

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 13th May 1997 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurlle (Chairman), Mrs S Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies: Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

- (a) Chairman. On the proposal of Miss Pilling, seconded by Mr Rogers, Mrs Hurlle was unanimously re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year.
- (b) Vice Chairman. On the proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Mrs Hunt, Miss Pilling was unanimously re-elected Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. (c) Members to sign cheques. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mr Beard and the Clerk should be given the authority to sign cheques on behalf of the Council.
- (d) Planning Committee. It was agreed that the following members should serve on the Committee for the ensuing year: Mr Allfrey, Mr Beard, Mrs Cale, Mrs Carver, Mr Clarke, Mrs Fairfax, Mrs Hunt, Mrs S Lim, Mr Rogers, Mr Spence, Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (e) Footpaths Committee. It was agreed that the following members should serve on the Committee for the ensuing year: Mr Beard, Mr Bullen, Mrs Cale, Mrs Carver, Mr Hames, Ms Skinner, Mr Spence, Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (g) Churchyard Committee. It was agreed that the following members should serve on the Committee for the ensuing year: Mrs Carver, Mr Clarke, Mrs Hunt, Mr Spence, Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (g) Playing Fields Committee. It was agreed that the following members should serve on the Committee for the ensuing year: Mr Bullen, Mrs Fairfax, Ms Skinner, Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (h) Cradley Village Hall Management Committee. On the proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Miss Pilling, Ms Skinner was unanimously re-elected to represent the Council on this Committee for the ensuing year.
- (i) Storrige Village Hall Management Committee. On the proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Miss Pilling, Mr Beard was unanimously re-elected to represent the Council on this Committee for the ensuing year.
- (j) Hereford and Worcester Association of Local Councils. As was the usual practice it was unanimously agreed that the Chairman should represent the Council on this body.
- (k) Charities of Richard Hill and Others. The Chairman reminded members that the three members elected to this body by the Parish Council each served for a four year term and were at present Mr Beard, Mr Clarke and Mrs Bibbings. To ensure continuity these members came up for re-election on a rotational basis and this year it was Mrs Bibbings. This was noted and on the proposal by Mrs Cale, seconded by Mr Beard, Mrs Bibbings was unanimously re-elected for a further four year term.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th April 1997 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

E.238 H & W County Council - Concrete and Pothole at Pontic - Ref.Min.E.218 A letter had been received from R J Lewis, Assistant Divisional Engineer (West) advising that the concrete had been removed from the road and the pothole would be added to their list for attention as soon as possible. This was Noted. Mr Rogers pointed out that the pothole had now been temporarily filled in.

E.239 Mr Haves - Kissing Gate - Ref.Min.E.220 A telephone call had been received by the Clerk from Mr Hayes confirming that the gate had now been attended to. Mr Hames reported that he had inspected the gate and was satisfied with the work carried out. He pointed out that a large spring had also been fitted to the gate to ensure it returned to the close position.

E.240 Hook Mason - Planning Application Fee - Ref.Min.E.222 A letter had been received from Mr N Tweddell advising that he had failed to take into account a 50% reduction in the Planning Application Fee and the amount should be 180.00 and not 360.00 as previously requested. This was noted.

E.241 Hook Mason - Feasibility Study - Ref.Min.E.222 A copy of the Feasibility Study had been received and their invoice had now been discharged.

E.242 Hook Mason - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.223 A letter had been received from Mr N Tweddell stating that proposals to the District Council had been submitted and their decision would take approximately 6-8 weeks. He was now progressing with the detailed design and preparation of the working drawings for Building Regulation Approval. An invoice for their Professional Fees amounting to £3525.00 had also been submitted and on a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mr Rogers it was agreed that invoices for Professional Fees from both Architects should not be paid until the grants from the District Council had been received. A further letter had been received from Mr Tweddell together with a copy letter from the District Council requesting an additional 90.00 in respect of the Planning Application Fee as the calculation of 180.00 had not been enough. This was noted.

E.243 Jonathan Chilton - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.223 A letter had been received from Mr Chilton confirming that he had met Mr David Watkins, Valuer for The Diocese on the 8th May 1997 to negotiate the purchase of Cradley Village Hall. This was noted. Following a general discussion it was suggested that a maximum figure for the hall should be agreed. On a proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Miss Pilling, it was unanimously agreed to give Jonathan Chilton the authority to negotiate the best possible price and report back to the Parish Council.

E.244 Village Hall Improvements - Ref Min.E.223 The Chairman advised members that the Clerk had now written to both Village Hall Management Committees and clarified the position of the architect's fees. Mr Beard suggested that a separate record is kept of the 25% balance of monies paid by the Parish Council until such monies can be repaid from the grants. This was agreed.

The Chairman reported that she had spoken to Maureen Mullaney, Chairman of Cradley Village Hall Committee and suggested that a Buildings Committee be established, consisting of 3 members of the Management Committee and 3 members of the Parish Council with the power to co-opt. It was agreed to ask Mr Clarke, Mr Rogers and Ms Skinner to represent the Parish Council.

Mr Rogers reported that negotiations for the land identified for the proposed playing field scheme had now broken down. As there was little time to look for other suitable sites the Chairman suggested that efforts should now be put into the fall back position of upgrading the existing playing field for which plans had already been drawn up. It was agreed that a meeting of the Playing Field Committee should be arranged as soon as possible. The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council thanked Mr Rogers once again for the tireless work he had put into trying to bring the project to fruition.

Mrs Lim reported that the residents of Buryfields had established a Residents' Association and had been offered a lease of land for a play area and were at present costing the project. It was agreed the Clerk would write to them offering the Council's encouragement.

E.245 PLANNING MATTERS The Chairman reported on 2 meetings of the Planning Committee held on the 17th April and 9th May 1997 when the following applications were considered:

MH97/0507 Cradley Primary School It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for a classroom extension. Mr Clarke and Mrs Hurle declared an interest and did not vote. MH/97/0405 Turnpike Cottage, Storrige It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for a 2 storey extension, conservatory and domestic garage. MH/97/0540 The Old Farm, Winthill, Cradley It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for a conservatory. MH/97/0541 Springfields, Malvern Road, Storrige It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for a bedroom and utility room.

E.246 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Mrs Cale, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:

- (a) MHDC - Plan Fee re: Hook Mason 199.75
- (b) Storridge Village Hall Management Ctee - 6 months Hire of Hall 48.00
- (c) CALC - Subscriptions 279.70
- (d) MHDC - Additional Planning Application Fee 90.00

Following a discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay the Plan Fee of 199.75 including VAT and that the Clerk would write to Storridge Village Hall Management Committee and ask them for a cheque for 170.00.

E.247 DONATIONS The Chairman reported that there had been a lot of correspondence recently from various organisations requesting donations. In the ensuing discussion it was agreed to make the usual donations to the C.A.B. and Victim Support and to give members the opportunity to donate privately to other organisations if they wished to do so.

E.248 THE MILLENNIUM On a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was unanimously agreed that a working party should be set up to discuss ideas for the Millennium and report back to the Parish Council.

E.249 INSTALLATION OF TELEPHONE AT CRADLEY VILLAGE HALL The Clerk had received a telephone call from Mr Terry Robshaw advising that following a discussion with the majority of the Management Committee, it was felt the rental charges for an instrument from B.T. were too high and requested that the Parish Council arrange for the installation of the line only and the Village Hall Management Committee would supply their own instrument. Members felt that this was not a suitable solution and agreed that before arrangements were made for the line installation Ms Skinner would liaise with the Management Committee.

E.250 PARISH ARCHIVES Following a discussion it was agreed that some of the archive material should be photocopied before being stored in the Hereford Record Office. The Chairman had ascertained that if she or the Clerk photocopied the documents at the Record Office the charge would be 5p per sheet. The Clerk would then retain the photocopies.

A letter had been received from Mrs Wynnell Hunt stating that she was currently building up an archival resource for the future and asked if she could look at the archive material in the possession of the Parish Council. Before the documents were deposited in the Record Office Mrs Hunt proposed that she have 3 documents at a time and this was seconded by Mrs Fairfax and carried by 6 votes to 5.

The Chairman reported that The Story of Cradley exhibition held at Cradley Village Hall and organised by Mrs Wynnell Hunt had been an excellent display of memorabilia.

A parishioner had requested a copy of the slide of Sturt House. This was agreed and that Ms Skinner would arrange to have the slide copied.

The Chairman reported that she had received 5.00 for the Parish Council by a parishioner who borrowed Melville. It was agreed to add this to the prize money received from the Parish Pride Competition.

A letter had been received from A M Wherry, County Archivist of Hereford Record Office enclosing a copy of the catalogue entry for the Parish Records deposited at the office last year. This was noted.

E.251 MALVERN HILL DISTRICT COUNCIL - DOG FOULING A letter had been received from D F Leech, Environmental Health Manager outlining the arrangements likely to be recommended by the Chief Officer Environmental Services (COES) to the Public Health, Environment and Housing Committee when they consider the matter at a meeting on the 27th May 1997. This was noted.

E.252 ELGAR HOUSING - EMPTY HOUSES INTO NEEDED HOMES A letter and poster had been received from E R King, Research and Initiatives Manager asking if the poster could be displayed in the village. It was agreed the Clerk would ask the Post Office to display it.

E.253 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - TEMPORARY RESTRICTION ORDER Notification had been received of an Order to close C1162 Cradley from a point opposite Stoney Villa to a point opposite Hawshurst Cottage to facilitate laying of electricity cables. Mr Allfrey reported that M.E.B. had not notified the Post Office of the plans and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to M.E.B. expressing the Parish Council's disapproval.

E.254 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS The Calendar of Meetings for 1997/98 which included probable meeting dates for the Shadow Authority had been received from Mr Jeff Wills, District Secretary.

E.255 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - CAPITAL GRANTS A letter had been received from Mr M Lafferty advising that a special meeting of the Capital Expenditure Sub-Committee had been held on 19th February 1997 to review progress. It had been decided that all Capital Grants should be made available for a period of 3 years from the 31st March 1997 to enable funding allocated to be made available after Local Government Re-organisation in March 1998. This was noted.

E.256 (SHADOW) MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - FIRST ANNUAL MEETING Notification had been received of a meeting to be held on the 14th May 1997 at The Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern at 7.00 pm. This was noted. E.257 NATIONAL VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AWARD An entry form had been received for the competition which is being run by Calor Gas and the Daily Telegraph. It was agreed that the Parish should enter and announce this in the Newsletter. It was further agreed that Mrs Hunt and Mrs Cale would act as joint Co-ordinators.

E.258 CALC - CIRCULAR A circular had been received with enclosures of Members' Allowances, NALC Conference on Rural White Paper, Training Programme, Esso Walk in the Woods, Elgar Housing Association, LEADER 11 and Community Safety Partnership. The Clerk expressed an interest in attending the Training Programme to be held on the 21st May 1997 at Ross-on-Wye and on a proposal by Mr Beard, seconded by Mrs Fairfax, this was agreed.

E.259 CHARITIES COMMISSION - NEW LEAFLET CC35 CHARITIES AND TRADING A leaflet had been received offering advice and guidance on Charity Law. This was noted.

E.260 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - HEREFORDSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING Notification had been received of a meeting to be held on Monday, 19th May 1997 at 6.30 pm. The venue to be arranged. This was noted.

E.261 NEW COUNCILLORS Mr Allfrey asked if the Clerk would write to congratulate the new Councillors, June Armstrong and James Milne and invite them to the Parish Council Meetings. He also requested that copies of the Minutes are sent to them each month. This was agreed.

E.262 PARISH NOTICE BOARD The Chairman reported that a stone had been thrown through the Notice Board at Cradley and the glass smashed. Dr Hurle had kindly supplied and replaced the glass.

E.263 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT The Chairman reported that she had received a telephone call from Colonel Broome urging the Parish Council to attend the meeting. This was noted.

E.264 FOOTPATHS Mr Hames reported that an area of grass at the end of Shepherd's Hey Lane and the British Legion had not been cut. He was advised that the Highways Authority would be cutting it soon. He also advised members that a parishioner in Storrige would be making an application for the diversion of a footpath which ran through her property.

E.265 PROGRESSIVE SUPPER The Chairman reminded members that the Progressive Supper for Christian Aid Week would take place on Thursday, 15th May 1997 and that tickets were still available.

E.266 IVY VILLA Mr Beard asked if the Clerk would write to the Highways Department requesting they investigate the stones outside Ivy Villa which could create a traffic hazard.

E.267 CIVIC SERVICE It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Rev. John Guise expressing the members' appreciation of the sermon he gave at the service.

