

CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

June 2011/24

MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th June 2011 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – C. Lowder (in the Chair – CL), R. Diamond (RD) K. Nason (KN) T.Lloyd-Jones (TLJ) A. Eldridge (AE) F. Beard (FB) M.Brooksbank (MB) M. Allfrey (MA) S.Adam (SA) E.Moseley (ED) and District Councillors C. Attwood and T. Johnson. Also attending were several members of the public.

CO-OPTION – Names received for co-option onto the Council were Wynne Harries, Alison Symondson and Simon Davies. All were approved and Alison Symondson, in attendance, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Council.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

- KN & CL - Cradley Village Hall.
- CL - Broadband item.
- SA - Drainage issues.
- MA - The Eye House Planning application.

To comply with new regulations, a separate register containing Declarations of Interest had been provided, and all members signed their individual Declarations.

MINUTES – The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th May 2011 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Deferred until newly co-opted members attend.

PARISH PLAN – No reports available for discussion.

UPDATE REPORTS –

Rectory Lane – The Clerk advised that following a site meeting, Amey had agreed that Rectory Lane was a public highway and the full report had been forwarded to Herefordshire Council. Cllr. T. Johnson advised that Adrian Blackshaw at Herefordshire Council would be the person dealing with the matter.

Finchers Corner – Nothing to report.

Drainage issues at Sandy Lane – The Clerk advised that Martin Jackson, Bridge & Structures Manager at Amey had replied that he did not have any update news at present, but appreciated that he needed to sit down and answer the Parish Council questions regarding this ongoing problem.

June 2011/25

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Broadband expense for the Chairman – ***CL left the room*** – KN took the Chair and enquired whether the Parish Council would be prepared to meet the expense of a broadband connection and the hire charge for a laptop from the CAPS supply, which would amount to approximately £130 a year enabling the new Chairman to have electronic facilities during his term in office.

MB kindly offered free of charge to supply the Chairman with a laptop from a supply of old equipment at his office.

RESOLVED – MA suggested the Clerk look into the question of whether this was legally possible and if so, proposed that the Parish Council agree to this request. This was seconded by RD and carried. ***CL rejoined the meeting and was advised of the agreement made.***

Expenditure at Buryfields – ***AS declared a personal interest and signed the Register*** -this had been discussed some months ago and the North Cradley Residents Association (NCRA) have put forward a proposal which was presented to all Councillors for consideration. This included one junior playtime equipment, one double flat seat swing plus travel matting and one seesaw springer plus travel matting to be supplied delivered and installed by Play Quest Adventure Play at a cost of £7,999.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by CL seconded by RD and carried it was agreed the Parish Council accept this Quotation.

8x8 Smoking Shelter/Log Cabin – NCRA also put forward a proposal for this equipment which including VAT and delivery would cost an additional £1,059.99

Resolved – It was agreed the Council look into this proposal, and in particular, check whether a covenant in the Conveyance would allow the construction of this type of equipment on the site. Members of the Council were also to draw up a claim to Herefordshire Council for release of part of the £17k held for the Parish Council following the development at Old School Close.

Allotments – The possibility of provision of allotments in the Parish had been raised during the Parish Plan consultations. Some objections had been received regarding the supply at Chapel Lane play area, and the question of whether this was a suitable site was discussed.

RESOLVED – It was agreed the Environmental and Footpaths Group would carry out a survey whether this type of facility was required and to report back the results at the next meeting.

June 2011/26

Affordable Housing – It was agreed to hold an Extraordinary meeting on 5th July 2011 in Cradley Village Hall at 7.30pm when members from Herefordshire Council planning department and the Housing Association would attend to enable a suitable site to be finally agreed, and the representative from the Housing Association advised that once this had been achieved, they would be in a position to act immediately on the affordable housing project.

Highway matters – CL proposed the Parish Council request a site meeting with Amey/Herefordshire Council at Lower Brookside and Pound Bridge to discuss ongoing problems regarding maintenance in the area and TLJ agreed that she would be willing to attend a meeting once this had been arranged. The Chairman also asked AS to liaise with the new Headmaster at the School regarding the introduction of the 20mph speed limit outside the school entrance and it was felt that the Nursery facility now at the School might be of further assistance in obtaining the introduction of the speed limit.

Notification under Data Protection Act 1998 – The Clerk advised that it was compulsory for the Parish Council to register under this scheme at an annual cost of £35. and that it was deemed a criminal offence not to do so. A cheque for the registration fee was to be presented for signature under financial matters.

The Clerk had also circulated all Councillors with advice from NALC that individual Councillors' holding electronic information might also need to register under the Act and it was agreed the Clerk enquire what Herefordshire Councils views were on this matter and what information individual Councillors were allowed to hold.

