

MINUTES of a meeting of Cradley Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th March 2017 in Cradley Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm following a meeting of the Planning Committee.

Present - Cllrs. C. Lowder (in the Chair) K. Nason (KN) D. Scully (DS) F. Beard (FB) C. Lambert (CL) G. Thomas (GT) A. Eldridge (AE) A. Carver (AC) B. Herriot (BH) S. Davies (SD) A. Scarsbrook (AS) and G. Fielding (GF).

Also in attendance were County Councillor P. Morgan, the Clerk and many members of the public.

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting had been received and were approved from W. Harries and T. Lloyd-Jones.

Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda -

- The Chairman and KN declared a personal interest in the payment to Cradley Village Hall.
- AC declared a personal interest in a tree application at her property.
- DS declared a discloseable pecuniary interest (DPI) in a planning application at his property.

Minutes - The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2017 were taken as read approved and signed by the Chairman subject to a request from CL for an actual proposal to be put forward, seconded and approved with regard to the opening of an Account by the Lengthsman Administrator for the purchase of equipment to enable pothole filling to be carried out.

County Councillor Report - Cllr Morgan advised Council Tax to be increased by 2.9% this year, and that all of their funding will come from Council tax or Business rates. Expenditure of £40m to be spent this year on the roads and she advised that Hereford Council are looking for extra funding for the roads due to their appalling state of repair. The Government Budget for adult social care is £7m. over three years, Hereford University funding of £8m. and cyber funding just under £3m.

Planning - The Chairman advised the following applications had been considered prior to the parish council meeting -

- No.170304 - Land between Crumpton Hill Road and A4104 - four bay timber stable block - ***no objections raised.***
It is recorded that Cllr. D. Scully left the room during discussion on this application having declared a DPI interest.
- No.163642 - 13-36 The Leys - replacement of existing bin storage areas. Replacement of communal paths and new car parking area - ***the Parish Council raise no objection to this but remain unhappy that so much open space in the middle of the site will be lost and suggest a programme of soft landscaping should be carried out around the car parking spaces.***
- No. 170560 - Old Vinesend Farm, Cradley - variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 132971/FH - ***no objections raised.***
- No. 170560 - Braeside, Cradley, WR13 5LJ - yew tree to be reduced 2.5m radius and height and shaped - ***no objections raised.***
- No. 170721 - Russet House, WR13 5LJ - fell two conifer trees - ***no objections raised.***

The Chairman closed the PC meeting to allow public participation in the following application

March 2017/11.

- No. 170241 - Land at Pixiefield - approval of reserved matters of outline approval P140942/O for residential development of up to sixty houses - attending the meeting were many residents from the Pixiefield site and the Chairman allowed public participation by those in attendance. Useful and informative discussion took place between all Councillors and members of the public and the following advices have been forwarded to Planning at Hereford Council -

See full report attached to Minutes - March 2017/11A.

The Chairman closed public question time and re-opened the Council meeting.

Update on Outstanding matter -

- **Defibrillator** - BH advised Ian Bailey had kindly offered to carry out the electrical work to the telephone kiosk free of charge which was much appreciated. Work has started on cleaning and painting the kiosk in readiness for installation.

For consideration -

- **Dog bin at Rectory Lane** - Following a proposal by GF for the positioning of the dog bin for Rectory Lane area this was agreed to be “midway between the highway signpost and the telephone post on the corner of the C1162 and Rectory Lane”. This proposal was seconded by the Chairman and carried - CL abstained from voting.
- **Smiths of Derby** - An offer for a new three year contract had been received for maintenance of the Parish Clock - this was discussed and on a proposal by the Chairman seconded by AS and carried, this was agreed and also agreed that the balance of the funding would be authorised as set out in the Finance section below.

Finance - The Clerk advised the following accounts had been received and were due for payment -

➤ HMRC - PAYE	£140.00
➤ HALC - affiliation fee 2017/18	£782.50.
➤ Clerks & Councils Direct	£12.00.
➤ S. Penter, oak tree (SDG)	£78.87.
➤ Glasdon, dog bin	£126.69.
➤ J. Phillips, Lengthsman	£518.75.
➤ Smiths of Derby, balance re clock	£423.60.
➤ CV Hall, hire fees etc	£34.40.
➤ Clerk, expenses Nov-March 2017.	£176.15.

On a proposal by GF seconded by KN and carried, the above Accounts were approved for payment excluding the payment to Cradley Village Hall for hire fees and copying charges.