E.268 FIRST AID COURSE Mrs Lim reported that another course would be held shortly but which was full. As funding for the course was available until August and people were still interested in enrolling she asked if anyone had facilities for running a course to inform her.

There being no further the business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.54 pm

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 10th June 1997 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mrs A Carver, Mrs D Cale, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Miss J Pilling, Ms G Skinner with the Clerk in attendance. Apologies: Mr F A C Beard, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs S Lim, Mr M J Rogers, Mr G Spence.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th May 1997 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

E.269 Payment of Accounts - Ref.Min.E.246 It was agreed to return the cheque for 170.00 to Storridge Village Hall Management Committee. It was further agreed the Parish Council would pay the Plan Fee of 199.75 until the grant had been received. E.270 Installation of Telephone at Cradley Village Hall - Ref.Min.E.249 It was agreed that Ms Skinner would inform the Clerk of the decision taken by the Management Committee.

E.271 Parish Archives - Ref.Min.E.250 It was agreed the Clerk would contact Mrs Hunt and ask her if she wished to photocopy the documents.

E.272 MEB-Ref.Min.E.253 A letter of apology had been received from Mr D Hurcomb in respect of the road closure adjacent to the Post Office.

E.273 Training Programme for Clerk - Ref.Min.E.258 It was reported that the Training Programme due to take place at Ross-on-Wye on the 21st May 1997 had been cancelled. Instead, a free 2 hour tutorial had been offered by CALC in the Malvern office which the Clerk attended. A Clerk's Information Pack was purchased at a cost of 3.00 which members agreed would be paid on invoice.

E.274 H & W County Council - Herefordshire Area Committee Meeting - Ref Min.E.260 It was agreed the Clerk would write and ask where future meetings are to be held.

E.275 Civic Service - Ref.Min.E.267 On a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mrs Hunt, it was agreed to continue with the annual service.

E.276 First Aid Course Ref.Min.E.268 It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mrs Lim expressing the Council's thanks and appreciation for holding the recent First Aid Courses at her home and providing lunch and also refreshments throughout the day for which donations were received and which Mrs Lim kindly donated to the Village Hall fund.

E.277 PLANNING MATTERS Mr Clarke reported on the following Planning Application: MH97/0641 - Storridge Village Hall It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for alterations, refurbishment and extension to the hall.

E.278 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mr Clarke, it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment: (a) Clerk's Salary for 3 months 350.00

(b) Clerk's Car Allowance for 3 months 52.12

(c) Hereford Diocese - Rental for Cradley Village Hall 52.00

E.279 VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS The Chairman reported that Mrs Maureen Mullaney and Mr Paul Hunt would represent Cradley Village Hall Management Committee on the Buildings Committee together with Ms Skinner who would also represent the Parish Council. Following a meeting of the Playing Fields Committee it was reported that quotes had been invited for the laying of a perimeter track, tarmac and play equipment. It was agreed to place an article in the Newsletter and ask for ideas to raise the 25% required to make up the balance of the 75% grant allocated from the District Council.

The Chairman reported that she and Mr Allfrey had attended a meeting with Mr Sheringham, Mr Draper, Mr Bond and Mr Kent in respect of Storridge Village Hall improvements and were advised that there had been a mis-calculation of figures whereas the V.A.T. element had not been taken into consideration. Following a discussion and on a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mrs Cale, it was agreed to make up the shortfall of £14,000 and to re-allocate the monies.

E.280 REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING In the ensuing discussion it was agreed to either follow up, leave pending or cancel the outstanding matters. An updated list would be attached to next month's Minutes.

E.281 ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY A letter had been received from J Snape, Regeneration and Development Officer, together with a response form. It was agreed to pass the form to Mrs Fairfax for completion.

E.282 MALVERN HILLS A.O.N.B. - AWARENESS SEMINAR A letter had been received from Mr D Hancock enclosing a list of future seminars and training days. This was noted.

E.283 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - PARISH PRIDE PRESENTATION Notification had been received of the Annual Parish Reception and Award Presentation on Thursday, 10th July 1997 with an invitation to nominate 2 members of the Council. The form was passed to Mrs Carver for completion.

E.284 WEST MERCIA POLICE AUTHORITY A letter had been received from S.E.Adams, Divisional Commander Hereford Division, together with the Hereford Division Annual Policing Plan for 1997/98. This was noted.

E.285 C.P.R.E. - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notification had been received of a meeting to be held at Nightingales, Wellington Heath on Sunday, 15th May 1997 at 3.00 pm and afterwards at Hope End Country Hotel for refreshments and a tour of the gardens. The Clerk hoped to attend.

E.286 BUNGALOW ADJACENT TO HILL VIEW A letter had been received from Ms V Reynolds advising that a recent inspection had been made and found contrary to approved plans. A Planning Application for a revised access had subsequently been received for consideration. This was noted.

E.287 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - RURAL ROAD SWEEPING Notification had been received that the next sweep of the kerbed areas of road and footpath within the parish would take place during the week commencing the 30th June and 29th September 1997 respectively. This was noted.

E.288 MALVERN HILLS CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU Notification had been received of the A.G.M. to be held on Thursday, 19th June 1997 at Guesten Room, Lyttleton Well Rooms, Church Street, Malvern at 5.30 pm.

E.289 MALVERN HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE Notification had been received of a meeting on the 13th June 1997 at Malvern Hills Outdoor Centre, Old Hollow, West Malvern at 10 am.

E.290 CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE Miss Pilling pointed out that the area surrounding the public house was still untidy and asked if the Clerk would write to the owner and ask if he could tidy it up in view of the Parish entry in the forthcoming National Village of the Year Award. This was agreed.

E.291 MATERIALS ON LAND AT GRITTLESEND Miss Pilling asked if the Clerk would write to the District Council to ascertain the position in respect of the removal of materials from the land. This was agreed.

E.292 PLAYING FIELD CHAPEL LANE A telephone call had been received by the Clerk from Carolyn Scott who asked if there were any plans for a play area in the field at Chapel Lane. It was agreed the Clerk would ask Mr Bullen to liaise with her.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22 pm

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 8th July 1997 at 7.30p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurlle (Chairman), Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner with the Clerk in attendance. Apologies: Mrs D Cale, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs S Lim, Mr G Spence.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were no declarations of interest. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th June 1997 be confirmed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

E.293 - West Mercia Police Authority - Ref.Min.E.284 A copy of the Annual Report and Video of the policing of the area for 1996/97 had been received. This was noted. E.294 - Street Sweeping - Ref.Min.E.287 A letter had been received from Mr R Slater, Contract Manager outlining the District Council's aim to improve standards in rural parishes. Mrs Hunt confirmed that the roads had been swept during the week beginning the 30th June 1997.

E.295 - Building Materials on Land at Winthill - Ref Min.E.291 A letter had been received from Mr D Murray, Head of Development Control, advising that authorisation had been sought to spend a sum of money for the work to be carried out. This had been agreed by the Planning Committee on the 25th June 1997 and it was anticipated that the work would be undertaken soon. This was noted.

E.296 - Installation of Telephone at Cradley Village Hall - Ref.Min.E.270 Ms Skinner reported that the Management Committee had agreed to postpone the installation of the telephone until the refurbishment of the hall had been completed.

E.297 - Parish Archives - Ref.Min.E.271 The Clerk advised that she had been unable to contact Mrs Hunt to ask her if she wished to photocopy the documents. E.298 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Mr Clarke reported on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 10th June 1997 when the following applications were considered: MH97/0703 - New Bungalow adjacent to Hill View, Cradley It was agreed to raise no objection to the application for revised access arrangements but the Clerk would ask that the Highways Department examine the whole area with a view to imposing certain conditions. MH97/0704 - Cowleigh Gate Byre, Cowleigh Park, Malvern No objection was raised to the application for the erection of a wooden garden shed.

E.299 **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** On a proposal by Miss Pilling, seconded by Mrs Hunt, it was agreed that the following account be passed for payment:

(a) H & W County Council - Hire of classroom at Cradley Village School for Planning Meetings from 31st May 1995 to date - 163.83

Mr Clarke, Mr Bullen and the Chairman declared an interest and did not vote. On a proposal by Mr Beard, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was agreed that the Clerk would negotiate with the District Council for extra time before the plans are sent back to enable all future Planning Committee Meetings to be held before the main Parish Council Meetings. Notification of any Planning Meetings would be posted at the time of the main Parish Council Meetings and would commence at 7 pm.

E.300 **VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS** Mr Rogers reported that following a meeting with Grenville Sheringham he had been advised that the District Council had prepared an agreement to extend the March 1988 deadline for a further 3 years providing that 1 payment was made to enable the contract to commence. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Rod Robinson again and ask him for a full detailed feasibility study so that payment of his account can be made. As there had been no progress made in the negotiations between the valuers in respect of the purchase of Cradley Village Hall, members agreed that there were 3 options:

- 1) Negotiations between the valuers to continue for a further 2 weeks.
- 2) The Parish Council to open negotiations direct with the Diocese.
- 3) Arbitration to decide a fair figure with both valuers stating their respective case value methods.

Following a discussion it was proposed by Mr Clarke, seconded by Mr Beard that the Parish Council open negotiations with the Diocese direct on the basis of not exceeding an agreed price and to accept any reasonable conditions required. This was agreed. It was further agreed that Mr Rogers, Mr Clarke and the Chairman would represent the Parish Council during the negotiations.

Ms Skinner pointed out that an amount in excess of 3,000 had appeared in the Cradley Village Hall Management Committee's bank account. This amount should have been paid direct into the Village Halls Project Account from the District Council and it was agreed the Clerk would write to the bank to ascertain the situation.

E.301 CPRE - DONATION It was agreed by 10 votes to 1 to make a donation of 15.00.

E.302 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS A letter had been received from Mrs S Ingram, Environmental Service Department requesting a copy of the plans for Storridge Village Hall in order for the department to investigate the application under the relevant legislation. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Hook Mason and ask them to forward a copy of the plans to the District Council.

E.303 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - HEDGEROWS A letter and explanatory leaflet had been received from D L Murray, Head of Development Control advising that the Hedgerow Regulations 1977 came into force on 1st June 1997. This was noted.

E.304 THE VILLAGE LOCK-UP ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL REGISTER A letter had been received from Andrew Plumridge together with a questionnaire for completion. As the village does not have any lock-ups no action was taken.

E.305 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - IVY VILLA A letter had been received from P J Ashcroft advising that an inspection had been made of the site and the occupiers of the property would be requested to remove the stones on the grass verge. This was noted.

E.306 JUNE ARMSTRONG A letter had been received from Mrs Armstrong advising that she hoped to attend the October meeting at Storridge Village Hall and asked that members inform her of any ideas or suggestions they had. This was noted.

E.307 STABLES & CO - CRADLEY POST OFFICE Notification had been received of an Application for full transfer of Justice's Licence at Cradley Post Office and Stores to Susan Margaret Mayor. This was noted.

E.308 CHURCHFIELDS Mrs Carver reported that the lane leading to Churchfields was often obstructed by parked cars making it impossible to gain access to properties. As it was a private road it was suggested that residents place a 'no parking - private road' sign at the entrance to the lane.

E.309 WATER LEAK Miss Pilling reported that there had been a water leak outside the home of Mrs Mullaney. As Welsh Water or the District Council were not prepared to look into the complaint, Mr Allfrey agreed to inform the County Council. There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.54 pm.



**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on Tuesday,

**12th August 1997 at 7.30p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurlle (Chairman), Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance. Apologies: Mrs D Cale, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs S Lim

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th July 1997 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING E.310 - Materials on Land at Winthill - Ref.Min.295 Miss Pilling reported that the materials had still not been removed from the land despite an assurance from the District Council that the work would be undertaken soon. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Murray again to ascertain the situation.

E.311 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.300 2 letters had been received from Jonathan Chilton together with copies of letters from David Watkins, Valuer for the Diocese. It had been anticipated that a meeting would be arranged between representatives for the Parish Council and the Rev. Michael Smith to negotiate the purchase of Cradley Village Hall. On a proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Mrs Carver, it was unanimously agreed to go into committee for discussion. A telephone call had been received from Mr Hugh Bond advising that the District Council would issue the Approval Notice for the refurbishment of Storridge Village Hall District Council during the forthcoming week. The hall was expected to be out of operation from mid- November to the beginning of April 1998. A letter had been received from Hook Mason requesting payment of their invoice for professional fees. On a proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Mr Clarke, it was unanimously agreed to pay the account. Confirmation had been received from Mr Richard East, Malvern Hills District Council that the request for transfer of funds between the 3 schemes had been accepted. The actual amounts of the grants payable from the District Council would now be as follows:

- 1) Cradley Village Hall - 55,000.00
- 2) Storridge Village Hall - 69,000.00
- 3) Playing Field improvements - 101,000.00

Notification had been received from Mr S Wheatley, National Westminster Bank that the sum of money in excess of 3,000.00 paid directly and inadvertently into Cradley Village Hall's account from the District Council had now been transferred into the account of Cradley Parish Council. A letter had been received from Mr Rod Robinson advising that a full Feasibility Study for Cradley Village Hall would be provided soon. This was noted.

