

Cradley Parish Council
Neighbourhood Development Plan
2011-2031



Consultation Statement August 2016

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In compliance with Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations this statement contains:

- a) Details of the organisations, bodies and individuals that were consulted on the proposed neighbourhood plan.
- b) An explanation of how they were consulted.
- c) A summary of the main responses and concerns.
- d) A description of how the issues raised have been taken into account in the formulation of the plan.

From the outset the approach of Cradley and Storridge Parish Council has been to introduce a policy framework which truly reflects the concerns and aspirations of the local community while ensuring that these are compatible with higher level national and local plans and guidance.

The consultation statement includes information on how the public were consulted, who was consulted (including statutory consultees), a summary of the main issues raised, and how these have been addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan.

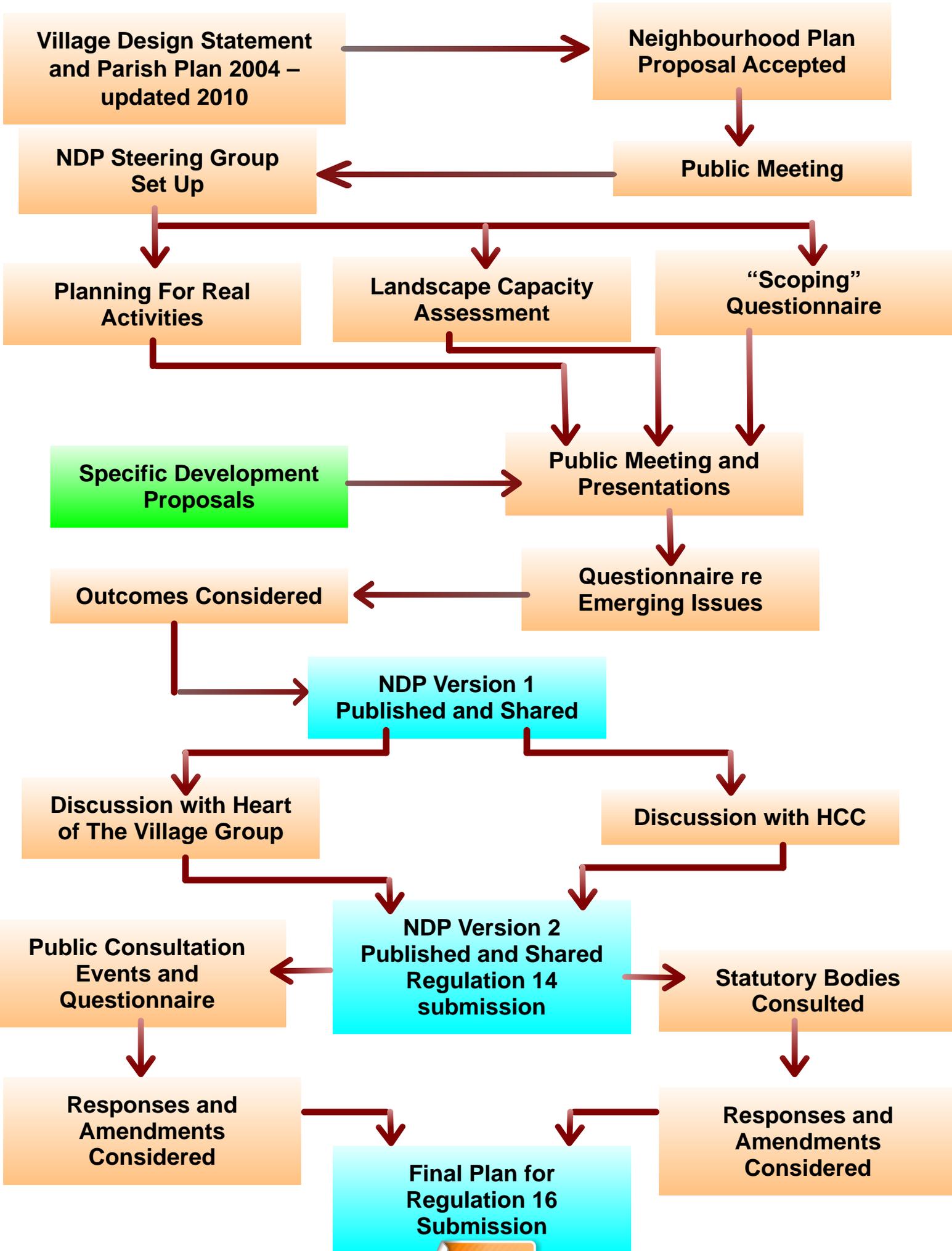
A compliance statement has been prepared separately to this report and taken together with this statement, a map showing the neighbourhood and the Neighbourhood Plan itself, is considered to be in compliance with Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and will now be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for consideration and advertisement under Regulation 16 of that statute.

Supporting documents

Where important relevant documents are referred to in the statement, they can be accessed using internet hyperlinks in the footnotes.

All supporting documents are also available on the website for the Neighbourhood Plan at www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB

CRADLEY NDP PROGRESS FLOW- CHART



Neighbourhood Plan Key Formation and Consultation Dates

2009	Parish plan questionnaire consultation
2010	Publication of reviewed 2004 Parish Plan
2013	Parish Council resolved to proceed with a neighbourhood plan for the parish area
May 2013	Set up Plan team of 4 Parish Councillors and hold first meeting
July 2013	Confirmation that parish boundary application registered and approved
August 2013	Public launch event attended by Jane Wormald of HCC
December 2013	Gemma Webster appointed as advisor from HCC. Confirmed at meeting of December 5 nd 2013 that the use of the Parish Plan 2010 as the basis of the Neighbourhood Plan acceptable
December 2013	Website for NDP included on Parish Council website
March - April 2014	First questionnaire consultation period
June 2014	Undertake Planning for Real in Cradley
July 2014	Undertake Planning for Real in Storridge
November 2014	Commission Landscape Capacity Assessment
January 2015	Publish Landscape Capacity Assessment
June 2015	Public meeting to present Landscape Assessment and view possible options for consideration
June - September 2015	Prepare consultation questionnaire and distribute to Parish
September 2015	Settlement boundary consultation open days
Sept - Dec 2015	Commission consultant to draft plan bringing together the results from the consultation and reference to existing Parish Plan documents
January - April 2016	Draft plan for Regulation 14 approved by Parish Council
April - May 2016	Regulation 14 period
June - July 2016	Public 'drop in' events during Reg 14 period
	Parish Council approved the Plan for submission under Regulation 16
	Submission version of the Plan issued to Herefordshire Council under Regulation 16

The NDP working group has ensured that residents have been informed and continuous communication and consultation, in various forms, has played a major role in formulating the plan.

Use of Parish Plan 2010

The development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan commenced in June 2013. This was less than 3 years after the publication of a comprehensive Parish Plan update in 2010 which had involved the following consultation process:

- Steering group led the process with 6 specialist topic groups covering the following areas: Transport and Community Safety, Footpaths, Wildlife and Environment, Leisure, Sports and Facilities, Health Care & Education, Housing & Planning, Employment, Business & Agriculture.
- Planning for Real events at Storridge and Cradley Village Halls and the British Legion
- A thorough questionnaire that explored all the topics and had a 59% response rate (411 questionnaires returned out of 700 distributed.)

As this was such a relatively recent undertaking it was agreed with Gemma Webster of Hereford County Council (HCC) Neighbourhood Planning that the 2010 Parish Plan and its supporting consultation would be used as the basis of the NDP and further consultation would be undertaken to address any changes that may have taken place in the intervening time period. Minutes of 5th December 2013 at <http://www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB/docs.htm>

The objectives as identified under the theme headings of the Parish Plan formed the framework of objectives to be taken forward for subsequent stages of consultation.

Methods of communication

The following have been used to inform and communicate with the parish throughout the process:

- A dedicated neighbourhood plan section on the Parish Council website - www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB/index.htm
- A report by the NDP Working Group to the Parish Council at each meeting which is recorded in the PC minutes.
- Use of the Parish Council newsletter - the Cradley Reporter- which is delivered to every household in the parish. This was used to launch the NDP process and update parishioners at key stages.
- The website provides the latest news, holds a record of all documents, minutes of NDP Working group meetings, notices, consultation material, feedback forms and contact details.
- Newsletter - a regular report in the Cradley and Storridge Parish Newsletter
- Consultation events and presentations - these are used to consult and to gather comment at various stages of the plan
- Parish notice boards and posters are used to advertise events and meetings.

Consultation events

1. Launch of Neighbourhood Plan at Cradley Village Hall- August 2013

Approximately 120 people attended the meeting. The purpose of neighbourhood planning was explained by the Hereford County Council Neighbourhood Planning officer and Cradley and Storridge Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan process was launched. The main concern raised at the meeting related to the recent closure of the village Post Office and stores. There was discussion about the Post Office facility being retained in a reduced capacity at the Village Hall, and also about attempting to retain the old shop, or establish a new shop or village centre. Approximately 40 people expressed an

interest and were subsequently invited to join the NDP Group.

2. Questionnaire March 2014

A questionnaire, devised by the newly-formed NDP Group, was delivered to all households in the Parish and publicised on the website and on notice boards throughout. The objective was to identify how the views of parishioners had evolved since the Parish Plan regarding the following topics of particular relevance to the NDP

- Future development in the parish
- The suitability of the existing settlement boundary
- The importance or otherwise of environmental protection
- Facilities
- Highways network

74 Parishioners responded and the questionnaire and the findings are at Appendix 2.

3. Planning for Real Events June & July 2014

Two Planning for Real events were held one at the British Legion Club in Cradley and the other at Storridge Village Hall thereby ensuring full accessibility for all parts of the Parish. The events were publicised in the Parish Newsletter, online on the Cradley PC website and 30 posters for each event throughout the Parish. Approximately 100 parishioners attended over the two days.



The format included display panels and maps enabling attendees to have detailed discussions with NDP Working group representatives.

The objective was to provide opportunity for further explanation regarding the NDP process and to gain more views from Parishioners with regard to policies and other comments to be considered in drafting the plan. It was, by nature, an open-ended and aspirational exercise.

Following these consultation exercises, two additional factors emerged for consideration -

- a) Landscape Capacity Assessment commissioned by the NDP Group
- b) Specific development proposals for various sites in the Parish which were at this stage initial outline proposals not formally in the planning process

These were considered in the next stage of our consultation process:-

4. Public meeting and 'drop-in' sessions June 2015

A two day information and consultation event held at Cradley Church and Village Hall. The first day included a public meeting at which the Landscape Capacity Assessment prepared to identify suitability of sites within and adjacent to the settlement boundary was presented by independent consultant Carly Tinkler CMLI. In addition, various options for housing development and/or community facilities were also presented by the respective promoters.



On the second day display panels and maps were available for viewing illustrating the findings of the Landscape Capacity Assessment as well as the individual schemes being promoted and the opportunity for detailed discussion with NDP Group representatives as well the promoters.

Approximately 200 parishioners attended the event over the two days.

5. Questionnaire September 2015

Due to the number of committed developments already in place in the parish at this time, it was concluded that future proportionate housing growth can be achieved by development within the settlement boundary as well as windfall in the neighbourhood area which could count towards the housing target. Consequently identifying specific proposal sites was not required.

A questionnaire was drafted that focused on the specific issues that needed to be clarified to inform a criteria based policy document.

The questionnaire was delivered to all households in the Parish and publicised on the website and on notice boards throughout the Parish.

301 parishioners responded out of 1368 distributed (22%). The questionnaire and response analysis is at Appendix 3.

Two significant issues emerged from this consultation. One was the need to revisit the Settlement Boundary for Cradley, to ensure that it was up to date and fit for purpose. The second was to consider the views of the 'Heart of the Village' group, who proposed a community facility on land hitherto protected from any development. The questionnaire confirmed the views expressed in earlier documents, that a majority within the parish wish to retain this as open and undeveloped space. However since the Heart of the Village had a different interpretation, further discussion on this issue was undertaken.

6 Settlement Boundary Consultation 10th October 2015

A drop in open day was held at Cradley Village Hall. The format included a display panel and maps enabling attendees to provide suggestions and alterations to settlement boundary.

The objective was to provide the opportunity for parishioners to 'rationalise' the settlement boundary that would be considered in the drafting of the plan.

32 individuals attended and amendments were made as considered appropriate. The record of the response is at Appendix 4.

7. Consultation with Heart of the Village Group - 14th January 2016

A specific consultation meeting held between representatives of the NDP Working Group and five members of the HoV to discuss their concerns which confirmed that the only outstanding issue was the precise wording regarding the policy CSNDP 8 Strategic Gap which it was considered by the group would effectively bar their proposal for a community facility on Morgan's Field located within the 'strategic gap'.

The Strategic Gap is defined as *"The single most significant space in the village and central to its character is the "green gap," straddling the Cradley Brook and west valley side, dividing the village into two distinct settlement areas"* (paragraph 7.1 Village Design Statement 2004 and 2010).

Morgan's Field is identified as an 'important space' in the Village Design Statement (2004) specifically to retain the rural character of the village and its distinctive settlement pattern. It forms part of the Strategic Gap which has been in place since 1998 to prevent coalescence between the two parts of the village. Any development on the site will set the precedent for development elsewhere in the Strategic Gap contrary to long standing village objectives and supported by the majority of parishioners when consulted in October 2015. It was therefore concluded that the wording should remain.

It should be noted that a planning application was submitted by the Heart of the Village Cradley Ltd (planning ref. 160601 - publication date 31st March 2016) for a 'Proposed change of use from agricultural to community use. Creation of community orchard, children's play area, footpaths and parking for

church and village events. Construction of community café and shop.' The application generated 380 responses from members of the parish and other interested parties, of which over 60% were objections. This application will be determined by 11th November 2016.

External Consultation

From the outset the Neighbourhood Planning Group has been in close contact with the Herefordshire Neighbourhood Planning Team who have given valuable advice on process, and commented on the draft plan prior to the formal consultation process required under Regulation 14. Meetings have been held with both our assigned Neighbourhood Planning Officers Gemma Webster and Karla Johnson throughout the process.

The Sustainability Appraisal of the plan including a Habitats Regulation Assessment undertaken by the County Council was included in the Regulation 14 Consultation both the public and with the Statutory and other Consultees.

4. Regulation 14 Consultation Process

4.1 Formal Notification

The Pre-submission draft Plan was formerly approved by the Parish Council for Regulation 14 consultation on 25th February 2016. Prior to the start of the statutory six week consultation period the formal Notification was issued and publicised as follows:

- 25 posters displayed on Parish Council notice boards and throughout the parish
- An email notification to key stakeholders comprising local county and parish organisations and statutory/advisory bodies
- A four-page leaflet - the Cradley Reporter- explaining the process hand delivered and/or posted to every household in the village Published on the Cradley PC website and Facebook page.
<http://www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/reporter.htm> and Appendix 5

4.2 List of Statutory/Advisory Bodies and Local County/Parish Organisations

The following organisations were consulted and our responses are in Appendix 6c:-

Local County/Parish Organisation	Statutory/Advisory Bodies
Herefordshire Council	Malvern Hills AONB
Malvern Town Council	Homes and Communities Agency
Ledbury and District Civic Trust	Natural England
Leigh & Bransford Parish Council	The Environment Agency
West Malvern Parish Council	Historic England
Herefordshire Nature Trust	English Heritage
Acton Beauchamp Group Parish Council	National Trust
Bishops Frome Parish Council	Highways England
Bosbury & Coddington Group Parish Council	Wye Valley NHS Trust
Mathon Parish Council	RWE Npower Renewables Limited
Malvern Hills District Council	Dwr Cymry Welsh Water
Worcester County Council	Servern Trent Water
Ward Councillor- Patricia Morgan	Campaign to Protect Rural England
	Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce
	Woodland Trust
	Western Power Distribution

4.3 Availability of Documents for Consultation

The consultation process involved three documents:

1. Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Draft - March 2016 (Draft version 3)
2. Environmental Report - Herefordshire Council
3. Habitats Regulation Assessment - Herefordshire Council

Throughout the statutory six week period all three documents were made available on the Cradley PC website, the Herefordshire Council website and were issued by email to all the stakeholders listed above.

Hard copies of the Plan were available for inspection at two Parish locations accessible to the public and at the public drop in events.

4.4 Public 'Drop in Events' Regulation 14 Consultation

4 half-day sessions were held in Cradley and StorrIDGE Village Halls. A total of 16 residents attended.

4.5 Regulation 14 Questionnaire.

This was available electronically and by hard copy, delivered to all households. All comments received responses and copy is available on the website.

- Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 14 Pre Submission Draft
- Environmental Report
- Habitats Regulation Assessment
- Regulation 14 Representation Form
- Regulation 14 responses.
- All are on: www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB/consult.htm and www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB/docs.html

The consultee responses received at Regulation 14 are at Appendix 6 as follows:

- a) Community submissions and responses
- b) Large community submission and responses
- c) Statutory consultee submission and responses

The detail of all the comments received are in the appendices and for each comment there is a response provided by the Cradley and StorrIDGE NDP Group and any amendments made to the draft Plan as necessary. These amendments in summary are as follows:

1. Allow small scale development within or adjacent to the settlement boundary, on land defined as having moderate or high capacity on the Landscape Assessment.
2. Strengthen wording to mitigate against high density housing developments.
3. Remove capitalisation of east and west Cradley throughout the document.
4. Include reference to promotion of affordable housing.
5. Strengthen support for all existing facilities. New proposals must demonstrate that they do not threaten viability of existing businesses, and have viable business plan.

6. **Strengthen local support for AONB and reference Landscape Assessment more explicitly.**
7. **Explicit support for local SSSIs.**
8. **Flood Risk policy to focus on local issues and specified 'pinch points'.**
9. **Review wording and extent of Strategic Green Gap, maintaining protection for the core area between the two settlement areas in Cradley.**
10. **Include a specific policy on design and lighting.**
11. **Review wording re. broadband and access to technology.**

**Details of all comments, responses and actions
are available on the website: www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB**

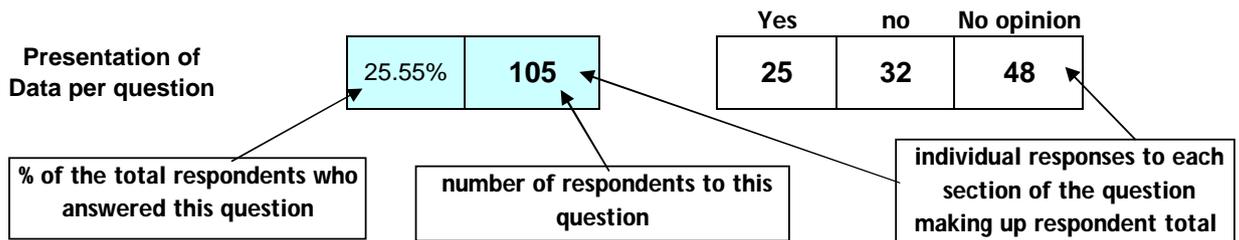


THE RESULTS

The Steering Group would like to thank all who took part and contributed to supplying invaluable data from which the Parish Plan can be produced

Number of Questionnaires distributed **700**
 Number of Questionnaires received **58.71%** back **411**

Response %



			page
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Section A

HOUSING AND PLANNING

There are proposals to build new dwellings in the Parish in the near future.

1 Do you think additional residential accommodation here should be:

			Yes	No	No Opinion
89.29%	367	affordable, for local people to purchase or rent	340	15	12
64.23%	264	rental homes including social housing	119	109	36
72.02%	296	small or medium-sized family homes	255	24	17
63.50%	261	executive homes	47	188	26
65.45%	269	sheltered accommodation	119	99	51
47.93%	197	no new building ?	45	105	47

2 Are there any young people in your family who would like to remain in the village and have separate housing in Cradley and Storridge if they could afford it?

90.75%	373	Yes	52	No	288	Don't Know	33
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3 If any new houses are built in the parish what sort of design should they be

			Yes	No	No Opinion
83.21%	342	traditional designs	298	6	38
62.04%	255	bungalow	150	45	60
57.91%	238	terraced	91	75	72
66.42%	273	eco build	182	34	57
58.64%	241	half-timbered style	115	57	69
78.59%	323	with own garage or off-road parking ?	296	5	22

4 Subject to local Planning authority's approval, where in the village may be suitable for various types of development

Please tick against the type of development the area where you would prefer it to be

			new low-cost or social housing	new doctors' surgery	more sports facilities	nursery for pre-school age children	no new housing
70.56%	290	field opposite St Katherine's	69	91	28	16	86
149.88%	616	next to new School	113	96	176	194	37
52.80%	217	behind Pixiefield/Chockbury	85	42	17	8	65
32.60%	134	opposite 'Taswold' Farm Storridge	49	6	9	5	65
39.42%	162	west of Westfield Lane/Bumpy Lane ?	38	12	14	9	89
			354	247	244	232	342
			24.95%	17.41%	17.20%	16.35%	24.10%

Section A

**Section
A**

5 Are you satisfied with the present processes for planning applications at County and Parish Level?

93.92% 386

Yes 105 No 99 No opinion 182

6 Would you like more public information and/or meetings about Planning

94.16% 387

Yes 228 No 57 No opinion 102

For your comments on any of the above or additional Housing and Planning issues.

End of Section A Housing and Planning

**Section
A**

Section B WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Herefordshire Council proposes to introduce recycling collections from Cradley and Storrige on 2nd November 2009. The means of collection is to be by wheelie bin, once every fortnight. For those properties considered unsuitable for such collection, clear sacks will be made available for recycling clean food tins, drink cans, plastic bottles and containers, mixed paper and cardboard.

1 Are you satisfied with the above proposals?

96.84%	398	Yes	223	No	157	No opinion	18
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2 If 'no', what sort of collection arrangements would you prefer

40	kerbside	39	doorstep
63	colour-coded bags	154	weekly

14 other ? please specify

3 Would you use recycling banks (clothes, bottles, newspapers, cans, plastics) if they were made available in the parish?

96.11%	395	Yes	327	No	47	Don't Know	21
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

4 If 'yes' where should they be sited? Please specify.

5 Do you consider community composting a sensible option for the villages?

91.48%	376	Yes	154	No	131	No opinion	91
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6 If 'yes' where should this amenity be available? Please specify.

7 Has the house you live in suffered from flooding in the last 10 years because of:

3.16%	13	river/stream overflow
8.03%	33	field run-off
2.19%	9	sewers overflowing
9.00%	37	road run-off (drains or ditches unable to cope) ?
78.59%	323	not suffered from flooding

Section B

Section B

8 Would you support measures to put pressure on Herefordshire Council to minimise flood risk in Cradley and Storridge

98.54%	405	Yes	341	No	19	No opinion	45
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Issues have been raised about public rights of way in both Cradley and Storridge.

9 A change to the existing network: do you think it would be a benefit to the Parish if Pixiefields Lane were changed from public road to Bridle Path?

92.94%	382	Yes	69	No	125	No opinion	188
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10 Are there other improvements to rights of way that you can suggest, subject to landowner agreement? Please specify.

11 Street Lighting: would you like to see more street lighting in the parish?

97.32%	400	Yes	69	No	280	No opinion	51
--------	-----	-----	----	----	-----	------------	----

12 Are you satisfied with the upkeep of footpaths, signposts, and stiles?

96.59%	397	Yes	225	No	106	No opinion	66
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13 Dog mess: Would you support the provision of dog litter bins in the parish?

96.11%	395	Yes	239	No	89	No opinion	67
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14 If 'yes' where would you like them located? Please specify.

There is increasing local and national interest in environmental issues.

15 Would you support any of the following initiatives to improve the local environment;

			Yes	No	No Opinion
87.35%	359	create wildlife-friendly habitats	287	25	47
86.37%	355	create an area for allotments	256	39	60
89.05%	366	better hedgerow management	301	15	50
85.40%	351	more sensitive verge management	273	17	61
87.83%	361	management of rivers/streams	297	14	50
85.40%	351	create village pond	149	116	86
81.75%	336	local volunteer schemes ?	211	18	107

Section B

Section B

16 Do you think that Cradley Parish Council should support and promote community involvement in any of the following climate change initiatives?

			Yes	No	No Opinion
88.81%	365	wind turbines	117	181	67
87.10%	358	solar panels	258	44	56
84.91%	349	water turbines on the brook	165	107	77
83.70%	344	geothermal heat exchange systems ?	182	56	106

17 Would you be prepared to be directly involved in developing an environmental action plan for the parish?

87.59%	360	Yes	70	No	208	No opinion	82
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For your comments on any of the above or additional issues about Footpaths, Wildlife and the Environment.

End of Section B Wildlife and the Environment

Section B

Section C

HEALTH CARE

Cradley surgery offers a wide range of medical services, including diabetic clinics, monthly dermatology sessions, maternity and child health surveillance, minor surgery, family planning advice, emergency contraception, heart disease prevention, 'flu injections and foreign travel advice.