Cllr. F. Beard took the Chair and on a proposal by DS seconded by AC and carried the payment of £34.40. was approved for payment to Cradley Village Hall - ***noted that the Chairman and Vice Chairman abstained from voting on this payment request.***

The Clerk advised that the Lengthsman had mislaid his wages cheque for £300. for January during a recent house move and had asked the Administrator and Clerk if it was possible to stop the cheque and issue another. This had been done and the Lengthsman had paid the Clerk the sum of £10. to cover the charge which the Bank had imposed for the stopped cheque. Another cheque was issued for his January wages of £300.

Reports from Committees and working parties -

- ❖ Footpaths , wildlife & environment - GF advised another meeting to be held shortly.
- ❖ Lengthsman/P2 update - Report had been circulated to all Councillors prior to meeting. On a proposal by GT seconded by BH and carried it was agreed the Administrator open a credit account for the hire of materials with a limit of £500. and GF advised on the costs to be incurred for the hire of various items out of the Lengthsman budget.
- ❖ Highway Issues - it had been impossible to ascertain who had authorised the traffic count on Chapel Lane just below the Huntingdon estate entrance.
- ❖ Recreation Group/Working Party - A report on the future management of the Chapel Lane and Buryfields recreation areas had been issued prior to the meeting and on a proposal by GT seconded by CL and carried it was agreed ***“that henceforth the newly formed Recreation Working Group of the Parish Council is given full responsibility for the day to day maintenance and management of all matters relating to the Chapel Lane and Buryfields recreation areas. It is de facto implicit that the working group will seek council approval for capital expenditures, development proposals and any contractual agreements”***.
- ❖ *GT reported on the problems with regard to the football pitch at the Chapel Lane site and it was agreed that GT would get in touch with Peter O’Boyle who had carried out the work, explain what has happened and what the PC have been told and ask him for his comments. Various prices were indicated for the work which was required to make the football pitch “fit for purpose” at some later stage.*
- ❖ Churchyards Committee - The Chairman advised nothing to report other than the Quotation which had been received and approved for the three year maintenance for the Clock.
- ❖ NDP - In the absence of TLJ, the Clerk advised nothing further to report. AS advised a further application has been made for funding and awaited confirmation that this had been approved in due course.
- ❖ Resilience Group - BH advised the Group is proceeding but nothing further to report at this stage.
- ❖ Policies & Procedures - Nothing further to report but meeting set up for later in the month.

Literature & Correspondence - List submitted to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Not on the list was a **letter of resignation from the Vice Chairman K. Nason** with effect from the 15th March but he had offered to assist in running the website, PC diary and the issue of the Newsletter items on receipt of the relative information from the Council if the Parish Council required assistance with these items. **The Chairman proposed a sincere “vote of thanks” to Ken for his dedicated service to the Parish Council over many years and this was unanimously agreed followed by a round of applause.** Cllr AS proposed that we ask Ken to carry on with the website, diaries and Newsletter until the matter could be fully discussed at the April meeting.

- 1) Letter - Highways England regarding resurfacing scheme at A49/44 roundabout which did not seem to affect the Cradley area.
- 2) Letter - Balfour Beatty regarding diversion order on Footpath CD47 (in part).
- 3) Letter - Herefordshire Council regarding payment of our Precept for £32,500 and advising that Council Tax Support grant is now no longer payable.

- 4) Letter - Worcestershire Council regarding minerals local plan.
- 5) Clerks & Councils Direct and The Clerk magazines for March 2017.
- 6) Advices from Herefordshire Council regarding repayment of £4,707.34 for Lengthsman & P3 services carried out by the Parish Council.
- 7) E-mail - Richard Perkins, Herefordshire Council advising that ecologist will be attending at Pound Bridge first week in April and dependent upon outcome, they hope to proceed without further delay at Pound Bridge.
- 8) E-mail - Mrs. V.A. Taylor regarding Pixiefield and concerns over impact on highways, infrastructure etc.
- 9) E-mail - Chairman regarding traffic count cables in Chapel Lane just below entrance to Huntingdon site.
- 10) E-mail via Cllr P. Morgan from Amy Development Supervisor & Enforcement Officer regarding siting of caravan, erection of a shed and siting of a shipping container all with no consent on field opposite Coombe Farm, Coombe Lane, WR13 5JF.

Newsletter Reports agreed regarding advices received from Cllr Morgan particularly with regard to Council Tax increase, helpful debate on Pixiefield, formation of Working party for the two recreation areas and agreed the position of the dog bin for Rectory Lane.

Councillor Reports - FB commented on the litter on the A4103 from The New Inn up to Storridge Village Hall and BH advised he hoped to attend the East Herefordshire meeting next week and would report back at the April meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

F. Beard

11th April 2017.

Signed..... Dated.....

Chairman.