E.312 PLANNING MATTERS

Mr Clarke reported on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 8th July 1997 when the following applications were considered: MH97/0745 - Barrow Farm. Suckley It was agreed to raise no objection to the application for conversion to dwelling of redundant agricultural building.

MH97/0805 - Rivendell. Westfields. Cradley The Parish Council opposed the outline planning application for the erection of a detached dwelling in part of the garden on the following grounds:

- 1) Overdevelopment in backland area
  - 2) Inadequate access for a further house
- Mr Allfrey pointed out that the conditions of access to the bungalow adjacent to Hill View had not been complied with. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Planning Enforcement Officer and ask that the District Council ensure that the original access approval is implemented as planning permission was given on these conditions.

E.313 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Miss Pilling, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:

- (a) CPRE - Donation 15.00
- (b) Hook Mason - Professional Fees £3525.00

#### E.314 IMPROVEMENTS FOR PLAYING FIELD

Mr Bullen circulated a copy of the fall back plan to members and advised that the cost of the project would be slightly more than the original budget costings of £35,000.

Following a meeting of the Playing Field Committee it had been agreed to split the scheme into 2 parts and obtain separate estimates for the following:

1) Play equipment

2) The perimeter track and basketball area

5 contractors had been approached and 3 of the estimates had been received for both parts of the scheme. The contractors had been asked to produce a layout and plans for £20,000 and £30,000 for the play equipment. Estimates for the perimeter track and basketball area had been as follows:

1) Daniels - 11,940

2) Hereford and Worcester - 12,969

3) Three Counties Tarmac - 14,730

All the estimates would attract VAT. During the ensuing discussion Mr Bullen informed members that Three Counties Tarmac had agreed to revise their estimate and when this had been received members would consider all the estimates. It was agreed to seek the opinion and advice of a Civil Engineer and Mr Rogers agreed to contact Mr John Stoddard.

Mr Bullen would liaise with Mr Rogers and provide him with copies of the estimates.

E.315 CALC - CIRCULAR A circular had been received together with enclosures of Clerk's salaries, Nolan Committee Consultative Paper, Regional Development Agencies, Training Places and Local Agenda 21 UK. This was noted.

#### E.316 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - THE FARLEYS

Notification had been received from Mr I Thomson, Senior Enforcement Officer that the local Inquiry into the Appeals would be held on Tuesday, 14th October 1997 at 10.00 am. It was expected the Inquiry would last for 1 day and would be held in The Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern. The Inspector currently nominated to hold the local Inquiry would be Mr P H Gamham MA ARICS MRTPI. This was noted.

It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Thomson and ask what representation the District Council would be making and if the Parish Council's views would be taken into consideration. Members further agreed to wait for a response before deciding if the Parish Council should be represented.

#### E.317 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE

A letter had been received from Mr I Thomson, Senior Enforcement Officer advising that he had spoken to Mr Woodward and expressed the Parish Council's concern at the condition of the site. Although Mr Woodward assured Mr Thomson he would tidy the site within 4 weeks this had not been done. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Thomson and ask him to pursue the matter.

#### E.318 HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL - ISOLATED FOOTWAYS

A letter had been received requesting that isolated footways in the Parish be listed. The form was passed to Mr Hames for completion.

#### E.319 HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL - AREA COMMITTEE

MEETING Notification had been received of a meeting on Monday, 15th September 1997 at a venue to be arranged commencing at 6.30 pm. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Yates expressing the Council's concern that it is not informed after the venue is established.

E.320 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS A letter had been received from L J Morris, Senior Planner together with a copy of the report. This was noted.

E.321 QUEENSWOOD Mrs Carver pointed out that no action had been taken by the Planning Enforcement Office in respect of the access at the above property. It was agreed the Clerk would write to him again and ask that an inspection is made as soon as possible.

E.322 BOSBURY ROAD Mr Hames reported that there had been 2 accidents recently. Following the first accident on the 10th July, police speed checks were carried out. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Inspector Mayor and ask the following points: 1) Was speed a factor in either accident. 2) What were the results of the speed checks on 12th and 14th July respectively 3) What

further monitoring of traffic is being undertaken 4) What further steps are planned to make drivers more vigilant as they pass through the village to protect themselves, pedestrians and horse riders

E.323 THE RIDGEWAY Miss Pilling reported that the drains were blocked with grass causing gravel and debris to overflow onto the junction. It was agreed the Clerk would inform the Highways Department.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 9th September 1997 at 7.30p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs P M Hurlle (Chairman), Mrs S Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies: Mr R S Bullen, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs E A Hunt.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th August 1997 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

E.324 - Materials on Land at Winthill - Ref.Min.310 Miss Pilling reported that the materials had not been removed from the land. It was agreed the Clerk would write a further letter to Mr Murray requesting action be taken as a matter of urgency.

E.325 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.311 A letter had been received from Jonathan Chilton advising that he is waiting further instructions from the Diocese before he can proceed with the negotiations in respect of the purchase of Cradley Village Hall. This was noted. A letter had been received from Storridge Village Hall Management Committee stating that a meeting had taken place with the Trustees and it had been resolved that Hook Mason should be instructed to proceed to submit a Building Regulations Application to the District Council following the granting of Planning Approval. A request for payment to Hook Mason for Building Regulation Plan and Inspection fees was agreed. Mr Allfrey declared an interest and did not vote.

A letter had been received from Mr Hugh Bond advising that Lloyds TSB Foundations had contributed 3,500 towards the cost of disabled access to Storridge Village Hall. An apology had been received from the Manager of National Westminster Bank for their error in crediting a cheque from the District Council to the account of the Cradley Village Hall Management Committee. As the Feasibility Study for Cradley Village Hall had not yet been received from Mr Robinson, it was agreed the Clerk would write to him again.

E.326 - Malvern Hills District Council - Bungalow adjacent to Hill View - Ref.Min.E.312

Notification had been received from V Reynolds, Planning Enforcement Officer that an Appeal had been lodged against the refusal of planning permission for the revised access arrangements. This was noted.

E.327 Improvements for Playing Field - Ref.Min.E.314 Mr Rogers reported that he had spoken to Mr John Stoddard who had considered the estimates and advised the following: 1. A plan of the field should be obtained to show the measured area 2. A Bill of Quantities should be prepared A modest fee would be payable and it was agreed that Mr Rogers would instruct Mr Stoddard before the next Parish Council meeting.

E.328 - Malvern Hills District Council - The Farleys - Ref.Min.E.316 Notification of the Appeal and a letter had been received from Mr I Thomson, Senior Enforcement Officer stating that the District Council would be relying on the support of the Parish Council at the Inquiry. It was agreed the Clerk would photocopy and distribute the Notice to members of the Planning Committee together with relative details taken from previous Minutes. It was further agreed the Clerk would liaise with the Chairman of the Committee to arrange a meeting of the Planning Committee to discuss the history and representation before the Inquiry.

E.329 - Hereford and Worcester Area Committee Meeting - Ref.Min.E.319 A letter had been received from M Wood stating that details of the venues were advertised in the local paper. As this did not seem to be the case, it had been suggested by Lynne Powell that the Council request in writing that it is informed of future venues. This was agreed.

E.330 - Malvern Hills District Council - Queenswood - Ref.Min.E.321 A letter had been received from Ms V Reynolds, Planning Enforcement Officer regarding non-compliance of condition 9 of the planning permission. Following a site visit it had been observed that the old vehicular access had been sealed off with a fence with a gate for pedestrian access. Members agreed that the

Council's comments had been that the access be permanently sealed by way of a continuous stone wall to match the existing wall. It was further agreed the Clerk would clarify this and inform Ms Reynolds.

#### QUESTION TIME

A number of questions were raised with regard to the proposed telecommunication equipment at Whitmans Hill Quarry. In response to whether the mast would interfere with televisions in the area it was thought unlikely but if interference was received it would be from the structure rather than electrical. In answer to a question of why the Parish Council had not been informed of the application until now and that residents did not have long enough to lodge a complaint, Mr Clarke replied that discussions had almost certainly taken place between the applicant and the District Council but that the District Council had no obligation to the Parish Council. Mr Bond reported that the advertisement in the local paper stated that it did affect a public right of way. Mr Clarke replied that it could not be diverted or blocked up satisfactorily and that is why the Parish Council want to see accurate plans. Mr Allfrey confirmed that there was no official footpath leading to the quarry on the definitive map. In reply to a question in respect of the safe operating range in view of microwave radiation, Mr Clarke replied that he could not give a scientific answer but thought it unlikely that the applicant would endanger the public.

E.331 PLANNING MATTERS Mr Clarke reported on a meeting of the Planning Committee held prior to the main Parish Council meeting when the following application was considered: MH97/1082 - Whitmans Hill Quarry. Storrige The Parish Council vigorously opposed the planning application for the installation of six sector antenna, four 600mm microwave dishes, 30m telecommunications tower, equipment cabin and development ancillary thereto on the following grounds: 1) The plans were seriously inaccurate 2) The statement was inaccurate and totally misleading 3) The ground plan was incorrect Furthermore the Committee unanimously agreed that the plans be returned to the District Council and request that accurate plans be submitted for consideration.

E.332 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS It was agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:

- (a) Cradley Village Hall Management Committee - Hire of Hall 52.00
- (b) Clerk's salary for 3 months 350.00
- (c) Clerk's Car Allowance for 3 months 40.21
- (d) Administration Expenses for 6 months 44.20
- (e) Hook Mason - Building Regulation Plan and Inspection Fees 822.49

E.333 MALVERN ART CLUB A programme had been received outlining the events taking place in the immediate future. It was agreed that these events should be advertised in the Newsletter.

E.334 WORCS HOUSING ASSOCIATION REVIEW An invitation had been received to attend the review and was passed to Mrs Carver who expressed an interest in attending.

E.335 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - ANNUAL MEETING Notification had been received of a meeting with Town and Parish Councils on Wednesday, 8th October 1997 at 7.30 pm in Priory Lodge Hall, Malvern. It was anticipated that Mr Allfrey and Miss Pilling would represent the Parish Council. E.336 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS A letter had been received from M Jones, suggesting that Parish Elections due in 1999 be postponed until 2000 and asked for support from Parish Councils to which members agreed.

E.337 BRITISH LEGION - WAR MEMORIAL A letter had been received from Major Fraser who asked if the Council would assume responsibility for the memorial which had become neglected. It was agreed that the Chairman would contact Major Fraser to ascertain details of the upkeep for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting. It had been reported that the lime tree at the memorial was overgrown and that a pothole under it had appeared. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the County Council and ask that the tree be cut and that the pothole be filled in as it was on a designated footpath.

E.338 HIGHWAYS AGENCY - RE-ORGANISATION A letter and map had been received showing the new Agency Area and trunk road network. This was noted.

E.339 CHOCKBURY LANE A letter had been received from Mrs Chester together with signatures of some residents requesting a street sign at both ends of the lane. On a proposal by Mr Clarke, seconded by Mr Allfrey it was agreed that only one sign be erected at the bottom end of the lane by the Crown. Furthermore the Clerk would write to the Highways Department with the request. Ms Skinner and Mr Hames were opposed to the sign. It had been reported that the hedge in Chockbury Lane opposite Pixiefields was overgrown and it was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Jackson and ask him to cut it.

E.340 TWINNING In response to an enquiry, members agreed that the Council did not want twinning for the village.

E.341 MR JOHN FOOT It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would send a thinking of you card and good wishes to Mr Foot on behalf of members of the Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.14 pm.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday 14th October 1997 at 7.30p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Mrs S Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies: Mrs P Fairfax

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th September 1997 be confirmed and signed.

WAR MEMORIAL The Chairman welcomed Major Fraser who gave an interesting account of the history of the Servicemen commemorated on the War Memorial and asked if the Parish Council would accept responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of it. On a proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Miss Pilling, this was unanimously agreed.

MATTERS ARISING E.342 - Materials on Land at Winthill - Ref.Min.324 The Clerk had received a telephone call from Mr Thomson, Senior Enforcement Officer of Malvern Hills District Council advising that a space had now been allocated at the council yard for the storage of the materials. He anticipated the work would be carried out within 1 month. This was noted.