1 Are you satisfied with the quality and variety of the services provided?

96.11%	395	Yes	351	No	6	No opinion	38
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This selection of services is restricted by the size of the present building. So, although physiotherapy, chiropody and counselling, for example, can be arranged through the surgery, they can only be provided in Ledbury where there is more space.

2 Are there additional services which you would like to see available in the Parish to patients? Please specify

Demand for these services has increased to a point where, within the next 5 - 7 years, it is likely that a new surgery will have to be built on a larger site.

3 Would you be in favour of such a move if the site chosen were to be in Cradley?

95.38%	392	Yes	328	No	26	No opinion	38
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4 If a new surgery could only provide a broader range of services by combining with another larger village, would you be prepared to travel beyond Cradley or Storridge to take advantage of these?

92.46%	380	Yes	71	No	261	No opinion	48
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Cradley Support Group, a volunteer organisation, offers, among other things, prescription delivery service, and a home to hospital service.

5 Have you ever used it?

98.30%	404	Yes	38	No	366
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6 Are you involved in the work of this group as a volunteer?

95.62%	393	Yes	25	No	368
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Section C

Section
C

7 Would you be willing to provide occasional volunteer help to make that work?

83.21% 342

Yes 85 No 257

For your comments on any of the above or additional issues about health Care.

End of Section C health Care

Section
C

Section D EDUCATION MATTERS

Cradley Primary School is maintained by Herefordshire Council in buildings provided by the Church of England, which also nominates the majority of members of the school's governing body. The school's aim to serve the community is important for all residents of the parish, not just parents present and past.

1 As a parent of a child currently at the school or who has attended the school, which factors influenced you to choose the school ?

(1=strong influence,2=some influence,3=no influence)

			1	2	3
18.98%	78	Location in the village	64	6	8
16.55%	68	Design and quality of buildings	23	16	29
18.00%	74	General reputation	45	23	6
16.06%	66	Published reports and test results	22	27	17
16.55%	68	Quality of teaching	45	17	6
16.79%	69	Management and governance	26	24	19
16.06%	66	Help for special needs	9	13	44
16.30%	67	Out of school activities	17	22	28
16.06%	66	Status as a Church school	17	24	25
19.22%	79	Local community involvement	33	25	21
15.82%	65	Size of classes	40	18	7
0.00%	0	Other	0	0	0

2 As a parent in the parish who chose not to send your child to Cradley School, which factors influenced you to choose another school ?

(1=strong influence,2=some influence,3=no influence)

			1	2	3
5.11%	21	More convenient	4	1	16
4.62%	19	Design and quality of buildings	2	5	12
5.11%	21	General reputation	15	3	3
4.38%	18	Published reports and test results	6	5	7
4.87%	20	Quality of teaching	12	3	5
4.62%	19	Management and governance	12	3	4
4.87%	20	Help for special needs	4	2	14
4.87%	20	Out of school activities	7	2	11
4.62%	19	Cradley's status as a Church school	2	2	15
4.38%	18	Local community involvement	2	0	16
5.11%	21	Size of classes	8	4	9
4.14%	17	Presence of pre-school group elsewhere	2	1	14
0.00%	0	Other	0	0	0

Section D

Section D

3 As a member of the community, what is your perception of how well the school is doing

(1=very well,2=moderately,3=poorly)

			1	2	3
66.67%	274	Buildings and design	218	47	9
64.48%	265	General reputation	208	51	6
55.72%	229	Published reports and test results	174	53	2
52.80%	217	Management and governance	131	76	10
54.26%	223	Use by groups, clubs and other activities	119	90	14
52.80%	217	Community involvement	103	100	14
1.70%	7	Other ?	3	2	2

Efforts have been made to bring new pre-school facilities to Cradley.

4 Would you support this?

73.97%	304	Yes	213	No	6	No opinion	85
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5 If Yes, how keen would you be that such facilities were located and managed as follows

(1=very keen,2=quite keen,3=not keen)

			1	2	3
50.36%	207	On the campus of Cradley School, run by the school	150	38	19
41.85%	172	On the campus of Cradley School, run by a private provider	51	77	44
39.42%	162	At either Cradley village hall or Storridge village hall	29	58	75
34.55%	142	At another site run by a private provider	9	35	98
0.49%	2	Other ?	2	0	0

6 If the following were available locally would you use them

			Yes	Maybe	No
77.62%	319	Evening classes	113	139	67
74.45%	306	Adult education	89	135	82
75.91%	312	Talks, lectures or discussion groups	87	157	68
69.83%	287	Use of school for more community activities	98	146	43
59.12%	243	Activities for young people	83	39	121
1.46%	6	Other ?	3	1	2

For your comments on any of the above or additional Education issues.

Section D

End of Section D Education

Section E COMMUNICATIONS

The Cradley, Mathon and Storrige Newsletter

1 Do you subscribe to, or see, the Newsletter?

95.86%	394	Yes	349	No	45
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----

2 What do you find interesting in it (1=very interested, 2=moderately interested, 3=not interested)

			1	2	3
75.67%	311	rector's letter	97	145	69
74.94%	308	church notices	86	134	88
80.29%	330	advertisements	154	162	14
87.35%	359	to keep in touch with what's going on	277	77	5
2.68%	11	other ?	10	1	0

3 What else would you like to see in it:

			Yes	No	No opinion
70.80%	291	more personal articles	149	44	98
70.32%	289	correspondence	174	33	82
72.99%	300	points of view	198	33	69
66.18%	272	more 'secular' emphasis	65	66	141
2.92%	12	other ?	6	0	6

The Reporter

4 Do you receive the Parish Council's quarterly publication, the Cradley and Storrige Reporter which should go to every house in the parish ?

96.35%	396	Yes	264	No	132
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----

5 Is the publication of importance to you?

85.40%	351	Yes	193	No	61	No opinion	97
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

6 How successful is it in letting you know what the Parish Council is doing? (1=very successful, 2=quite successful, 3=not)

		1	2	3
74.21%	305	85	161	59

7 What else would you find helpful in it:

			Yes	No	No opinion
70.32%	289	Useful numbers	218	10	61
63.75%	262	a letters page	132	40	90
65.69%	270	more interviews with local people	128	51	91
72.02%	296	matters of local concern - flooding; footpaths	257	2	37
68.37%	281	'how to ' -make planning applications, get road	219	13	49
0.97%	4	other ?	1	0	3

Section E

Section E

Village Websites at www.cradley.org.uk

8 Do you know that there is a website which covers the general interest and activities of the Parish as a whole ?

93.67%	385	Yes	250	No	135
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----

9 Have you ever had cause to use it ?

89.78%	369	Yes	117	No	252
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----

10 If yes, how often have you used it ?

0.00%	0	weekly
0.97%	4	monthly
27.98%	115	occasionally

11 If you have used the website what do you think of it ?

(1=excellent,2=good,3=average,4=poor)

31.63%	130	1	2	3	4
		3	45	61	21

12 Which of these services would you like to see the Parish website provide

	Yes	No	No opinion
67.88% 279 to provide information	235	4	40
66.18% 272 to advertise goods or services	168	42	62
67.40% 277 give notice of social and cultural events	236	4	37
63.75% 262 opportunities to share thoughts, ideas and opinions	149	48	65
60.83% 250 links to other local sites (school, sports, village hall, parish plan)	202	6	42
0.97% 4 other ?	2	0	2

The Parish Council

13 How much do you know about the Parish Council and what it does?

94.65%	389	a lot	55	a little	283	nothing	51
--------	-----	-------	----	----------	-----	---------	----

14 How do you know about it

46.72%	192	word of mouth
25.30%	104	notice boards
4.14%	17	website
44.04%	181	the Reporter
17.76%	73	other? please specify

15 Have you ever attended a meeting of the Parish Council as a member of the 'public'?

94.65%	389	Yes	115	No	274
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----

Section

E

16

Do you think the Parish Council successfully represents your interests?

93.43% **384**

Yes

136

No

59

no opinion

189

17

Does the Parish Council do a good job in publicising its decisions and activities ?

95.62% **393**

Yes

171

No

77

no opinion

145

For your comments on any of the above or additional Communication issues.

End of Section E Communication

Section

E

Section F SERVICES

Public Transport

1 How often do you use local bus services

98.78%	406	7	daily		
		22	weekly	75	occasionally
		29	monthly	273	never ?

2 Would you consider local bus services to be adequate for your needs?

89.05%	366	Yes	68	No	168	No opinion	130
--------	-----	-----	----	----	-----	------------	-----

3 Would you like to see any of these improvements/changes to the bus services in the area

38.20%	157	routes	please specify	
28.71%	118	timetables		
6.57%	27	cost		
10.71%	44	reliability		
4.87%	20	disability access		
2.92%	12	other?	please specify	

4 Would you use the bus services more if they

15.09%	62	were at peak work times	
38.44%	158	went to more places	
13.87%	57	stopped at more places	
8.27%	34	were more reliable	
4.87%	20	other?	please specify

Post Office and Stores and Butcher's

5 How often do you use Post Office/ Village Store

100.24%	412	103	daily		
		154	weekly	87	occasionally
		37	monthly	31	never ?

6 What do you use the Post Office/Village Store for

8	major shopping	
296	occasional shopping	
255	newspapers	
123	lottery	
335	postal services	
65	other ?	please specify

Section F

Section	F	7	Are you satisfied with the services provided at the Post Office/Village Store ?					
	94.40%	388	Yes	327	No	34	don't use	27

8	How often do you use the Butcher's Shop					
	101.95%	419				
		16	daily			
		92	weekly		143	occasionally
		36	monthly		132	never ?

9 If yes, what do you use the Butcher's shop for

255	meat	
82	vegetables	
86	general groceries	
38	other?	please specify <input type="text"/>

Voluntary Organisations

There are a large number of voluntary organisations in the Parish including; art group; bridge; Christians together; church bell ringers; Evergreens; friends of Cradley school; gardening club; heritage group; Mothers' union; neighbourhood watch; pilates; scout group; sports club; sheepdog trials; support group; tennis club; toddler group; village players; walking group; women's institute; youth group.

11 Would you like to see any of the following provided in the Parish

			Yes	No	No opinion
74.94%	308	drop-in centre for informal meeting	88	64	156
77.86%	320	coffee shop	138	62	120
72.26%	297	community space for plays	102	51	144
73.97%	304	concerts and large gatherings	99	69	136
71.78%	295	skate/bike park	93	83	119
3.16%	13	other? please specify <input type="text"/>	11	0	2

12 Would you or anyone in your family be prepared to volunteer some time to help one or more of these facilities.

80.78%	332	Yes	93	No	239
--------	-----	-----	----	----	-----

Section	F
----------------	----------

Section
F

13 Would you be in favour of a communal fund to help finance the successful operation of some or all of these?

85.89%	353	Yes	133	No	110	No opinion	110
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	------------	-----

14 Would you be willing to contribute to such a fund?

83.94%	345	Yes	109	No	128	No opinion	108
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	------------	-----

For your comments on any of the above or additional Services issues.

End of Section F Services

Section
F

Section G

'PUBLIC' BUILDINGS

There are three church buildings in Cradley and Storrige, St James', Cradley, St John the Baptist, Storrige, the Countess of Huntingdon Chapel.

1 Would you support a proposal to use any of them for purposes other than worship;

			Yes	No	No opinion
85.16%	350	as a facility for children's groups	254	27	69
81.51%	335	a meeting place for members of other faiths	176	67	92
87.35%	359	a venue for concerts and plays	290	21	48
85.16%	350	coffee mornings	258	29	63
2.43%	10	other? please specify	6	0	4

2 If the church organisations were willing to make their buildings more available for 'public use' would you be prepared to make a contribution to their upkeep and management?

87.59%	360	Yes	124	No	134	No opinion	102
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	------------	-----

3 Under the same conditions, would you be prepared to volunteer your time to help run some of these activities?

84.91%	349	Yes	74	No	196	No opinion	79
--------	-----	-----	----	----	-----	------------	----

In Cradley village hall, the following are available for the use of residents; a 'Community Access Point' with computers, projectors and cameras ; a resource centre with photocopying, scanning, internet access; a heritage centre; hall for functions, wedding receptions and meetings.

4 Are you aware of the range of these facilities on offer?

95.62%	393	Yes	299	No	83	No opinion	11
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

5 Are you likely to make use of them in the future?

93.19%	383	Yes	177	No	135	No opinion	71
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	------------	----

Storrige Village Hall is well equipped for social occasions and public meetings.

6 Are you aware of the range of these facilities on offer?

93.43%	384	Yes	251	No	119	No opinion	14
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	------------	----

7 What other events or activities would you like either of these venues to provide?

please specify

Section G

Section

G

Cradley, Storrige and Mathon Royal British Legion and Social Club, a licensed premises, hosts a range of social opportunities including films, bingo, quiz nights and skittles.

8 Are you aware that the Club is open to all and not merely ex-service personnel?

97.08%	399	Yes	319	No	80
---------------	------------	-----	------------	----	-----------

9 What other activities would you like to see happening at the 'Legion'?

please specify

10 Are you likely to attend the 'Legion' in the future?

93.67%	385	Yes	162	No	145	No opinion	78
---------------	------------	-----	------------	----	------------	------------	-----------

The Church Lane, St James's church and its lawn and the village hall form a natural village centre; this could be designated as a new Village Green.

11 Would you like to see this area and its buildings used for:

		Yes	No	No opinion
90.02%	370	326	9	35
87.83%	361	297	21	43
85.40%	351	284	15	52
83.21%	342	246	35	61
81.51%	335	229	32	74
1.95%	8	7	0	1

village fetes

local market

exhibitions

bring and buy

youth activities

other?

please specify

12 Which of the following 'whole village events' would you be likely to attend:

80.05%	329	annual fete
56.69%	233	music festival
33.33%	137	village walk
19.71%	81	scarecrow competition
61.07%	251	open gardens
47.45%	195	produce show
4.14%	17	other?

please specify

For your comments on any of the above or additional public buildings issues.

Section

G

End of Section G Public Buildings

Section H LEISURE

Football and netball are already available on the ground adjacent to the school. To develop these opportunities further the Sports Club needs full-size pitches and a pavilion for changing, social club, and other uses.

1 Would you be in favour of such a development?

92.94%	382	Yes	288	No	25	No opinion	69
--------	------------	-----	------------	----	-----------	------------	-----------

2 Do you consider that the present site, extending into the adjacent field, would be suitable for that?

91.00%	374	Yes	249	No	15	No opinion	110
--------	------------	-----	------------	----	-----------	------------	------------

3 If your answer is 'No' can you mention any other site in the parish which you would like to see developed for sports facilities?

please specify

4 What other adult and sports facilities would you like to see provided in the village

35.04%	144	cricket	please specify <input type="text"/>
30.66%	126	bowls	
8.52%	35	orienteering	
26.76%	110	swimming	
8.03%	33	other?	

Cradley and Storridge, with the advantage of local beauty and natural facilities, could develop its resources as a tourist attraction.

5 Would you welcome initiatives to develop the tourist potential of the parish?

85.16%	350	Yes	183	No	90	No opinion	77
--------	------------	-----	------------	----	-----------	------------	-----------

6 Would you support the development of any of the following in the Parish

			Yes	No	No opinion
76.64%	315	a camp site	102	157	56
84.18%	346	walking trail	278	29	39
78.35%	322	mountain bike trail	138	131	53
79.81%	328	annual music/drama/food festival	225	39	64
82.97%	341	open garden weekends	291	9	41
83.21%	342	publicly displayed footpath map	288	21	33
1.22%	5	other? please specify <input type="text"/>	5	0	0

For your comments on any of the above or additional Leisure issues.

Section H

End of Section H Leisure

Section I TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

There are specific areas in the Parish which are often considered to present issues of road safety for pedestrians.

1 Have you been affected by or witnessed incidents within the parish involving near misses or collisions/accidents at the following locations:

40.15%	165	A4103 through Storridge to Parish boundary
4.87%	20	A4103 children crossing from school bus to Birchwood Road
17.76%	73	B4220 Stony Cross to Farleys
27.98%	115	right turn to Bromyard Road at top of Ridgway Cross
27.25%	112	Cradley Village Lane between the school and the post office
14.11%	58	other? please specify <input type="text"/>

Ways in which the risk of danger to pedestrians or other traffic might be minimised.

2 Would you support any proposal to mark double white lines on the A4103 through Storridge and Cradley ?

90.51%	372	Yes	276	No	45	No opinion	51
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

3 Which of these measures to improve road safety would you wish to support within the village of Cradley

			Yes	No	No opinion
75.62%	391	road narrowing	48	213	35
69.83%	287	chicanes	52	193	42
79.08%	325	speed cameras	140	157	28
83.21%	342	reducing speed limit	229	78	35
71.78%	295	neighbourhood speed watch	113	128	54
81.51%	335	re-route HGVs	262	44	29
76.89%	316	safe routes to school	244	24	48
74.21%	305	additional street lighting	59	200	46
68.61%	282	village gateway at entrances to village	87	121	74
5.11%	21	other? <input type="text"/>	19	2	0

4 What do you think of the maintenance of road surfaces in the parish?

(1=very good,2=good,3=average,4=poor)

95.13%	391	1	2	3	4
		1	35	172	184

5 What do you think of the maintenance of road verges, ditches and drains?

(1=very good,2=good,3=average,4=poor)

95.13%	391	1	2	3	4
		0	33	172	186

Section I

Section I

6 Would you support the Parish Council in employing someone to maintain ditches, drains and repair potholes with a grant from Herefordshire council?

95.13% 391 Yes 348 No 22 No opinion 21

For your comments on any of the above or additional Traffic and Safety issues.

End of Section I Traffic and Safety

Section I

Section J

EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE

There are opportunities for small business development in the Parish.

1 Would you like to see more employment opportunities here in

			Yes	No	No Opinion
83.45%	343	agriculture	257	12	74
77.62%	319	light manufacturing	163	75	81
82.97%	341	craft workshops	247	22	72
74.94%	308	technology	156	44	108
72.51%	298	retail	103	99	96
76.64%	315	tourism	169	63	83
73.72%	303	catering	140	61	102
1.70%	7	other ?	2	0	5

2 What type of business do you think best suits the parish:

			Yes	No	No Opinion
84.18%	346	agriculture	315	6	25
67.64%	278	light manufacturing	144	79	55
79.32%	326	craft workshops	264	17	45
68.13%	280	technology	136	51	93
63.02%	259	retail	64	118	77
72.26%	297	tourism	169	64	64
64.96%	267	catering	121	71	75
1.46%	6	other ?	2	0	4

3 Would you support the provision of work/living units to provide employment opportunities in the parish?

89.29%	367	Yes	198	No	78	No opinion	91
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

4 If 'yes', which of the following sites would be most suitable for them

26.28%	108	the field behind Pixiefields
14.36%	59	at the bottom of the Leys
3.89%	16	other? please specify

5 Would you support the principle of converting derelict farm buildings for light industrial use?

90.27%	371	Yes	250	No	67	No opinion	54
--------	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------------	----

For your comments on any of the above or additional Employment, and Business issues.

Section J

End of Section J Employment & Business

Section K ABOUT YOU

Please answer these questions about yourself

1 Which part of the parish do you live in ?

85.89%	353	45	Bosbury Road	8	Churchfields
		19	Pixiefields	6	Rectory Lane
		4	Credenleigh	14	village street to Brookside
		22	Oaklands	20	village street
		21	Huntingdon	13	the Leys
		14	Fincher's corner to Kingsbridge	20	Buryfields
		8	King's Orchard	10	Vinesend
		9	Birchwood	47	A4103 StorrIDGE to Cradley Hall Farm
		19	Bromyard Road	9	Halesend
		9	Nupend	8	Coombe Lane
		18	Cowleigh Road	10	the Barrow

2 If you moved to Cradley or StorrIDGE what brought you here (please tick all that apply)

17.52%	72	employment	
56.69%	233	attractive area to live	
15.09%	62	retirement	
15.82%	65	family connections	
9.00%	37	other?	please specify <input type="text"/>

3 Do you

21.90%	90	work from home	
6.81%	28	work within the parish	
10.71%	44	within 5 miles of the parish	
19.95%	82	within 20 miles of the parish	
13.63%	56	further than 20 miles	
24.57%	101	not employed	
13.63%	56	other?	please specify <input type="text"/>

If there is anything that you feel has not been covered in the questionnaire please write your

Section K

Section L

AND FINALLY.....

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO LINK WILL BE MADE BETWEEN YOUR NAME AND YOUR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

There are a number of instances here where you are specifically asked if you would be prepared to give your time/expertise in helping to run voluntary groups or activities for the benefit of the people of the parish. If you have answered 'yes' to any of these, would you please record here your contact details so that we can put you in touch with the organisation concerned:

Name [] Tel No []

Email []

Interest group(s) []

[]

[]

Some of the issues identified here are more complex than a series of short answers can tackle effectively. For some time, and in anticipation of this questionnaire, discussion groups have already been examining these and their work is reflected in the questions which feature above. When the questionnaire process is complete and before the Plan is finally completed, we shall wish to develop our findings further in research/focus groups; to give everyone who wishes an opportunity to contribute in this way, you are asked, if you are interested, to record below your contact details and we will get in touch with you directly.

Name [] Tel No []

For further information, please see cradleyandstorridgepp.org.uk

Questionnaire no:

[]

Section L

Thank you very much for completing the questionnaire.

Questionnaire Prize Draw



Please detach this section and keep it as your claim for the Parish Plan Prize draw in thanks for completing and returning the questionnaire

Questionnaire no:

[]

NDP Survey 2014

SURVEY SUMMARY

Respondents

74

Question

1 How do you want Cradley & Storrige to develop? Examples may be:

						Responded	
1.1	As a Dormitory Village where most people live and commute.						
	Y	16	N		N/O	Of total	21.62%
1.2	As a Self-contained community with shops, facilities and employment						
	Y	38	N	13	N/O	7	Of total 78.38%
1.3	Continue to develop as it is now.						
	Y	34	N	10	N/O	6	Of total 67.57%

2 Do you think the Settlement Boundary should be changed and if so how?

	Y	22	N	29	N/O	10	Of total 82.43%
--	---	----	---	----	-----	----	-----------------

3 How should housing development be managed within Cradley? (Tick all that apply.)

3.1	Increase the percentage of low cost housing.						
	Y	33				Of total	44.59%
3.2	Infill sites between existing developments.						
	Y	45				Of total	60.81%
3.3	Development / conversion of existing premises.						
	Y	52				Of total	70.27%
3.4	Concentration on smallest number of sites i.e. create housing estates.						
	Y	14				Of total	18.92%
3.5	Dispersal of new builds across village area.						
	Y	37				Of total	50.00%

4 Does your business, school, organisation, or local group need specific policies

	Y	9	N	8	N/A	7	Of total 32.43%
--	---	---	---	---	-----	---	-----------------

5 How important is it to protect the environment through the planning process?

0			
1	1		
2			
3	4		
4	9		
5	60		
			Of total 100.00%

6 With respect to facilities within the parish:

						Responded	
6.1	Do you think it important that the village retains its Doctors Surgery?						
	Y	73	N		N/O	1	Of total 100.00%
6.2	Do you think it important to retain a Dispensary?						
	Y	72	N		N/O	2	Of total 100.00%
6.3	Do you think that a Post Office facility is essential?						
	Y	62	N	5	N/O	5	Of total 97.30%
6.4	Do you think the village would benefit from a designated area for community use						
	Y	47	N	8	N/O	16	Of total 95.95%

7 What improvements to the local highway network would be beneficial to the Parish ?

7.1	Gated Access						
	Y	13	N	36	N/O	10	Of total 79.73%
7.2	Speed ramps						
	Y	17	N	42	N/O	4	Of total 85.14%
7.3	Lower speed limits						
	Y	41	N	19	N/O	7	Of total 90.54%
7.4	More pavements where needed						
	Y	43	N	19	N/O	7	Of total 93.24%
7.5	Pedestrian crossings						
	Y	16	N	47	N/O	4	Of total 90.54%
7.6	Improved signage						
	Y	27	N	21	N/O	13	Of total 82.43%

Cradley Parish Council NDP Questionnaire Sept 2015							
Summary	Total Respondents		301	Paper	231	Online	70
	Yes	No	No Opinion	No Answer	Totals		
Do you want provision in the NDP for a second shop and/or café in addition to the Butchery and General Stores?	Question 1	153	116	24	8	301	
Do you want provision in the NDP for new sports pitches with car parking?	Question 2	182	55	63	1	301	
Do you want the NDP to keep the area often referred to as the "Strategic Green Gap" between East and West Cradley as an area free from development?	Question 3	211	57	26	7	301	
Do you want the NDP to make restrictions on the size in terms of housing numbers of future housing	Question 4	270	16	14	1	301	
If yes to Q4, please indicate below what you would consider as an acceptable size for a housing development?	Question 5	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	over 10		
		70	65	107	25	267	
	Comments made	157					

Comments made on questionnaires can be viewed at www.cradleyparishcouncil/NDPSUB/quest%20results.htm

Distribution Code	Responses	By Area	Responses	By Area		
Oaklands	1000-1059	21	35.59%	Postal 1874-2323	68	15.08%
Credenleigh	1060-1093	5	15.15%	extra	9	
Farleys	1094-1129	7	20.00%	total	301	22.72%
Pixiefields	1130-1205	9	12.00%			
Bosbury Rd	1206-1255	10	19.23%			
Chockbury/Upper Westfields	1256-1293	12	32.43%			
		33	39.76%			
Finchers Corner	1294-1377					
Chapel Lane & Chapel Orchard	1378-1459	27	33.33%			
Huntingdon	1460-1513	15	28.30%			
Buryfields	1514-1691	9	5.08%			
Old Cradley	1692-1851	69	43.40%			
vines end lane	1852-1873	7	33.33%			

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

CRADLEY SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY REVIEW

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL IS HOLDING A PUBLIC
DROP-IN SESSION ON

22nd October

CRADLEY VILLAGE HALL , RECTORY LANE ,
CRADLEY

OPEN 12:00AM UNTIL 6:30 PM

ALL THOSE INTERESTED ARE WELCOME TO
ATTEND AND MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN

your views are of vital importance

THIS IS PART OF CRADLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PROGRAMME

Settlement Boundary Meeting Analysis

Total Number of Response Maps completed: 30

Number of Responders: 32

Current Land Usage within established Domestic Curtilage:	No of Supporters	Including Owner
1. Garden of 'Stoney Villa'	24	Yes
2. Garden of 'The Elms'	10	Yes
3. Garden of 'Elms Bungalow'	10	Yes
4. Garden of 'Barratt's Cottage'	3	No
5. Pavilion and garden of 'Church House'	5	Yes
Other Current Land Usage:		
6. Land behind St. Katherine's beyond terrace wall	2	No form
7. 'Morgan's Field' proposed location for 'Heart of the Village'	5	No form
8. Field beyond garden to 'Church House'	2	No
9. Field beyond garden to 'Stoney Villa'	2	No
10. Fields between gardens of Old Village Shop and Barratt's Cottage	2	Yes
11. Field, part of 'Stoddard's land proposed for Housing.	2	No form
12. Development at 'Queenswood'.	3	No form
Other Suggestions:		
Remove Settlement Boundaries.	1	N/A

Not shown on Plan

THINK **Neighbourhood** **Development** **Plan**

**Your participation in the
NDP is needed**



community consultation
March 9th -April 27th

www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk

A Bid for the Future



WHO CARES?