FINANCIAL MATTERS –

Accounts to year ending 31.3.2011 – The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts as prepared by Internal Auditor Terry Robshaw.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by KN seconded by FB and carried, these were approved as drawn and were signed by the Chairman.

Annual Return to year ending 31.3.2011 – The Clerk had previously circulated the Annual Return as completed by Internal Auditor Terry Robshaw.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by MA seconded by AE and carried, this document was approved as drawn and was signed by the Chairman.

June 2011/27

The following Accounts were presented for payment

- Local Council Review subscription £15.50.
- Inland Revenue PAYE for May £116.00.
- Cradley Village Hall, various expenses £99.35.
- Cradley Village Hall, replacement cheque £35.50.
- Registration fee under Data Protection Act £35.00.
- Clerk's expenses and allowances £263.72.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by RD seconded by TLJ and carried, these Accounts were approved for payment, cheques signed and Invoices initialled.

REPORTS from various Committees and working parties –

PLANNING – The Planning Committee Chairman reported on the following applications which had been considered as a meeting held on the 7th July 2011 –

Grove Court, Suckley – New detached two storey dwelling to replace existing single storey chalet dwelling and separate mobile home dwelling, both of which to be demolished – No objections.

The Oast House adjacent top Gwinllan, Vinesend Lane – Conversion of redundant oast house to provide one bedroom dwelling – No objections.

Wychwood Lodge, Hereford Road, Storrige – safety improvements to access onto the A4103 – We feel that this is an out of keeping design with the local landscape and suggests something of a more suburban grandeur nature rather than an entrance to a country house. We object to the height of the gates and wall and suggest a hedge or fence instead of the brick wall.

The Nupend, Cradley – proposed change of use of existing outbuilding to ancillary accommodation – No objections but request a condition to be imposed that the property should never be sold off separately from the main house.

Halesend, Storrige – proposed subterranean dwelling with associated landscaping, pond and access – whilst this application had been extensively discussed, it had been agreed to defer final comments until such time as the application could be presented to the full Parish Council for their consideration, but in the meantime, the assistance of both District Councillors had been sought in ensuring that the matter be referred to full Council at Herefordshire rather than dealt with under delegated powers. The Chairman closed the meeting to allow public participation.

The occupiers of Kites Nest reported they had never been notified to any meeting and that the proposal had never been discussed with them although they lived at the entrance to the site.

June 2011/28.

Cllr C. Attwood advised that he had spoken to one of the Officers at Herefordshire Planning who had said that they do not have a right to request that planning applications go to full Planning Committee and reported on the criteria for making a case but felt it was important for the voice of the Parish Council to be heard.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by MA seconded by KN and carried with one abstention it was agreed that we accept the reply document as drawn by R. Gill subject to slight amendments as discussed between MB & RG.

REPORTS from various Committees and working parties –

Churchyards Committee – Nothing to report.

Playing fields Committee – Meeting arranged for 6th July 2011.

Editorial Group – KN advised web site regularly being viewed.

Items for the Newsletter – Co-option of new members, Rectory Lane, no action regarding Sandy Lane, allotment referendum, items approved for Buryfields play area, application for the Eye House brought to full Parish Council for representation with request that the planning application should go to full Council, meeting for Affordable Housing agreed for 5th July 2011 in Cradley Village Hall, request for 20mph speed limit outside school to be pursued and that the Annual Return and Accounts to 31st March 2011 had been agreed and signed.

HALC – It was hoped to produce a full training Schedule in the near future.

CORRESPONDENCE –

- Letter from House of Commons regarding summit on living villages.
- SLCC – books available.
- Community First with press release and flyer regarding training in area.
- Herefordshire Council “long service parish councillors” reception.
- Herefordshire Council refusal of planning for conservatory at Mallins Croft.
- Planning training on Saturday 25th June 2011.
- E-mail following site meeting regarding Rectory Lane which had now been passed to Herefordshire Council asking them for their plans for the Lane.

- New Charter draft 2011 for working relationships in Local Government in Herefordshire.
- Letter regarding The Big Chill at Eastnor.
- E-mail regarding The Suckley Health and Wellbeing Group good neighbour scheme.

June 2011/29

LITERATURE received –

- The Clerk magazine.
- Herefordshire Equality & Human Rights Charter 2010/2013.
- HALCs Work plan for period 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012.
- Adopt a BT kiosk.
- Local Council Review.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS – It was requested that the Clerk write to West Malvern Parish Council asking them to request the owners of Zoukra, Cowleigh Road to prevent the water pipe at the back of the property discharging water onto the road over the guttering and for the builders rubble on top of the wall to be removed.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Christopher Lowder

12th July 2011

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

Chairman.