E.343 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.325 The Chairman informed members that Storridge Village Hall had been granted £20,000 from the National Lottery Charities Board towards the refurbishment of the hall. Mr Beard reported that a grant from the Eveson Trust had also been received. Mr Beard asked if a meeting could be arranged between representatives of the Parish Council and the Storridge Village Hall Management Committee, together with Grenville Sheringham and the Architects to discuss the invoices and programme of events.

It was agreed the Chairman and Mr Rogers would represent the Parish Council together with the Clerk. Mr Rogers would liaise with Mr Bond to arrange a suitable date.

As there had been no response from Mr Robinson for the request of a detailed Feasibility Study of Cradley Village Hall, it was agreed Ms Skinner would contact him. Mr Clarke reported that he and Mr Rogers had attended a recent meeting with members of the Diocese in respect of the possible purchase of Cradley Village Hall and were asked to supply a schedule of costings of work carried out on the hall over the past few years together with as much information as possible on the structure of the building.

E.344 - Improvements for Playing Field - Ref.Min.E.327 Mr Bullen informed members that he had met with Mr Stoddard who had provided a Bill of Quantities and a specification of the field. It was unanimously agreed that this information be passed to the contractors and that Mr Bullen would report back at the next meeting. A letter had been received from Mr Robinson, Secretary of North Cradley Residents Association advising that a piece of land had been identified for the proposed play area for the Buryfields Estate and asked if the Parish Council would ask the District Council to re-allocate £20,000 of the grant allocated to the Playing Fields project for this purpose and if the Parish Council would undertake ownership and maintenance of the play area. In the ensuing discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would ask for the re-allocation of the grant and to purchase the land with the Parish Council being included in the negotiations. It was further agreed that Mr Rogers would liaise with Mr Robinson and suggest the Residents' Association should set up a Management Committee to regulate the maintenance of the play area. The Clerk would write to the Association advising of the Council's decision.

E.345 - The Farleys - Ref.Min.E.328 Mr Clarke reported that he had attended the Public Inquiry on the 14th October 1997. The Inspector would make a site visit on the 15th October 1997 and the Parish Council would be advised of his findings in due course.

E.346 - Hereford and Worcester Area Committee Meeting - Ref.Min.E.329 Members felt the letter from the Committee Services did not confirm if the Parish Council would be advised of future dates and venues. The Clerk was asked to write again for clarification.

E.347 - Malvern Hills District Council - Queenswood - Ref.Min.E.330 A letter had been received from Ms V Reynolds, Planning Enforcement Officer stating that further investigations had shown there had been a breach of condition 9 of the planning approval and there should be no pedestrian access along the roadside boundary. The owner of the property planned to submit a planning application for the retention of the pedestrian access. Until the application had been determined the gate would be padlocked. This was noted.

E.348 - H & W County Council - The Old Rectory - Rectory Lane - Ref.Min.E.337 A letter had been received from P J Ashcroft, Senior Technician requesting details of the owner of the property so that a request could be made to trim the lime tree. The Area Rights of Way Warden would inspect the condition of the footpath in the lane and would advise the Parish Council of his findings. This was noted.

E.349 - Malvern Hills District Council - Sign at Chockbury Lane - Ref.Min.E.339 Notification had been received that a street name plate had been ordered and would be erected when received.

E.350 JUNE ARMSTRONG The Chairman welcomed Mrs Armstrong, local representative of the New Shadow Herefordshire Council and invited her to give an update on the work of Councillors preparing for the New Unitary Authority. Mrs Armstrong spoke about Education and Pre-school provision as well as rural issues and urged the Council to keep in touch with the Shadow Councillors and the evolving new Herefordshire Council. Mr Allfrey expressed concern with regard to Area Planning and asked for her continued vigilance.

E.351 PLANNING MATTERS Mr Allfrey, on behalf of Mr Clarke reported on a meeting of the Planning Committee held prior to the main Parish Council Meeting when the following applications were considered: MH97/1222 - Barrow Farm, Suckley No objection was raised to the application of the conversion to dwelling of a redundant agricultural building. MH97/1232 - Shepherd's Cottage, Storrige No objection was made to the application for the extensions to dwelling to improve accommodation.

E.352 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Mr Beard it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment: (a) Malcolm Scott - Photographs re: Village of the Year 8 98

(b) Elizabeth Hunt - Development of Films 10 80

(c) CVS Resource Centre - Photocopying Minutes/Agendas 14.45 for 2 months

The Chairman offered congratulations to Mrs Hunt and Mrs Cale on behalf of the Parish Council for the enormous amount of work put into the entry for the Herefordshire Village of the Year competition and for which a prize of 50.00 was given for the best large village Cradley will now go to the finals of the national competition.

E.353 REVIEW OF CLERK'S SALARY On a proposal by Miss Pilling, seconded by Ms Skinner it was agreed the Chairman would arrange a meeting with past Chairmen to discuss the matter.

E.354 THE CROWN INN A letter received from Mr Thomson, Senior Planning Enforcement Officer advising that he had spoken to Mr Woodward who agreed to tidy up the site Work to the public house, undertaken on a periodic basis- would be ongoing and it is anticipated that it was anticipated that it would be completed by the Spring 1998. However, if the site remained in an untidy condition enforcement action would be pursued. This was noted.

E.355 BOSBURYROAD A letter had been received from Inspector Mayor, West Mercia Constabulary in respect of the recent accidents. It was thought that excessive speed attributed to one of the accidents and a copy of the letter from the Parish Council had been forwarded to PC Hallam Traffic Management Officer in Hereford, A letter had been received from Mr Carless, Traffic Management at H & W County Council together with copies of correspondence from residents in Bosbury Road. Due to a lack of funds the County Council were unable to erect new signs or install carriageway markings unless it was funded by external organisations. The Parish Council was asked to consider providing the signs. In the ensuing discussion it was agreed the Clerk would make enquiries as to the cost of: 1) A 'slow' sign on the road 2) To change the colour of the road and insertion of a 'slow' sign

E.356 WEST MERCIA POLICE AUTHORITY A Police Factsheet had been received for 1997. This was noted.



E.357 CALC CIRCULAR A circular had been received with information on NALC Annual Report, AGM 1997 Extract from DoE, letter from Cerys Jones and a letter re: Emergency Planning. The Chairman and Mrs Carver hoped to attend the AGM on Saturday 29th November 1997 at Belmont Abbey at 10.00 am. Mr Rogers pointed out that Mr and Mrs Baker, previous owners of the Post Office had been on the emergency contact list. The Clerk would write to new owners Mr and Mrs Mayor and ask if they would act in that capacity.

E.358 HOME COMPOSTING PROMOTION A letter had been received from Malvern Hills District Council promoting a composting bin at the cost price of 14.00 from the Council offices at Bromyard, Malvern and Ledbury This was noted.

E.359 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU A request had been received for a donation. It was agreed to place this on next month's Agenda.

E.360 MAYOR'S CHARITY BALL An invitation had been received from Councillor Brian and Mrs Anne Merrien to attend the Ball on Friday, 7th November 1997 to be held at The Abbey Hotel, Malvern at 7.15 pm.

E.361 A4103 - HEREFORD TO WORCESTER ROAD Mr Rogers on a recent accident on the A4103 when traffic had been diverted through the village for 2 - 3 hours causing serious concern to residents due to heavy lorries trying to negotiate the narrow lanes. Following a discussion it had been suggested that warning signs were prepared and stored at both Millbank Garage and Mr Preston's property. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Police Authority stating that the road in the village was inadequate for heavy lorries and ask that they make provision for monitoring traffic or divert the traffic through Leigh Sinton. It was further agreed the Clerk would also write to the County Council.

E.362 BROOKSIDE It had been reported that a number of cars belonging to non-residents had been parked in, and on the corner of the road during most of the day. A member of the Parish Council agreed to look into the matter.

E.363 CHURCH HOUSE It had been reported that a pavillion in the rear garden might be inhabited. It was agreed the Clerk would inform the Planning Officer and draw his attention to the matter.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 11th November 1997 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Mrs S Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mr Allfrey declared an interest in Storridge Village Hall Improvements Project.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES Minute E.343. It was reported that the 20,000 grant from the National Lotteries Board had been promised but not yet received. Subject to this amendment it was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th October 1997 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING War Memorial - It was unanimously agreed that The Parish Council should obtain written permission from the Maclean family before accepting responsibility for the memorial.

E.364 - Winthill - Ref.Min.E.342 Miss Pilling reported that the materials had still not been removed from the land and that the land had now become scrubby and full of weeds. It was agreed the Clerk would write a further letter to the Planning Enforcement Officer and ask when the Council intends to carry out the work.

E.365 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min. E.343 The Chairman reported that a meeting would be held on Tuesday, 2nd December at Storridge Village Hall at 6.30 pm between representatives of the Parish Council and the Management Committee to discuss funding for the project. Mr Rogers advised members that the Diocese was waiting for outstanding information and a copy of the Feasibility Study before it could come to a conclusion on the valuation. Mr Rogers further advised that the Parish Council and District Council would be required to enter into an agreement to extend the time available to negotiate a price.

E.366 - MHDC - Buryfields Play Area - Ref.Min.E.344 A letter had been received from Mr Richard East confirming that £20,000 of the £101,000 grant for the Playing Field Improvement Scheme could be transferred to the Buryfields Play Area Project. A detailed specification and plan of the proposed playing field would be required by the District Council before work commenced. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Robinson of the North Cradley Residents' Association requesting the documents. Mr Rogers advised members that valuations were being carried out on identified land and asked if the Clerk would inform the Chairman when the valuations were received so that a meeting could be arranged between the Chairman and ex-Chairmen to give the required authority. This was agreed.

E.367 - H & W County Council - Area Committee Meeting - Ref.Min.E.346 A letter had been received from M Wood stating that advertisements are placed in local newspapers advising of the venue of meetings. Mr Allfrey reported that the venue of the next meeting on Monday, 24th November 1997 would be at Shirehall, Hereford at 6.30 pm.

E.368 - H & W County Council - Bosbury Road - Ref.Min.E.355 A letter had been received from Mr M J Carless, advising that the cost of a 'slow' carriageway marking within a coloured road surface would be 400.00 and a standard 'slow' carriageway marking 150.00. Before a decision was made it was agreed the Clerk would write and ask Mr Carless if distance plates on yellow backing board and red reflectors were available from stock and the cost.

E.369 - Parish Emergency Contact List- Ref.Min.E.357 A telephone call had been received from Mrs Mayor of The Post Office confirming that she and Mr Mayor would be happy to act in the capacity of parish contact. This was noted.

E.370 - H & W County Council - A4103 Stiffords Bridge - Ref.Min.E.361 A letter had been received from Mr M J Carless advising that the recent traffic accident which required the closure of the A4103 had been an emergency situation which required vehicles to be diverted at the closest junction to the accident. Mr Carless pointed out that it was not practical to divert traffic through Leigh Sinton due to the many junctions between Leigh Sinton and Stiffords Bridge which would

require control. He also thought warning signs indicating a narrow lane were unnecessary as once drivers leave the A4103 they would be on a road of 'C' class or lower status. Following a discussion it was agreed Mr Allfrey would speak to Mr Carless.

E.371 - West Mercia Police Authority - A4103 Stiffords Bridge - Ref.Min.E.361 A letter had been received from P C Martin Hallam stating that on the day of the accident there had been a shortage of officers available to implement any wider diversion. This was noted.

E.372 - Brookside - Ref.Min.E.362 A letter had been received from a parishioner who expressed concern that vehicles were being parked in Brookside for most of the day by non-residents and asked if The Parish Council was aware that a commercial business was being carried out at Aythens Cottage and asked if planning permission had been obtained. Following a discussion it was proposed by Mr Clarke, seconded by Mr Beard that the Clerk should write to the Planning Officer of The District Council and establish what relevant permission would be required for the type of business and this was carried by 11 votes with 3 abstentions. It was agreed the Clerk would notify the owner of the cottage of the Council's decision. Ms Skinner reported that she had spoken to the owner of the cottage who agreed to try to resolve the parking problem.

E.373 - MHDC - Church House - Ref.Min.E.363 An acknowledgement had been received from Mr D Murray in respect of the Council's communication which would receive a further reply where needed. This was noted.

**E.374 PLANNING MATTERS** Mr Clarke reported on a meeting of the Committee held earlier in the evening when the following applications had been considered: MH97/1399 Cloud's End. Chapel Lane. Cradley No objection was raised to the application in principle for a ground floor and first floor extension to existing dwelling and double garage but members were not overly happy with the multiple roof lines. MH97/1400 Ridgeway House. Ridgeway Cross. Cradley No objection was raised to the application to close the existing accesses with hedging and construct new vehicular and pedestrian access but recommended the Highways Department inspect the site and advised that there should be a severe cut of the existing tall hedge. MH97/1401 May Tree Cottage. Bosbury Road. Cradley Members agreed to return the plans to the District Council and ask for accurate plans and verification of an already existing extension for which the Council have no recollection. MH97/0703 New Bungalow adjacent to Hill View. Cradley Notification had been received of an appeal to the Secretary of State following the refusal of planning permission by the District Council. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Planning Inspectorate confirming the reason for the Council's objection.