Your Parish Council is holding a Public Meeting

Cradley Village Hall

June 3rd 2015

Starts 7:30pm

WHY?

TO VIEW OUR LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT SURVEY

TO ALLOW THE COMMUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE
PROGRESS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

TO LISTEN TO THE MERITS OR OTHERWISE
OF OPTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF CRADLEY
OVER THE NEXT 15 YEARS

Also, See detailed plans at the "Options Bazaar" in
CVH Thurs 4th June 12.00pm to 6.30 pm

It is YOUR Villagenot a Developer's

Cradley Parish Council NDP Community Consultation Submissions and Responses

No	Name	Policy reference & Comment	NDP Group Response	NDP Action
1	Pat Edwards	<p>11 recreation</p> <p>East and West Cradley recreation areas should be treated independently and not in aggregate. Wording needs to be added to ensure that this is split out for posterity.</p> <p>General</p> <p>Excellent document and well referenced to HUDP. Thank you</p>	<p>Your comment on the independent reference of each recreation ground looks valid and we will check with our planning consultant to assess the merits of inclusion in the final document</p> <p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>Proposals Map Amended to identify both recreation grounds.</p> <p>No change</p>
2	Tom van Vuren	<p>CSNDP3</p> <p>There are quite a few underused or semi-derelet buildings, which could be re-used or which re-usage could be encouraged. For example, the Crown(?) on Bosbury Road which sits been an underused eye sore for 20 years. Planning permission was not granted in the past - should this be reviewed?</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>No building should be allowed in the Green Gap, this includes the proposed Heart of the Village. Once this space has even a single building on it, the case for further development will be significantly strengthened and there will be increased pressure from commercial developers to be allowed to build there.</p> <p>CSNDP7</p> <p>Further areas of flood risk should be considered, particularly those that regularly flood due to run-off and poor drainage. Some of these points, such as in the corner of Bosbury Road near the surgery, or along Cowleigh Road lead to quite dangerous traffic situations</p>	<p>CSNDP3: You have a valid point regarding the encouragement of developing under used buildings. We cover this in the NDP. Unfortunately the Parish Council at the moment do not have the powers to force owners into this plan of action merely support them via the NDP and at the planning stage if the development is of merit</p> <p>CSNDP8: Thank you for taking the time to read and fully understand the NDP references to this particular matter and appreciating the possible future consequences of our planning consultants advice</p> <p>CSNDP7: Your observations on the extra flooding problems caused by run off and flash flooding are valid and we will re-visit our flood risk document to ensure that these problems are addressed properly</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change required</p> <p>Detailed flood risk map included for areas of Flash Flooding</p>
3	Daniel Whitehouse	<p>Infill Housing</p> <p>Infill housing is a good idea as it does not increase the footprint, however, allows people to benefit from village life. I do, however, feel that this needs to be managed in terms of respect to the neighbours adjoining any proposed building</p> <p>Economy and Facilities</p> <p>for the extra 10 units we should consider live/work units to allow other people to have their quality of life at home as well as their place of work, this would also manage the transport issue the village experiences.</p> <p>Communications</p> <p>I am not sure we have pushed BT hard enough for ensuring that we get broadband. For those people who run their businesses from home, this is their life line. The Parish Council need to work harder on this.</p>	<p>Infill Housing: The normal planning constraints come into play in matters such as these and the Parish Council is always available to base their responses to planning applications on the observations of members of the community. The Planning Dept have a very efficient method of allowing anyone to voice their observations on any planning application directly on line. You can access it through the Parish Council web site</p> <p>It is envisaged that the extra required housing would be met through infilling or "windfall" housing as laid out in the NDP. The NDP would of course offer more protection against developments above those wanted by the community in the questionnaire</p> <p>Economy and Facilities: Indeed your observation is already supported for encouragement in the NDP. The problem is that whilst the Parish Council can support such applications it is for the owners of property or land to come forward with the schemes for consideration</p> <p>Communications: Whilst BT has updated their exchanges to fibre optic the last hurdle to faster broadband is converting the connections to each house (or business) to the exchanges. This unfortunately is in the hands of the individual ISPs who are reluctant to meet the costs involved in rural areas. The PC will continue to put on whatever pressure they can to resolve the problem</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>Policy CSNDP2 amended: Planning applications permission will be granted for small scale development within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported</p> <p>No change</p> <p>Para 9.5 amended: The parish's distance from major centres and the relatively poor quality of the roads leading to and from it make it even more important that IT connections are good. Continuous improvement of broadband in the parish consistent with national standards and plans will be a top priority, and the Parish Council will endeavour to secure the best possible connections.</p>
4	Ruth Whitehouse	Same address same comments apply		
5	Graham Whitehouse	Same address same comments apply		
6	Michael Sheriff	<p>7.6 Strategic Green Gap</p> <p>As Heather Morgan has been generous enough to give to the community land it should be registered as such. The area subject to all normal planning constraints but if a majority want a facility for the community then it needs to be incorporated</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
7	Michael Sheriff	<p>5. Housing</p> <p>Having Attended the Church Site Planning Meeting at the village hall I'm confused. Pixiefields Development, whilst on hold is approved. Hereford have issued the housing requirement for Cradley until 2030 and we are only a few houses short. However, subject to an application being received, Church Site propose a development for 30 plus houses in an area outside of the Village Boundary in an area designated AONB and wildlife sensitive. I don't see the requirement or the location works. Or am I missing something?</p>	<p>Housing: The NDP does not prevent anyone making a planning application and nor should it. What it does is to give a framework as desired by this community, within which planning applications must be considered. So if the NDP says no building development over 10 houses then the getting of approval over that number becomes much harder for developers.</p>	<p>No change</p>
8	Heather Hughes	<p>7.6 Strategic Gap</p> <p>In section 3.1 it says that the council wishes "to continue to respect and reflect the views of its community" and so I was very disappointed to see that the whole of Morgan's Field is now to be included in the parcel of land referred to as the Strategic Gap. A large proportion of the community have said that they would like to see a community shop built in the upper area of this field so generously offered to the village by the Morgan family for community use. Does the council mean to deny the community this possibility? I would like to see made clear that Morgan's Field is not to be included in the Strategic</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
9	Elizabeth Gwyther	<p>5.3 Settlement boundary</p> <p>Why the strong desire to prevent coalescence of East and West Cradley? Having lived in the parish for nearly 30 years I have not previously been aware that local people defined the village in this way. We have always referred to the village as Cradley. It seems that his plan seeks to divide the village for some reason.</p> <p>6.2 Policy CSNDP 4</p> <p>This follows my previous comment relating to the determined attempt in this plan to create 2 villages rather than one. By choosing to keep a strategic gap between the newly designated "East" and "West" Cradley this effectively scupper the Heart of the Village project. This project seeks to provide a community hub and is widely supported by members of the village and parish. By insisting that no development should take place on the gap the plan goes against the statement that the Parish Council will support the provision of additional community facilities as it stops the Heart of the Village scheme in one simple step. What alternative provision for community facilities are suggested by the Parish Council?</p> <p>Policy CSNDP 8</p> <p>The Strategic Green Gap appears to be an admirable space when first considered. Yet, in this instance actually represents something quite different. Firstly, people do not normally refer to East and West Cradley apart from in this document. It seems that there is a clear intention to split the village and create a new divide that did not exist previously. Notwithstanding this, the Heart of the Village project will be stopped completely. This requirement is too rigid.</p> <p>The stated aim is that "housing should be in sympathy with immediate surroundings and the character of the village as a whole". This is admirable but I would suggest that the Parish Council should not always fear setting any precedent and should seek to achieve this aim by using the design of today rather than looking for architecture that produces a pastiche form of an earlier era. Innovative modern architecture is perfectly capable of sitting well against the established form. Cradley needs to be a living, breathing, evolving village and not fixed in the past. The award winning small development at St Katharines is a refreshing example of this.</p>	<p>The reference to East and West Cradley in the NDP was used for identification purposes as there was a natural split of open countryside between the two sections. The prevention of coalescence between the two (strategic green gap) parts was formed over 20 years ago by Malvern District Council and re-affirmed in the Village Design Statement and Parish Plan in 2004 and update in 2010 as desired by the community. This was confirmed yet again in the NDP questionnaire last year. There is no "plan" or reason to divide the village. The community have stated that they want the gap retained and free from development.</p> <p>6.2 policy CSNDP 4:</p> <p>The assertion that the NDP is attempting to create two villages is not borne out by the facts. As stated the references to east and west are used for identification and not an attempt to rename Cradley village. The Heart of the Village Scheme was well aware of the prominence and community desire to keep the gap clear of development before they embarked on their scheme. So nothing has been introduced to "scupper" the project. The NDP is not there to define specific schemes but to present a framework for the development of the community until 2031 (and beyond) Any development must take heed of the requirements of the NDP and work within the framework. The Council does support the provision of community facilities but within the definitions of the NDP</p> <p>Policy CSNDP 8: Most of this is covered by the comments given to your comments 1, 2, & 4</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p> <p>Amended policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, including assessment of impact on existing facilities, and a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.</p> <p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p> <p>New policy CSNDP9 Design: Proposals for development which take appropriate account of the Village Design Statement in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design and materials, and which incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, will be supported. Proposals for high density of housing, such as that proposed in outline for Pixiefields, will not be supported. Proposals for development involving street or flood lighting will not be supported unless justified by overriding reasons of public safety.</p>
10	Richard Harris	<p>9.1</p> <p>The statement that major improvements to the road network in the parish are unlikely is not acceptable. The road infrastructure is essentially unchanged since the early 20th century and is already inadequate and in poor condition. No further developments should be approved until significant improvements are carried out. This is a serious health and safety issue.</p> <p>10.6</p> <p>High speed broadband is now available in the village, at least with 'last mile copper'. The NDP needs to be updated.</p> <p>Appendix 3, SD4</p> <p>I can find no mention of the long standing parish sewerage problems in the NDP except for this Appendix heading. For many years the sewerage pumping stations in the parish have been overwhelmed after heavy rain, discharging raw sewerage into the roads and Cradley Brook. This is due to all the older parish properties having their storm water fed into the sewerage system. Severn Trent are fully aware of the problem but have no funding to fix this major problem. Notwithstanding this new planning applications for houses have been knowingly approved for many years. The NDP must address this issue as a major planning constraint. It is interesting to note that the default Welsh Water assumption is that all storm water goes into the sewerage system and they charge for this 'service' which they collect on behalf of Severn Trent. Individual customers have to prove that it isn't to avoid the charge!</p>	<p>9.1: We agree completely with your viewpoint on what is a statement of fact given to us by Herefordshire Council. Unfortunately the road network is even in its present deteriorating form still held by the County as adequate for future developments</p> <p>10.6: As the NDP is a document designed to meet the communities needs until at least 2031 such a fast changing situation based on todays technology cannot be defined accurately. Who knows what we will be using in 10 years time as updates happen daily. All we can commit to is supporting the communities ability to get the best solution available to it</p> <p>Appendix 3 SD 4: This is a problem that has evaded a solution for some considerable time now and at most planning meetings the matter of extra pressure on the infrastructure is quoted. Unfortunately we are up against Severn Trents refusal to admit that there is a problem when approached. I have attached their reply to our inclusion of them in the consultation process which will show more graphically their response to their system being not up to the job. Unfortunately the planners tend to not question this just accept their answer.</p>	<p>Amended text section 9.1: For reasons of resources and landscape, major improvements to the road network in the parish are unlikely, although the deteriorating condition of road surfaces in the parish is an increasing concern.</p> <p>Para 9.5 amended: The parish's distance from major centres and the relatively poor quality of the roads leading to and from it make it even more important that IT connections are good. Continuous improvement of broadband in the parish consistent with national standards and plans will be a top priority, and the Parish Council will endeavour to secure the best possible connections.</p> <p>No change</p>

Whole document		Whole Document: Thank you for your vote of confidence in the hard work that has been put into producing it on behalf of the community. Nice to know that it is appreciated.	No change
11	<p>Can I formally congratulate the NDP team on an excellent piece of work. Logical, well argued, compelling conclusions and an strong framework for putting our beautiful village on a sound footing for many years to come - well done</p> <p>CSNDP 1: Settlement Boundary</p> <p>Comments also cover 'CSNDP8 Strategic gap, which together with the settlement boundary are completely supported. This maintain and uphold what generations of settlers have known, as well as respect, not to encroach...They harmonise nature with the distinct character of our village</p> <p>CSNDP 7: Areas of Flood Risk</p> <p>While the NDP makes specific reference to not allowing development that would increase the risk of flooding, I can see no mention of the NDP including measures to reduce current flood issues. Something along the lines of "Activity working with all stakeholders to reduce ... " or akin</p> <p>CSNDP 8: Strategic Green Gap</p> <p>Incorporates comment 2, CSNDP 1 Settlement Boundaries. But would like clarification in 'Development', reference to a definition elsewhere, (e.g. National planning portal, HCC, other), as on its own, the intention of the wording could be challenged without clear definition.</p>	<p>CSNDP 1: Settlement Boundary and CSNDP 7: Nice to hear that the vital importance of the settlement boundary and the Strategic Gap to the community has not been lost</p> <p>CSNDP 7: Areas of Flood Risk: A fair point raised by others as well and we will re-examine the flood report we submitted to Hereford to ensure that the proactive action on flooding and flush flooding from run off is addressed as far as possible</p> <p>CSNDP 8: Strategic Green Gap: A significant point and references to the official planning definition will be no doubt included in the final document</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>Amended policy CSNDP7: Areas at risk of flooding alongside Cradley Brook are defined on the Proposals Map. Any development proposals in these areas would need to take account of the sequential and exceptions tests set out in national planning guidance, and of the Herefordshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009. Where appropriate, mitigation measures should be included. The Parish Council will continue to work with other stakeholders to prevent or alleviate flooding at localised problem areas also identified on the Proposals Map.</p>
12	<p>7.6</p> <p>I feel strongly that Morgan's Field should be removed from the Strategic gap</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
13	<p>7.6</p> <p>The statement 'maintaining the separate identity of East and West Cradley' is also unhelpful to village unity. The idea of a green gap should not be used as an argument against the development of a village community facility on Morgan's field, which has been given to the village for this specific purpose. Such a facility-shop, café, walks by the brook-would draw the two sides of the village together in a positive way to enhance the character of Cradley.I would therefore want the NDP amended to allow a project such as the Heart of the Village scheme on Morgan's field to go ahead, whilst still maintaining the green gap surrounding this small development.</p>	<p>No Comment Made</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
14	<p>Strategic Gap</p> <p>Can you please note that I consider the area known as 'Morgan's Field' should be part of the strategic gap.</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
15	<p>7.1</p> <p>I would strongly object to any development in the village on land that is designated as an ACNB.</p>	<p>It is standard procedure for the Parish Council to also object to any development on the same grounds</p>	<p>Amended policy CSNDP5: Development will be supported where it does not affect the intrinsic natural beauty of the landscape and is necessary to promote the economic and social wellbeing of the designated area and their communities and enhance the quality of the landscape or biodiversity</p>
16	<p>1.1</p> <p>I am unhappy with the introduction of the terms WEST CRADLEY and EAST CRADLEY, they are not on any map I am aware of and I know of no historical precedent nor are the terms in 'local usage'. The terms are necessary, divisive and should be removed throughout the document.</p> <p>1.11</p> <p>The NDP questionnaire should not be relied on for any decision making process. It was fatally flawed in wording, design, and scope. The results were entirely predictable and designed to get support for the fictitious 'strategic gap'</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>The statement commits the parish council to support community facilities but the NDP contains no future plans for proven facilities. An opportunity missed (or avoided)</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>The strategic gap appears to be an invented term concocted for reasons not clear to me. The extent of it has been changed to suit circumstances. There is no justification for the descriptions of the strategic gap as given in this section, especially 'the single most significant space in the village and central to its character' in whose opinion based on what? Why is it necessary to maintain the separate identities of 'East' and 'West Cradley'. This is very suspect to me.</p>	<p>The terms East and West Cradley were used in the preparation of the NDP document for identification purposes only to aid those reading the document without local knowledge of the village. The terms are not designed to be divisive in fact Cradley village has had a division as shown in 19th century produced maps. Malvern Hills council confirmed the desirability of the gap as far back as Jan 1992 its existence has been confirmed as desirable by the community to the PC in 2004, 2010 and most recently in the questionnaire of 2015</p> <p>The questionnaire was thoroughly examined prior to its issue to obtain answers to simple straightforward questions the NDP document required</p> <p>The Policies in the NDP document do indeed commit the PC to many things including community projects. It is a policy document that forms a framework within which projects can be advanced. It does not name or commit to ANY projects. Projects proposed within the framework must comply with the defined framework and not conflict with it.</p> <p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Throughout the document amended to 'east' and 'west'</p> <p>No change</p> <p>Amended policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, including assessment of impact on existing facilities, and a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.</p> <p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
17	<p>9.1</p> <p>Another opportunity missed. Why no specific plans to provide pedestrian footways in the village as walking the roads currently is dangerous.</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>should have specific plans</p> <p>10.6</p> <p>should have specific plans appendix 4</p> <p>Plan already behind events as planning permission (P153490F) already granted in an area designated as having LOW to VERY LOW CAPACITY.</p>	<p>You make a valid point and the Parish Council have addressed the matter on several occasions over the years. Unfortunately desires to either add footpaths to the roads or across open land always meet with the problems of ownership of the land involved</p> <p>The NDP is a policy document which forms a framework for development by and within the community. It does not describe or specify ANY specific projects. It does give the framework within which those projects, when they come to fruition, can be incorporated. The PC has stated in the policies which areas it will give support to.</p> <p>As previous statement</p> <p>As you rightly point out the world moves on at a pace. And the unfortunate fact is that until the community gets the protection of the NDP in place then essentially anyone can sidestep the policies in place in our old Parish Plan (2010) or intended in the NDP. Only the acceptance of the NDP by the community will prevent developments happening that would not normally be desired by either the PC or the community they represent.</p>	<p>Amended text section 9.4: The Parish Council will continue to work alongside Herefordshire Council to ensure that the public rights of way network remains in good condition, and to secure significant improvements in and around the settlements, where rights of way could provide a safer alternative to walking on the roads.</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
18	<p>5.3</p> <p>I agree with the proposed changes to the Settlement Boundary which now includes domestic curtilages previously excluded such as my own as now set out in Proposal Map on page 22.</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>The Landscape Assessment plan should be amended to fit the areas now shown within the Settlement Boundary as it does not comment on areas set out in the former Settlement Boundary, and for areas of domestic curtilage with existing buildings and formal gardens the comments in the Landscape Assessment are inappropriate.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment</p> <p>The Landscape assessment pre-dated the Boundary change and remains as printed</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
19	<p>5.3</p> <p>I agree with the proposed changes to the Settlement Boundary which now includes domestic curtilages previously excluded such as my own as now set out in Proposal Map on page 22.</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>The Landscape Assessment plan should be amended to fit the areas now shown within the Settlement Boundary as it does not comment on areas set out in the former Settlement Boundary, and for areas of domestic curtilage with existing buildings and formal gardens the comments in the Landscape Assessment are inappropriate.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment</p> <p>The Landscape assessment pre-dated the Boundary change and remains as printed</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
20	<p>CSNDP 8</p> <p>I strongly support this proposal to maintain the strategic green gap, and protect it from all development except which may be require to mitigate flood risk</p> <p>CSNDP 1</p> <p>I support this policy as defined</p> <p>CSNDP 6</p> <p>I fully support the protection of wild life sites as defined in the policy statement</p> <p>CSNDP 7</p> <p>I strongly agree that development should not be permitted in areas identified at risk of flooding</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
21	<p>CSNDP 8</p> <p>I strongly agree with this policy. The strategic green gap should be maintained and should be protected from all development except that which may be required to mitigate flood risk.</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>
22	<p>7.6</p> <p>Strategic Green Gap This must be preserved, and protected from ALL development for the reasons stated, (Policy/SNDP8) and in part, as a valuable natural flood plain for Cradley Brook. (Policy/SNDP7)</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>

