

CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Cradley Parish Council met for its monthly meeting on Tuesday 13th January at Storridge Village Hall. Vice-Chair Ken Nason chaired the meeting, as Councillor Chris Lowder was unwell – hopefully he will be feeling better by the time you read this report. Here are some of the issues that were discussed:

Parish Lengthsman Scheme

Councillor Geoff Fielding has been looking into applying for this scheme and been mightily frustrated by a recent change in the goalposts at Herefordshire Council. However it was still felt by Council that the new scheme could be worth applying for, and he will therefore continue his sterling work with a new application.

Resignation

A big thank you to Councillor Tracey Iwanczuk for her work on the Council until her recent resignation. This leaves a vacancy if anyone wishes to put him or herself forward for consideration; however, due to the closeness of Parish Council elections in May, there is no obligation on the Council to pursue filling the post at this stage in an active way.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Councillor Tanya Lloyd-Jones stated that the land survey from Carly Tinkler was not yet finalised.

Heart of the Village

Councillor Alan Eldridge reported on a successful consultation meeting at Cradley Primary School on Monday 12th January when 13 different options for a shop/café were discussed in small groups. All the points raised at that meeting will be considered carefully by the Heart of the Village Group, and, in time, an updated document will appear on the Heart of the Village website. Vice-Chair Ken Nason thanked the HoV group for their excellent work, including for the very well organised meeting on 12th January. **By a vote of the Council the HoV working party of the Parish Council was formally dissolved.**

Even if/when a Community Benefit Society is formed to move the concept forward, the Parish Council will still be kept **fully** informed of developments.

Footpaths Officers

Jeff White and Anne Scarsbrook (**spelling?**) are willing to share the duties of keeping an eye on our footpaths, and they will receive a letter from the Council informing them that their work would be covered by the Parish Council insurance policy.

Chapel Lane Recreation Ground

The issue of flattening an area as a football pitch is still live, and the Recreation Group is still hoping that this could be in place in 2015.

Our Clerk

If we are not careful, it would be easy to take the work of our much loved and respected Clerk, Mary Barnett, for granted. She gives very wise advice to the Council, its Chair and individual councillors, both at meetings and between times. In addition to all this, she deals with bodies such as Herefordshire Council with terrier-like determination (I have seen some of the emails!). We were all concerned about

the continuing mess after the lorry accident on the A4103, but I doubt if it would have been cleared as soon as it was without Mary's persistent pressure on our behalf.
THANK YOU Mary.

Next Scheduled Meeting

February 10th 2015 in Storridge Village Hall (time to be confirmed)

WYNNE HARRIES

01886 880 976