**E.375 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** On a proposal by Mr Clarke, seconded by Miss Pilling, it was agreed the following accounts be passed for payment:

- (a) Clarke Roxburgh - Village Halls Insurance 1075.65
- (b) Zurich Municipal - Parish Council Insurance 156.00
- (c) CVS Resource Centre - Photocopying of Agendas and Minutes for October 5.72
- (d) Mrs D Cale (Stationery re: Village Competition) 3.31
- (e) Clerk's salary for 3 months and Telephone Expenses 699.50 from April 1996 to December 1997

**QUESTION TIME** In reply to a question as to why the Diocese had deferred negotiations in respect of the proposed purchase of Cradley Village Hall until it has sight of the Feasibility Study, Mr Rogers stated that a capital sum had been paid over the years by The Parish Council and it is faced with more capital expenditure. The Feasibility Study would provide guide estimates for future repairs and maintenance costs.

**E.376 DONATION TO MALVERN HILLS CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU** Following a request from the Manager of the bureau it was agreed to make a donation of 60.00.

**E.377 PRECEPT** It was agreed to defer the item until the January meeting and to bring the date forward to Tuesday, 6th January 1998.

**E.378 ANNUAL OPEN MEETING -1998** It was agreed that the meeting should be held at Cradley Village Hall on Tuesday, 28th April 1998. It was further agreed that suggestions for a speaker should be considered at the next meeting.

E.379 MALVERN HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE Mr Allfrey reported that he had attended the meeting on Friday, 7th November 1997 at the Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern.

E.380 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ORDER Notification had been received of an Order which was passed to the Footpaths Officer who agreed to arrange a meeting with the Footpaths Committee.

E.381 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - FREE ENERGY ADVICE A poster and leaflets had been received promoting the service. It was agreed to ask the post office, the shop and the doctor's surgery to display the material and to publish the information in the Newsletter.

E.382 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - LOCAL PLAN A copy of the Local Plan had been received and passed to the Chairman of the Planning Committee.

E.383 OFFER - CUSTOMER CHOICE Leaflets had been received as part of a publicity campaign to raise public awareness of the right to choose who supplies their electricity. It was agreed to ask the post office, the shop and the doctor's surgery to display the leaflets and to advertise the information in the Newsletter.

E.384 HEREFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL An invitation had been received to attend a presentation on Wednesday, 26th November 1997 at 7.00 pm at The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Haford Road Hereford Ms Skinner expressed an interest in attending.

E.385 MAST AT WHITMANS HILL QUARRY Mrs Lim reported that Mercury were planning a test on Friday, 21st November 1997 at approximately 10.00 am.

E.386 SEVEN STARS INN Mrs Hunt informed members that notices advertising food had been placed at the entrance to the public house and on a traffic sign. It was agreed the Clerk would notify the County Council and the Environmental Health Department.

E.387 BOSBURY ROAD FLOOD Ms Skinner reported that flooding had occurred due to a blocked drain at Holland Hill near Tudor Oaks. It was agreed the Clerk would write and inform the County Council.

E.388 CRADLEY BROOK A parishioner had reported that grass cuttings were being tipped on the bank of the brook at Brookside which could cause the brook to become polluted. It was agreed to draw public attention to the matter in the Newsletter.

E.389 PARSONS NOSE Miss Pilling advised members that 3 signs had been erected advertising the business It was agreed the Clerk would write to the County Council and ascertain if planning permission had been obtained.

E.390 NATIONAL VILLAGE OF THE YEAR Mrs Hunt reported that the presentations would take place in London on the 8th December 1997 with only 1 representative allowed to attend. It was agreed The Parish Council would reimburse the train fare of approximately 28.00 to the representative. A duplicate set of prints would be obtained and passed to Ms Skinner for the archive collection.

E.391 QUEENSWOOD Mr Allfrey reported that despite a letter from the District Council advising that the gate would be kept padlocked until an appeal is lodged, it had been observed that the gate had been left unlocked. However, it was agreed not to pursue the matter.

There being no further business The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.18 pm.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 6th January 1998 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies:- Mr R S Bullen, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs S M Lim, Ms G Skinner and Mr G Spence.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no Declarations of Interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th November 1997 be confirmed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

E.392 - War Memorial A letter had been received from the Reverend K Maclean confirming that the Maclean family had agreed to hand over responsibility of the War Memorial to the Parish Council This was noted. A letter had been received from Major Fraser stating that a vehicle had caused damage to the grass surrounding the Memorial and offered to repair the damage. One of the Councillors reported that a local resident had noted the vehicle which caused the damage and had written to the owners. It was agreed to wait for a response before accepting Major Eraser's kind offer.

E.393 - Winthill - Ref.Min.E.364 As there had been no response to the Council's previous correspondence it was agreed to follow this up with a further letter.

E.394 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.365 Mr Rogers reported that he had looked through the Draft Contract for Storridge Village Hall and felt it was satisfactory. 6 estimates had been received by the Architects, the lowest estimate being 25,000.00 over the original budget figure outlined by the Architects.

Mr Rogers informed members that he felt there were 3 options open:

- 1) To extensively reduce the scheme
- 2) To divert funds from another part of the fund
- 3) The Management Committee to obtain further funding

Members agreed the preferred option was to down size the scheme. The Architect would supply a breakdown of the costs and it was unanimously agreed to defer a decision pending further discussion at the next meeting.

Mr Rogers advised that there had been no further progress with negotiations in respect of Cradley Village Hall. The Feasibility Study had now been received and forwarded to the Diocese. A cheque for 600.00 had been received from Storridge Village Hall Management Committee representing 25% of the net amount of an Interim Payment to Hook Mason.

Mr Bond requested the total amount due by Storridge Village Hall Management Committee in respect of 25% net of previous invoices and the Clerk was asked to inform Mr Bond of the amount required.

E.395 - Hereford and Worcester County Council - Bosbury Road - Ref.Min.E.368 A letter had been received from Mr Carless, Traffic Management advising that the cost to supply and fit flexible reflector posts would be 25.00 per post and the cost to supply and fit yellow backing speed signs would be 100.00 per sign. Mr Hames informed members that traffic sensors to monitor speed had recently been installed and it was therefore agreed to defer a decision until the results were known.

E.396 - Malvern Hills District Council - Aythens Cottage - Ref.Min.E.372 A letter had been received from Mr D Rudge, Planning Officer stating that he had inspected the property and confirmed that the majority of the activity referred to including parked vehicles surrounding the property, is as a result of building work currently being carried out. Furthermore, the activity could not be considered as a material change of use of the building or the land and therefore planning permission would not be required at present. However, if the business operation was to change in the future, the District Council's view might change, especially if parking was still a problem,

E.397 - Malvern Hills District Council - Church House - Ref.Min.E.373 A letter had been received from Ms V Reynolds, Planning Enforcement Officer advising that she had investigated the use of

the pavilion and apart from one occasion there had been no residential use of the building since the residential use ceased some 7 years ago. The owners had been notified that planning permission would be required should they wish to re-establish such a use. The Chairman reported that she had received a letter from the owner of the property confirming that the Pavilion had been occupied for the past 3 years and advising that planning permission would be sought. It was agreed that the Clerk should send a copy of the letter to Ms Reynolds.

E.398 - Hereford and Worcester County Council - Seven Stars - Ref.Min.E.386 A letter had been received from P Ashcroft, Senior Technician advising that the signs at the public house were not on highway land and therefore no action would be taken. This was noted.

E.399 - Hereford and Worcester County Council - Flood at Bosbury Road - Ref.Min.E.387 Notification had been received that the maintenance contractor had now cleared the drainage systems at the bottom of Holland Hill.

E.400 - Hereford and Worcester County Council - Parson's Nose - Ref.Min.E.389 A letter had been received from P Ashcroft advising that the signs directing traffic to the site had been inspected. As they caused no hazard to highways users no action would be taken to remove them. This was noted.

#### QUESTION TIME

A member of the public expressed concern that a large 'no parking' sign had been erected at the entrance to Churchfields and asked if planning permission had been granted. In reply, the Chairman reported that 3 similar letters of complaint had been received and it was agreed that the Clerk would inform the Planning Officer and ask the Highways Department to inspect the site. A member of the Council pointed out that the sign had been erected due to non-residents' vehicles blocking the entrance to the lane thus preventing residents and the emergency services gaining access.

A member of the public drew members' attention to the speed of traffic along the A4103 between Storridge Church and Wildgoose Hill. The Chairman replied that she had spoken to PC Dixon who agreed to monitor the situation. It was agreed the Clerk should write to the Highways Department requesting additional speed signs on entering Storridge and that the Chairman would contact PC Dixon again and suggest that speed monitoring cables be placed across the highway. It was further agreed the Clerk would highlight the problem in the Newsletter. In answer to a question from a parishioner, Mr Rogers confirmed that the Planning Officer had not received any further amended plans for the mast at Whitman's Hill Quarry.

E.401 PLANNING MATTERS Mr Rogers, on behalf of the Chairman of the Planning Committee, reported on 2 meetings held on the 6th December 1997 and 6th January 1998 when the following applications had been considered: MH97/1511 - Traveller's Joy, Crumpton Hill, Storridge No objection was raised to the application for extensions, alterations and a double garage. MH97/1439 - Gwinllan, Vinesend, Cradley No objection was raised to the application for the demolition of a tin shed and outbuildings and to replace with a double car port and garage. MH97/1552 - Rose Tree Cottage, Birchwood No objection was raised to the application for a two storey extension to the existing cottage. MH97/1556 - Old Vinesend Farm, Ridgeway Cross No objection was raised for the reinstatement of timber frame of cross-wing to reinstate structural integrity, internal alterations to replace unsafe staircase and improve ancillary sanitary accommodation. MH97/1577 - Pixiefields, Cradley Objection was raised to a two storey extension as it was felt that it would be over- development of the garden site and location and there would be inadequate facilities for a larger house. MH97/1578 - Esk Bank House, Cradley No objection was raised for a new 2 vehicle garage. Land at the Rear of The Parleys Mr Rogers reported that both Appeals had been upheld subject to minor changes with the restoration to agricultural use within 6 months.

E.402 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On the proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Mr Beard, it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:-

- (a) John Stallard and Co - Professional fees 276.41
- (b) Hook Mason - Stage payment 2820.00
- (c) Data 3 - Stationery 16.95
- (d) Clerk's Car Allowance for 3 months (Sept - Dec 1997) 46.43
- (e) Major Fraser - Neighbourhood Watch Expenses 14.00
- (f) D Cale - Reimbursement of Rail Fare 28.20

E.403 BURYFIELDS PLAYING FIELD - EXPENDITURE The Chairman reported that the Residents' Association had sought estimates for levelling land, fencing and other works. 2 estimates had been received and valuations of land were being prepared. Further to the discussion in October 1997 it was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase the land subject to negotiation.

E.404 PRECEPT 1998/99 On the proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Mr Beard, it was unanimously agreed that the precept for 1998/99 should be £15,000.

E.405 ANNUAL OPEN PARISH MEETING It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Mr David Hancock of Malvern Hills AONB in the first instance to be the guest speaker at the 1998 Open Parish Meeting.

E.406 FOOTPATHS Copies of recommendations by the Footpath Committee had been circulated to members and following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the County Council expressing the concerns of the Committee about various problems with footpaths. It was further agreed to monitor the situation when the Herefordshire Council takes over. Mrs Hunt declared an interest in the item.

E.407 KING'S ORCHARD A letter had been received from a parishioner stating that one side of the road had become churned up due to vehicles trying to pass stationary vehicles on the opposite side of the road. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Highways Department and ask if an officer could inspect the site and arrange for the necessary repairs to be carried out.

E.408 WEST MERCIA POLICE AUTHORITY A draft Policing Plan for 1998/99 had been received from Ian Payne, which sets out the tone for developments during the coming year. A questionnaire had been received to assist in the planning process for the Policing Plan 1998/99. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should consult Major Fraser before completing the questionnaire.

E.409 NATIONAL SPRING CLEAN A letter and leaflets had been received outlining the campaign for 1998. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the District Council and request a skip for the parish for the week preceding Easter.

E.410 MAY TREE COTTAGE A member asked if the Clerk would note the comments of the Planning Committee and inform the Planning Officer at the District Council of the work currently in progress.