Appendix

<p>23 David Bryce</p> <p>I have found the communications in the parish newsletter regarding the Heart of Village and via email all far too emotive all hand and bound up in red tape and so I have now switched off. I just want to say that I DO support the ideals behind some form of community based development that also endeavour to unite the two halves of the village.</p> <p>I went along to the meeting at the hall regarding the other proposed development (commercial residential plus orchard and shop). I agree in principle, but would want to be re-assured there are checks and balances the parish council will put in place at some contractual stage, to ensure they hold to their promises and the community related areas are staged in development ALONGSIDE the residential (i.e. not left languishing after)</p> <p>Re: Development above Pixiefields. Poor on the greyscale map handed out to residents... is this in the "Additional land within established Domestic Curtilage. And what does this mean in plain English? Will this contain footpath improvements to access the countryside from my property? What considerations have been made regarding drainage and run off onto the existing lower properties? What community related development is planned here?"</p>	<p>Thanks for your comment but we have no control over what appears in the newsletter</p> <p>The Parish Council will always respond according to each individual case</p> <p>All will be considered when a detailed planning application is made</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
<p>24 Ian & Sue Chadwick</p> <p>We generally support this plan and are particularly concerned about two aspects detailed below.</p> <p>CSNDP 7</p> <p>We strongly support this policy bearing in mind the recent flooding.</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>We support the definition of the Strategic Green Gap as outlined in the plan. We feel this is of vital importance in maintaining the overall character of the village.</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>
<p>25 James Burton</p> <p>Section 10.6</p> <p>The second paragraph states that "High speed broadband in the parish must be a priority. The majority of houses in the area are already receiving "high-speed broadband" given recent upgrades. This enables house holds to achieve speeds of around 15-20Mbps. However 1 in 10 households nationally are now able to access "SuperFast Broadband" (Ofcom Feb 2015) which can achieve speeds in excess of 30Mbps. Plans for rollout of Ultra Fast Broadband are also underway which can achieve speeds in excess of 100Mbps. With increasing trend for content services to move to online platforms only (such as BBC 3, Netflix, Amazon Prime) plus incentives to purchase a smart TV there will be a continuing need to improve broadband speeds in the parish and keep pace with technology. The second paragraph should be reworded along the lines of: "Continuous improvement of broadband in the parish in line with national plans must be a priority".</p>	<p>Broadband – thank you for this. The wording will be amended in line with your suggestions</p>	<p>Amended text para 9.5. The parish's distance from major centres and the relatively poor quality of the roads leading to and from it make it even more important that IT connections are good. Continuous improvement of broadband in the parish consistent with national standards and plans will be a top priority, and the Parish Council will endeavour to secure the best possible connections</p>
<p>26 James Burton</p> <p>1.11</p> <p>The wording of Question Three in the Questionnaire Aug 2015 was highly ambiguous. No clear definition was provided in the Questionnaire as to the boundary of the Strategic Gap or reference to a document that contained such a definition. The term was previously used in the Village Design Statement. This document provides an outline of the concept of the Strategic Gap defining it as "straddling the Cradley Brook and west valley side". The included diagram showed the field to the West of the Brook sometimes referred to as the "Bean Field" but no clear boundary. The minutes of the Cradley and Storridge NDP Steering Committee, March 2015 (intending to introduce an extended definition of the Strategic Gap) Item 7 states the following in response to a question by SH as to the definition of the Strategic Gap. "This overlaps with the VDS definition of the Strategic Gap but extends to include all land between the two settlement areas." Question 3 was badly defined, potentially misleading and certainly provided no indication to any change in the definition of the Gap. Therefore any conclusions generated from Question 3 are open to challenge especially given the Strategic Gap's extension to the north and south in this draft of the NDP. Question 3 should be removed from Section 1.11 and an explanation added to Appendix 2 as to why the responses unfortunately cannot be used in this NDP.</p> <p>This section states that the "Planning permission was also granted in outline in January 2015 for up to 60 dwellings on land north of Pixiefield, West Cradley... Herefordshire County Council only provided "Outline Permission" and as yet I do not believe that full planning permission has been granted. The paragraph should be reworded to make this clearer. In addition this paragraph, as worded, effectively means that it is now Parish Council strategy to support 60 houses on Pixiefields. At public meetings held in 2015, I believe the overwhelming opinion of parishioners was against 60 houses on the site. Views ranged on the exact number. The NDP should state that the existing road network should be maintained and that any new roads should be granted on the site, in line with the results of Question 4 and 5 of the Aug 2015 Questionnaire. My personal view would be 35 houses on the site. The NDP should look to identify a second parcel of land to accommodate the remaining ~30 houses so that it can make a strong argument to reduce the scale of development at the Pixiefields site.</p> <p>Section 7.5</p> <p>Cradley is blessed with a rich network of footpaths around the village and surrounding countryside. The work of the village Longthorpe has also done much to improve these village assets for which I am grateful. However the village lacks good pedestrian pavements along a number of key roads within the village, especially in East Cradley. Other than residents of Buryfields, there is no safe pedestrian pavement for the residents of Cradley, especially its children to reach the school. Similarly residents of Buryfields cannot reach any of the other village facilities (Church, Butchers, Surgery) without walking along the roads. It is unlikely that the existing road network within the village boundary could accommodate new pavements (though markings on the road for pedestrians as used on the Continent might be a possibility) given its age and existing properties.</p> <p>Therefore the Parish Council and NDP should identify strategic footpaths that could be used to connect the village with the objective to upgrade them to an all weather surface for easy access by pedestrians, buggies, mobility scooters, even bicycles. The NDP should state that any proposed development that has one site strategic footpaths running through it should ensure that it does not degrade the route (such as fencing it off to become an overgrown route) but contribute to its upgrade in line with this objective.</p> <p>Section 7.6</p> <p>The definition of the strategic gap in the NDP has been greatly expanded from the definition used in the VDS without any rationale in the NDP as to why this additional land needs to be included. The statement taken from the VDS of "the single most significant space in the village and central to its character..." is also an overstatement and is misleading within the NDP. There are a range of locations within the village that are more significant and central to the character and way of life in the village, the area around the Church for example. No clear rationale or purpose is actually provided as to the need for a Strategic Gap. Why does the village need a "buffer" for example. The Strategic Gap should focus on specific aspects such as "protecting significant views of the village and the nearby AONB", such as restricting developed of the so-called "Bean Field". The purpose and boundary of the Strategic Gap should be re-examined with better consultation with the Policy CSNDP 8 effectively rules out any development within the Strategic Green Gap. This seems very excessive and would stop proposals that could have benefit for the village. Proposals such as the Heart of the Village may have flaws but the opportunity to enhance sites such as Morgan's field for the community, which currently provides the village with little value, should not be discouraged or excluded by the NDP. The wording at present is too restrictive and in my opinion should be amended.</p>	<p>Thank you for your observations</p> <p>Pixiefields – Whilst we have no power to influence planning decisions that have already been taken, we will strengthen the wording in the Plan to counter such high density housing developments. We will also propose amended wording in the Plan to support small scale developments on land north or adjacent to the settlement boundaries, on land identified as moderate to high capacity on the Landscape Assessment. This will enable any shortfall of housing on the Pixiefields site to be met without the need for another large site.</p> <p>PROV - thank you for this. The wording will be amended in line with your suggestions.</p> <p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>New Policy CSNDP 9: Design</p> <p>Proposals for development, including householder extensions, which take appropriate account of the recommendations of the Village Design Statement in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design, materials and boundary treatments, and which incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for high density housing, such as that proposed in outline for Pixiefields, will not be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for development involving street or flood lighting will not be supported unless justified by overriding reasons of public safety</p> <p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SSE of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
<p>27 Eileen + Eric Payne</p> <p>CSNDP1</p> <p>Whilst the strategic gap does serve to enhance the nature of the village it also divides it which is sad. My feeling is that it doesn't need to be quite as large as it is on the current plan</p> <p>CSNDP4</p> <p>With regard to economic development the PC seems to support community facilities such as a shop / pub / businesses but the settlement boundaries are very tight. There are a number of places where development of any kind can take place. A little more housing, another shop / post office could help the village to continue to thrive. Ultimately Cradley could become a dormitory village if there is no scope for controlled development when it is required. It doesn't need to be, nor should it be, big estates or industrial units!</p> <p>Overall Comment</p> <p>As noted above my feeling is that the plan needs more flexibility to allow the PC to make decisions about housing / other facilities.....especially for the future. As it is, the plan seems to restrict almost everything! Will this be future proof?</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment</p> <p>We intend to alter the NDP to expand the specification of economic development by including Ashtvale estate</p> <p>As with Parish Plans no doubt the NDP will be open for review should circumstances change in the future</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SSE of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p> <p>Amended Policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, including assessment of impact on existing facilities, and a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.</p> <p>No change</p>
<p>28 David King</p> <p>General</p> <p>I have read the document and am in support of the complete draft. I have no objections</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>29 Maureen Sanders</p> <p>CSNDP7</p> <p>No development should be allowed. This will increase flood risk</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>The Strategic Gap must remain. It is part of the character of the village - any development would have an enormous visual impact</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p> <p>No change required</p>
<p>30 Margaret Edgar</p> <p>CSNDP1</p> <p>Housing should preferably be restricted to infill, but any further development if necessary should be near the school and be affordable</p> <p>CSNDP9</p> <p>Definitely no development of any description on the Strategic Green Gap between East and West Cradley</p> <p>CSNDP11</p> <p>Better care and upkeep of the two existing outdoor playing areas (Chapel Lane and Buryfields)</p>	<p>Such developments would be reviewed on application</p> <p>Thank you for your comment</p> <p>Thank you for your comment</p>	<p>Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported.</p> <p>The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Storrige, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Pixiefield site, will be supported.</p> <p>No change required</p> <p>No change</p>
<p>31 John Gilbert</p> <p>7</p> <p>The "Strategic Green Gap", as referred to on the Plan, is totally illogical. To have such a small village - or two halves if you prefer! - kept apart by a gap rather than being drawn together by development is sheer stupidity. If Cradley is ONE unit, as its name suggests, then drawing together is required. (East and West do not make sense when the Plan accepts that the village clearly is a single entity these days.) And "strategic"? Just what "strategy" would that be then? Do some people WANT the two halves to remain separate? And if so, why? Development should be confined to the area between the two halves of the village - obviously NOT on the brook's floodplain, but on the areas each side of that which there is plenty.</p> <p>The area which has received Outline Planning Permission for 60 houses near Pixiefields has been poorly treated. Sixty is a ridiculously large number of dwellings for such a small field, quite apart from the strain on access and on public services such as sewage which this large number will create. The number must be reduced to about 30. NB Pixiefield has just 38 houses on a field very little smaller.</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p> <p>The Planning application will be considered when it comes before the Parish Council</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SSE of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p> <p>New Policy CSNDP 9: Design</p> <p>Proposals for development, including householder extensions, which take appropriate account of the recommendations of the Village Design Statement in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design, materials and boundary treatments, and which incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for high density housing, such as that proposed in outline for Pixiefields, will not be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for development involving street or flood lighting will not be supported unless justified by overriding reasons of public safety</p>

32	<p>David Robertson</p> <p>CSNDP2</p> <p>The housing policy favours 'infill'. This is at odds with questionnaire findings, where the single greatest number (36%) favoured '5 to 10 units' which could not be achieved by infill. More importantly, excess infill will damage the landscape and character of the village far more than carefully-designed developments on one or more appropriate sites.</p>	Thank you for your comment	Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Stordridge, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Pixiefield site, will be supported.
	<p>CSNDP4</p> <p>Claims that the Parish Council will 'support ... additional community facilities' are at odds with policy on the so-called Strategic Gap which, as worded, would prevent the building of the Heart of the Village Project - one of only two 'community facilities' currently proposed (the other being the sports field).</p>	Proposals will be examined as they appear	Amended policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, including assessment of impact on existing facilities, a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.
	<p>CSNDP8</p> <p>As the draft correctly states, the so-called 'gap' has traditionally been understood to consist 'mostly of a single very large field'. The proposal to increase it massively, and to prevent any 'development' within it except that designed to limit flood risk, has no logical basis or community support and would, inter alia, prevent the 'Heart' project from being built. The relevant survey question did not specify the area of the 'gap', and many respondents understood 'development' to mean houses. This issue needs to be re-addressed on the basis of correct and clearly presented information.</p>	The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy S56 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
	<p>10.4</p> <p>The document offers support for retail development, also regarded as important by the Herefordshire core plan. Yet the draft would prevent the building of the Heart of the Village project which offers precisely that.</p>	All proposals must not conflict with other policies in the document	Amended policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, including assessment of impact on existing facilities, a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.
33	<p>Victoria Mitchell</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>I consider the strategic green gap to be an essential part of the village to maintain its existing rural character particularly the field known as Morgan's Field. This entire area should continue to be protected from development.</p> <p>CSNDP2</p> <p>I was lucky enough to purchase an affordable house for a local person on a 106 agreement at Fairlea Close and think it is vital for local people to have the opportunity of purchasing a house in the village where they have grown up. I think this should be included within the policy document as a requirement for future developments.</p>	Thank you for your comments	No change required
34	<p>Valerie Mitchell</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>I agree with the extent of the Strategic Green Gap as depicted on the Proposals' map and consider that it is essential to protect this area against any development.</p>	Thank you for your comments	No change required
35	<p>Paul Mitchell</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>I consider the strategic green gap to be an essential part of the village to maintain its existing rural character particularly the field known as Morgan's Field. This entire area should continue to be protected from development.</p> <p>CSNDP2</p> <p>Our daughter has been fortunate enough to buy an affordable house at Fairlea Close under the Section 106. I think this opportunity should be made more available to local residents and should be addressed within the policy document.</p>	Thank you for your comments	Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Stordridge, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Pixiefield site, will be supported.
36	<p>Alan Eldridge</p> <p>See separate document submission</p>		
37	<p>Malcolm Brown</p> <p>General</p> <p>Overall, I consider the NDP document to be thoroughly professional and addresses all of the key issues.</p> <p>CSNDP8</p> <p>I totally endorse the protection of the 'Strategic Gap' from any form of development. The 'Strategic Gap' is a vital area to protect the rural nature of the village.</p>	Thank you for your comments of support	No change required
38	<p>Julia MacLagan</p> <p>page 7 3.2 No 5</p> <p>Most important to improve transport links and better broadband speeds</p> <p>page 7 3.2 No 8</p> <p>Keep the locals informed - even though response may be low. Congratulations to all who produced this document</p> <p>page 7 3.2 No 1</p> <p>Only built when definite need is identified</p>	The PC strives to support this at every opportunity	Amended text para 9.5. The parish's distance from major centres and the relatively poor quality of the roads leading to and from it make it even more important that IT connections are good. Continuous improvement of broadband in the parish consistent with national standards and plans will be a top priority, and the Parish Council will endeavour to secure the best possible connections
		Thank you for your support	No change
		A very valid point	No change
39	<p>Martin McAleese</p> <p>The document</p> <p>The document is excellent - congratulations - I have no comments apart from well done</p>	Thank you for your support	No change
40	<p>Wynne Harries</p> <p>My response was emailed to Mary Barnett 26th April 2016. I look forward to receiving your response to that. Thank you. 41</p>		
42	<p>Andrea Harries</p> <p>CSNDP 8: Strategic Green Gap</p> <p>Please remove Morgan's Field from Strategic Green Gap so that the Heart of the Village shop/cafe, an excellent idea with vast community benefits, can go ahead.</p> <p>CSNDP 2: Housing Provision</p> <p>Where there is extra housing provision it should be stipulated that no street lighting be included as part of the development.</p> <p>CSNDP 11 Recreational open space</p> <p>I feel that the sports facility should be allowed to have floodlighting up to a specified time eg 9 pm, so that it is possible to use it in the winter months.</p>	The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy S56 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
		A valid point under consideration in the Plan	Proposals for development, including householder extensions, which take appropriate account of the recommendations of the Village Design Statement in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design, materials and boundary treatments, and which incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, will be supported. Proposals for high density housing, such as that proposed in outline for Pixiefields, will not be supported. Proposals for development involving street or flood lighting will not be supported unless justified by overriding reasons of public safety
		Thank you for your observation	No change
42	<p>Christopher Pickering</p> <p>1.11</p> <p>The NDP questionnaire was ambiguous as there was no provision for respondents to support a second shop/cafe in Morgan's Field while also opposing further housing development in the strategic green gap. A second shop/cafe was strongly supported by a majority of respondents to the questionnaire, but there was no possibility to support this in the SGG without also approving further housing development.</p> <p>7.6</p> <p>I strongly support allowing the community shop/cafe in the SGG where it would act as a focus for the community and help bring the two halves of the village together, while also providing facilities for people and children to meet after school. The SGG should be maintained by restricting development to the community shop/cafe only.</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>I strongly support maintaining the existing settlement boundaries with the exceptions proposed in the draft NDP, but with the addition of the possibility of the community shop/cafe in Morgan's field</p>	The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy S56 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
		As for 7.6	

<p>43 Rosalind Pickering</p>	<p>1.11</p> <p>I found this questionnaire ambiguous as to the meaning of development in the SGG. I am in favour of retaining the SGG with no housing or other development allowed. However I am in favour of a second shop/cafe in this area. It was not possible to specify this option. As the majority of people in the NDP survey supported a second shop/cafe, if the definition of development includes a second community shop/cafe it is not clear where this would be allowed in the proposed NDP.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>My view is a second shop/cafe should be allowed in the SGG. If not here has the NDP identified an area where this would be allowed. This is an area where adults and children could meet. It opens up a beautiful, representative area of where we live that could be walked and named. At the moment it is largely hidden behind hedgerows and inaccessible.</p>	<p>7.6</p>	<p>A shop can be considered anywhere it does not conflict with the NDP policies</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
<p>I support the proposed extension to the existing settlement boundaries with the addition of allowance for a community shop/cafe in the SGG if the council is opposed to this have they identified another area that would be acceptable to the residents of the parish?</p>	<p>5.3</p>		<p>Amended policy CSNDP4: The Parish Council will support the retention of existing community facilities. The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where the precise use has been specified, the need justified, inclusion of impact on existing facilities, a business plan submitted, and where it can be demonstrated that the proposals are in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.</p>
<p>44 Rhianong Boulton</p>	<p>See separate sheets</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p>	
<p>45 Joanne Eldridge</p>	<p>policy CSNDP 8</p> <p>I do not support the NDP as I believe the questionnaire sent out is invalid. I did not know where the strategic gap was + I know that many others I have spoken to also did not. It is my understanding that the chair of the PC said it was "everything that can be seen from Cocksfoot Hill". This is not a satisfactory response, it is too vague, particularly as the field that the PC now claim is in the gap, cannot be seen from the top of Cocksfoot Hill. I believe the questionnaire should have defined exactly where the gap was and had they done so, my answer would have different + I strongly suspect that other people's would as well. It is not good enough to say that this would not have altered the result. How do we know? For this reason, I cannot support the NDP in its current form.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments and observations</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>46 Rupert Devereux</p>	<p>1.1</p> <p>Questions were simplistic and somewhat leading/directive. Therefore the results of the questionnaire should be given low credence and not be considered robust views and outcomes. The inclusion of these questions devalues what otherwise appears a well written document.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>Housing Commentary of five year targets is fair however all too soon will make the plan seem out of date. Many areas in the UK are considering their area in terms of the next 25 years to 2050. Should the plan look further into the future.</p>	<p>5.1</p>	<p>We are working to the time lines given by Hereford.</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>The New Eco houses at Finches corner shows that ECO Low energy building can be developed. Is it possible to state in the plan that the Council will always look for the best standard in building. Houses that are Energy neutral (Zero emissions) or generating energy will be encouraged.</p>	<p>5.1</p>	<p>Your comments are noted</p>	<p>New Policy CSNDP 9: Design Proposals for development, including household extensions, which take appropriate account of the recommendations of the Village Design Statement in terms of bulk and mass, siting, design, materials and boundary treatments, and which incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, will be supported. Proposals for high density housing, such as that proposed in outline for Poxfields, will not be supported. Proposals for development involving street or flood lighting will not be supported unless justified by overriding reasons of public safety</p>
<p>The Strategic gap - this feature is being given unnecessary importance. The Large field is a productive agricultural field and worth protecting as such. The Proposal to develop a volunteer run community owned facility on poor quality grazing land is realistic. This could be more resilient than a private owned retail unit. The Council seems to have become blinkered and narrow minded on this in recent weeks.</p>	<p>7.6</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
<p>47 Christopher Lowder</p> <p>It is essential to protect the green spaces in the parish. We have lost huge swathes of 'lungs of the village' over the past decade, thanks in the main to housing development. In this, the retention of the so called 'green gap' is essential. This is a village, not a small town.</p> <p>Development which is 'sensitive' and mainly infill is crucial. To repeat, Cradley is a village, not a small town. Anything which threatens this status should be stopped.</p> <p>Flooding is still a problem, especially along the Cradley brook, and in particular by Kingsbridge as well as the old shop/PO. We must look at this more closely again. Anything which will exacerbate this continuing problem must not be allowed.</p>	<p>NDP 7</p> <p>NDP 2</p> <p>NDP 7.4</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>48 Gillian Lowder</p> <p>It is essential to protect green spaces in the village and protect our important and ancient hedgerows. I agree with the policies presented in the NDP, but stress hedgerows are involved. At a recent PC meeting the Chairman stated that it was in light pollution and would wish to see included in the NDP a paragraph stating no more street lighting in the village including on any new housing developments anywhere else in the village.</p> <p>I agree with the policies outlined and wish for small developments of c10 properties. They should be consistent with the needs of the village.</p> <p>Local people must be consulted over all development in the village, whether housing or community projects.</p>	<p>NDP 7</p> <p>NDP 1</p> <p>NDP 8</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>49 K Aydon</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>The Strategic Green Gap is a distinctive feature of the village and cherished by the majority of residents. To retain it is in a great British tradition of maintaining green spaces within developed areas (eg London parks, Malvern Hills)</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Thank you for your support</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>Restricting development to infill within the village makes it doubly important to retain the SGG (see comments above) as development of established gardens can be detrimental to wildlife etc.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Yes- flood policy included</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>Flood alleviation and drainage should be encouraged esp in new developed. Is this addressed in the NDP?</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>The Plan should support this</p>	<p>No change required</p>
<p>Recreational facilities (for all age groups) should ideally be shared equally throughout the parish and not concentrated on one side of the village.</p>	<p>11</p>		
<p>50 S Roffe</p> <p>Thank you for the work and effort so far. Policies and objectives must be measurable Please can specific targets be added to each policy. These can then be used to inform projects and support programmes.</p> <p>Unspecific terms such as 'small scale' 'additional' 'in sympathy' and 'continue to work' should be replaced with clear detail of action.</p> <p>A policy or proposals for maintaining or developing the Parish's communication links should be added.</p>	<p>1.1</p>	<p>This is a good point- we would be grateful if you were able to join us and develop such targets</p> <p>comments noted and will review wording-any suggestions</p>	<p>No change required</p> <p>Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Storrage, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Poxfields site, will be supported.</p>
<p>I have lived in Cradley since 1988 and was a GP in the village for 26 years. I have never heard the 'local usage' East Cradley and West Cradley to describe the village of Cradley. I think that these terms are made up by the NDP group to support the concept of the Strategic Green Gap. Preferring Cradley with East and West is, I feel, divisive and unhelpful for our single village. NDP questionnaire - I believe this to be an invalid questionnaire for many reasons, but particularly relating to the Strategic Green Gap (another term that I have never heard before in my many years as a resident of Cradley). There was no map to define this GAP with the questionnaire and nothing that was consistent could be found on the www. The NDP group stated that everyone knows what the 'gap' is, but on questioning many people in the Village about it, it is clear that there is a lot of differing opinion about its size and which fields are involved. At a recent PC meeting the Chairman stated that it was in a 'GAP that can be seen from the top of Cocksfoot Hill'. Morgan's Field cannot be seen from the top of Cocksfoot Hill but is clearly included in the 'GAP' map. As many other fields are NOT included in previous documents which talk about the Strategic Gap (without the emotive word GREEN), I am aware that some people responded to the question on the SGG by saying that they didn't want development on the SGG, but in the comments section they qualified their answer by saying that they would support a Community Project on Morgan's Field, but would not want residential development. These people have been disenfranchised by the NDP group as they have only counted Yes or NO answers and ignored any comments when analyzing the results.</p>	<p>2.3</p>	<p>The Strategic Green Gap has been in existence since 1998 and has always included Morgan's Field. The area was specified to prevent the coalescence of the two sections of the Village and maintain the natural beauty of the area</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>
<p>The policy states that planning permission will be given to in-fill development within the Settlement Boundary. Have any suitable sites for this been identified? Do they fit with the 36% response from the NDP questionnaire, which wanted developments of 5 - 10 units? I don't believe any such sites exist and I think that the policy is written to prevent any development in the village. It is possible that the prime building land for development in the village is the School Playing Field? Economic Development - It is ironic to see this policy when the NDP clearly does not support a Community Benefit Society project to build a Shop and Cafe in the village, even when the NDP document ref. 6.2 Facilities states that a paucity of retail facilities obliges residents to travel elsewhere for many food and drink requirements.</p>	<p>4.7</p>	<p>Landscape capacity. Assessment can inform sites. We believe the settlement boundary will meet demands for housing on infill sites. Playing fields should be protected from development</p>	<p>Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Storrage, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Poxfields site, will be supported.</p>
<p>This is laughable to read in view of the NDP's response to the Morgan's Field proposal. Areas of Flood Risk - I feel that this isn't in the remit of the NDP and would be covered by National Policy. We seem to have many Flood experts in the village who think that their knowledge is greater than consultants dealing with Flood Risk, and the Environment Agency.</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>The NDP does not support the Community Benefit Society because it conflicts with other plan policies. National policy on flooding should not be duplicated in the NDP but will be addressed in terms of local issues, particularly flash flooding</p>	<p>Amended Policy CSNDP 7: Areas at risk of flooding alongside Cradley Brook are defined on the Proposals Map. Any development proposals in these areas would need to take account of the sequential and exceptions tests set out in national planning guidance, and of the Herefordshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009. Where appropriate, mitigation measures should be included. The Parish Council will continue to work with other stakeholders to prevent or alleviate flooding at localised problem areas also identified on the Proposals Map.</p>
<p>As stated already, I think that this area has not been clearly defined and that the parishioners have been misled. I also don't think that this extensive area of GREEN BELT is allowed under NDP guidance. Strategic Green Gap is not a term found in any of the following: National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Hereford's Core Strategy or Hereford's Planning Guidance for Neighbourhood Planning. I fear that the Inspector will turn this Green Gap policy down as the area proposed is too large to be designated Local Green Space, and the NDP already lists other areas to be preserved as Local Green Spaces. In conclusion, I think that the NDP have produced a very negative planning policy document, which says what can't be done rather than what can be done. I think that the questionnaire and consultation process has been appalling. The Parish Council Chairman states in the latest Reporter that during the NDP consultation process parishioners have been given over 40 options to consider. This is nonsense as it is concerning 'options' as the number of questions asked in their misguided questionnaire. Options should have been presented at a much earlier stage in the consultation process, and these could have formed the basis of a Community-Led document, rather than this NDP, which has been written by a paid professional and the policies in the document are, in my opinion, highly not community-led.</p>	<p>4.7</p>	<p>We are reviewing terminology and description of the area between the 2 settlement boundaries, in line with the wishes of the community. Options in the consultation process have been deemed adequate by HCC</p>	<p>Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'</p>

