

June 2012/22A

MINUTES/ NOTES of a meeting held in Cradley Village Hall on Friday, 29th June 2012 at 2pm.

PRESENT – C. Lowder (Chairman of the Parish Council) K. Nason (Vice Chairman of the Parish Council) T. Lloyd-Jones (Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Parish Council) and the Clerk. Attending from Herefordshire Council was Trea Connon, Housing Development Officer and also Kat La Tzar from West Mercia Housing Association.

The Meeting took place following receipt of a letter from Trea Connon concerning the Housing Needs Survey into Affordable Housing which took place in 2010 (copy letter attached).

C. Lowder declared a personal interest because his wife had previously worked with Trea Connon in the housing department at Gloucester City Council.

The Chairman explained the circumstances under which the Parish Council had reached the decision not to proceed with the Affordable Housing as set out in the Minutes dated September 2011/44 as follows ***“RESOLVED – On a proposal by TLJ (Tanya Lloyd Jones) seconded by KN (Ken Nason) 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”.***

The Chairman further explained the Parish Council’s unhappiness regarding the access at Pixiefield which appeared to be the preferred site, and also regarding the poor infrastructure in the Parish. It was further explained that the Parish is not considered to be a RSC and that whilst the Council is not totally opposed to the provision of affordable housing in the future, the Council would prefer to see more infill development and also look into optimizing existing resources before adding on more, rather than proceeding at this time with a single estate of 15/18 affordable units.

Trea Connon explained that following the outcome of Herefordshire Council’s Housing Need Survey they do have to reach a decision on what was shown to be a need in the Parish and she and Kat La Tzar agreed to investigate the whole business into where they could develop a site of approximately 10/12 houses, look again at the Buryfields site and endeavour to get a better understanding of the issues raised by the Parish Council. They would also consider whether another survey was required.

It was agreed a meet again in approximately three/four months time.