E.411 VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION Mrs Cale reported that although Cradley did not progress any further in the competition, the village was awarded a further plaque making 3 in total. One had already been displayed in the village hall and Mrs Cale would ask if the shop and the post office would display the others.

E.412 ROAD SIGN. COWLEIGH ROAD The Chairman reported that she had telephoned the Highways Department to advise them that the sign outside Storridge Village Hall had been demolished.

E.413 A4103 HEREFORD TO WORCESTER ROAD Mrs Cale expressed concern that running water from The Hopkilns to the Red Lion public house had been iced up in cold weather. It was agreed the Clerk should write to the Highways Department and inform them of the dangerous condition on this section of the road.

E.414 FLOODING OUTSIDE POST OFFICE A member reported that a severe flood had recently occurred outside the post office and asked if the building of a weir by the owner of an adjacent property could have contributed in any way to the severity of the flood, and if the Water Authority should have been consulted before such work had been undertaken. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Environment Agency to clarify the situation.

There being no further business The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.01 pm.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL  
held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 21st January 1998 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurlle (Chairman), Mrs S M Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance. Apologies:- Mr W M J Hames

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Mr Allfrey declared an interest in Storridge Village Hall.

**VILLAGE HALLS IMPROVEMENTS** The Chairman informed members that the meeting had been called to discuss the Village Halls Improvements Project and to consider the proposed purchase of Cradley Village Hall. It was agreed that the meeting should be taken in committee. After considerable discussion it was decided not to proceed with the negotiations in respect of the proposed purchase of Cradley Village Hall and the Clerk was asked to write to inform The Diocese that the Parish Council was no longer interested in purchasing the property.



**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 10th February 1998 at 7.30p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Mrs S M Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, and Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mr Allfrey declared an interest in Storridge Village Hall.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES Question Time Mr Allfrey pointed out that the problem area on the A4103 should have stated between Storridge Church and The Brook House. Subject to this amendment it was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th January 1998 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 21st January 1998 be confirmed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

E.415 - War Memorial - Ref.Min.E.392 A response had been received from Currys in respect of the damage caused to the grass by one of their delivery vans and advised that the Area Manager of the Bilston Distribution Centre would reply in due course. If a reply was not received it was agreed that the Clerk would invoice Currys for the cost of the repairs. It was reported that Major Fraser had carried out the necessary repairs to the damaged grass which was noted with appreciation.

E.416 - Winthill - Ref.Min.E.393 As there had been no response from the District Council, the Clerk telephoned the Senior Enforcement Officer Mr I Thomson and reminded him of a letter received by the Parish Council from Mr D Murray stating that the Planning Committee had met on 25th June 1997 and had authorised money to be spent to carry out the work. Mr Thomson had been unaware of the letter and agreed to liaise with Mr Murray and report back to the Parish Council.

E.417 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.394 A letter had been received from Mr Richard East advising that the Capital Expenditure Sub-committee had considered the Council's request for an additional £20,000 for the Storridge Village Hall Improvement Project and had been refused. The Sub-Committee did, however, agree that the Parish Council could transfer £20,000 of the grant from the Sports Field Project to the Storridge Village Hall Improvement Project provided that the Capital Grant for the project did not exceed 75% of the gross total cost of the works. On a proposal by Mr Rogers, seconded by Mrs Fairfax, it was agreed that £20,000 of the grant should be transferred to the Storridge Village Hall Improvement Project. It was further agreed that the Clerk should inform Mr East accordingly. A cheque for £1282.50 had been received from Storridge Village Hall Management Committee in settlement of the 25% portion of the net total of the invoices received to date from Hook Mason.

E.418 - Traffic Speed - Bosbury Road - Ref.Min.E.395 Mr Hames reported that he had received a set of figures from Mr Cox at the County Council which differed from the figures he had previously received. Mr Hames suggested that the Clerk should obtain a full set of raw score data for the complete 2 weeks of speed checks. Once the data had been received a set of summary figures would be sent to the County Council and the Police Authority for their comments.

E.419 - Church House - Ref.Min.E.397 A telephone call had been received by the Clerk from Ms V Reynolds advising that she had passed the matter to Mr Duncan Rudge to clarify the position of residential use. This was noted.

E.420 - Buryfields Playing Field - Ref.Min.E.403 Mr Rogers reported that a valuation of the land had been prepared for the Parish Council and the landowner would obtain an independent valuation. Members agreed to continue the discussion in committee.

E.421 - Chapel Lane Playing Field Mr Bullen informed members that separate tenders had been received for the basketball area/perimeter track and for the play equipment at a total cost of approximately £50,000. The Committee had still to find 25% match funding and although just over £2,000 had been raised, the required amount fell short by £10,000. Following a discussion it was proposed by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Mr Rogers that the Clerk should obtain details of the possibility of a bank loan until further funding could be raised. This was agreed. It was further agreed to continue the discussion in committee.

E.422 - Annual Open Meeting - Ref.Min.E.405 The Chairman reported that Mr David Hancock of the Malvern Hills AONB had accepted the invitation to address the meeting. This was noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Peter Baker to ask him if he would give the vote of thanks. It was further agreed that the meeting should be advertised by placing posters around the parish and to insert coloured leaflets in the Newsletters. Notification had been received from Mr Hancock of the following 1998 seminars: a) Pond conservation and management - Saturday, 21st February - Colwall Village Hall. b) Archaeology in the community - Sunday, 1st March - Bronsil House, Eastnor. c) Village Design Statements - Saturday, 7th March - Colwall Village Hall. Each seminar would run from 9.30 am until 4.00 pm and would cost 4.00 to include tea coffee and a buffet lunch. A letter had been received from Denise Mason of Hereford and Worcester CALC to ask if the Parish Council would nominate a candidate to represent all Parish Councils in the AONB area. On a proposal by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Mr Clarke, members agreed that the Chairman should be nominated for the post.

E.423 - King's Orchard - Ref.Min.E.407 A letter had been received from Mr P Ashcroft of Hereford and Worcester County Council stating that he would attempt to inspect the long running problem in the near future and would report back to the Parish Council before the next meeting. This was noted.

E.424 - Skips in Parish - Ref.Min.E.409 Confirmation had been received from Mr Billings of the District Council that a free skip had been booked for the parish for one week commencing Monday, 9th April 1998 and would be situated at the entrance to Buryfields. As in previous years it was agreed that the Parish Council could not be responsible for the contents of the skip and therefore could not complete the Duty of Care Certificate.

E.425 - May Tree Cottage - Ref.Min.410 As there had been no reply from the District Council, Mrs Hunt asked if the Clerk would write to the Planning Officer again. This was agreed.

E.426 - Sign at Cowleigh Road - Ref.Min.E.412 The Chairman reported that the sign had been replaced and drew members' attention to two incidents which had recently occurred at the junction of the B4219 and the A4103 at Storridge. In one of the incidents a car had driven down the footpath to the left of the junction to join the A4103 to Hereford causing damage to a paving slab in front of the notice board. It was agreed that the Clerk should write and inform the County Council of the incidents and ask if preventative measures could be taken.

E.427 - No Parking Sign. Churchfields - Ref: Question Time A letter had been received from Ms V Reynolds, Planning Enforcement Officer, MHDC stating that the matter would be investigated and would advise the Parish Council of her findings. This was noted.

#### QUESTION TIME

In reply to a question from a parishioner, the Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council was currently exploring measures to prevent the speed limit being exceeded in Bosbury Road. A member of the public expressed concern that work at the Crown Public House had ceased and the site had become littered with old cars. In reply the Chairman stated that the Planning Officer would be asked to inspect the site.

In answer to a question from a parishioner, Mr Clarke confirmed that the fully repairing lease on Cradley Village Hall expired in 2006 and could not be surrendered before then.

In reply to a question by a parishioner, Mr Clarke advised that notification for a second communication tower had been received and he thought it unlikely that the Planning Committee would support it.

Mr Bond asked if the Parish Council had received an amended date from the District Council for the Legal Agreement on Storridge Village Hall. In reply, Mr Clarke confirmed that he had spoken to Lisa Peakman-Short, Solicitor for the District Council and final copies of the Agreement were in the process of being prepared. Mr Bond expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for its continued support for the additional funding. The Chairman also expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Mr Clarke and Mr Rogers for their professional advice throughout. A parishioner asked if the Parish Council had a policy on trees. In reply, the Chairman stated if a tree was in a conservation area it could be subject to a tree preservation order and advised her to write to the Tree Warden at the District Council.

#### E.428 PLANNING MATTERS

Mr Clarke reported on planning decisions received from the District Council and advised members of the Planning Committee that a Planning Meeting would be held after the main meeting.

E.429 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Miss Pilling, it was unanimously agreed that the following account be passed for payment:

(a) CVS Resource Centre - Photocopying Agendas, Minutes etc for 2 months 12.76

E.430 CRADLEY VILLAGE HALL The Chairman reported that she had spoken to the Rev. Michael Smith of the Diocese in respect of the possibility of extending the current lease on the hall to 21 years to qualify for the grant from the Malvern Millions. Rev Smith advised that the Diocese would obtain instructions from its valuer as to the revised terms of the lease and would inform the Council when the details were established. Members agreed to continue the discussion in committee. A letter had been received from David Watkin, Valuer for the Diocese asking for confirmation that the hall is fully insured by the Council under the terms of the lease. This was noted.

E.431 JUNE ARMSTRONG A letter had been received from Mrs Armstrong stating that she hoped to hold a monthly surgery in Cradley to discuss local issues. It was agreed the Clerk should write to Mrs Armstrong and invite her to attend the parish meetings. It was further agreed to extend the invitation to Mr James Milne.

E.432 H & W COUNTY COUNCIL - TRAVELWISE CAMPAIGN Information, advice and posters had been received together with a newsletter outlining the awareness on transport issues. This was noted.

E.433 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL - ADOPTED PLAN Notification had been received that the Local Plan had been adopted with effect from 21st January 1998 and the period for any legal challenge under section 287 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 would expire on 4th March 1998. This was noted.

E.434 MALVERN HILLS CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU Notification had been received of a Quiz Evening to be held on Friday, 20th March 1998 at The Grange, Malvern at 7.30 pm as part of a fund raising campaign. This was noted.

E.435 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL The Service Delivery Plan 1998/99 had been received together with details of meetings to be held at venues throughout the County in February 1998. This was noted. E.436 Notification had been received of the following meetings: a) Malvern Hills Area Committee - Thursday, 5th March 1998 at the Council Chamber, Malvern Hills District Council at 7.30 pm. b) Ledbury Town Council - Thursday, 5th March 1998 at The Market House, Ledbury at 7.00 pm. c) Herefordshire Children's Services Plan - Belmont Abbey on Thursday, 19th February 1998 at 10.00 am.

E.437 LITTER Members expressed concern at the amount of litter that was being dropped between the post office and Bur/fields. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the District Council to ascertain the cost to supply and fit a litter bin on the corner of The Leys and to ask if the Contract Services Department would be prepared to empty it. It was also suggested that a litter bin should be installed opposite the butcher's shop at Pixiefields.

There being no further business The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 24th February 1998 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mr R Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies:- Mrs S M Lim

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Mr Hames declared an interest as a newly elected member of the Diocesan Board of Education. Before the commencement of the business meeting, the Chairman welcomed members of the public and it was unanimously agreed to allow an allotted time during the meeting for the public to ask questions.

CRADLEY VILLAGE HALL The Chairman reminded members that they had all been circulated with copies of letters from the Diocese outlining its proposals to negotiate a new lease; from Karen Humphries of the Community Council; and a copy of a report from the Village Hall Committee indicating its desire to explore the possibility of being the lead group to take the project forward. Mr Rogers reported that following a discussion with Mr Richard East of the District Council, the requirement for eligibility to enter into the Legal Agreement which should be signed by 31st March 1998 was that the Parish Council should either own the freehold property or have re-negotiated a long lease for community use for at least 21 years. However, Mrs Humphries' letter had suggested that the Legal Extension Agreement can be signed without having the Diocesan Lease for the Hall in place. It was agreed that further clarification on this point should be sought. Mrs Humphries had indicated that she had met with Mr East and he had suggested that if the Parish Council wished to withdraw from the scheme, the District Council would consider an application to transfer the Grant to the Charitable Village Hall Committee, which would depend on the Parish Council either buying the Hall and making a 'gift' of it, together with the responsibilities for it, to the Charity, or allowing the Charity to take over the longer lease with the Diocese, or to purchase the Hall independently using transferred grant monies. In the ensuing discussion, clarification was requested of the relationship between the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee and the Trustees mentioned in the Lease. Mr Clarke replied that there were no Charitable Trustees in existence at present and that the Lease was held by the Parish Council. In view of the possible delay in setting up a new Trust, Ms Skinner advised members that it would be possible to secure the promised funding if the Legal Agreement was entered into by the Parish Council, and the liability of the Agreement then transferred to the new Trust. It was agreed to seek confirmation on this point from Mr East. Members agreed that an appraisal of the building would not be sufficient to detect any serious defects and that a full structural survey should be carried out to quantify the cost of potential repairs. It was further agreed that the new Trust should authorise the structural survey after obtaining permission from the Diocese, and to assume responsibility for the cost

**QUESTION TIME** In reply to a question as to who would negotiate with the Diocese to either lease or to buy the freehold of the Hall, the Chairman replied that it would be the duty of the new Trust. A parishioner asked if money was available to purchase the hall, and in reply Ms Skinner advised that the purchase monies would be made up from the £55,000 grant allocation from the Malvern Millions and the balance would be sought from other grant bodies. In answer to a question as to why Cradley residents were not kept informed in respect of the proposed purchase of the Hall, Mr Beard replied that only discussions had taken place and there had been nothing positive to report. However, when a decision had been made, it would be published in the newsletter. The parishioner was also advised that the Minutes of the meetings were posted on both parish notice boards every month.