52	Robert Hughes	The NDP is an excellent and well-prepared document which I strongly support. 7.4 The tributary stream feeding into Cradley Brook via the old shop and post office should be protected from any upstream development which would increase the flood risk. 7.2, 8.2	Thank you for your support	No change
		The ACNBS abnd Conservation Area should be 'out of bounds' for housing or commercial development to preserve east Cradley's character and environment.	A valid point which will be considered	Detailed flood risk map included for areas of Flash Flooding
			These designations have policy protection independent of the NDP	No change required
53	Elaine Hughes	The NDP is an excellent and well-prepared document which I strongly support. 7.4 The tributary stream feeding into Cradley Brook via the old shop and post office should be protected from any upstream development which would increase the flood risk. 7.2, 8.2	Thank you for your support	No change
		The ACNBS abnd Conservation Area should be 'out of bounds' for housing or commercial development to preserve east Cradley's character and environment.	A valid point which will be considered	Detailed flood risk map included for areas of Flash Flooding
			These designations have policy protection independent of the NDP	No change required
54	Jack Haddon and Mo Haddon	We want any building (probably only windfall) to be restricted to within the settlement boundary as shown on the map in the NDP proposal. 1.2 No building should be allowed in the 'Strategic Gap' between east and west Cradley. 2 It seems that the rest of the parish outside the settlement boundary is considered to be 'countryside' and as such planning permission is to be confined to that essential to agriculture forestry and other defined rural activities. We have just heard permission has been granted in a field at Stony Cross - in the countryside so where does that leave this statement? We do however agree to the Stoddard plan which we think will add substantial amenity value to the village. Green Gap	Thank you for your support it is hoped that the plan will help us influence future planning decisions	No change required
55	Heather Morgan	This should be left as it is now, however Morgan's Field should be taken out to be hopefully used for the proposed Heart of the Village Community Project which would benefit us all. Building Cradley does not need any more development i.e. houses. The infrastructure couldn't handle any more i.e. surgery, school, power, sewerage. Traffic There is clearly too much traffic going through Cradley. The volume that goes past Finchers Corner from the Ledbury area is horrendous - vehicles which are much too big to be on a village road, its worse than you see in Malvern	Morgan's field will be decided by HCC planners	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy S55 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
			We note your comments on infrastructure and traffic	No change
56	S Clarke	This document has clearly had an enormous amount of input and I support it in its entirety. It supports local people, business and development without sacrificing the village's character. 7.6 Strategic Green Gap - described as a 'buffer by LA and 'single most important space' VDS and repeatedly shown to be of great importance to the community - so why is development in this area up for discussion? It should not be considered. RE NDP = I support what it says on this matter and hope it will have the necessary weight to stave off opportunistic developers determined to get in by whichever means. 2	Thank you for your support	No change
57	Judith Aldridge	Agree with policy proposed for housing sites. However important that more stress is laid on so-called starter houses, rather than as at Fairlea Close mainly 4,5 (or larger) bedroom houses. 5.6,7 These refer to avoidance of increasing flooding, damaging the natural environment and appearance of the Strategic Gap. The decision to refuse development in this, and/or other currently protected areas, is very important and should be maintained especially in the face of the HoV proposal. A second shop / cafe could be usefully placed in the school site, easy of access from Buryfields and those using / calling at the school. 1.1 I am displeased to see the unnecessary and potentially divisive formal division of Cradley in to West Cradley and East Cradley and particularly the use of upper case lettering for West and East. I have lived most of my life in or near a new town in Herefordshire and have seen the divisions between two communities not helped by the term Old Town and New Town (note capitals). Cradley should be united and not divided and at most western and eastern (lower case) might be used. 1 Despite your conclusion that you do not need it cover for new housing (5.1) I am sure that over time this will happen and the plan only allows for infill within selected parts of the boundary. No doubt new housing will be needed or imposed in the future and I feel that 'the gap' is the place to build and so unite the village rather than spread out into the surrounding countryside. B As I understand it the so called 'strategic gap' was created strategically and also fairly recently to counteract a proposed development west of the brook. With the possibility of a community project for a community shop and cafe (note CSNDP4) on Morgan's Field is should not now be included in a blanket gap on all development.	This is a valid point which we will try to include	Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Stonridge, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3.1. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Patefield site, will be supported.
			We note your points regarding the Strategic Gap and Shop	No change required
			We note your comments and have amended to lower case	Amended to 'east' and 'west' throughout the document.
58	John C.S. Turner			
59	Dr Susanna Van Marle	I do not think that Morgan's Field should be in the area of Strategic Green Gap. It is an excellent location for a centralised resource for the village. B	Thank you for your comment	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap: The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy S55 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended: 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
60	Roman Iwanczuk	Scanned and responded separately.		
61	Frank Hare	If housing of the magnitude of 10% are built then to combine it with a village shop, then the Stoddards scheme fits perfectly is accessible to many. 6.1 With no pub-no shop at one end of the village where folk live this should be addressed within the plan. The doctors surgery is not enough. Also to maintain and support this village a new larger surgery will be needed. The pharmacy is being overun now	We note your comment	No change
			We note your comment	No change
62	Bernard Wright	Prior to any implementation of the NDP a full synopsis must be addressed. 1 the present design and functioning of the pumping station at Kings Bridge 2. The infrastructure of the road network within the village and the access roads from the A4103 (Hereford road) to the village. It is absolutely madness going any further with the present matchbox mentality trying to fit 21 century policies to within the current 18/19th century structure of the village	This is outside the remit of a local plan	No change
63	Tony Madsen	no development whatsoever should be built on the strategic green gap. One new development will open the flood gates. especially the CSNDP2 When considering planning permission thought should be given to way housing property privacy CSNDP7 No planning permission should ever be considered in areas alongside Cradley Brook	Thank you for your support	No change required
			We note your comment	No change
			The policy is intended to protect the area around the brook	Amended Policy CSNDP 7: Areas at risk of flooding alongside Cradley Brook are defined on the Proposals Map. Any development proposals in these areas would need to take account of the sequential and exceptions tests set out in national planning guidance, and of the Herefordshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009. Where appropriate, mitigation measures should be included. The Parish Council will continue to work with other stakeholders to prevent or alleviate flooding at localised problem areas also identified on the Proposals Map.
64	Diane Merker	protected area of open space. There is a covenant on this area held by the owners of the bungalows preventing building on the ??? Could this area also include that which is council owned eg. Both sides of the road to poundbridge CSNDP8 Strategic Green gap this should be left undeveloped to maintain the quirky historical development of cradley	Please could you clarify your comment	No change
			We note your comment on the Strategic Green Gap	No change required
65	John Davies	The development in Chapel Lane should be in a sympathetic to the existing buildings. 2 Designated housing developments to include affordable houses to help keep the village varied in its life 3 To research a footpath/cycleway to link west to east to provide a safe route to amenities in the village	Please clarify your comments reference development in Chapel Lane as we are unaware of any proposals	No change
			We note your comments	Amended Policy CSNDP 2: Planning applications will be granted for small scale development only within and adjacent to the settlement boundary in areas defined by the Landscape Assessment as having moderate to high capacity to accommodate residential development, and in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and other policies of this Plan, will be supported. The rest of the parish, including the settlement of Stonridge, is defined as countryside, where planning permission for housing will be limited to that essential to agriculture, forestry or other defined rural activities in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy RA3.1. Proposals for affordable housing, including exception schemes covered by Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy H2 and on the Patefield site, will be supported.
			This will need to be pursued once the plan is in place	Amended text section 9.4: The Parish Council will continue to work alongside Herefordshire Council to ensure that the public rights of way network remains in good condition, and to secure significant improvements in and around the settlements, where rights of way could provide a safer alternative to walking on the roads.

Appendix 6a

66	Simon Wilson	<p>5.Housing should there be specific reference within CSNDP2 to the fact that in the village survey 81% of respondents favoured developments of 10 units or fewer to frame this wish of the village in policy</p> <p>General This is a thorough and comprehensive document. In my opinion it reflects the wishes of the village as expressed in the village survey of August September 2015. I agree with the principals the document is trying to achieve through the individual policies</p>	We note your comments and thank you for your support	No change
67	Marie clare Blinman	<p>5.3 A good clear document I particularly support the following statements- the NDP will not need to allocate sites for housing and that any new development will be in the village</p> <p>7.1 neither Herefordshire Council nor the parish Council have the power to alter ANPB boundaries and that the ANOB has additional protection from development</p> <p>3 And finally I support the statement that the Parish has a very limited capacity to accommodate further residential development</p>	We note your comments and thank you for your support	No change
68	Marie clare Blinman	Attached sheet		No change
69	Gillian Howard	Amend draft to exclude Morgans Field from the green gap please	We note your comments	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended. 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
70	Mrs. E. Gilbert	<p>8 Since this area is designated an ANOB surely this precludes any more development above Pixt fields as it is. Fairly close maerely fills a gap though trees were lost. The oaks would be in danger as also the ancient hollow way.</p> <p>7.2 policy CSNOP5 re East and West Cradley since the primary school is already built we have to accept it, but development of village should be to unify East and West- not to encroach outwards into the countryside or to make 1970's development a further eyesore from the malvern hills, see above reference 5.3</p> <p>CSNDP8 any development needs to unify the village with modern building techniques there is no impediment to building here, so lets us do what our forebare were unable to accomplish unify the village at the stragic gap</p>	We note your comments but Pixiefields is not within the AONB. Comments regarding joining the village settlement areas are noted	No change
71	Tracey Iwnczuk	Attached comment		No change
72	Ian Edger	Generally a well prepared document, however I have an objection to the terms West and East Cradley, we are one village. There is no West and East Cradley there is ONE village an amendment to the document is needed to allow for the development of a much needed community facility on Morgans Field	Thank you for your support. West and East Cradley will be lower case and purely descriptive. We note your comments regarding Morgans Field	Proposals Map amended to rationalise the extent of the Strategic Green Gap. Amended text defining Strategic Gap. The formal identification in this Plan of the strategic gap has regard to Policy SS6 of the HCS. This policy requires development proposals to conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, among them its settlement pattern and landscape. The parish of Cradley is unusual in having two settlements in such close proximity, where the gap between them constitutes a distinctive local characteristic and asset which would be eroded or lost by inappropriate development in it. Policy CSNDP8 amended. 'A Strategic Green Gap, depicted on the Proposals Map, is defined between east and west Cradley. Development in it, except for public open space, and that reasonably required for agriculture and forestry purposes or to mitigate flood risk, will not be supported.'
73	Fran Doidge	<p>5.1 completions and commitments do not total 93 dwellings as it is unlikely 60 houses will be built at Pixiefields. The developer has withdrawn possible due to access and none may peruse this further</p> <p>CSNDPA7.6 I strongly support heat of the village and am sure some sort of arrangement can be made to support the current butchers who have given us good reliable service. Community is much needed</p> <p>11 Although it is stated there is a clear excess of outdoor playing space development this space into actual sports facilities eg. Football field is fraught with delay</p>	We note your comments. Outline planning permission for Pixiefields remains valid for 5 years	No change
74	Sarah Herriot	attached pages		No change

End Of Consultation Submissions

Cradley Parish Council NDP Group

Submissions made as part of the public consultation held in the Parish from March 9th until April 27th 2016 for regulation 14 of the NDP

The submissions here were made on separate sheets from the ones provided and are presented as additional to the form submissions submitted

Submissions by:

S. Herriot  Page 49

W. Harries  Page 75

T Iwanczuck  Page 78

R Iwanczuck  Page 81

A Eldridge  Page 85

Sarah Herriot Response

Submission to NDP Consultation by Sarah Herriot

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONSULTATION RESPONSE

COMMENT 1.

NDP Reference ; -whole plan

This document is not fit for purpose. It is not a community-led document in any sense and has been driven purely by one or two powerful members of the tiny NDP Group, who have advised a professional planning consultant. He has written the Plan based on minimal and biased information and there is hardly any clear-cut transparent input from the community at any stage.

The fact that he himself wrote The Vision and all the Objectives and Policies entirely himself, AFTER any supposed consultation with the Parish sums up the total disregard for any valid attempt at consulting the community about the direction or content of the plan.

I will go into all these points in more detail below with evidence of all my statements.

i).OLD DATA; NDP Reference Paragraphs 1.4 to 1.7

The original aim of the NDP group, which they have frequently stated, is to use previously gathered parish data and supplement this.

The Parish has a Village Design Statement (VDS) and Parish Plan(PP2004), both published in 2004 and based on questionnaire data collected at least as early as 2002 (as the first draft was presented to the parish in 2002 Ref ; PP2004 page 6)

This data is now 14 years old and is no longer relevant in scope or application. The data also cannot be said to reflect the views of the current parish population, which I know has a rapid turn over.

A further Parish Plan was published in 2010 and was based on a lengthy questionnaire but only had one page on planning issues with only 4 questions. The only question relating to sites for various types of development asks about 5 sites; 3 of these are now developed or have outline planning permission and 1 is in Storridge and is not relevant to Cradley's NDP. This questionnaire, again, hardly seems relevant today and is virtually useless in helping to inform the current NDP.

Further, the NDP group very early on "agreed to hold over their discussions on the documents (PP2010) until the draft NDP is prepared with a view to incorporating their salient points into the NDP." Ref ; NDP Minutes 15.1.2014. This seems as though the NDP group were unwilling to spend any time even looking at the past data to even see if it needed updating or refreshing or if any of it was still remotely relevant.

ii)ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN PLAN; There have been no village meetings held or questionnaire questions asked to find out what issues the village would like to be included in the NDP at any stage.
No ideas where ever sort from the parish by

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- holding a specific meeting to discuss ideas
- asking for ideas on the Cradley Parish website
- asking for ideas by questionnaire

Furthermore, no local stakeholder groups were identified by the NDP group. No meetings appear to have been held with the NDP group and local stakeholders. I believe there might have some individual chats eg Chris Lowder saw Dr P Dye. Local Businesses were not consulted either individually or collectively. No Parish groups such as the British Legion Club, the School, were consulted. At the inception of the Heart of The Village group, the group was never formally consulted.

iii) OBJECTIVES; I have gone through all the NDP Minutes available on line. This is not a complete record as some are empty of text (eg December 5th 2013) , some missing(eg August 18th 2015) and some will not open on line.

I can find no record at all of any discussion about the vision or objectives of the NDP and what policies the NDP group might wish to discuss with the village prior to the first survey being carried out or even afterwards. It is obviously impossible to ask any meaningful questions to inform an NDP if the Objectives and Policies have not be considered first. This is the case here.

iv) 2014 SURVEY; NDP Reference paragraph 1.8

The NDP group in fact chose to base their first " survey " on one used by another NDP group from Cuckfield.(Ref; NDP Minutes 17.7.2013)

It is hard to see how this random collection of questions could be relevant or helpful to inform any unformed plan.

This first survey of just seven questions is just a token attempt at " consultation" by a lazy NDP group. It got the appalling returns it deserved, with only 74 responses, showing just how disengaged the parish were with the perfunctory survey and the whole NDP process itself.

There is a "survey analysis" on the NDP website produced as a document by one NDP member but it is not mentioned in any minutes and never seems to be referred to or mentioned again by the group or used for any purpose by them.

v) POLICIES; The NDP group were repeatedly asked to come up with their objectives and policies by the Hereford Planning Department NDP support team members and repeatedly failed to do so.

Ref ;NDP Minutes 7.8.2014 Gemma Webster said the next steps are "1.prepare draft policies ie the key issues to be included in the plan."

Ref; NDP Minutes 24.3.2015 Karla Johnson "indicated the need to move to vision statement, objectives, policy for the NDP."

vi) PUBLIC MEETINGS –

These have been minimal, especially prior to launch of the draft plan:

*The NDP was launched very briefly at the end of a meeting held in response to the closure of the Cradley PO and Stores in 2013.

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* There were two very poorly attended 'Planning for Real' meetings held, the results of which are not referenced in the NDP draft at all. The results of these two events are on the NDP website but there is no evidence they have been analysed. As they are not referenced by David Croft, he cannot have used them, so they have been entirely ignored by the NDP process as a whole and cannot be said to have informed the plan at all.

*The next meeting held by the NDP group itself was in the church on August 4th 2014 when the Landscape Assessment was presented along with four local projects. (This meeting and the subsequent debacle of the related questionnaire will be dealt with later.)

This meeting was followed by a drop-in session the following day covering the same issues

Three quarters of the content of these two meetings, apart from the Landscape Assessment, has subsequently been ditched by the NDP group thus making a large part of both sessions totally irrelevant anyhow.

* There was a drop in session covering the Settlement Boundary. I will cover this issue later.

This was the sum total of all the consultation with the village up to the launch of this draft NDP, a document that is supposed to be community driven. I have looked on line at numerous other NDPs and I am amazed at the wonderful variety of consultation methods used, hard to reach groups that have been sought out and what enthusiastic engagement and dialogue some communities have managed to inspire.

Example of other parish's consultation PRIOR to any survey -

Tattenhall - held five public meetings, one rave with local teenagers and a written consultation with all the local primary school children .

Broughton Astley- held five public meetings, including one for local stakeholders eg local businesses, medical centre, developers etc, and held an event at the local carnival.

Fulham- formed six focus groups that consulted with stakeholders to produce visions for the plan in each category, as well as a public meeting and a school competition to say what new local facilities the children would like to see.

Cradley's NDP team have been negligent in their extremely poor consultation.

vii) The NDP group are obviously a little concerned themselves about the paucity of their consultation. The Parish Council Chairman mentions in the Reporter sent out with the draft NDP that they have offered the community " over 40 options". All this means is that they have asked questions to which there are 40 possible answers, but most of these "options" have not been used to inform the draft NDP at all and so can hardly be considered as valid.

Eg Ref; 2015 Questionnaire. Question 5.'What would you consider a suitable size for a housing development?' giving 4 possible answers. But the NDP finds no room for any housing developments at all so any answers given to this question are pointless and we parishioners can hardly be said to have been given an option here.

Eg Ref ; 2014 Survey. Question 6.1. Do you think it is important that the village retains its Doctors' Surgery? The answer to this question is something which the Parish Council and NDP have no say in whatsoever – it is a matter of government policy and GPs own decisions, as I well know having recently retired as the

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Village GP after 26 years, so why ask this question at all? It could never be used to inform an NDP

The quality and standard of both the 2014 survey and the 2015 questionnaire are both very poor in general and specifically do not relate to any coherent objectives or policies and thus do little to inform the draft.

viii) David Croft-PLANNING CONSULTANT;

The NDP repeatedly said they would not draft their own NDP but pay a consultant to write every bit of it for them. Their idea seemed to be to gather any past data along with enough scant survey data to tick the consultation "box". The planning consultant would then come up with the whole NDP, vision, objectives and all the policies... and this is just what has happened.

The consultant employed was an ex colleague of the acting chairman of the NDP group. There is no minuted evidence of how he came to be asked but it is mentioned in the minutes of a meeting that he had quoted for the job and was subsequently employed. Ref; NDP Minutes November 7th 2015

It is of interest that no written briefing document from the NDP group to David Croft exists and there is no documented evidence of how David Croft was briefed. We can only assume he was fully briefed off the record, presumably by the acting chairman and this briefing has guided him in the direction he went in relation to which policies he chose. As I have already shown, there is little evidence of a clear path for him to chose from the past data or survey/questionnaire.

None of this is frankly illegal but suggest a serious lack of transparency in the whole briefing process and a total disregard of procedure. This has certainly not been a community-led process.

ix) INDIVIDUAL POLICIES I will list some of the draft NDP Policies and show what, if any, evidence has been gathered from the parish for each policy. This will help demonstrate that this document is hardly based on community opinion at all.

Sam Banks advised the NDP group that they "need ROBUST MAJOR evidence to support NDP polices." Ref NDP minutes December 2nd 2015.

This robust major evidence is not available.

Before I look at some individual policies, I will say that there are obviously numerous pages of TEXT in both PPs and the VDS, but this text is mostly just opinion of those writing the documents at the time and I am looking for a hard evidence base that is founded on CONSULTATION with the parish and could thus lead to a community-driven document.

Policy CSNDP 1: Settlement Boundary.

- PP 2004 Questionnaire; no mention of settlement boundaries.
- PP 2010 Questionnaire; no mention of settlement boundaries.
- 2014 NDP survey asked Q2 " do you think the settlement boundary should be changed and how?
- 2015 NDP Questionnaire; no mention of settlement boundaries.

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- Meeting in village hall October 2015 to look at amendments to the settlement boundary

However, at no time was it made clear to the parish that it is actually the CHOICE of the PARISH to reinstate settlement boundaries since the adoption of the Core Strategy. The pros and cons of this decision are clearly discussed in Neighbourhood Planning Guidance notes number 20 yet were never discussed with the parish. I personally attended the NDP settlement boundary meeting and was shown a large map of the boundaries and was asked my opinion on any amendments to them; at no time was the need for such boundaries put forward as an issue to discuss or to be asked about specifically.

The decision to reinstate settlement boundaries seems to have been made by David Croft alone, as he states 'It is considered that in this case, the setting of such boundaries continues to be essential to prevent unsustainable growth, and in particular to prevent the coalescence of East and West Cradley.' i.e it is considered essential by David Croft, based on his reasoning and conclusions ONLY.

This is extremely relevant as it effects the next policy below too, the main crux of any NDP.

Policy CSNDP 2:Housing Provision.

- PP 2004 Questionnaire; Q7 asking whether six sites should be left undeveloped. One of these is now built on. Two are designated as Green Spaces in the NDP and it is pleasing to see here that there seems to have been some true consultation behind this designation. But the strongly positive answer for the orchard opposite Buryfields has not led to it having been given protection in the NDP, for example, showing the inconsistencies in what has ended up in the draft.
- PP 2010 Questionnaire; Q4. Asks about 5 sites that may be suitable for housing development. However, two are already built on, one now has outline planning permission and one is in Storridge, leaving only one site, next to the new school as a possible housing development site, which has again been ignored by the NDP.
- 2014 NDP Survey; no questions about actual sites.
- 2015 NDP Questionnaire; There are NO questions on where might be suitable sites for development.
Q 4 asks about one site only as an area to be kept free from development. I will deal with this Strategic Green Gap in more detail later, but NO map was included with this questionnaire to show where this site was and how large it was. This is frankly negligent and inexcusable for such an important document to be based on such data collected in such a slap dash fashion.

Q5 asks about what might be an acceptable size for a housing development, the most popular answer being 5 to 10 houses. Yet the NDP produces a policy permitting infilling development only within the settlement boundary, where it is obvious that developments of 5-10 houses cannot fit. David Croft himself in fact says that "further opportunities for infilling appear to be limited and there is

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no scope for the allocation of further sites for housing within the existing settlement boundary. Ref. NDP paragraph 8.1

The acting chairman of the NDP group said herself that "The PC have decided to go for smaller housing plots and windfall, clearly showing the parish itself have not influence this decision" .Ref; NDP minutes December 2nd 2015.

Thus not only have the parish not be consulted on this policy but it is totally inconsistent to offer up the settlement boundary as the ONLY place in the parish where housing development can take place yet assert further on in the same draft that there is not room for this, and certainly no room for the 5-10 house developments the parish favour. Furthermore, this demonstrates that this is not a positive planning document making any provision at any future housing save limited windfall.

Sam Banks said " a small allocation/infill could be suggested as well to ensure deliverability the (sic) housing figures." Ref; NDP minutes December 2.2015 , a meeting at which David Croft was present.

This has not been done

- Landscape Assessment March 2015

This document was produced at great expense and presented to the village at a meeting on August 4th 2014 and at a further drop in session on August 5th 2014. It was billed as being the basis for the whole NDP and it was suggested it would be used in a similar way to that used by Colwall in their NDP ie sites for residential development would be identified, colour coded and prioritized on the basis of the assessment.

However, this expensive assessment seems to have been fundamentally ignored by both the NDP group and David Croft after its presentation to the parish. It's result show 9 sites with medium capacity or above for residential development but no suggestion is made ever that these sites be used for such and David Croft goes so far as to say "thus it can be concluded that from an environmental and landscape perspective, the parish has a very limited capacity to accommodate further residential development without significant adverse effects." Ref NDP paragraph 7.2. Again, this is a conclusion apparently reached by David Croft alone, and certainly not based on any discussion or consultation with the parish. If there is only "limited " capacity, in 9 sites, should we not be discussing this and asking the parish which areas are most suitable and so utilizing any available capacity it in a positive planning document? The whole management of this Assessment seems very inconsistent and it does not actually appear to have been used to inform any of the draft policies at all in the end

The issue of the LCA and the Strategic Green Gap will be discussed later.

