



## Cradley & Storridge Parish Council November report

The parish council met on 10 November.

From

**Cradley and Storridge  
Parish Council**

This is the time of year when the council sets its precept (which forms part of the council tax charge along with payments to the county council and other authorities) for the following year starting on 1 April. It seems very likely that the parish will not spend all its income in the current year, largely due to the effects of the coronavirus restrictions, which means that the council will carry forward a surplus into next year. At the moment, the council is minded to leave the precept unchanged.

As the number of households in the parish has increased, an unchanged precept would probably mean that each household would pay slightly less in council tax for the parish council.

The council will make its final decision on what precept to set for next year at its January meeting, but in the meantime we would very much appreciate comments and opinions from parishioners about what should be done.

Draft accounts will be published on the parish council website along with some options. We'd particularly like thoughts on these alternatives:

- **The council could purchase speed indication devices (the flashing signs activated by traffic exceeding the speed limit) or take other measures to help address speeding on the B4220 Bosbury Road;**
- **The council could improve its two open spaces at Buryfields and Chapel Lane, including buying more equipment, benches or chairs;**
- **We do not at present have enough volunteers to reopen all the dog waste bins, so we could change to using a commercial contractor;**
- **The council could reduce the precept for one year only, but it would need to be increased again at April 2022.**

Any other suggestions for priorities – at least, those that are within the powers of a parish council to address! – are equally welcome. Comments can be sent to the clerk at [clerk@cradleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cradleyparishcouncil.gov.uk). If anyone can't see the accounts online and would like a paper copy, please contact the clerk by email or call 07591 299749.

Apart from next year's budget, the council also discussed what could be done to make our already attractive parish even more beautiful. A number of ideas were raised, and the council will be consulting parishioners about what steps would be supported.

As reported last month, the council received a high number of comments on the proposal to close the lane between the entrance to Pixiefields and the junction with Chockbury Lane, all of which were in favour of the proposal. The council has made a

formal application to Herefordshire Council to make the change and we are waiting for their formal response.

The council and our county councillor Ellie Chowns are continuing to press Herefordshire Council to prioritise work on the persistent flooding by the surgery. We're also very aware of concern about speeding through the village, and considering ways this could be addressed.

**The parish council doesn't meet in December, so the next meeting will be on  
Tuesday  
12 January 2021.**

**The councillors would like to wish all readers a merry Christmas and a happy  
new year.**