Following further discussion Mr Allfrey proposed that the Parish Council should sign the Legal Agreement to secure the Malvern Millions Grant and that the Village Hall Committee be the independent Trustees of the Hall and take full responsibility to either lease the Hall or buy the freehold. The proposal was seconded by Mr Beard and was unanimously agreed. It was further

proposed by Mr Allfrey, seconded by Miss Pilling, and unanimously agreed that a Charitable Trust be set up for the control and running of the Hall. On a proposal by Mr Beard, seconded by Mr Allfrey, it was unanimously agreed that the Village Hall Committee should investigate setting up its own Charitable Trust and that the Parish Council should relinquish all responsibility for the Hall. It was agreed that Ms Skinner would take the proposals to the Village Hall Committee and report back to the Parish Council at its next meeting with concrete proposals of its intentions. A member of the Council suggested that the Village Hall Committee should seek legal advice before proceeding with the scheme.

It was further agreed that Mr Clarke, on behalf of the Parish Council, would write to:

a) The Diocese advising of the proposals made and

b) Mr East and ask him for the Draft Agreement.

The Clerk would write to Karen Humphries to inform her of the outcome of the meeting.

The Chairman reminded members that there was surplus monies from the overall funding which had not been taken up from the playing field projects.

On a proposal by Mrs Carver, seconded by Mrs Fairfax, it was unanimously agreed that all surplus monies should be claimed from the District Council.

Mrs Hunt advised members that electrical work needed to be carried out in the hall as a matter of urgency.

The Chairman suggested that immediate action be taken and the cost, which was said to be modest, met with Village Hall funds.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

## CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Storridge Village Hall on

### **Tuesday 10th March 1998 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mr F A C Beard, Mr R S Bullen, Mrs D Cale, Mrs A Carver, Mr M A E Clarke, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Mrs S M Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, and Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Mr Allfrey, having made an apology in advance, arrived later.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.

#### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Min.E.424 - The skip would be provided for 1 week from Thursday, 9th April. Subject to this amendment, it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th February 1998 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 24th February 1998 be confirmed and signed.

#### MATTERS ARISING

E.438 - War Memorial - Ref.Min.E.415

A letter had been received from Major Fraser suggesting that a small plaque be erected at the War Memorial to signify its history and asked if the Parish Council would make a contribution towards the cost. Members welcomed the idea of the plaque and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Major Fraser and ask him to ascertain the cost.

E.439 - Winthill - Ref.Min.E.416

The Clerk reported that she had been advised by Mr Thomson of the District Council that the materials on the land would be cleared either on Friday, 13th March or Monday, 16th March 1998. This was noted.

E.440 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.417

On a proposal by Mr Clarke, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was unanimously agreed in full committee that the Legal Agreement and the Building Contract in respect of Storridge Village Hall should be signed, and that the signatories, on behalf of the Parish Council, should be the Chairman and Vice-chairman. Furthermore, it was unanimously agreed that the Chairman and Vice-chairman should sign the Legal Agreements for the Playing Fields Project and Cradley Village Hall once the final documents were available.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council thanked members of the Storridge Village Hall Management Committee for all their hard work and effort put into the project.

Mr Draper, in turn, expressed thanks on behalf of the Management Committee for the support given by the Parish Council.

A letter had been received from Colin Bannister, of Clarke Roxburgh confirming that he had checked the clauses relating to JCT minor building works and felt the contract would make the Council solely responsible for insuring contract works and materials and advised taking out a contractors all risks policy. Members agreed that the Clerk should ask Mr Bannister to speak to the architect to clarify the situation.

E.441 - Bosbury Road - Ref.Min.E 418

The Chairman welcomed P C Alan Dixon of West Mercia Police Authority. P C Dixon spoke of the concerns expressed by parishioners at the speed motorists were travelling along Bosbury Road, and had perused the data given to him by Mr Hames. He was particularly concerned that motorists were exceeding the speed limit by the butcher's shop, and he agreed to ask P C Martin Hallam to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter further.

With regard to traffic exceeding the speed limit on the A4103, P C Dixon advised members that the police had monitored traffic at Storridge over a 24 hour period from Friday, 9th January until Wednesday 14th January 1998 and results showed that excess speed was not a problem. The highest speed registered during the monitoring period was 53.3 mph, and although P C Dixon was aware that 15% of motorists ignore the speed limit, total surveillance would be required

which could not be carried out with the budget available.  
The Chairman thanked P C Dixon for attending the meeting.

**E.442 - Church House - Ref.Min.E.419**

A letter had been received from Miss V Reynolds of the District Council, advising that the breach of planning control at the pavilion had now ceased, therefore no further action would be taken. This was noted.

**E.443 - Annual Open Meeting - Ref.Min.E.422**

A letter had been received from Mr Peter Baker confirming that he would give the vote of thanks at the meeting. This was noted.

The Chairman advised members that she had been elected as the new Parish Council's representative on the JAC for the AONB.

**E.444 - King's Orchard - Ref.Min.E 423**

A letter had been received from Mr P Ashcroft of Hereford and Worcester County Council stating that he had carried out a site inspection and felt the problem was wholly caused by inconsiderate parking for the school. As the resulting damage had not reached a level considered dangerous to the road user, it did not warrant expenditure of the small budget available. This was noted.

**E.445 - May Tree Cottage - Ref.Min.425**

Notification had been received from Miss V Reynolds of the District Council that the matter would be investigated and she would respond as soon as possible. This was noted.

**E.446 - A4103/B4219 Junction at Storridge - Ref.Min.E 426**

A letter had been received from Mr P Rayner, Senior Engineer Traffic Management at Hereford and Worcester County Council suggesting that 2 additional verge marker posts be erected in the gap between the village hall access and the existing row of posts and advised that both notice boards should be re-sited away from the fence to encourage pedestrians to read notices from inside the car park rather than standing on the verge. The works within the highway would be undertaken when maintenance funds became available. This was noted.

**E.447 - No Parking Sign. Churchfields - Ref.Min.E.427**

Notification had been received from Mr Ashcroft advising that the portion of land was not maintainable at public expense, except for the right of way, and therefore the County Council had no jurisdiction over a sign directing motorists who were not driving on a publicly maintained road. This was noted.

**QUESTION TIME**

The Chairman welcomed June Armstrong and invited her to speak on local issues. Mrs Armstrong reminded members that Herefordshire (North) was divided into 3 planning areas, Leominster, Bromyard and Ledbury and advised of the following meetings: 22nd April 1998 20th May 1998 and 17th June 1998. All meetings in Leominster at 7.00 pm.

Mrs Armstrong reported that Andrew Jones, the new Traffic Manager, was aware of the problems on the A4103 and had agreed to discuss the issue, together with problem roads and signs, with the Parish Council.

Mrs Armstrong also advised members that she intends to hold a monthly consultation in Cradley on a Saturday morning and asked members if they knew of a suitable venue. Members suggested the school or Cradley Village Hall. The Chairman thanked Mrs Armstrong for attending the meeting.

**E.448 PLANNING MATTERS**

Mr Clarke reported on 2 planning meetings held on the 21st January and 12th February 1998 when the following applications were considered:

MH98/0002 No objection was raised to an application for the erection of kitchen and bathroom extensions at Penshurst, Chapel Lane, Cradley.

MH98/0003 No objection was raised to an application for additional domestic accommodation at Hillwyn, Storridge.

MH98/0031 No objection was raised to an application for an extension to existing cottage comprising kitchen/dining area and utility room on the ground floor and 3 bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor at The Yoke, Bromyard Road, Cradley.

MH98/0032 No objection was raised to an application for the proposed demolition, alterations and re-location of stables and hay store and erection of lean-to staff room and classroom at Home End Farm, Cradley but members requested that there are no permitted development rights on the new building.

MH98/0119 It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for the construction of a barn and stables at Winthill, Cradley.

Bungalow at Hill View, Cradley Mr Clarke reported that the owners of the property had lost their Appeal for revised access arrangements.

#### E.449 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

On a proposal by Mr Beard, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| (a) CVS Resource Centre - Photocopying Agendas, Minutes etc<br>for March, plus 500 A5 posters for the Annual Open Meeting | £ 22.79 |
| (b) Clerk's Salary for 3 months   | £544.50 |
| (c) Clerk's Telephone Allowance for 3 months  | £ 25.00 |
| (d) Clerk's Car Allowance for 3 months  | £ 66.23 |
| (e) Administration costs for 6 months   | £ 59.80 |
| (f) H&W County Council-Hire of classroom (2 evenings)   | £ 15.30 |
| (g) Hook Mason - Interim Payment - Professional fees  | £940.00 |
| (h) Howard Pugh - Valuation of land at Buryfields   | £ 76.38 |
| (i) Jonathan Chilton - Professional fees  | £528.75 |
| (j) MHDC - Planning Application fee for Buryfields  | £ 95.00 |

Miss Pilling opposed the payment of £17.50 in respect of the subscription to the CPRE and this was carried by 6 votes to 5 with 1 abstention.

#### E.450 REPORT OF THE CHURCHYARD COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr Spence, presented a report of a meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 1998 when it was agreed that the following grants should be made towards the maintenance of the 3 Graveyards in the Parish: -

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Cradley PCC    | £375.00 |
| Storrige PCC   | £240.00 |
| Cradley Chapel | £ 52.50 |

No claim was made for the maintenance of Cradley Church clock in 1997.

#### E.451 CRADLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman reported that she had received a letter from Maureen Mullaney, on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee. The letter stated that the committee had passed the following resolutions: -

- 1) Vote taken by the Village Hall Committee is to recommend to the Parish Council structure survey to take place on the Hall. Authorisation/advice will be agreed with the Diocese via the Parish Council.
- 2) The Village Hall Committee recommends to the Parish Council that all relevant paperwork should be signed to hold the Malvern Millions money.
- 3) Once further information has been established, the way forward on the Trusteeship will be discussed.

Mr Clarke reminded members that it had been agreed at the Extraordinary meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1998 that the new Trust should authorise the structural survey after obtaining permission from the Diocese, and to assume responsibility for the cost. Furthermore, Mr Clarke pointed out that it had also been agreed that the Village Hall Committee should investigate the setting up of a Trust and again stressed the urgency to do this. Mrs Hunt suggested that an Open Meeting should be held to ask parishioners if they would be willing to become Trustees.



Ms Skinner asked if the Clerk would forward a copy of the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting to the Secretary of the Management Committee. This was agreed.

On a proposal by Mrs Carver, seconded by Mr Rogers, it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should apply to the District Council and ask if all surplus monies from the Malvern Millions Grant could be transferred to the Cradley Village Hall Project.

Mr Rogers proposed that Mr Clarke be invited to submit an invoice for his professional fees in dealing with the Parish Council's legal affairs. This was unanimously agreed and the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council thanked Mr Clarke for his prompt, efficient and competent advice.

Ms Skinner, on behalf of the Management Committee expressed appreciation to the Parish Council in agreeing that a request be made to the District Council to transfer the surplus monies to the Village Hall Project, and also thanked Mr Clarke for the work he had undertaken on behalf of the Committee.

#### E.452 CHAPEL LANE PLAYING FIELD

Mr Bullen reported that estimates for the works had been received and amounted to a provisional figure of £63,450 inclusive of VAT. Although £2,250 had been raised towards the match funding, the figure required fell short by £10,000. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council should support a short term loan for this purpose and that fund-raising by the Playing Field Committee should be an ongoing effort. It was further agreed that the Legal Agreement should be signed to secure the funding and the finance discussed at the next meeting. The contract for the works would not be authorised until the Legal Agreement had been signed.

