



CRADLEY & STORRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7.30pm in the Storrige Village Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Terry Robshaw (Chair), Judith Aldridge, Paul Aitken, Ian Edgar, Janita Goodwin, Wynne Harries, Richard Hunt, & Colin Merker.

In Attendance:

Richard James - (Parish Clerk). Ellie Chowns - (Ward Member) and 4 x Members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** – None received.
2. **Declaration of Interest** was declared by Cllr W Harries regarding Planning application P222837/F
3. **The Minutes** of the Council meeting held on the 27th September 2022.

Resolution – *The minutes were adopted as a true record and were then signed & dated by the Chairman.*

4. Open Public Session.

Cllr Ellie Chowns (Ward Member) spoke about the following.

- *The OFSTED report on Children's Services which rated it inadequate.*
- *Herefordshire Council are now going to invest £22m into children's Services over the next 3-years. It is looking to employ more social workers. Government has allocated a Children's Commissioner to oversee the improvement plan.*
- *There is now a new Head of Children's Services.*
- *Hereford City had secured £22m of government funding from the levelling up fund.*
- *Herefordshire Council is hoping to secure additional funding for rural communities levelling up.*
- *There is a £20m shortfall in the 2023/24 financial year, which will put ever-increasing pressure on other services like highways, planning, community development, etc.*
- *Herefordshire Council wants to encourage the use of the new Children's Service's Reporting hotline, which is confidential and anonymous, if any person is concerned about possible abuse.*
- *Ellie fully supports the use of Speed Indicator Devices (SID) within the Parish, but this has to be put forward by the Parish Council, the Parish Council's Highways Working Group will look into the matter.*

There were the following questions from members of the public.

Q1. *Why could a mobile SID not be used in the Parish, to support addressing instances like the speed of traffic along the Bosbury Road, Cradley.*

A1. *Parish Council's Highways Working Group will investigate the matter.*

Q2. *There were instances of graffiti within the Parish on road signs, BT boxes etc. One of the members of public attending the meeting offered to clean the graffiti if he had the necessary cleaning equipment.*

A2. *It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase the appropriate graffiti cleaning equipment and provide it to the volunteer. The Clerk would also inform the police about the matter. The Council thanked the individual for volunteering to provide this service.*

Q3. *2 members of the public expressed their concerns about a planning application coming up for debate late on the agenda. They both strongly objected.*

A3. Council thanked them for their views and encouraged them to send their objections directly to the Herefordshire Council's planning department.

5. Planning Matters. (Current Applications)

Comments on applications

Application No	Address	Permission sought
P223081/J	9 Fincher's Corner Cradley WR13 5LP	Proposed works to T1 Oak tree - reduce tree by 25% (3.5meters of the top and the sides). The tree over hangs 3 properties, the aim is to reduce the weight of the branches to prevent any accidents and damage to the properties
Comments		
<i>Cradley & Storrige Parish Council Supports the Application</i>		
P222759/FH & P222760/L	Coombe Farm Coombe Lane Cradley WR13 5JF	Reconstruction and enlargement of stables for multi-purpose ancillary residential use.
Comments		
<p><i>222759/FH - Cradley & Storrige Parish Council Supports the Application but would suggest that anti-glare slate-coloured solar panels be considered bearing in mind that the building will be seen from the AONB and A4103</i></p> <p><i>222760/L - Cradley & Storrige Parish Council Supports the Application</i></p>		
P222833/L & P222832/FH	The Cottage Cradley WR13 5HZ	Proposed two storey extension to side and replacement of flat roof dormer with enlarged dormer with slate pitch roof.
Comments		
<p><i>Both 222832/FH & 222833/L - Cradley & Storrige Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal as evidence suggests that the main white brick element of the building may well have already been extend by c. 1/3rd from the original/listing. As such there is reduced, minimal buffer for further extension, before any development dominates the original house.</i></p> <p><i>Notwithstanding the technical points on floor area, the proposed development would obscure and detract from the beauty of what was a small cottage in both the principal elevation and most public/private angles and exceed the original listed building's 'capacity to accept change'. We feel that this proposal does not fulfil the requirements of CNDP9 (Design) with 'setting in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design, materials...'</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the whole site is clearly visible from a large part of the Malvern Hills, although outside of the AONB itself.</i></p> <p><i>Cradley & Storrige Parish Council note and regret that the driveway and boundary fences that form part of the curtilage, have been very recently changed without formal permissions.</i></p>		
P223242/J	Hawkhurst House Cradley WR13 5NF	T1: Poplar – Reduce the overall crown down to leave as a pollard.

