

For Newsletter

Cradley Parish Council meeting Tuesday 9th April

Cradley Village Hall

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Jane Wormold, Neighbourhood Planning Officer for Cradley, who outlined to Council the implications of the "Core Strategy" for Herefordshire.

'What is the Core Strategy?' is usually the call heard when it's mentioned, and the official definition runs as follows: "*The Core Strategy is a key document in the Local Plan, which shapes future development and sets the overall strategic planning framework for the county. It sets a clear vision, closely aligned with the Herefordshire Sustainable Community Strategy (June 2010) as to how the county should look and function and how development needs will be met up to 2031*". The full details can be read at: <https://beta.herefordshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/core-strategy/>

At parish level it means that your Parish Council is tasked with facilitating a greater input from the community, so far as Planning goes, in what we want our area to develop into. This means making more decisions as to what we want to allow in our community so far as developments and planning are concerned. We are tasked with producing a plan that should be adopted by Hereford Planning when deciding to allow or refuse future development in the village. Following questions by Councillors, it was resolved that an extra ordinary meeting would be held on 30th April to discuss the way forward.

Your Council has received a summary of the recent 'housing needs' survey held by Herefordshire at the open meeting at Cradley Village Hall. Unfortunately, for various reasons the data was virtually useless, and further illumination will be sought. This too is turning into something of a saga...

Councillor Wynne Harris (deputising for Councillor Brian Gordon) reported back on the recent meeting of the Parish Councils' Cluster Group , where, amongst other matters, road safety issues were discussed as well as ways of encouraging tourism to the Parishes. It was pointed out that one of the earliest meeting places of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (ie the Mormons)

in the 19th century was in the Fromes Hill area, and consequently many Mormon family researchers visit local Archive depositories, such as Cradley's own Village Hall Heritage room.

The Parish Council, PCC and the Village Hall have all made their representations to Herefordshire/ Amey on its report into Rectory Lane being adopted and maintained at public expense. With a bit of luck the end of this saga is nigh (fingers crossed)!

Buryfields Recreation Area , under the stewardship of North Cradley Residents Association, got the go ahead for a new double swing to be installed as soon as possible. The money will of course come from funds already allotted to us and held by Herefordshire in escrow.

Your Council approved the next phase of work at Chapel Lane recreation area. This will include replacement of the safety matting to existing play equipment and the landscaping and equipping of the "adventure area" with natural features to clamber over and stimulate the imagination. Full details available on the council web site www.cradleyparishcouncil.co.uk.

The road sign on the A4103 to Vinesend Lane was damaged during the recent snowy period and removed for repair. There seems to be no rush by Highways to return it. Your Council has written to the Highways department to ask **"Can we have our sign back please?"**

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 21:50

Please note the next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th May (not the 14th) at Cradley Village Hall.

Ken Nason (Deputy Chair)