

## **CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Cradley Parish Council met for its monthly meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at Cradley Village Hall. Here are some of the issues that were discussed:

### **Parish Council Website ( [www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk) )**

Could I first of all point all residents towards the website, as there is a wealth of information on all the council's activities there, including news, past minutes of meetings, and lots of other reference material.

### **Elections May 7<sup>th</sup> 2015**

All members of the previous Parish Council were elected plus Councillor Derek Scully from Storridge, who was warmly welcomed to his first meeting. The Chair and Vice-Chair of Council remain Councillors Chris Lowder and Ken Nason respectively.

### **Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> April at Storridge**

Andrew Ashcroft, Assistant Director for Planning at Herefordshire Council, attended this meeting and was duly grilled by your councillors as to how the housing allocation for Cradley is now up to 103. He did emphasise that this was an estimate and not an exact figure set in stone. However, the Cradley Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) now being drafted did need to have a robust estimate for housing over the next 15 years to satisfy the national Planning Inspectorate before approval. The proposed development at Pixiefields could be included in the housing estimate for NDP purposes. Andrew Ashcroft stated that if Cradley wished to challenge the 103 figure, then Herefordshire would have a debate with us before finalising the NDP. At our 12<sup>th</sup> May meeting Councillor Sarah Herriott offered to draft a letter from the Parish Council complaining about the figure. Further details of the 20<sup>th</sup> April meeting are available on the Parish Council website or from the Parish Clerk.

### **Annual Parish Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

A relaxed and convivial meeting was held – you see, you should have been there!!

### **Land for Sale opposite the Village Hall**

This was raised, and it was noted that the Village Hall Committee would look into possibilities for community ownership. There was provisional support for the idea from the Parish Council.

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

A meeting has been held between various proposers of projects for the village, the AONB (Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and the NDP group, in preparation for the public consultation meeting on **3<sup>rd</sup> June, and the presentations on 4<sup>th</sup> June** in Cradley Village Hall (see details elsewhere).

### **Parish Lengthsman and Footpaths**

We are all indebted to Councillor Geoff Fielding for leading on these schemes, and we hope there will be a corresponding level of energy and co-operation from Balfour Beatty! A stiff letter re the delays in procedure will be winging its way from the Parish Council! You can now report any "C" or "U" road and footpath problems to Geoff Fielding on the Parish Council website, and he will draw up a programme of work for the Lengthsman.

### **Council Finances**

I am pleased to report that the 2014/15 accounts have been audited and pronounced in good health. Praise is due indeed to Mary Barnett, our Parish Clerk, for keeping everything ship-shape.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting**

June 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 7 pm in Cradley Village Hall.

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