

CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 8th April at Cradley Village Hall, and here are some of the issues that were discussed:

Outline Planning Application for Field above Pixiefields

Several members of the public attended for this item in the planning sub-committee, and the Parish Council is strongly against this proposed development on several grounds. Firstly the application is vague on the number of houses (“up to 60”), secondly the number is way above what is required by the Herefordshire Core Strategy especially bearing in mind other applications in the pipeline already, thirdly the field concerned is outside the settlement boundary and a long way from the school, and fourthly the effect of the development on the already over-stretched infra-structure would be severe. The sewerage system of this part of Cradley cannot cope now, as we know from the disgusting overflow onto the road and river at times of heavy rain, at the Kingsbridge pumping station. There is also a real problem with surface water drainage in this part of the village. Please remember that individual comments/objections directly to the Planning Department of Herefordshire Council are still important on this one – deadline 1st May.

County Councillor report

Tony Johnson and Carl Attwood attended and reported that they had met with a representative of Balfour Beattie regarding the pothole problems on the county’s roads – they were told that 50,000 had already been dealt with and there were 20,000 still to go. I think I must just be travelling where the latter still are!! Has anyone been on Aylestone Hill in Hereford recently? The other issue that Councillor Tony Johnson agreed to look into was why the matter of the adoption of Rectory Lane was “stuck in the Legal Department”. Surely we have waited more than long enough already?

New Councillor

Mrs Ann Carver, who has given loyal service as a parish councillor in the past, is willing to serve again, and was co-opted onto the council to fill a vacancy.

Footpaths and Environment Group

A survey of the pavements and walking routes within the villages is still pending, but since the last meeting, a Cradley villager has contacted me to highlight the state of Sandy Lane (the footpath between St Catherine’s and the British Legion), which is very muddy and overgrown. I couldn’t agree more and will aim to give this some priority for attention, as this is a vital walking route to the Surgery, the British Legion and the shop, avoiding the dangerous bend on the B4220.

Missing Sign on A4103

Herefordshire Council will be contacted to enquire about the missing sign “Cradley” as you pass through Ridgeway Cross.

Parish Playing Fields

The Recreation Committee reported to council on action at the Chapel Lane playing fields. Grateful thanks are due to David Woodward, Neil Taylor, and Dan Lowndes for their generous loan of equipment etc.

Parish Council “Reporter”

Hopefully every parishioner will have received a copy in recent weeks – if not, please contact Ken Nason.

The next parish council meeting will be held on 13th May at 7.30 in Cradley Village Hall, but please note that, for once, the meeting in June will be on the first Tuesday of that month, i.e., 3rd June.

WYNNE HARRIES