

## **CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Cradley Parish Council met for its monthly meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at Cradley Village Hall. Here are some of the issues that were discussed:

### **Councillor Training**

Residents of the parish will be pleased to know I am sure that the Council and individual councillors take part in very useful training sessions to help us all fulfil our duties to follow best-practice guidelines and of course the Law. For example, Councillors Alan Eldridge and Councillor Geoff Fielding reported positively on recent training provided by the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils (HALC).

### **Local Council Award Scheme**

We are going to sign up to this 'quality mark' assessment to ensure that we discipline ourselves to reach nationally recognised standards of governance. Councillor Ken Nason stated that we are very close to the requirements for Foundation Level already, and that we should aim to aspire for the higher levels as soon as possible. Do check the Parish Council website as you will see more and more information on its activities.

### **Herefordshire's Core Strategy**

There is some consternation in Cradley that the numbers of new houses apparently allocated previously in the draft Core Strategy were lower than required and it is now proposed that just over 100 would now be our allocation. We are keen to check in detail how this figure was arrived at and clarification on this is being sought from a senior officer at Herefordshire Council.

### **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

It was proposed that a public consultation meeting would be held on **3<sup>rd</sup> June in Cradley Village Hall 7.30 pm** at which the Landscape Assessment Survey would be presented (please note that the whole Survey is posted in the NDP section of the Parish Council website), and other options relevant to **community needs for the future** will be discussed – e.g. shop/café and sports facilities.

### **Parish Lengthsman**

Councillor Geoff Fielding reported that after all his preparatory work, he was still awaiting confirmation of the scheme for Cradley Parish from Balfour Beattie. This delay is frustrating as everyone at this end is keen to get started and proceed with the work.

### **Heart of the Village (HoV)**

Councillor Alan Eldridge reported that the HoV group would wish to do a detailed topographical survey of Morgan's Field as part of its aim to present a cogent plan to the community for consideration at the 3<sup>rd</sup> June meeting and elsewhere.

### **Road Repairs**

Mary Barnett, our Parish Clerk, reported to Council that Cowleigh Road would be closed sometime in May for road repairs. About time too I hear you say! Let's hope they do a good job.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting**

May 12th 2015 at 7 pm in Cradley Village Hall.

WYNNE HARRIES

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