Policy CSNDP 6; Local Wildlife Sites.

There is no mention of any hard evidence of consultation about this site in any documents.

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Policy CSNDP 7; Areas of Flood Risk.

There is no mention of any hard evidence of consultation about these areas in any documents

Policy CSNDP 9; Conservation Area.

There is no mention of any hard evidence of consultation about this area in any documents.

Policy CSNDP 10; Protected areas of open spaces.

The only hard evidence of consultation about these areas was produced in 2002 or earlier.

COMMENT 2.

NDP REFERENCE-CSNDP POLICY 3; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This is labeled as economic development on page 10 and mentions Ashvale Industrial Estate.

On page 19 it is labeled REDUNDANT BUILDINGS and does not mention Ashvale industrial estate.

I suggest this is altered to be consistent.

COMMENT 3.

NDP REFERENCE –CSNDP POLICY 7; AREAS OF FLOOD RISK

i) I do not understand the wording of this policy.

Does it mean development in the DEFINED AREA will not be permitted?

Or does it mean that the NDP will not be permitting destruction of the Indonesian rain forests for a palm oil plantation or any other development anywhere at all?

I suggest the wording is altered to be entirely clear about the area in which development will not be permitted, or the Policy remains entirely meaningless.

ii) Flood risk is covered by national Policies and is overseen and enforced by the Environment Agency. I do not believe this policy should be in the NDP at all.

iii) The NDP group itself appears to uphold this view when it says it plans to write in the next issue of the Reporter to correct any misunderstandings that ; "4) Concerns outside the remit of the NDP –eg Flood Risk, Transport Problems" etc.

Ref; NDP Minutes 11th April 2016

COMMENT 4.

NDP REFERENCE -CSNDP POLICY 8; Strategic Green Gap.

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This policy is the most flawed from the outset.
I will outline the many issues involved.

1. TWO SETTLEMENTS?

The Draft NDP says the village of Cradley is actually two distinct settlements and it goes so far as to name them Cradley and Westfields, based on OS maps. Initially the draft used these terms throughout, but this was quickly amended by the NDP group as being unacceptable. The draft now goes on to use the terms West Cradley and East Cradley, saying this is "local usage." This is not local usage- I have lived and worked in this village for 28 years and have never heard anyone refer to anywhere at all in the village in such terms.

The village is indeed made up of two parts with somewhat of a space in it's middle but both parts still remain Cradley. The Church is in Cradley, the Surgery is in Cradley, the School is in Cradley, the Butchery is in Cradley. It is one village.

Looking at the space that exists in the middle of the village, it is not really a gap at all but contains several houses along the whole length of Chapel Lane to Pound Bridge, almost equal in density to those houses along the B4220 at Stoney Cross which are included in the Settlement Boundary. Logically the whole of Chapel Lane could be included in the Settlement Boundary but for some reason it appears not to be.

The Hereford Core strategy itself, Policy RA2, in fact defines Cradley as one settlement.

Parish documentation is confused about the issue: the PP 2004 talks about "maintaining the green area between two parts of village" (i.e. one settlement) REF ; PP 2004 Housing and Planning 6.2.

The VDS talks about "the single most significant space IN the village" (i.e. one settlement) yet also goes on to say " it divides the village into two distinct settlements". VDS seems to want two settlements to exist whilst at the same time confirming a single village entity.

My point here is that it is not a cut-and-dried FACT that the village consists of two separate distinct settlements with individual characters and identities; we are ONE village. I would go as far to say that MHDC planning department were wrong to use the term in the first instance.

The village has never been asked if it wishes to consider itself two such separate settlements. I think the resounding answer would be that it does not wish to do so. To describe Cradley village as two separate settlements is a convenient fiction invented by those writing planning documents for the village for many years and appears to have taken on an accepted reality for some.

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2.THE STRATEGIC GAP DEFINITION

It is agreed there is a space in the middle of Cradley. But to define it as a Strategic Gap is not just a name; it carries specific planning meanings;

It is a term previously used in planning to achieve a number of strategic planning AIMS-

- to maintain the separate identity and amenity of settlements.
- to prevent settlements coalescing.

It would appear that this term cannot be applied to the area in the middle of one village with an inclusive identity (see 1. above) if it's actual AIM is preserve the identity and amenity of TWO separate settlements.

It would seem the specific term has been specifically chosen by those writing the planning documents precisely to utilize the second aim, to prevent coalescence (i.e to stop housing development) whilst ignoring the first aim.

The village has never been asked if it wishes to be prevented from coalescing. For the village, it could be considered socially divisive and detrimental to village cohesion and unity to have such a big space.

Ken Nason, vice PC Chairman, has recently offered a new definition of the strategic gap as "that between two settlement boundaries". This does not define the gap in the draft NDP. If it did, the gap would also include all the land inside a straight line between the western border of the new school site all the way to Stoney Cross at the junction of the B4220 and the A4103. The proposed gap has a differently defined north/north west border, but it is impossible to say on what grounds this border has been chosen and would appear to be arbitrary.

3.THE HISTORY OF THE STRATEGIC GAP- from parish documents available on the PC website.

a) The Malvern Hills Local Plan map 1992(1994)

Ken Nason and the NDP acting Chairman both say the area proposed in the draft NDP was first described by The Malvern Hills Council in a map produced in 1992. This map itself is not quoted or reproduced in the PP 2004 or the VDS or PP 2010. This map is not on the current NDP website nor is not quoted in the draft NDP as a reference. The MHC map is 24 years old and is obviously of no relevance now that Cradley is in the planning jurisdiction of Herefordshire.

b)PP 2004 and VDS

The PP 2004 seems to have no detailed map at all of the strategic gap attached to it on the Parish Council website, just a photograph with Strategic Gap written over the Bean field/Green Farm field.

The VDS has the same photo (map 1) and two maps of the strategic gap- one a Google map (map 1) and two plans (map 2 and 3)
Both these maps have STRATEGIC GAP written in bold type over the Bean Field/Green Farm Field, with no boundaries to the area drawn in .It is impossible for anyone to clearly interpret the shape and extent of this gap from any of these maps. Taking it at face value, it is reasonable to assume the writing refers to the

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field over which it is written as NO boundaries in any direction are drawn. This is particularly the case with Map 2, which shows Morgans' Field as a different coloured space from the Bean Field/Green Farm Field, thus lending weight to the idea that Morgans' Field is excluded from the gap.

However the text does say the gap straggles the brook, so it is possible the gap may include Morgans' Field, but it is far from certain from the map alone.

If we go on to analyse the text of the VDS in more detail, it says the Strategic Gap "is surrounded in the main by hedges with willows and other native tree species ...and is used principally for grazing and silage/hay production." This text does not seem to me to be describing a very large area including two roads, a bridge, a footbridge, numerous houses and gardens and the old village pub that the draft NDP proposes.

Furthermore, in the VDS appendix C view 731.469 it states that the "bank rises up to the 16 acre field that forms the MAJOR part of the strategic gap". This 16 acre field forms less than a third of the new proposed gap, so could hardly be described as forming a major part of such a gap.

These quotes above demonstrate the ambiguity in trying to define the extent and boundaries of the strategic gap, as is discussed in the VDS.

My own view is that the VDS is talking about a moderate gap of either the Green Farm Field only or the Green Farm Field and Morgans' Field, but it is impossible to know from any hard data available.

c) Carley Tinkler's Landscape Capacity Assessment.

Carley Tinkler talks in her report about yet another strategic gap in landscape terms. She defines it as the land between two settlements, again reinforcing the myth that there ARE two settlements in the village. In the map she supplies (NDP website, Landscape Assessment, "Study Area") she shows a very large gap very similar to the proposed draft NDP gap.

Yet in 4.4.9 she clearly states "it should be noted that the strategic gap referred to here is not the same as that in the VDS."

Why should she state this if the VDS gap and the gap she describes are virtually the same? It only makes sense if she thinks that the VDS gap is very different i.e. smaller?

Again this just demonstrates the utter confusion about the extent of the strategic gap and how unclear the issue is, and this is from a consultant employed by the NDP itself.

d) NDP draft

The HOV group have always known that the VDS was inconclusive in its determination of the strategic gap. This is why we asked the NDP group to include a map clearly showing the extent of the gap with their 2015 questionnaire to the parish. This request was made by myself and Alan Eldridge at the NDP meeting on August 18th 2015. There are no minutes of this meeting currently available on the parish website. The request for a map was turned down by the NDP group as a whole and I remember the words "everyone knows

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where the strategic gap is" and several members of the group offered their own, differing definitions.

The NDP group missed the opportunity to be clear and transparent about the proposed gap's exact extent and one may wonder why. It is clearly poor practice for a group producing a supposedly evidence-based planning document to be deliberately unclear and not straightforward about trying to ascertain the views of the Parish on the strategic gap.

It is possible that there was some degree of manipulation of the question and the information supplied to receive the answer the NDP were actually seeking, although this remains impossible to prove one way or the other.

The points a) to d) above show the lack of clarity and precision in all the parish planning documents to date. The extent of this gap has been shown NOT to be clearly or transparently defined and never has been.

The first clear and conclusive evidence shown to anyone in the parish of the new proposed strategic gap's extent was when the NDP draft was printed, long after the NDP questionnaire concerning the strategic gap had been issued, answered by the parish, analysed and incorporated into the draft.

4. THE STRATEGIC GAP in planning.

The term strategic gap is not a term reference in the Nation Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

It is not a term used in Hereford's Core Strategy or in Hereford's Planning Guidance for Neighbourhood Planning, or in its glossary of planning terms.

NPPF paragraphs 76 and 77 are specific in terms of what Neighbourhood Plans can do in terms of identifying green areas for protection.

The area proposed in the draft NDP is too large to be designated as a Local Green Space. In any case the NDP lists other areas to be preserved as such Local Green Spaces.

The area is clearly not Green Belt land.

Thus it is unclear what the statutory basis for the strategic gap is.

5. EVIDENCE THE COMMUNITY WISHES THE GAP TO BE MAINTAINED.

What evidence has been used to clearly demonstrate that the parish wish the strategic gap to be maintained, as currently defined by the draft NDP, and in the current context of options available to the parish? The NDP has a duty to reflect the views of the parish so it is vital that the evidence base used is robust, clear and transparent, up to date and inclusive. I plan to demonstrate that the evidence used in the formulation of Policy 8 is none of the above.

i) Again, as in COMMENT 1, I am looking at hard evidence of the parish being CONSULTED about the strategic gap here, not references in any text that are just opinions of those writing the documents.

There are NO specific references to the Strategic Gap in any of the following:

PP 2004 Questionnaire

PP 2010 Questionnaire

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NDP Survey 2014

ii) The NDP questionnaire 2015;

This asks specifically about a new entity, the Strategic *GREEN* Gap.

This is the only site they ask about. Why? It is suddenly important for them to ask about this one area, and I suggest this is because they realized themselves that they was actually no data at all to support the idea of the gap or the apparent sanctity of the gap or its supposedly cherished status.

Before we look any further at this questionnaire, we now need to consider the Heart of the Village project;

This is a Community Benefit Society set up by 6 locals with the intention of providing a community shop, café, play area in the centre of the village

At the request of the Parish Council, the Heart of the Village group looked at all options available to the parish for this community shop and cafe. Numerous stakeholders were seen and consulted, including two developers, over many months. An Options workshop was held in January 2015 in the village school attended by about 50 parishioners, including some NDP members, who worked in small groups looking at pros and cons of each option. Following this meeting an options matrix was produced showing the four main viable options. This is just the sort of work the NDP group should have been doing themselves.

One of the options was taken up by the HOV, namely a community shop, café and play area in Morgans' Field. This field has been generously offered as a gift by the owner to the HOV CBS.

Three other village shops were also proposed by two separate landowners, all involving housing developments.

In April 2015 The NDP met with the proposers of the options and it was agreed that the following would happen –

Four options would be put to the parish by the proposers at a PC run meeting with short presentations from each, followed up by stalls at the back of the church with more information.

This was held on June 3rd 2015 and 200 or so locals attended. The Parish Council chairman announced that a questionnaire on all the options would be put to the parish by the end of June. Ref; contemporary notes kept by HOV member and tape recording of meeting.

On the 4th of June a drop in 'Options Bazaar' was held in the village hall when the same information was presented. This was also well attended and well received.

The landscape assessment was also presented at both these events.

Next a consultation questionnaire for these options was produced by NDP group.

- work on this complex questionnaire took until August 2015.

- proposers of the options were each allowed 60 words to put forward

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their proposals and were able to supply their website details for further, fuller information.

The questionnaire on the options was included in the NDP Project Time table on the NDP website and also mentioned in the Parish Newsletter and was widely understood in the parish to be going to take place.

A large banner appeared at the side of the road at the site of one of the options, very visible, next to the school, asking supporters of this option to Vote for one particular scheme.

However, the PC threw out the questionnaire at the August 19th 2015 PC meeting.

There are no documented reasons why this happened, and the motion to throw it out was proposed by a NDP member who had previously approved it unanimously with the whole NDP group. Ref; NDP minutes 6th August 2015.

Can the NDP group explain the reasons for this action by one of their members and explain why they then accepted the PCs action without a quibble, despite having previously backed this excellent and fair questionnaire. It is of note that the acting chairman of the NDP group was not present at this PC meeting. I have personal asked the NDP member in question for a copy of the speech he made at the PC meeting to try to understand the reasons behind this very odd and sudden change of heart, but have had no reply.

A new questionnaire one was written during the PC meeting in a few minutes and it was agreed for it to be distributed.

This was a simple, hastily produced document that was "tweaked" a little by the NDP group at their newt meeting. Ref NDP minutes of this meeting on August 18th are missing from the website.

It is hard to believe that a few minutes drafting this questionnaire by a full council meeting of counselors, with little knowledge of the workings of a NDP, can be sufficient to base a draft NDP, but this is the case.

I have already discussed that NO map was supplied with this questionnaire despite the well known ambiguity that surrounds the extent of the gap. This was discussed at the NDP meeting on 18th August but the group decided not to include a map. I believe the reason given was to reduce costs!

In fact, at this stage, I suspect the NDP group itself had no idea what the extent of the Strategic Gap was going to end up being in the draft NDP- The map from the 1990s in the current draft has never before been seen in any of the documents discussed already and was apparently found in a file sometime after the questionnaire was sent out.....

This is not asking the community fairly, openly or transparently by any

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stretch of the imagination.

The HOV group also asked the NDP group to define the word "development", as we felt many people would assume it mean housing only. The NDP group took the term to mean ANY development. The arrogance that no definition was required to help make the question as clear and simple as possible is astounding.

This questionnaire is flawed and not fit for purpose.

The PC Reporter Autumn 2015 was delivered to each residence in the parish along with the new questionnaire.

The PC Chairman wrote an article that was deeply misleading and appears to have been deliberately so over two issues.

1). He said that "three of the four projects which have been presented in one way or another to the community over the past six months or so, were more or less dependent upon the backing of commercial finance."

Two options were fully commercial but two were not - the HOV project and the sports club project. The PC Chairman had know this, since at least April when the HOV project was formally presented to the NDP as a purely Community- Led venture with no commercial element whatsoever.

This particular comment shows a total disregard by the PC chairman to attempt to correctly inform the village, and I believe it was a deliberate attempt to misinform the parish. I am unable to say it is a frank lie, but it as close as possible as it can be to being so.

2) The PC Chairman also comments that the original questionnaire "might appear to be promoting commercial development."

This has been discussed with Sam Banks, Head of Herford Council Planning Department NDP Support Team, who agrees that asking a question about commercial projects is NOT "promotion" and that asking such questions about such projects is exactly what NDP groups should be doing . This has been pointed out to the NDP group numerous times, along with suggestions to check this with all the NDP guidelines, both national and local, and with their local NDP support officer.

I believe this article by the PC Chairman was not just incompetent but was a deliberate attempt to misinform the parish about the HOV project.

I also firmly believe that the original questionnaire was not only fit for purpose but offered the parish an opportunity to voice their views about some very real and relevant options and that they have now been denied this. There is now in the parish, genuine confusion and upset about both the draft NDP itself and the planning applications of two of these options that could have been prevented at this stage by the clear and helpful original questionnaire.

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As no specific question was now going to be put to the parish about the HOV project, we had to go ahead with our own survey to find out if we did have local support, if people would volunteer and if they would buy shares in the HOV Community Benefit Society, which we did immediately just prior to the NDP questionnaire distribution.

We hand delivered the questionnaire to the whole parish, including Storridge, with an information leaflet and tried to talk to as many people as possible on the doorstep. We spoke to large numbers of people and gathered a very good idea of what the parish view was. Roughly 1 in 4-5 households were not supportive but the rest were and this fits with our results- showing 85% support from 226 parishioners .

We are entirely confident from our door-to-door discussions and our survey results that there is a significant ground swell of support for the HOV project.

A reactive and responsive NDP group might look at our data and be puzzled : they might revisit their questionnaire and review the actual questions that were asked .They might ask themselves whether these questions really gave every parishioner a true voice in to express their views about HOV. The HOV issue was central to question 1 and 3 but only tacitly, and the questions were asked in such a way ask to prevent any true expression of support or otherwise..

As Ken Nason, acting PC Chairman, has recently said in an email to me " this was not a survey to ask whether people wanted Heart of the Village or traffic calming or not but to get responses to the questions asked."

I agree fully with this statement, and the questions appear to have been cleverly chosen to do just that, to get the responses the NDP wish, not to find out the full and true opinions of the parish.

Furthermore, in the PC Reporter Autumn 2015 issued to every household with the NDP questionnaire was a text box stating in bold type-

" Please note there are several leaflets/questionnaires circulating around the community at the moment which appear to be causing some confusion.

These are produced and distributed by independent groups and are nothing to do with or connected in any way with the NDP questionnaire The one included here is the only questionnaire that will influence the NDP."

Why does the NDP group not want to know what the parish feel? It is their duty in producing an NDP to be absolutely sure that they are

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correctly representing the community.

This written statement in the PC Reporter however clearly shows that the NDP group really does not want to know what the parish feels and does not wish to even consider other sources of information.

iii) Issues relating to the NDP Questionnaire 2015 questions themselves;

11 respondents to the survey commented that the questionnaire is invalid or biased.

Validity of Question 1;

"Do you want provision in the NDP for a second shop and/or cafe in addition to the Butchery and General Store?"

This is a very poor question for any questionnaire as it is fact three separate questions - do you want provision for a shop? - do you want provision for a cafe ? - do you want provision for a shop and cafe.

These are three different proposals and by lumping them together, the views of those wanting, say, only a cafe, are left unheard. Personally, I only want a shop AND café, as I believe one compliments the other. Meaningful analysis of the responses to this question are impossible to make and any expert of questionnaire composition would have rapidly advised against any such question as it is high on the list of obvious errors to avoid.

Four respondents comment that the question itself is biased or prejudiced.

The online version of this question has completely different wording: "Do you want provision for a second shop?"

Firstly, as the words " in the NDP" are missing, this question does not make any sense as it is impossible to know WHO is making provision for the second shop and in WHAT CONTEXT.

Secondly, the online respondents have not been asked about their views on a cafe or their views on a shop and cafe. The results for the online answers have been analysed together with those from the printed questionnaire as if the same question has been asked. This is wrong and such analysis is not valid.

On face value, if you knew nothing about the previous history of the issue Question 1 might seem a reasonable question BUT a large number of the parish are well aware that there are several options for a shop that have been presented to the parish and that they have been

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promised a vote on these options by the Parish Council Chairman.

This completely alters how people will answer this question as they struggle to give their views. This can be demonstrated by the following example- a respondent could be firmly against the HOV project but not be unhappy about a shop at Church Stile Farm. They know there are at least these two options for a shop but can't see how to answer this question to express their view. In the end, they might be so agonist HOV that they feel forced to answer NO to the question, whilst actually supporting the Church Stile shop. This example sounds pedantic but clearly shows that asking this simplistic question is not valid in the context of the parish back story. This is upheld by the comments accompanying the questions 1 and 3 where many people have tried to express a view about where they want a shop although they have not been directly asked to do so.

The parishioners have been totally disenfranchised by this simplistic question.

Validity of Question 3;

Do you want the NDP to keep the area often referred to as the "Strategic Green Gap" between East and West Cradley as an area free of development?

No map was provided with this question as already stated.

8 respondents commented they did not know where the gap was/ why was no map provided, or that the question was misleading.

It is not a valid question as the area in the question is not defined.

Had any parishioner turned to the NDP website for clarification, the only maps are the inadequate ones already described.

Can the NDP group reassure me that every parishioner in Cradley and Storridge knew the exact and full extent of the gap as defined in the NDP draft? They cannot.

Questionnaire results themselves;

The presentation of the results of Question 3 data is invalid.

This has been pointed out to Councillor Ken Nason who correlated the data by myself and by another parishioner. Ref; email from Ros Pickering to Parish Council He stands by his analysis.

17 respondents to this question clearly qualified their answers saying they did not wish HOUSING development in the strategic gap but were happy for the HOV project to be built in the gap. Despite these clearly stated qualifications, these respondents answers have been taken by the NDP to mean that they want NO development of any sort in the strategic gap, thus counting towards the "70.1% who are in favour of preservation of the strategic green gap" (ref NDP draft page 4)

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This is quite obviously wrong but the NDP have declined to correct this glaring error, showing total disregard for fairness or accuracy. I have not gone into great depth for every question, but I feel this in itself is sufficient evidence to throw out the whole questionnaire as invalid and unsafe.

Comment Analysis

A analysis of the comments made by respondents of the 2015 Questionnaire was attempted by one member of the NDP group. This was published in the Parish Newsletter and on the NDP website. Unfortunately she had little experience in such data handling and eventually admitted that it was not adequate and it was withdrawn from the NDP website. However no retraction was made in the Parish Newsletter or PC Reporter and some of the incorrect comments have been quoted already elsewhere.

Number 1 of five listed key conclusions is said to be -

"the village would benefit from a shop serving East Cradley located near the school."

This "statement" is wrong and cannot be made given the data presented.

It appears to be based on the comments of 12 respondents to question 1 only.

(out of a total of 301 respondents ie 4% of those responding and on about 0.6% of the parish population.)

It is ironic that the NDP did not see fit to ask an question about the shop options put forward by developers, but are happy to say the data they have gathered "tells us" that the village would "benefit" from a shop serving East Cradley, based on an opinion apparently held by 4% of respondents and whilst ignoring the comments of 31 respondents who supported HOV.

iv) HOV and the NDP

The final relevant issue here is in relation to the disparity between the HOV survey results and those of the NDP questionnaire 2015 results and how the NDP chose to deal with this issue.

The HOV survey showed 85% from 226 responders in the parish.

The NDP 2015 questionnaire showed 70.1% wanted SGG free of development out of 301 responders.

The HOV were so alarmed at this disparity that we sought the help and advise of Sam Banks, Neighbourhood Planning Team Leader, Hereford Council

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We had a meeting with her on November 6th 2015 where we presented the disparity of both sets of data and our concerns that although we felt our own data to be robust and accurate the NDP would potentially block our project when we came to seek planning permission. She could see this issue was real and presented a serious risk to the NDP at referendum if our data was correct and the NDP data was wrong. She said "Without full and extensive consideration of options and consultation, there is a risk at the referendum if the community feel disenfranchised from the process". Ref; email to HOV from SB 10.11.2015

She suggested that she would meet with the NDP group to discuss the problem.

The NDP group met Sam Banks on December 2nd 2015.

The minutes of this meeting show that SB said that the NDP "must illuminate ill feelings and issues BEFORE Regulation 14."

The HOV have a recording of this meeting that suggests in fact that Sam Banks suggested further consultation with the village on this issue by a further questionnaire. Ref; transcript of the recording made of this meeting.

I have previously stated the PC Reporter stated NO other surveys could be accepted to them, but they have no basis for making this claim which they appear to have made up. They have been asked to substantiate this claim but have failed to do so.

The NDP and PC have now gone even further and have refused to acknowledge our survey at all, saying it cannot be trusted. This is apparently because we went door-to-door delivering the questionnaire and collected a tiny minority of survey forms then and there. This is apparently regarded by the PC as "coercion" and poor practice. The minutes of the December 2nd meeting say SB confirmed this view, but this is NOT upheld by the transcript of the meeting we have. To say our survey is invalid is frankly ridiculous and we stand by our performance and every survey participant is identifiable and could be contacted for clarification if so wished. In their response to our planning application, the PC said we have presented no evidence of support whilst refusing to accept our perfectly fair and transparent survey results. What else can we do?

The NDP group declined further village consultation but did offer a meeting with the HOV group.

