



CRADLEY AND STORRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Monthly newsletter – June 2022

The meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th June started with a welcome to our new clerk Richard James. Richard lives in Bromyard where he served 10 years as a Town Councillor and served four years as a Hereford County Councillor, so he very experienced in how local government works for the community. He is now semi-retired and looking for a new challenge. He is keen to gain a CiLCA qualification and aims to gain this accreditation by the end of his first year in post.

Ward Councillor's Report

Ellie Chowns brought the good news that work has now started on repairing the drains that cross the Bosbury Road and down Shepherd Hay Lane. When complete we should be saying goodbye forever to the regular flooding by Cradley Surgery after torrential rain.

She also reported that work on Public Rights of Way (PROW) have been removed from Balfour Beatty LP and brought in house. The team will be staffed by Herefordshire Council employees and should speed up the footpaths and also means that Rectory Lane may at last see the work in Rectory Lane being moved up the priority list which Herefordshire Council have acknowledged their responsibility to maintain.

Internal Audit Report

Despite being without a clerk at the financial year end Council were pleased to receive a clean bill of health from our Internal Auditor. The next stage is to send our accounts to the External Auditor. In the meantime, our unaudited accounts will be published, and the Notice of Public rights will appear on Notice Boards and our website.

First Responder

The Council has been in discussion with Sarah Clark who has recently retired as an ambulance technician and has expressed a willingness to volunteer as a First Responder in the Cradley and StorrIDGE area. Sarah who lives in the parish has completed the nationally accredited Community First Responder training with West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) and is just completing her "hands on practice" sessions, before she can become fully operational as a Community First Responder.

Initially Sarah would be the only Community First Responder covering our parish, but she hopes to identify other volunteers who would be willing to become part of a larger Community Responder service predominantly covering the Cradley and StorrIDGE Area.

Council has agreed to purchase the necessary lifesaving equipment at a cost in the region of £1,500 and cover any ongoing maintenance and replacement costs.

A plea for more Councilors

There are currently only 8 serving Parish Councillor's out of a complement of 15. Nevertheless 5 councillors i.e., one third are required to attend for the meeting to be quorate. With three councillors unable to attend, the meeting started with the bare minimum number. However as one Councillor had to leave at 9.30 the meeting then became inquorate and had to close. A further meeting will be held later in this month to complete the remainder of the agenda.

If you are interested in your community and would like to influence the way, we can improve our parish I would encourage you to consider making an application to be co-opted or if you have a specific skill or interest why not consider being a lay member of one of our Working Groups. **Your Council needs you!**

Now that once again we have a Clerk in post, Richard will be keeping you up to date with future Parish Council reports.

To let us have your views on any of the above or should you wish to consider co-option to the Council or be a volunteer contact us by email to clerk@cradleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Terry Robshaw, Chair, Cradley and Storridge Parish Council