

Cradley Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

At an Extraordinary meeting, held on Tuesday 1st December, your Parish Council voted to adopt the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan presented by the NDP working party.

The NDP group then met with Herefordshire Council's NDP team to assess our approach and get guidance on the best road forward to completion and acceptance of the full Plan.

It appears that some disquiet has been raised in the community on this matter, but, happily, we can now confirm that Hereford assured us that both the NDP working party, as well as the Parish Council as a whole, has acted inclusively and wholly correctly in producing this vitally important draft Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Don't forget – the NDP is our strongest line of defence against developers, and unfettered and ugly urbanisation in and around our beautiful village.

Especially now, since – at last! – Herefordshire has adopted its Core Strategy (its own NDP, if you like), into which our Plan must fit and comply with. However, the uncomfortable truth is that, because of this adoption, Cradley parish now essentially has no protection whatsoever against developers.

THE ONLY WAY WE CAN GET PROTECTION IS TO HAVE OUR FINAL NDP ACCEPTED BY HEREFORD

To repeat, Hereford has given support to Cradley's NDP group, and the way it has acted for the parish over the past three years. Now we must get a final Plan agreed, which **can** be presented to the Parish, which the community will vote for or against it at the official Referendum held by Hereford. We are aiming to complete this by mid 2016. Once the Plan is approved at Referendum it becomes planning policy for Cradley parish. However, the community at large must participate in this Referendum, to give its opinion on it to Hereford – **otherwise it could be up to two years before we are finally protected.**

It's vital therefore that we progress the NDP with all expediency, to get that protection firmly in place. **This, your Parish Council is fully committed to achieving.**

REMEMBER – CRADLEY IS YOUR PARISH! YOUR REFERENDUM VOTE MATTERS NOW MORE THAN EVER!

If you have any questions about the NDP please ask **US** for the facts.

Christopher Lowder: PC Chair

Ken Nason: Deputy Chair

