

CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Here are the main points from the latest Parish Council meeting on 9th May at Cradley Village Hall:

A New Beginning at Cradley Parish Council

Hearty congratulations to Councillor Geoff Fielding on being elected as the Chair of the Council for 2017/18, and to Councillor Derek Scully as Vice-Chair. Geoff clearly sees this time as a new beginning, and outlined some of his aims for the year; he wishes to serve the whole community, consult on what the Council's priorities should be, uphold the Nolan principles of good governance (do please look them up and hold us to account for them), and do everything he can to ensure the Council delivers on any agreed commitments. He is also aware that we need to be as rigorous as possible in managing any risks faced by the Council. You will be able to see a full list of other appointments and working groups etc. in the official minutes of the meeting. I know that Geoff plans to communicate directly and regularly with you all, and indeed to others who do not read this Newsletter (why are there such people in the Parish? – shame on them!).

Success! – New Defibrillator in Place

If you don't regularly walk or drive past the Old Post Office, you may not have noticed the new defibrillator in place, and in working order, in the former telephone box, splendidly refurbished as it is. Being a musician myself, let me provide a long side-drum roll followed by at least three trumpets in magnificent fanfare! We have waited long for this reassuring facility in our community, and a very big thank you is due to Councillor Bruce Herriot for his perseverance with the relevant bureaucracies, as well as with fund raising. I know that Bruce is keen that we also thank Nigel Munford for alterations and decoration, and Ian Bailey for electrical work. This is yet another example of all the wonderful voluntary work that makes our community such a joy to be part of. Bruce has arranged the following talk, now that we have a defibrillator in the village:

Awareness Session – Community Heartbeat
Cradley Village Hall
Tuesday 20 June 2017 at 7.30 pm
If you wish to attend please register with
bruce.herriot@btinternet.com
01886 880 146

County Councillor

Councillor Patricia Morgan updated us on some aspects of the Pixiefields proposals but there was nothing substantive to report at the moment, so we remain in limbo really. She said the County Council had delivered a balanced budget, but was working hard for more money for roads – we certainly need it spent around here, Patricia! Such things as pothole management (and prevention – now there's a concept!) are all to do with tight short-term revenue budgets, but at least there is still a distinct possibility of some significant capital investment coming our way for the A4103/B4220 junction health and safety proposals – keep praying!

Neighbourhood Development Plan

At the time of our meeting, Councillor Tanya Lloyd Jones said that the NDP referendum in Cradley could be either on 13th or 20th July. Now that we have reached

this stage with the Plan, it does mean that its policies can be a material consideration in any planning applications, even before the referendum takes place. It is hoped to hold a public meeting close to the referendum date (of which we await confirmation from Herefordshire Council), so that you will have the opportunity to ask questions or clarify issues. There will also be a circulation of the Parish Council Reporter sent to all households explaining the whole process. I know we will all feel a bit jaded with elections etc. by then, but this is important for us here in the Parish, so **PLEASE VOTE**. As ever, you will need to check the Parish Council website for up-to-date information.

Pound Bridge Area Repairs

Work is scheduled for 5th June – something else to keep praying for!

Recreation Grounds

I do hope you have noticed some significant tidying-up in both recreation grounds; thanks to all concerned.... and the little black underground creatures have been despatched to another world, where I hope they will be very happy.

Lengthsman

More good news: I am pleased to confirm that Jeremy Phillips has signed up for a further year. Some of those potholes will be quaking in their bottoms, if that isn't too indelicate for this august periodical.

Change of Date for June Meeting

As I mentioned last month, the June Parish Council meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday (6th), not the usual 2nd Tuesday.

Hooray!

Forgive my light-headedness, but isn't it wonderful to have had some lovely summery weather AND some rain recently. Hope I don't regret writing that by the time you read this.

Wynne Harries

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