The HOV/NDP meeting took place but the minutes of this meeting, Ref PC Minutes 14th January 2016, confirm our view that it was entirely tokenistic and the NDP had no intention of making any compromise at

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all to accommodate the HOV project in any way. Eg The acting chairman of the NDP group reiterated the claim as they "can only use the particular evidence received for the NDP" and that, more alarmingly, "any proposal has to conform within the policies of the plan", showing that the NDP had already decided their policies and no intention of altering anything at all

David Croft was unable to suggest anyway out of the stalemate. The NDP thus moves to Regulation 14 with a recognized issue with their consultation process that they have decided not to resolve. It is hardly surprising that there is now further confusion and division, which so easily could have been resolved by a clear, transparent questionnaire in the first place.

The points above demonstrate the defects in the whole NDP 2015 Questionnaire upon which Policy 8 is based. The flaws are such that the whole NDP could possibly be rejected by the Inspector.

I would suggest the NDP and the PC revisit the whole issue of the original options and present the original questionnaire to the parish to resolve the issue fairly and transparently once and for all.

The other simple option would be for the NDP group to recognize the HOV survey showing 85% support for the HOV project, coupled with a recognition of the inadequacy of their consultation process on the Strategic Gap. This would leave the way forward for a simple compromise to alter the SG extent to EXCLUDE Morgans' Field. The CSNDP Policy 8 would remain strong and powerful, the NDP remains a Policy based document and risk to the NDP at referendum is removed.

27.4.2016

Sarah Herriot Response

REG 14 RESPONSE TO S HERRIOT

Please note we cannot respond to any comments that refer to recordings unless you can provide us with full copies of the recordings (not transcripts).

1. Use of Parish plans 2004, 2010 and Village Design Statement (VDS) as basis of the NDP evidence base

The development of the NDP commenced in June 2013. This was less than 3 years after the publication of a comprehensive Parish Plan update in 2010 which had involved the following consultation process:

- Steering group led the process with 6 specialist topic groups covering the following areas: Transport and Community Safety, Footpaths, Wildlife and Environment, Leisure, Sports and Facilities, Health Care & Education, Housing & Planning, Employment, Business & Agriculture.
- Planning for Real events at Storrige and Cradley Village Halls and the British Legion
- A thorough questionnaire that explored all the topics and had a 59% response rate (411 questionnaires returned out of 700 distributed.)

As this was such a relatively recent undertaking it was agreed with Hereford County Council (HCC) Neighbourhood Planning that the 2010 Parish Plan and its supporting consultation would be used as the basis of the NDP and further consultation would be undertaken to address any changes that may have taken place in the intervening time period. *Ref NDP minutes: 5th December 2013.*

The VDS had been considered fit for purpose as part of the Parish Plan 2010 update and continued to be used to support planning decisions by the Parish Council (PC), hence these documents form the evidence base for the NDP.

2. Use of Cuckfield NDP

Neighbourhood planning only came into being in April 2012 under the Localism Act. Cuckfield was appointed by the Department of Community and Local Government (DCLG) 'Front Runner' status in 2011 and was part of an early group of Town and Parish Councils to adopt the principal of developing a neighbourhood plan i.e. it had been selected by the Government to lead the way in neighbourhood planning. Hence it was selected by the NDP working group as a suitable template to follow at that time in the absence of local examples.

3. Consultation

See Consultation Statement for full review of all consultation undertaken. Summary:

- Detailed consultation for updated Parish Plan 2010 (described above)
- Launch of NDP process at public meeting in August 2013 (attended by HCC neighbourhood planning officer)
- Questionnaire circulated to all households in the village and publicised on the website and throughout the village - 74 responses
- Planning for real events at Cradley Village Hall, Storrige Village Hall and British Legion attended by in excess of 100 people.
- Public meeting to launch Landscape Capacity Assessment August 2015 over 2 days attended by over 200 parishioners.

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- Questionnaire September 2015 - 301 responses out of 1368 distributed (22%)
- Settlement boundary review October 2015 - attendance 40
- Specific consultation meeting 14th January 2016 with HoV to discuss their concerns which confirmed that the only outstanding issue was the definition of the 'strategic gap' (see minutes 14.1.2016).

4. Membership of the NDP Group

The NDP Group was set up as a working party by the PC in June 2013. A core membership of four Parish Councillors including the PC Chair and the individual who would later become the Chair of the Heart of the Village Group (HoV) have been members since the inception. Other members drawn from the PC as well as other parishioners have joined and left throughout the lifetime of the project.

At the launch meeting of August 2013 approximately 40 people expressed an interest. As agreed at the NDP Meeting of 21st August 2013 some of these were contacted by the individual who was to become the Chair of the HoV (email dated 15.9.13). None of those contacted chose to join the NDP Group.

During the lifetime of the project any individual who has expressed an interest has been encouraged to join as evidenced by attendance lists at all meetings and has included representatives of HoV as well as landowners of other proposal sites. All NDP meetings are advertised on the PC website and agendas and minutes are also held on the website for public viewing.

5. Option analysis

The Cradley and Storridge Environmental Report (HCC Mar 2016) identifies 48 options that have been considered as part of the NDP process (including the HoV project).

The Landscape Capacity Assessment Mar 2015 identified 82 parcels of land in and around the developed area of the parish and ranked those sites in terms of capacity of development.

The HCC Core Strategy was approved in October 2015. Cradley is listed under the Core Strategy Policy RA2 policy as a village where proportionate housing growth will be appropriate NB. Storridge is not on the RA2 list and is classified as 'open countryside' Using the 14% requirement, 103 is the minimum housing target figure for Cradley parish in the period 2011-31. A large housing development at Pixiefield was granted planning permission for upto 60 houses in May 2015 which brought the total committed developments to 93.

It was concluded on the basis of consultation that as the parish did not need to find a large number of houses it is not appropriate to select further sites and rely on infill/windfall development. This approach was confirmed as acceptable at the meeting with HCC Neighbourhood Planning (December 2nd 2015). This is consistent with the expressed views of the community in favour of small developments, whilst enabling sufficient allocation of housing to be provided

Strategic Gap

The Strategic Gap is defined as *"The single most significant space in the village and*

Sarah Herriot Response

central to its character is the "green gap," straddling the Cradley Brook and westside, dividing the village into two distinct settlement areas" (paragraph 7.1 Village Design Statement 2004 and 2010).

Morgan's Field is identified as an 'important space' in the Village Design Statement (2004) specifically to retain the rural character of the village and its distinctive settlement pattern. It forms part of the Strategic Gap which has been in place since 1998 to prevent coalescence between the two parts of the village. Any development on the site will set the precedent for development elsewhere in the Strategic Gap contrary to long standing village objectives and is supported by the majority of parishioners when consulted in October 2015.

7. Commissioning and briefing of consultant

It was decided early in the process that using an external consultant to draft the plan would be the most time efficient approach. Paul Esrich, Unit Officer of the Malvern Hills AONB offered his professional support and provided a fee quote (*Letter dated 14th September 2014*).

The NDP group were advised by HCC Neighbourhood Planning in August 2015 (see *minutes 6th August 2015*) that it was strongly recommended to use an MRTPI planner to draft the plan, to both enable a claim for funding as well as to deliver a good product. Up until that point it had been the PC's intention to commission Paul Esrich of the AONB, but he is not MRTPI and, therefore, was no longer considered appropriate. A list of consultancies was provided by HCC, all of which were mainstream planning consultancies. Knowledge of the sector and the rates that are charged, given the available budget, it was realised that the majority of the work would be undertaken by a junior if a mainstream consultancy was commissioned. Instead, recommendations were sought for an experienced independent planner. David Crofts of Estcourt Planning was suggested as a MRTPI registered planning professional with over 40 years' experience.

David Crofts was approached to see if he would be interested in the project and the Parish clerk invited him to meet the PC. Following the meeting, David Crofts prepared his proposal which was approved by the PC by a majority at the meeting of 13th October 2015.

All subsequent communication has been by email and can be made available for review if required. The brief was agreed at a meeting of 18th August 2015 (attended by the respondent) and is attached.

Sarah Herriot Response

Cradley Neighbourhood Development PlanBrief for initial draft.

1. Review of relevant background documents, listed below.

- Cradley Conservation Area Map June 1976 Hard Copy
- Malvern Hills District Local Plan Pt3 - Draft written statement 1992.
Hard Copy
- Parish Plan 2004 Website
- Village Design Statement 2004 Hard Copy
- HFDS UDP Public Enquiry for Parish Plan 2005 Hard Copy
- Cradley Parish Plan 2010 - Footpath, Wildlife and Environment Group First Meeting
Brief Review of Previous Plan 2008 Hard Copy
- 'Planning for Real' prior to Parish Plan Review 2009 Hard Copy
- Parish Plan Questionnaire for 2010 Plan Review Hard Copy
- Parish Plan Review 2010 Website and Hard Copy
- Core Strategy Pre-submission - Rural Policies July 2013 Hard Copy
- 'Planning for Real' Questionnaire and Responses June/July 2014 Hard Copy
- HFDS NDP Scoping Report July 2014 Hard Copy
- HFDS Map for NDP Survey showing Settlement Boundaries etc. Hard Copy
- HFDS Land Liable to Flooding Map (policy DR7) Hard Copy
- HFDS Settlement Boundaries and Tree Preservation Orders Map Hard Copy
- HFDS TPOs, Listed Buildings and Conservation Map 2008 Hard Copy
- HFDS Coded Location Plan for Public Rights of Way and Highway 2015
Hard Copy
- Thumbnails of Photographs used in Reports CDs and Hard Copy
- Cradley Neighbourhood Development Plan Landscape Assessment Report 2015
Website
- Cradley Parish Council Flooding Report Hard Copy
- Parish Plan Review 2010 - Comments on changes and progress since publication
Hard Copy

Sarah Herriot Response

Hard copies are retained in the Heritage Room, Cradley Village Hall. Electronic copies available from <http://www.cradleyparishcouncil.org.uk/NDPSUB>

2. Produce draft plan for Cradley and Storridge, based on above documents, contents and level of detail based on Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan (<http://tattenhallpc.co.uk>) and Whitbourne draft plan (<http://www.whitbourneparishcouncil.org.uk>).

Cradley Plan should be approximately 30 pages long, plus maps / images / appendices for reference documents.

Suggested headings (drawn from model plans above):-

Introduction and Background
 Vision and Objectives
 Sustainable Growth
 Housing Growth and the Settlement Boundary
 Local Character, Conservation Area and AONB
 Landscape, Environment and Flooding
 Local Facilities
 Local Economy
 Transport and Communications
 Building Standards
 Plan Delivery and Implementation

Sarah Herriot - responses to points raised re. CSNDP policies.

CSNDP1

Throughout all consultations and previous plans there was an assumption that Cradley village has a settlement boundary which protects unmanaged spread of the settlement. No suggestion has been raised at any previous stage that this should be removed. Therefore, when our consultant advised the NDP group through the first draft plan, that the adoption of the HCC Core Strategy removed all settlement boundaries unless specifically included in local NDPs, he included a recommendation that the NDP should review and include settlement boundaries for Cradley. Consultation with HCC confirmed that this would be an appropriate element of the plan, and following HCC advice a separate consultation exercise on the settlement boundary was held. This has led to some amendments. At no point in any consultation process has it been suggested that Cradley would benefit from removal of the settlement boundary. The consultant drew the attention of the NDP group to the fact that the settlement boundary effectively does not exist unless / until specified in the NDP and assumed from information in previous plans and consultations that the community would wish to re-establish it. It was not his decision to do so.

CSNDP2

Early in the NDP process, it was decided following discussion with HCC that the plan would not identify specific sites for development. This was consistent with the expressed views of the community in favour of small developments, whilst enabling sufficient allocation of housing to be provided. Provision of additional housing through windfall /infill does allow

Sarah Herriot Response

for developments of 5 - 10 dwellings, evidenced by sites such as Fairlea Close.

In considering amendments to the NDP following this consultation exercise, direct references to the findings of the Landscape Assessment re. suitability of different sites for development will be reviewed.

CSNDP 6 No specific consultation was conducted as wildlife protection is governed by national policy and the NDP will need to be fully compliant.

CSNDP 7 The NDP will be fully compliant with national and local flood policies, and will also address specific 'flash point' events raised by members of the community.

CSNDP 6 No specific consultation was conducted as conservation is governed by national policy and the NDP will need to be fully compliant.

CSNDP 10 Comments are noted. Consultations have by implication involved responses re. protection of open spaces.

CSNDP 3 The draft will be amended to correct this inconsistency.

CSNDP 7 - Flood Risk.

As the title of the plan indicates, all policies relate to the parish of Cradley and Storridge. In reviewing the plan we will seek to ensure that all policies are as specific as possible.

Although flood risk is governed by EA policy, it is appropriate for local plans to include local issues and to be informed by local intelligence on how and where flood risk exists. This is because flooding that can cause local impact which is significant locally but not necessarily captured by national agency data.

CSNDP 8

Usage of 'East Cradley' and 'West Cradley' will be removed from the plan. Where necessary east and west will be used descriptively for the two settlement areas that constitute the single village of Cradley.

Terminology used to describe the area between the two settlements will also be reconsidered, to make it as specific and appropriate as possible, and to refer more explicitly to the findings of the Landscape Assessment. The outcomes of various consultation exercises indicate majority support within the community for the principle of keeping the distinctive space between the settlement boundaries free from development, and this principle will therefore be retained as a core Policy in the NDP.

End of Submission by S Herriot & NDP Response

Wynne Harries - Consultation comments on the draft Cradley Neighbourhood Development Plan as at April 2016

At this stage, I should like to make the following points for your consideration, and I very much hope that there will be a positive response. The NDP must surely take into account a range of views on various parish matters – I am concerned that the process leading to this Plan has been questionable in many respects, and therefore adjustments should be considered now to ensure the best Plan for the future, taking into account a greater range of views and aspirations within the Parish.

1.11 NDP Questionnaire [also refer to Appendix 2 on Page 25]

The process leading up to the adoption by the Parish Council of the format for the questionnaire was extremely dubious in that a detailed questionnaire worked up by the Cradley NDP working group was altered and “simplified” dramatically by the full Council, resulting in a questionnaire that had various problems:

Question 1 – second shop favoured by a majority. The questionnaire did not allow for opinions to be expressed on the location for such a shop, even though this choice had been promised to the Parish beforehand (and had been in the working group’s proposals put to full Council).

Question 3 – strategic gap. The results of this question must be in doubt as no map was attached to the questionnaire indicating where exactly the gap was proposed to be. In addition, it has become clear since this questionnaire was issued that some people said “no” to development feeling strongly that they did not want housing, but were happy to support a community facility such as a shop/café in this area. The questionnaire, by being “simplified”, made it extremely difficult to put forward the more sophisticated position as represented by the previous sentence.

In Appendix 2 the current draft NDP states that there were 157 comments, but no analysis of those comments is included; the analysis that was published in the Parish some time ago had serious flaws in it, and I am not aware that this has been revisited and corrected publicly (e.g. where a second shop should be). In summary I maintain that there are serious question marks over any weight given to this questionnaire, particularly with regard to the 2 questions (and related issues) listed above.

5. Housing

I have previously raised the issue of including a **street lighting policy** within the NDP – there is no such policy listed and I feel it should be included. In the 2010 Parish Plan questionnaire, residents were asked if they wanted “**more street lighting**” – 69 said yes and **280 said no**. I spoke to Councillor Tanya Lloyd Jones who is leading the Cradley NDP group and emailed her about this issue. She in turn has raised it with David Croft, the planning consultant engaged to help draft the NDP. Nothing has happened since to my knowledge. The 2010 survey does indicate a wish for the area to be kept as free from street lighting as possible, and therefore I feel we should have such a policy on all developments, particularly in view of our proximity to and inclusion in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

7.6 Policy CSNDP 8 Strategic Green Gap

1. I understand clearly that there is a wish locally for no housing in the central area of this proposed gap. However, I do not see the rationale for quite such an **extensive area going to the north-east and south-west** of this, when those two areas already have some housing within

W Harries Submission

them.

2. With regard to the central area of this proposed gap, it was well known by the NDP group and Cradley Parish Council as a whole that Morgan's Field in the Kingsbridge area was being donated to the **Heart of the Village Community Benefit Society** for the purpose of establishing a shop/café facility for the whole community and beyond in this central position in the village. Also, the Heart of the Village had to conduct its own survey of residents because the Parish Council refused to include this in the NDP questionnaire (see 1.11 above). Returns to that **survey showed 84% support**. Therefore, it seems to me that the Parish Council and its NDP group should have found a way to accommodate the desire for this facility in some way. Abject refusal is not the act of a listening, responsive and respectful council - the parish deserves better. It may not be the role of an NDP to support the details of a particular project, but, given the evidence above, it should surely keep open the possibility of a community facility at Morgan's Field in the future, not attempt to rule it out completely. The field would in any case only be gifted "in perpetuity" for the purpose specified, so the field could not be used for other purposes such as housing. Given all this, **I suggest strongly that Morgan's Field is taken out of the Strategic Gap** and allocated for community-owned facilities only. Furthermore, the NDP could ensure it is used for nothing else other than Heart of the Village by designating it specifically only for Heart of the Village. This does not tie the NDP to a specific building etc. (that would still have to go through the normal planning process), but it would **ENABLE IT TO HAPPEN WITHOUT ALLOWING ANYTHING ELSE**.

3. In responding to the paragraph above, I hope the Council and NDP group will bear in mind the following policies and points listed elsewhere in the draft Plan:

- Policy CSNDP 4: Community Facilities - The Parish Council will support the provision of additional community facilities in accordance with the policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the other policies of this Plan.

- 3.2 Objectives

NDP3- to sustain and improve high quality local facilities for existing and new residents

NDP4- to strengthen and support economic activity

- 10.3 Economy - The Parish Council will encourage businesses to improve local employment opportunities.

- 10.4 Facilities - The Parish Council will work with local organisations and Herefordshire Council to improve facilities and services for local people. The creation of more retail units in the parish will be encouraged.

*1.9 Landscape Assessment (Carly Tinkler's report) – capacity of parcels of land to "accept new **residential** development, from a landscape and environmental perspective" [N.B. – the word residential]*

I look forward to receiving your comments on the above points and I hope that between us all we can arrive at a Plan that can be supported generally in the Parish. I do not think we are there yet, so some adjustments would be welcome to ensure approval at later stages and successful adoption at referendum.

W. Harries Response

Wynne Harries

Wynne Harris- responses to points raised re. CSNDP policies.

Questionnaire

Your points about the questionnaire are noted. This was an exercise to provide a basis for drafting a plan for further consultation and subsequent amendments. It provided a framework for further 'fine tuning' and an indication of issues that should be covered by the NDP. It has never been considered the sole evidence base for the NDP. At all stages, NDP consultations have been discussed with and followed guidance provided by HCC. A full consultation document will include all elements of community engagement and set this questionnaire in the wider context.

CSNDP 5 The issue of street lighting is well made and the policy will be reviewed to include this.

CSNDP 8 - the 'Strategic Green Gap'.

Terminology used to describe the area between the two settlements will also be reconsidered, to make it as specific and appropriate as possible, and to refer more explicitly to the findings of the Landscape Assessment. The proposals for the creation of a 'Heart of the Village' within this space have been debated at length. Explicit advice from our consultant states that provision for 'community development' would significantly increase the probability of further building in this space. The outcomes of various consultation exercises indicate majority support within the community for the principle of keeping the distinctive space between the settlement boundaries free from development, and this principle will therefore be retained as a core Policy in the NDP.

This policy is consistent with others in the NDP. Appropriate community and economic facilities will not be adversely impacted - indeed it would be inappropriate to support a community subsidised retail establishment that would draw footfall and custom from businesses within the parish. AS explained above, it is considered that any building on the protected space would increase vulnerability to the inappropriate residential development specified in the Landscape Assessment.

End of Submission by W Harries & NDP Response

Submission by T Iwanczuk

Policy CSNDP 8 will prevent all development within a huge section of Cradley.

I believe:

1. this is contrary to national planning policy
2. the NDP group has not engaged with community groups and, due to some members' personal agendas, has written a policy to purposefully exclude a potential community project
3. data which the NDP group claim supports this policy is bogus
4. CPC has NOT adopted a positive planning approach

1. Contrary to national planning policy:

I include an extract from a planning statement prepared by William Bloxsome BA Hons, MRTPI:

"Core Strategy policy RA2 defines Cradley as one settlement. The relevance of this policy is that Cradley is identified as a location where a sustainable community should be maintained and strengthened. Housing development within it should bolster existing service provision, improve facilities and infrastructure and meet the needs of the community.

NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 are specific in terms of what Neighbourhood plans can do in terms of identifying green areas for special protection of particular importance to them by designating them 'Local Green Space' in order to rule out development. It needs to be consistent with sustainable development and complement development in essential services among others. The Strategic Green Gap is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves. It is demonstrably special to the community but its particular local significance is not fully defined. Examples of significance for Local Green Space include its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife which are environmental criteria. **More importantly such areas must be local in character and not an extensive tract of land.** The defining of the strategic gap involves such an extensive tract of land. The defining of settlement or development boundaries for east and west Cradley should offer sufficient protection for the gap while enabling flexibility for limited measures consistent with other policies in the Core Strategy and subsequently CSNP. Such measures may be those that seek to retain the integrity of the physical gap but draw the two parts of the community together supporting its cohesion."

2. The NDP group has not engaged with community groups and, due to some members' personal agendas, has written a policy to purposefully exclude a potential community project

Policy CSNDP 8 will prevent the progress of Heart of the Village (HoV) project. HoV is a community initiative that has wide support but is now caught up in the extensive Strategic Green Gap (SGG). The NDP group has been aware of this project since its inception but have refused to consider its relevance to the NDP. After the first HoV meeting with the community in August 2014, even the Parish Clerk realized and put in an email "Quite clearly the whole HoV business will now need to be incorporated into the NDP anyway due to its major impact on the Village as whole".

Submission by T Iwanczuk

The HoV team have offered alternative wording for the NDP policies which would allow for community projects within the SGG. The team has also suggested the site for HoV be excluded from the SGG. All suggestions were immediately rejected by the NDP group.

Although members of the HoV team are on CPC and one member is also on the NDP group, they have always declared a non-pecuniary interest and been ineligible for any votes relating to the project. This has not been the case for CPC or NDP members that have shown an equally strong opposition to the project.

3. Data which the NDP group claim supports this policy is bogus

In the most recent NDP questionnaire instead of using it as an opportunity to truly find out what the community want, a simplistic set of questions was asked in a way that gave the NDP group the answers *they* wanted. No maps were included to indicate the extent of the SGG. I know from talking with members of the community that some people indicated in their questionnaire responses that they were opposed to 'development' within the SGG but also indicated they were in support of HoV*. This shows that members of the community were not aware of the extent of the SGG. Also, again through talking with members of the community, I believe that a lot of people take the word 'development' to mean residential development and do not associate it with a community project. At a recent meeting with Hereford's Neighbourhood Planning Team the NDP group were advised that they should seek to clarify the SGG question but have chosen not to do so.

In an attempt to prove support for HoV, the team distributed its own, very clear, questionnaire. CPC discounted the responses even before they were announced. The Parish Council Reporter stated "Please note that there are several leaflets/questionnaires circulating around the community at the moment which appear to be causing some confusion. These are produced and distributed by independent groups and are nothing to do with or connected in any way with the NDP questionnaire. The one included here is the only questionnaire that will influence the NDP." This statement is completely contrary to all NDP guidance.

4. CPC has NOT adopted a positive planning approach

From the outset, Cradley Parish Council's (CPC) goal for the NDP was to do the least amount of work needed to minimize residential development. The threat of mass housing is really what has driven the NDP and completely skewed what CPC and the community perceive an NDP to be. Although this point isn't necessarily pertinent to this specific policy, I feel it is important to note because of its impact overall.

Conclusion:

I would like to see unbiased and extensive community consultation about the Strategic Green Gap before the NDP progresses to its next stage.

* The HoV team member, who is also a Parish Councillor and NDP group member, has asked several times to look at the questionnaire data. He would like to clarify exactly how many people gave these conflicting responses but, to date, he still has not been allowed to view the responses!

Reg 14 response to T Iwanczuk submission

Point 1

Terminology used to describe the area between the two settlements will be reconsidered, to make it as specific and appropriate as possible, and to refer more explicitly to the findings of the Landscape Assessment. Nevertheless, the area of land concerned is defined as *"The single most significant space in the village and central to its character is the "green gap," straddling the Cradley Brook and west valley side, dividing the village into two distinct settlement areas"* (paragraph 7.1 Village Design Statement 2004 and 2010). As such it has local significance and acts as a rural buffer in maintaining the settlement pattern and landscape character of this part of the parish.

Point 2

The objective of the NDP is to provide a framework for all future development for the next 15 years. A criteria policy based NDP was selected as the preferred approach, which has been endorsed as acceptable by the HCC Neighbourhood Planning team (meeting 2nd December 2014). As such it was not appropriate to include individual projects particularly if they were potentially in conflict with the Core Strategy and other policies in the draft NDP, and furthermore did not have the overwhelming support of the community.