Comments		
<i>Cradley & Storrige Parish Council objects to the proposed action on this individual tree but could support an application to cut back the branches of this and adjacent trees which overhang the road and potentially interfere with the power lines.</i>		
P222837/F	Land at Hill View, Bosbury Road, Cradley, WR13 5LT	Proposed erection of new detached dwelling within the residential curtilage of existing house.
Comments		
<i>Cradley & Storrige Parish Council objects to the application since it does not vary from the previous application 212946 which was refused. Although Design and Access Statement claims that the sole reason for refusal was being outside the settlement boundary this was only one of the reasons for not only objections by CSPC but 4 other parishioners. The full reasons for Cradley & Storrige Parish Council's objections are: -</i>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. The proposed dwelling remains outside the Settlement boundary and whilst adjacent is on land which the Cradley NDP (CNDP2) classifies as low to medium for housing development. The CNDP states that it does not support development unless it is classified as having a moderate, high or very high capacity to accommodate development and satisfies all other criteria.</i> <i>2. Cradley Parish has already provided the required number of housing and therefore no further requirement for market housing.</i> <i>3. In the original application 161944 for the single dwelling known as "Hill View" The Transport Manager's report stated, "The width of the access for a single property will need to be 3.6 [metres] especially with a PROW." and "There would be no entertainment of further development with the access being so narrow". The Planning Officer's recommendation was "Therefore, on balance support can be given for a single dwelling house on this site adjoining residential development on the southern side of the Bosbury Road." It is also believed that in parts the access may be less than 3.6 metres</i> 		

6. Financial Matters.

- 6.1 - Monthly Budget Report - September
- 6.2 - Bank Reconciliation - September
- 6.3 - Unity Bank Statement - September
- 6.4 - Insurance

Resolution – *The Monthly Budget reports (6.1) and Bank Reconciliation (6.2) were approved and signed by the chair. The Unity bank statements (6.3) were noted by the Council (6.4) Insurance, the Council insurance is due for renewal at the end of the month, the clerk presented an insurance asset register to the councillors which reflected true replacement costs of the Council assets. Council agreed that all assets should be insured at replacement value. A quote had been obtained from the council's current insurers based on the adjusted asset values, but Council asked the clerk to obtain additional like for like quotes from other insurance companies or brokers, to provide assurance around best value.*

7. To Approve Payments.

	Payment	Net	Vat	Total
7.1	Pricepoint - Ground Maintenance	420.00	84.00	504.00
7.2	Phil Striplin – Telephone September	6.67	1.33	8.00
7.3	Clerk's Expenses - September	66.58	0.00	66.58
7.4	Clerk's Salary - September	688.77	0.00	688.77

Resolution – All the invoices were approved for payment.

8. Working Group Reports.

1. Planning WG

Planning report had been received under planning matters.

2. Finance & Administration WG

Their issues were discussed under item 6.

3. Highways WG

The Highways did not present a written report, but the lead of the group said they were working towards a highways action plan which would take a few months to complete. The HWG was not standing still, it has arranged to meet the residents of Storrige about the traffic & highway issues along Cowleigh Road, Ellie Chowns had also been invited to this meeting. The HWG was now going to look at the possibility of installing Speed Indicator devices (SID) in the Parish.

4. Communication WG

There was No report at this meeting.

5. Recreation & Environment WG

There was No written report at this meeting.

5.1. Lengthsman Update.

Resolution – *The clerk reported that he had received a letter for an applicant who now has formally applied for the lengthsman post. Council agreed to hold another meeting on the 20.10.22 to discuss the Lengthsman contract in more detail.*

5.2. Dogs in Play Areas / By-Laws update

Resolution – *A councillor reported that this was still an ongoing matter, as previous advice received seemed to conflict with other advice given.*

5.3. Dog Waste Bin

Resolution – *The councillor who had undertaken the monitoring of the bin at Pixiefields reported that the bin was only half full in a week and it presently was not being misused. The Council said it was going to undertake a wider waste bin review in the future.*

9. Clerk's Report.

A written report was given outlining the emails the council had received and the responses given. The report also detailed telephone conversations made and received. All of the important correspondence and correspondence which needed immediate action was sent out to the relevant Councillor or Working Group lead for comment/action with the clerk as appropriate.

9.1. The Clerk asked for two councillors to attend the HALC AGM meeting near Hereford on the 27.10.22.

Resolution – *Cllr I Edgar & Cllr T Robshaw said they would attend.*

10. To approve Council Policies and Forms.

10.1. Code of Conduct.

There was much discussion over whether a new clause could be added to the Councils (NALC recommended) Code of Conduct. The clause would include the right for Council to be able to exclude candidates from standing for election if they did not agree to undertake Code of Conduct training *or recommended independent monitoring officer advised further training or support.*

Resolution – *The clerk should find out the legal position and report back to council.*

10.2. Financial Regulations.

Resolution – *This was discussed, approved and adopted.*

10.3. Grants Policy.

Resolution – *It was approved and adopted. With a rewording under No 8, that it should read "Medical research, equipment or treatment for an individual other than emergency community support".*

10.4. Small Donations Policy.

Resolution – *Was approved and adopted after the amount of £250 was included.*

10.5. Grants Application Form.

Resolution – *Approved and adopted.*

10.6. Small Donation Application Form.

Resolution – *Approved and adopted after a word change which was to increase the donation amount from £100 to £250.*

11. Articles for the Press.

- Memorial ideas to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II.

12. Future Agenda Items.

- To invite the PCSO for a talk.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.55pm

Signed: Date: 8th November 2022.