Village Hall was available for the event.

The Chairman closed the meeting to enable public participation

CHAPEL ORCHARD entrance – Access to the back of Bourne Villa had been part of the Planning Permission for development of the site, and although it had been agreed that the work should be completed by 1st March 2011 this had not taken place. Mr. George Gwillam advised no access or visibility splay had been provided and both District Councillors agreed to take up the matter with Herefordshire Council. Mr. Gwillam also queried the need for the proposal to provide allotments at Chapel Lane and also raised the problems with site traffic to the development at Finchers Corner accessing the site through Huntingdon and it was agreed the Council would contact IE Developments regarding this.

The Chairman re-opened the Council meeting

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION – MA had offered a site for a Beacon on that night, and the Clerk was to supply Councillor's with details of celebration mugs which she had been advised were available with the Parish Council's name on them.

CLUSTER GROUP – It was felt important that the Parish Council take part in this proposal in order that we do not lose our identity. It was agreed that the Chairman and Brian Gordon attend the first meeting and on a proposal by the Chairman seconded by KN and carried BG kindly offered to be the Council Representative and Report back to full Council following meetings of the Cluster Group.

THREE VILLAGE FESTIVAL – The Parish Council were to ask for full accounting details of the monies following the Festival but it was generally felt that the monies from the Parish Council was given as a Donation rather than a Grant.

INSURANCE – The Clerk advised Councillors that as previously agreed by them, the Chapel Lane play equipment was not insured. Following installation of play equipment at Buryfields, the Clerk was to provide details to the Insurance Co. and request an insurance quote from them to cover the new equipment, including details of any excess which would be applied.

FINANCIAL MATTERS –

ANNUAL RETURN – The Clerk advised a clear audit had taken place without any queries and additional cost – thanks were expressed to the Clerk.

106 DEVELOPMENT GRANT – The Clerk advised that funds of £7,999. had been received from Herefordshire Council for the play equipment at Buryfields. Following receipt of this the Clerk was authorised to pay the final Invoice from Playquest for £6,719.16. enabling a refund of the VAT paid on the Account totalling £1599.80 to be reclaimed before the half yearly audit on 30th September 2011.

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PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS – The following Accounts had been received for payment –

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| • Inland Revenue, PAYE for August | £116.00. |
| • Storrige Village Hall Committee – donation | £913.04. |
| • CVHMC, hire charges | £20.00. |
| • Mazars, audit fee | £342.00. |
| • Clerk's allowances and expenses | £192.37. |

On a proposal by TLJ, seconded by WH and carried, these Accounts were approved for payment and cheques signed. For the benefit of new Councillors, the donation to Storrige Village Hall Committee was explained.

REPORTS from various Committees –

MA reported that the under-mentioned applications had been discussed –

- DMN/111585 F & L – The Nupend – removal of existing dutch barn, conversion/restoration of existing brick and stone barns to residential units – no objections raised.
- DMN/112293/E – The Halesend House – upgrade seven spans of 11kv 2 wire to 3 wire and two spans of LV2 wire top 4 core overhead lines with a tolerance of 30m either side – no objections raised.
- DMN110558/F – Land adjoining Dragonwych – demolition of existing bungalow, the creation of a new vehicular access and erection of six houses, two of which would be affordable – We repeated our concerns over access visibility and drainage but no objections raised.
- DMN/111739/F – Redwood – amended plans – we repeated our previous comments.

The Chairman also reported that the application to retain 8 UPVC windows at Kingsbridge had been withdrawn.

Churchyards Committee – The Chairman advised nothing to report.

Playing Field Committee – It was reported the wasp nest had been dealt with. Play equipment installed although the Chairman of NCRA considered that the swings had been installed in the wrong place. The question of a shelter was discussed and the Clerk reported receipt of a letter from NCRA requesting a donation of £2,165 plus delivery plus VAT. A total of £501. remained in hand for the Buryfields site from the 106 fund, and it was agreed that KN & CL work with NCRA to obtain

Quotations for an alternative shelter and deal with the matter without reporting back to the Parish Council. With regard to the gate recently donated to NCRA, it was also agreed that a letter donating the gate to the Parish Council would be required to enable the Council to take over responsibility for the gate.

Editorial Group – KN advised the Reporter would be distributed towards the end of September. Parish Plan web site not being viewed on a regular basis and it was discussed whether it would be possible to merge the Parish Plan and the Parish Council into one site.

HALC – MA advised the AGM would be held at Brockington on the 22nd October 2011.

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CORRESPONDENCE –

- E-Mail- Anthony Bush regarding need/supply of sandbags.
- E-mail – HALC regarding local Development Framework Core Strategy meeting for local Parish Councils at Colwall Village Hall at 7.30 on 29th September.
- E-mail regarding traffic issues copied to all.
- Letter – North Cradley Residents Association Chairman seeking funding for shelter costing £2,165 plus 10% delivery charge plus VAT.
- E-mail – Pat Edwards regarding provision of allotments at Chapel Lane.
- E-mail – affordable housing copied to all.

LITERATURE -

- The Clerk magazine.
- CVA Ledbury District Autumn Newsletter.
- HALC – Information Corner
- Malvern CAB Annual Review.
- Clerks & Councils Direct magazine for September.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS – Cluster Group, affordable housing decision, traffic issues, mobile library, drainage, dog fouling signs, allotment Questionnaire urging return, Jubilee Celebrations, new play equipment.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE Agenda – Jubilee Celebrations There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.54.

NEXT MEETING to take place on Tuesday 11th October 2011.

C. Lowder

11th October 2011

Signed..... Dated.....