#### E.453 BURYFIELDS PLAYING FIELD

Mr Rogers reported that a figure had been agreed for the purchase of the land and that the footpath and fencing had been agreed in principle. The purchase of the land was proceeding and planning permission for change of use was in the course of being applied for.

#### E.454 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL- DOG FOULING

Information had been received concerning recent changes implemented in the area with regard to dog controls. This was noted.

#### E.455 HEREFORDSHIRE HOSPITAL - PRESENTATION

Notification had been received of a presentation to be held on 23rd April 1998 at 7.30 pm in the Post Graduate Medical Centre, The County Hospital, Union Walk, Hereford.

#### E.456 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - STREAM ADJACENT TO POST OFFICE

A letter had been received from K Davis, Development Control Officer advising that a site inspection had been carried out and that the weir at the property adjacent to the post office had not contributed to the recent flooding at the site. This was noted.

#### E.457 NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK

A letter had been received from J Daw, Assistant Manager of the bank enclosing a cheque for £50.00 as a gesture or "goodwill" to recompense the Council for the additional work caused by the recent errors made by the bank. The Chairman suggested to members that this sum of money be given to the Clerk for the extra work undertaken and this was unanimously agreed. On a proposal by Mr Clarke, seconded by Miss Pilling, it was further agreed that a cheque should be drawn in favour of the Clerk.

#### E.458 HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL - RESTRICTION ORDER

Notification had been received from Roger Yates, Director of Administrative and Legal Services that an Order to close UC65623 The Barrow, Cradley from its junction with C1140 to its junction with U65622 to facilitate highway drainage works. Mr Allfrey agreed to ascertain the reason for the closure.

#### E.459 LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL - PRESS RELEASE

A press release to the Ledbury Reporter and Hereford Times had been received from Mrs J McQuaid asking if the Parish Council would support a motion to correct the unfairness of the proposed method of allocation of taxes which should be allocated to Hereford City's unparished area. This was noted.

#### E.460 WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL - COUNTY SIGNS

A letter had been received from Rob Sykes, Chief Executive, advising of the strategy for placing 'Worcestershire' signposts around the new County boundary. This was noted.

**E.461 HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL - FOOTPATHS**

A letter had been received from R Jones, Public Rights of Way Officer confirming that the status of CD9 is a footpath although it runs on a track and no rights other than pedestrian have been claimed for it. Furthermore, the steps on CD 10 are correctly positioned and the waymark post for the junction of CD9 and CD20 will be re-positioned. It was agreed that a copy of the letter should be passed to Mr Hames for analysis.

**E.462 CRADLEY CHURCH - FOOTPATHS**

A letter had been received from P Wykes expressing concern about the condition of footpath CD34. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the County Council and request that an inspection is made and remedial work to repair the potholes be carried out.

**E.463 IAN THOMAS - KISSING GATE**

A letter had been received from Mr Thomas in respect of damage to the 'kissing gate' caused by a hedge cutting machine. Mr Hames agreed to arrange a Footpaths Meeting to discuss the issue.

**E.464 MALVERN HILLS JAC MEETING**

Notification had been received of a meeting on 13th March 1998 at 10.00 am in the Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern.

**E.465 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL - VILLAGE SHOP RATE RELIEF**

A letter had been received from Herefordshire Council advising of a new rate relief scheme for small businesses within rural settlements and asked for comments or suggestions. It was agreed that the Clerk would write and endeavour to seek a rate reduction for the village stores.

There being no further business The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

**CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held at Cradley Village Hall on

**Tuesday, 14th April 1998 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:- Mr M R Allfrey, Mr F A C Beard, Mrs A Carver, Mrs P Fairfax, Mr W M J Hames, Mrs E A Hunt, Mrs P M Hurle (Chairman), Mrs S M Lim, Miss J Pilling, Mr M J Rogers, Ms G Skinner, and Mr G Spence with the Clerk in attendance.

Apologies:- Mrs D Cale

Before the commencement of the business meeting, the Chairman asked members if they would agree for another item. Village Hall Improvements - Funding, to be added to the Agenda. This was unanimously agreed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th March 1998 be confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

E.465 - War Memorial - Ref.Min.E.438 A letter had been received from Major Fraser together with a draft of the proposed inscription for the plaque. The exact cost had not yet been established. This was noted.

E.466 - Winthill - Ref.Min.E.439 Miss Pilling reported that the materials had not been cleared on the 9th April 1998 as agreed with Mr Thomson at the District Council, but it was felt that bad weather could have prevented the contractors from carrying out the work on that day. Miss Pilling agreed to inform the Clerk if the work was not carried out once the weather had improved.

E.467 - Village Hall Improvements - Ref.Min.E.440

A letter had been received from Mr Richard East confirming that the surplus funds from the Sports Field Project had been transferred to the Cradley Village Hall Project and that the maximum Capital Grants now available to the projects were as follows:-

- a) Sports/Recreation facilities for Chapel Lane and Buryfields - £61,569.00
- b) Improvements to Cradley Village Hall - £74,431.00

Both Legal Agreements were duly signed on 30th March 1998 by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as previously agreed, and returned to Malvern Hills District Council. All files relating to the projects had now been passed to the new Herefordshire Council and all future correspondence would now be directed to Mr Mark Warren at Leominster. Four plaques recording the financial contribution of the old Malvern Hills District Council had also been received and Mr East had asked if they could be fixed in a suitable position close to the work for which the Grants were awarded, once the projects were completed. This was noted. A letter had been received from Colin Bannister of Clarke Roxburgh confirming that he had arranged the Contractors cover in respect of clause 6.3b for the work at Storridge Village Hall as requested by the Architect. This was noted. A letter had been received from David Watkins outlining the conditions that would be attached should a new lease be granted on Cradley Village Hall. This was noted.

E.468 PLANNING MATTERS Mr Rogers, on behalf of the Chairman of the Planning Committee, reported on 2 meetings held on the 10th March and 30th March 1998 when the following applications were considered:- MH98/0225 No objection was raised to an application for proposed replacement dwelling at The Garth, Westfields, Cradley but members suggested that the Planning Officer paid particular attention to the materials used and to specify the nature of the brickwork. MH98/0139 No objection was raised to an application for change of use from elderly persons bungalow to a holiday cottage at Hidelow House, Acton Beauchamp. Mr Allfrey asked if the Clerk would write to Herefordshire Council and request that a similar tie is attached to the change of use as in the previous application. This was agreed. MH98/0209 Strong objection was raised to the application for the erection of a two storey private dwelling alongside an existing dwelling to form end of terrace at 2 The Gables, Bosbury. MH98/0259 Strong objection was raised to the application for the conversion of a former coach house at Ridgeway House, Ridgeway Cross. MH98/0331 It was unanimously agreed to raise no objection to the application for an extension to provide a small

two storey wing to accommodate 1 bedroom and ground floor kitchen at Shepherd's Cottage, Storridge. MH98/0291 Members vigorously opposed the application for the demolition of existing garage/studio and the erection of a two storey extension to provide family accommodation at Rose Cottage, Cradley. MH98/0292 No objection in principle was raised to the application for the formation of access road to the A4103 provided the District Council was satisfied that the new access met the visibility criteria for access onto a main road as laid down by the Highways Department. MH98/0375 No objection was raised to the application to erect a new greenhouse but strong opposition was raised to the application for a swimming pool complex at Stoney Villa, Cradley as it was felt to be out of keeping in a rural area. MH98/0376 Strong objection was raised to the amended application to install 6 x sector antenna, 4 x 600mm microwave dishes, 22.5m telecommunications tower, equipment cabin and development ancillary at Whitman's Hill Quarry, Storridge despite the re-siting and lowering of the tower. MH98/0381 Ms Skinner declared an interest. No objection was raised to the application for a proposed garage to serve Aythens Cottage and Clematis Cottage, Cradley on condition that the use be confined to motor vehicle parking for the residential occupants and subject to a prohibition order being attached with regard to any development in the roof space. MH98/0175 Objection was raised to the amended application for the addition of a bedroom over the garden room extension at 10, Oaklands, Cradley. MH98/0003H Mr Allfrey declared an interest. Objection was raised to the application to remove hedges from 10 land parcels at Wildgoose Hill, Storridge. A subsequent letter had been received from Herefordshire Council stating that the application had been withdrawn.

Notification had been received from Mr A Moody, Assistant Area Planning Officer at MHDC of a decision issued on 3rd February 1998 stating that prior approval for the erection of a Monopole Mast at Bam Farm, Ridgeway Cross had been refused.

E.469 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS On a proposal by Mrs Fairfax, seconded by Miss Pilling, it was unanimously agreed that the following accounts be passed for payment:

- (a) CVS Resource Centre - Photocopying Legal Agreements, Agendas, Minutes etc. (April) 16.91
- (b) NALC - Subscription 127.20
- (c) Storridge Village Hall Mngt. Cttee. (Hire of Hall for 5 months) 40.00
- (d) Audit Commission 120.25

A cheque for 199.75 had been returned from Hook Mason in respect of the Plan Fee which had been requested by them in error - Ref.Min.E.246.

E.470 VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS - FUNDING A letter had been received from Mr Paul Hunt on behalf of the Cradley Village Hall Management Committee advising that he would arrange for a structural survey on the building and that the Committee would finance the cost. Three estimates had been received and members unanimously agreed that the estimate from Hook Mason for 600.00 plus VAT should be accepted and the instruction for the survey be placed by the Parish Council. As Mr Bullen did not attend the meeting, it was agreed to defer the discussion of finance for the Chapel Lane Playing Field Project until the next meeting.

E.471 MATTERS PENDING Following a discussion of matters outstanding it was agreed the Clerk should follow up matters as necessary.

E.472 TREE LOPPING A letter had been received from Susan Cooper expressing concern at the amount of unnecessary tree lopping in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk should notify the Tree Officer at the Herefordshire Council and ask him to inspect the trees in question.

E.473 MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL A letter had been received from Don Rule on behalf of the District Council wishing residents good fortune with the new Councils. This was noted.

E.474 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL A letter had been received together with drafts of Transport Policies and Programme Submission and Hereford Package Bid for 1999/2000. It was agreed to pass the documents to Mrs Fairfax for perusal. A letter had been received from G V Hyde, Chairman of the new Council in respect of the position of the unparished area of the City of Hereford and asked if the Parish Council would lend support for the parishing of the City.

E.475 LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL A letter had been received from the Clerk to the Council together with a map setting out the three planning committees proposed for the new Herefordshire Council. This was noted.

E.476 COMMUNITY COUNCIL Notification had been received of the Two Counties Quiz which would take place on Friday 24th April 1998 at 7.30 pm at Chase High School, Malvern with all profits to St. Michael's Hospice Hereford and St. Richard's Hospice, Worcester. '

E.477 MALVERN HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE Notification had been received of a meeting on 3rd July 1998 at 10.00 am at Malvern Hills Outdoor Centre, Old Hollow, West Malvern. E.478 CALC A circular had been received enclosing various leaflets and information. The Chairman reported of a recent meeting she had attended and ascertained that a Charter Group had been set up which consisted of 5 market towns and many parishes but excluded Cradley, Colwall and Mathon The Chairman also reported that Parish Council representatives on school governing bodies may be removed by planned legislation. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to CALC for clarification.

E.479 AGE CONCERN A letter had been received from Mrs M Rendle advising of the services offered by the organisation. This was noted.

E.480 CIVIC SERVICE The Chairman asked members if it was their wish to have a Civic Service this year. This was agreed and Mr Spence agreed to approach the new Rector. It was further agreed that the Clerk would formally invite the Rector to the Annual Open Meeting.

E.481 PARKING Members expressed concern that the Malvern Hills parking tickets could now only be used in Worcestershire. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Councillor June Armstrong to look into the matter.

E.482 STILES Mr Rogers reported that he had been approached by a parishioner who had expressed concern that the medieval stiles and a footpath in a recently purchased field may be removed and felt they should be protected. Mr Rogers agreed to speak to the planners to ascertain the procedure for their protection.

E.483 MILESTONE Mr Allfrey reported that the milestone at Ridgeway Hill needed re-painting. It was agreed the Clerk would inform the Highways Department.

E.484 CRADLEY SCHOOL Ms Skinner asked what progress had been made in respect of the proposed new school In reply the Chairman advised that there would be an appraisal of the situation during the summer term.

E.485 POTHoles Mr Allfrey reported that the potholes along the A4103 had been repaired following the flooding and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the County Council to thank them for their prompt action. The Chairman reported that the Direction Sign on the A4103 had been removed and it was agreed the Clerk would notify the Highways Department and ask them to replace it.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.19 pm.

