

## **CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Cradley Parish Council met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April in Cradley Village Hall. Here are some of the issues that were discussed:

### **Emergency Planning**

We were pleased to welcome Ian Baker, Emergency Planning Officer at Herefordshire Council, to the meeting – he outlined the fact that a template plan and training are available. He urged communities such as ours to set up a working party to devise a local plan that would draw all available resources together to support the local population and visitors, in the event of a major incident involving such things as flood, snow etc. Councillor Sam Roffe has agreed to be part of such a group which could involve councillors and other members of the community. Why not volunteer now!

### **County Councillor**

Councillor Patricia Morgan said that she was very concerned at the state of the roads (including “C” and “U” ones), particularly after the recent wet weather, and she would be pressing to get more resources for these if possible. She informed us of the Herefordshire School Investment Plan where 100 million pounds would be allocated over the next 20 years for capital investment in infrastructure. We were also informed that a Local Transport Plan was shortly to go to the Herefordshire Council Cabinet. Chair, Councillor Chris Lowder, reminded Councillor Morgan of the importance of the existing bus services through Cradley.

### **Heart of the Village**

Council considered the “Heart of the Village” planning application for a shop/café on Morgan’s Field at Kingsbridge. After a robust discussion among councillors, and members of the public in attendance, the Council voted not to support this application. The decision now rests with Herefordshire Planning Department.

### **Beavers Wildflower Project at Brookside**

The Council agreed to support this very worthwhile project with a small grant to assist and encourage our young residents and help beautify our environment at the same time.

### **Poundbridge Footpath**

The Council remains very concerned indeed about public safety on this vital route, and we shall keep up the pressure on Herefordshire Council to sort it out permanently.

### **Lengthsman Schemes**

As Councillor Geoff Fielding is constantly, and quite rightly, reminding us, the bureaucracy is extremely trying to say the least. The contracts for this financial year are still not sorted, for example. For the long term, we all need to consider how much of the Parish Precept should be allocated to keep this work going for our parish – the funding from Herefordshire will be reducing drastically in future years. Please let us know what you think.

### **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/CradleyParishCouncil/>

The Parish Council Facebook page is being used – the more who join in the better, so please have a look.

### **Annual Parish Meeting and Next Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at **Cradley Village Hall** on 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 p.m., with the Planning Committee beforehand at 7 p.m. This year we are holding the obligatory **Annual Parish Meeting** (including reports from the village halls and charities) for residents of the parish on the same evening at **6.15 p.m.**, also at Cradley Village Hall - tea, coffee, biscuits and a glass of wine will be served from 6.00 pm.

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