The NDP Group has undertaken a thorough consultation and engagement process over the past 7 years and has included the extensive evidence base that had been collated for previous Parish Plans with additional surveys and public events.

It should be noted that the Chairman of the HoV community group is a member of the NDP Group and has been a member since its inception.

Point 3

The PC questionnaire was drafted to elicit community views on the key points that needed resolution prior to drafting the plan. It was succinct and clear and used recognised terminology. The 'strategic gap' was originally defined in the Malvern Hills District Local Plan (1998). It was adopted in the 2004 Village Design Statement, as defined above, and was referenced in consideration of planning applications by the PC since its inception. Furthermore, it had been identified on maps used at public meetings and planning for real events held prior to the publication of the questionnaire.

'Development' is recognised terminology to describe any change of use and is unlikely to be construed as for residential only.

Point 4

Protection against unlimited housing development has been consistently supported by the majority of the community throughout various consultation processes. The intention of the NDP is to provide a local framework for future development of the community living in the parish, including provision of housing as required. The process has been conducted in line with advice from HCC professionals, and no concerns have been raised by external bodies in terms of the integrity of the process.

Final Paragraph

Your assertion is completely misguided in that: The person quoted has only been refused permission to copy or remove data. He has been offered the ability to view it under supervision to prevent copying or removal of data but has to date not made the appointment to do so.

End of Submission by T Iwanczuk & NDP Response

Submission by R Iwanczuk

CSNDP1

The current approach that the NDP team and Parish Council are taking is akin to metaphorically holding a gun to the community's head. The message is that as we no longer have a settlement boundary the NDP has to be accepted by the community because if the community does not there is the chance of rampant development in and around Cradley. This is being used to scare and steamroll people into accepting a document that is not fit for purpose.

CSNDP2

The NDP team's primary focus from the outset has been on housing development and how to stop it. Their view has been that Cradley has met its current housing goals for 2031 so they have set out to make it difficult to build any more housing. This is naive as the expectation (based on past experience) should be that this housing requirement will change and needs to be positively addressed.

In the first paragraph of section 8.1 the document says:

"The loose-knit nature of the built environment in east Cradley is one of its most important characteristics and one which survives, notwithstanding recent infilling ..."

Here infilling is decried yet this policy says that the only way that new housing is going to be allowed is by infilling! If there is one thing that will change the nature and character of the village it will be excessive infilling.

I would like to see one or more areas of Cradley set aside for development and, if need be, the settlement boundary changed to incorporate these areas. I find the current proposal utterly wrong-headed.

CSNDP3

This policy will ensure that Cradley will only ever be a dormitory settlement. It provides no future for children who are born here to remain and work here. In my opinion we need more small businesses to be set up in Cradley and we should be actively allowing for the creation of suitable premises for these businesses. A lot can happen between now and 2031 and the blinkered approach represented by this policy is unacceptable.

Submission by R Iwanczuk

CSNDP4

Superficial fluff and, based on the NDP teams recent actions, disingenuous. I say this because more recently an additional factor has appeared in Cradley's NDP process which has been to design in barriers to stop the Heart of the Village project while trying to seem as if this isn't being done. My observations have led me to believe that this is driven by specific members of the NDP team. For reasons I can't fathom this approach has been accepted as an operating principle by the majority of the NDP group and Parish Council. I feel that this blatant procedural bias and hidden ulterior motive brings the whole NDP process into disrepute and presents a huge barrier to its acceptance.

CSNDP5

I appreciate and like the fact that we have an AONB but would like to point out a simple fact. It is the Malvern Hills AONB and was designed so that the landscape viewed from the Malvern Hills was not blighted. It is wrong to use this as just another way to object to any development that is near the AONB. The AONB should remain and it's strict rules should be adhered to for proposals *within its boundaries*.

CSNDP6

I have no problem with the definition of Local Wildlife Sites. I do have a problem with the March 2015 Landscape Assessment which had no formal brief. The community paid for this and we have never been told the basis for it's direction. Apparently this was given verbally and, given the bias exhibited by the NDP team (see comments on CSNDP4), has to be viewed sceptically. I object to this on the basis of it's being used to stop a community project from being considered fairly.

CSNDP7

This policy should defer to the Environment Agency. All flooding risk assessment should be based on their data. If there is a concern with their data it needs to be addressed with them and the data amended.

Submission by R Iwanczuk

CSNDP8

The incompetence and bias of the NDP team have shone in this area of policy. The related question on the questionnaire that was produced was a travesty and the results are no basis for decision making. No map was produced to define the green gap and the question on the paper questionnaire and that on the web site were different. No definition of "development" which most people take to mean housing was given. A sensible, simple, and clear question was defined and unilaterally, at the last minute, thrown out.

At a recent meeting with Hereford's Neighbourhood Planning Team the Cradley NDP team were advised that they should seek to clarify the strategic gap question but have not done so. This NDP seeks to turn the strategic green gap into a huge tract of land. It's about 1/3 of the village! Even in a rural location this is incongruous. Until this matter is settled the NDP should not be accepted.

CSNDP9

I think that the conservation area should be limited to the oldest parts of the eastern part of the village. The extent shown on the map is too large.

General Concerns

This applies to many of the policies. The NDP is meant to be a positive planning document and I do not see this in the document and especially not in the process used to achieve it. The whole approach to the NDP has been about stopping further residential development and the NDP team's approach to every other aspect that should be covered by an NDP (business development, recreational and community facilities, community health) has been superficial.

Reg 14 response from NDP

CSNDP1 Comments noted. The plan is intended to reflect the views of the community which have repeatedly included a desire to control housing development. Settlement boundaries are the recommended means of doing this within the remit of local plans.

CSNDP2 Protection against unlimited housing development has been consistently supported by the majority of the community throughout various consultation processes. It has therefore been included as a policy in the NDP. Infill / windfall can sustain small developments of 5 - 10 dwellings, as shown in the current Fairlea Close development.

CSNDP3 The policy does allow for establishment of small businesses and such developments will be encouraged within the parish.

CSNDP4 Meetings and records have all been open to the public and the NDP group has consistently maintained that, since it is not necessary to identify particular sites for additional housing, no specific projects should be referenced in the plan.

CSNDP5 As a statutory national body, the views of the AONB are considered by planning authorities and the NDP must therefore comply with AONB requirements. The

Response to R Iwanczuk

protection of land adjacent to the AONB is in line with Landscape Assessment recommendations.

CSNDP6 The Landscape Assessment was commissioned from a professional consultant recommended by HCC, with some knowledge of the area from previous work for Colwall PC. The purpose of the LA was to provide impartial assessment of suitability of land for development, including impact on environment and wildlife. **A copy of the Brief (dated 9.11.14) is available on the PC website.**

CSNDP7 Although flood risk is governed by EA policy, it is appropriate for local plans to include local issues and to be informed by local intelligence on how and where flood risk exists. This is because flooding that can cause local impact which is significant locally but not necessarily captured by national agency data.

CSNDP8 Terminology used to describe the area between the two settlements will also be reconsidered, to make it as specific and appropriate as possible, and to refer more explicitly to the findings of the Landscape Assessment. The proposals for the creation of a 'Heart of the Village' within this space have been debated at length. Explicit advice from our consultant states that provision for 'community development' would significantly increase the probability of further building in this space. The outcomes of various consultation exercises indicate majority support within the community for the principle of keeping the distinctive space between the settlement boundaries free from development, and this principle will therefore be retained as a core Policy in the NDP.

CSNDP9 The extent of the Conservation Area is not within the remit of the NDP.

General comments.

The intention of the NDP is to provide a local framework for future development of the community living in the parish, including provision of housing as required. The process has been conducted in line with advice from HCC professionals, and no concerns have been raised by external bodies in terms of the integrity of the process.

End of Submission by R Iwanczuk & NDP Response

Submission by A Eldridge

REGULATION 14 RESPONSE BY ALAN ELDRIDGE.

PARISH COUNCILLOR, NDP GROUP MEMBER AND CHAIR OF THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE GROUP.

Purposes.

- To make sure that the parish is properly consulted.
- To ensure that the NDP is inclusive of the HOV and other proposals.
 - To counteract the charge that I have been “sabotaging” the NDP (as said by several members of the NDP group).

Glossary.

- NDP = Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- HOV = Heart of the Village.
- PC = Parish Council.
- [REDACTED]
- NPPF = National Planning Policy Framework.
- SGG = Strategic Green Gap

I am passionate about the future of our community, and I believe it is of utmost importance that the community are properly consulted before finalising the NDP.

BACKGROUND

Cradley`s population in 1963 was 340. Since then, there has been a huge amount of housing development: Buryfields, Pixiefields, Huntingdon, Oaklands, Credenleigh, The Farleys, Brookside, Old School Close, Kings Orchard, Chapel Orchard, Finches Corner, St Katherines and Fairlea Close as well as numerous individual dwellings. Three bedroom houses are gradually being extended into five bedroomed ones. The population of the Parish is pushing towards 2000. I doubt if any of the developments listed above were wanted by parishioners before they were built. Many people feel strongly that this village needs to have a centre - although we have the church, village hall, school, the British Legion, the Butchery and the Red Lion on the main road - we have no focal point. There is definitely a good sense of community here but there is nowhere for the community to focus.

The NDP is the appropriate opportunity to consider how we want to manage inevitable change and should not be viewed ONLY as a means of stopping development. It is the key chance to create a plan for our neighbourhood`s development, to find out what, if anything is wanted.

Although there is large support for the Heart of the Village project in the population, I am the only one who represents this view amongst the seven NDP group members. The NDP group have not wanted “a single issue lobbying group” to be over represented. Other members of the HOV group have asked to join the NDP group and been turned down. [REDACTED]

Submission by A Eldridge

The idea of an NDP was first discussed at the PC in 2013, and as I have always shown an interest in planning, the PC chairman looked to me and of course [REDACTED]. I said at the time that I was happy to be involved in the NDP but we would need to keep it simple. [REDACTED]

HEART OF THE VILLAGE (HOV).

I had long had in the back of my mind the concept of HOV [REDACTED]. I have tried to discuss this with her. I have said that it is only her opinion that HOV could never be allowed within the NPPF and the Core Strategy but she has always replied that it is a "fact", not just an opinion [REDACTED]. For instance, the Environment Agency, in response to the HOV planning application have 'no objection'. [REDACTED] c. By insisting it was a 'fact', there was no reason to consider the merits and viability of an emerging idea that could be absolutely central to Cradley's Development. (Herefordshire Council advises NDP groups to consider emerging proposals and to engage in discussions with stakeholders such as local community organisations and landowners.)

[REDACTED]

In June 2014 I shared my HOV ideas with 3 other likeminded parish councillors and the HOV group was born.

In July 2014 the HOV ideas were put to PC [REDACTED]. The PC applauded the concept and agreed to write to the landowners in the area to explore possibilities. Amazingly, Heather Morgan offered to donate Morgan's Field. In August 2014 the PC/HOV hosted a Village meeting to introduce the HOV ideas. The meeting was attended by c.200 people. 63% were in favour of the general idea as presented. Foolishly, we did not ask for number against or abstentions. [REDACTED]

Advice from various planning professionals, community advice groups and a Herefordshire planning officer was that HOV is exactly the kind of thing that the NDP should be considering.

Herefordshire Council's own NDP guidance notes suggest having discussions with key landowners to help identify appropriate sites. They also explain how the NDP should look to the community for its Vision and Objectives. The notes clearly say "it will be necessary for the steering group to understand whether there are any current or emerging proposals that could affect the area."

Projects like HOV should be specifically included if, after consultation, it was found that there was substantially more than 50% support. Or, if the support was substantial but not conclusive then policies could be drafted so as not to block the projects and the wording could be supportive of them.

Submission by A Eldridge

Around August 2014, two landowners came forward with proposals that involved housing and a community shop/cafe. One was at Church Stile Farm and the other was on the Beanfield, with an option to include Dilwyn's field as well.

CONSULTATION

In JAN 2015 the HOV group (now separate from PC) held a Public 'Options' consultation meeting, attended by 70 people, to discuss 15 different options for a shop/ cafe at different locations within the village and to gauge public opinion. From my reading of all of the guidance, this is exactly what the NDP should have done. But, as can be shown by various emails (and one newsletter sent out to all the parish) from the Chairman of the PC, the general opinion of the majority of the PC and NDP group was that NDP's were all about housing only.

Following the HOV Options Consultation, the HOV group were interested in exploring the possibilities of the Beanfield option but in the end we judged that public opinion would not support a deal with housing developers. We felt our goals would be more achievable if we purely concentrated on a plan for a shop and cafe in Morgan's field.

The PC/ NDP group did not want to be seen to be supporting or in any way encouraging developers and because the HOV group had been talking to developers, they treated the HOV group the same as developers, even though, by now, it was purely a community project involving no developers. I was a lone voice on the NDP group, but with the help of advisors managed to persuade the NDP team that they should present the options available to the parish. And so it was that a public meeting was held in June 2015 in the church, attended by 200 people at which presentations were made by Mr Stoddard (Church Stile Farm), Mr Thomas (Bean Field / Dilwyns Field) and the HOV group, who showed a 5-minute video. The Chairman of the PC promised the public that they would soon be consulted on these options in a questionnaire.

Various draft questionnaires were written and debated particularly concerning bias and spin. Councillor Geoff Fielding's draft began by referring to our "Quintessential Herefordshire Village", the implication being that nothing could possibly be done to improve it. I [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I did not resign but instead fought long and hard for a fair and un-biased questionnaire and I believe we achieved it in the end. On 5th Aug, after several months and many hours of meetings, the NDP (in my absence) unanimously agreed to present the questionnaire to the PC.

Although the Draft questionnaire was unanimously agreed by the NDP, it was rejected by the PC following a vitriolic 3-minute speech by Geoff Fielding who made accusations of "bringing the PC into disrepute" and "gerrymandering" by the HOV group. No evidence was given for the charge of gerrymandering [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This is a very important point, as it is hard to see why the PC, who have no specific knowledge of the NDP process, and had not, unlike the NDP group, spent 3 months working on the questionnaire, felt able to vote out the hard work of their own experienced NDP group. Those present at this PC meeting who are also members of the NDP group voted as follows: one for [REDACTED], one against

Submission by A Eldridge

(myself) and one abstention (The Chairman). The acting chairman of the NDP group () was not present at this meeting and the 3 lay members of the NDP group were obviously absent too - so the views of 4 other NDP group members were never formally sought or heard. Within about 10 minutes the PC voted in a "simplified" questionnaire asking 4 questions and once voted in, it was a 'fait accompli'.

The questions were: -

Q1. (Online version). Do you want the provision for an additional shop?

Q1. (Paper version). Do you want the provision in the NDP for a second shop and/or café in addition to the Butchery and General Stores?

Q2. (Online version). Do you want provision in the NDP for sports pitches?

Q2. (Paper version). Do you want the provision in the NDP for new sports pitches with car parking?

Q3. (Online version). Do you want the strategic gap kept clear of development?

Q3. (Paper version). Do you want the NDP to keep the area often referred to as the ' Strategic Green Gap' between East and West Cradley as an area free of development?

Q4. (Online version). Do you want restrictions on housing development?

Q4. (Paper version). Do you want the NDP to make restrictions on the size in terms of housing numbers of future housing development?

(I don't know why the online version was different to the paper version.)

These questions were basic, but some were in my opinion ' loaded' questions, intended to give the desired results. If you ask people if they want development without indicating what that development might be, the answer is almost bound to be "no". Pick any of the fields that surround Cradley and ask "would you like this field to be kept free of development?", the answer is bound to be "Yes". The evidence for the community's desire for the gap is based entirely on this questionnaire. As far as I can discover, the Strategic Gap was defined and thought to be a good thing as part of the Malvern Hills Plan in the 1990's. Although it was written into previous documents, there were no surveys to back up the desire for the strategic gap. The ' gap' came about through the writings of groups of well-meaning people who wrote the Malvern Hills Plan and the Village Design Statement in 2004. There is no mention of the Strategic Gap in the 2010 Parish Plan.

All of the proposals (except the sports field) involved a community shop and cafe and yet, the question asked was "Do you want provision in the NDP for a second shop and/or cafe in addition to the Butcher's?" The inclusion of the reference to the Butcher's may have been a deliberate attempt to steer to people towards a "no" answer. There was no need to include the reference to the Butcher's in the question.

Submission by A Eldridge

HOV QUESTIONNAIRE. Autumn 2015.

The HOV group felt that it was crucial to find the genuine opinion of the community and, as the PC had decided not to ask about our (or any other) proposal, HOV decided to do our own questionnaire. We planned to submit this information to the NDP group, whether they wanted it or not! 3 questions were asked.

- Do you support the proposal for a Heart of the Village at Morgan's Field?
- Would you be interested in being a volunteer to help in the shop/cafe?
- Would you be interested in buying shares in Heart of the Village (£10 minimum)?

We tried to be as fair as possible and to gain opinions both for and against. Although the questionnaires were hand delivered, very, very few people filled their questionnaire in as we waited. The majority of the responses were received online. In order to have a valid response, we asked for named responses only, and the outcome was approximately 85% in favour. About 50% of those in favour of HOV were interested in volunteering and around 85% were interested in buying shares. There were around 250 responses. Because HOV is a new concept, we found that there were many people who did not feel ready to respond and lots of people who were in favour but didn't bother to respond. The assertion by one of the NDP group, that all those who didn't respond are probably against is totally unsubstantiated.

The PC/NDP have said that the HoV questionnaire results are not valid because they were "the result of a lobbying exercise", and they will not even give these figures the slightest consideration.

NDP QUESTIONNAIRE. Autumn 2015

Meanwhile, the NDP questionnaire was due to run from late August until 22nd September. All NDP meetings are poorly advertised and the meeting on 22nd sept was only attended by likeminded NDP members. I was away on holiday. At this meeting it was decided to allow responses right up until the PC meeting on 13th Oct. This information was not conveyed to the general public and therefore there may well be a bias in the results because of this.

Crucially, the NDP questionnaire gave no definition of the Strategic Gap and although the NDP group are now adamant that people knew the definition, they are wrong. This is proved by the amount of people, myself included, who voted for "no development on the strategic gap" and yet want HOV on Morgan's field. Although many of the NDP group agreed that it would be a good idea to include a map with the questionnaire, it was rejected due to cost and because ████████ "we have defined the Gap", even though she had always thought that the map showing the Strategic Gap only in the Bean Field was "a bit misleading". The definition of the SGG given by the Chairman of the PC at public meetings is "anything that can be seen from the top of Cockshot Hill"! In the most recent PC meeting he explained in more detail how at the time of the Visual Design Statement a team had gone up this hill and seen the green area between the two settlements, and that was the gap that they wanted to preserve.

Morgan's Field cannot be seen from Cockshot Hill and is therefore not part of the Strategic Gap according to the Chairman of the Parish Council! If he doesn't know the precise outline of the Strategic Gap, then I think it's safe to assume that there is widespread confusion amongst many residents of Cradley.

During the previous questionnaire negotiations, HOV members had constantly encourage the NDP to define 'development'. The NDP group were themselves confused about the definition of this word. Jeff White, who does not want a building on Morgan's Field said 3 times at the NDP meeting prior to publication of the questionnaire that people would not think of a

Submission by A Eldridge

community facility as 'development'. And yet the NDP group, including Jeff White (but excluding me) have now decided that everyone knew that a community facility was a 'development'.

211 out of 301 said "Yes" to question 3 - "Do you want to keep the area often referred to as the "Strategic Green Gap" between East and West Cradley as an area free from development?"

After the questionnaire, it was decided that it was time to write up our NDP document [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], David Croft and the PC agreed – no additional quotes were obtained. I abstained in the vote but did not argue as there was an obvious bias against me whenever I spoke in Parish Council meetings. When David was questioned further about the Strategic Gap policy, he sought more advice from [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] On its own this is a trivial thing to point out, but it is part of the bigger picture which all point to a lack of belief and trust in the impartiality of our NDP team.

The NDP had taken 3 months to arrive at an agreed fair and unbiased wording in its original questionnaire, which was thrown out by the PC and replaced after minimal debate by the final, simplistic version. When this circulated throughout the parish, I was amazed to find that it was enclosed within a totally biased and misleading Cradley Reporter. The Reporter is a publication by the Chair and Vice-Chair, it is not approved in any way by the rest of the PC prior to distribution. The Reporter dismissed the HOV questionnaire, saying "Please note that there are several leaflets/questionnaires circulating around the community at the moment which appear to be causing some confusion. These are produced by independent groups and are nothing to do with or connected in any way with the NDP questionnaire. The one included here is the only questionnaire that will influence the NDP." This was the leadership making it absolutely clear that they had no intention of listening to the public's opinion regarding HOV. The HOV group had valid data and should at least have some influence on the NDP. The introduction of the Reporter claimed that the NDP rejected the previous questionnaire which of course is untrue, it was rejected by the PC. The reason it gave for the rejection was that commercial schemes should not be promoted. Again, they have chosen to ignore the guidance from Herefordshire Council that advises NDP groups to consider emerging proposals and to engage in discussions with stakeholders such as local community organisations and local landowners.

Herefordshire Council also advise that plans should focus on guiding development rather than stopping it. The message put out to our community has been quite the opposite

Although in this article I have fought the corner for the HOV, I also feel particularly indignant that the villagers have not been given the opportunity to consider other proposals. Landowners were open to debate about the possibilities but the PC/ NDP would not discuss with developers.

POLICY CSNDP 8; STRATEGIC GAP.

A Strategic Green Gap depicted on the proposals Map, is defined between East and west Cradley. It is protected from all development except that which may be required to mitigate flood risk.

This policy will block any proposal by HOV.

IN CONCLUSION.

- The NDP/PC has failed to properly consult the community, with fairness and adequate information.
- Alternative proposals have been ruled out without adequate research or consultation.
- Clear guidance from Herefordshire Council in their NDP notes has been ignored to the detriment of this community.

Consultation 14 Response to submission received from Alan Eldridge By NDP

Date: 27th May 2016

The response for clarity is structured around the headings used by the respondent and addresses any concerns or claims made. In overview the key points are:

- The objective of the NDP is to provide a framework for all future development for the next 15 years. A criteria policy based NDP was selected as the preferred approach, which has been endorsed as acceptable by the HCC Neighbourhood Planning team (meeting 2nd December 2014).
- Due to the number of committed developments already in place in the parish, future proportionate housing growth can be achieved by development within the settlement boundary and consequently identifying proposal sites is not required.
- A comprehensive evidence base was already available from the consultation and supporting documentation developed for the Village Design Statement 2004 and Parish Plans 2004 and 2010. This has been supplemented by extensive subsequent consultation. The HCC Cradley Environmental Report March 2016 identifies 48 options that have been considered in the development of the draft NDP including the Heart of the Village (HoV) proposal.

1. Background

The NDP Group was set up as a working party by the Parish Council in June 2013. A core membership of four Parish Councillors and one parishioner, including the PC Chair and the respondent, who would later become the Chair of the HoV, have been members since the inception. At the launch meeting of August 2013 approximately 40 people expressed an interest. As agreed at the NDP Meeting of 21st August 2013 these were contacted by the respondent (email dated 15.9.13) None of those contacted chose to join the NDP Group.

During the lifetime of the project any individual who has expressed an interest has been encouraged to join as evidenced by attendance lists at all meetings and has included representatives of HoV as well as landowners of other proposal sites. All NDP meetings are advertised on the Parish Council website and agendas and minutes are also held on the website for public viewing.

With regard to the 'large support for the HoV' it should be noted that the current application for the proposal under consideration at HCC has received 302 representations to date of which a 62% majority have objected.

2. Heart of the Village (HoV)

At the NDP Working group meeting on 7th August 2014, attended by the then HCC case officer, the HoV group stated that they should be included in the NDP. The case officer advised that in order for that to happen the project needed to demonstrate that it does not conflict with Core Strategy policies (then a draft), and other policies in the draft NDP, is viable and is deliverable.

The 'facts' that apply to the site and make it unsuitable for inclusion in the NDP as a proposal site are as follows:

- A large part of the site is in Zone 2 and 3 flood plain. Development in or near the flood plain is contrary to NPPF and Core Strategy requirements unless there is an adequate flood risk assessment and attenuation provided. The respondent and his colleagues have only recently commissioned a Flood risk Assessment (FRA) which was published in February 2016. The applicants' consultants have demonstrated how the flood risk might be attenuated but acknowledge in their statement of 13th April 2016 that they have relied on the indicative extent of the flood plain as provided by the EA and have not considered the recent flood events that have

A Eldridge Response

occurred on the site in the past 10 years as they have not been provided with that information. Local knowledge confirms that the extent of flooding is greater than that of the EA flood plain therefore the flood risk assessment has not fully addressed the risk.

- As part of the preparation of the NDP the PC and the AONB commissioned an independent Landscape Capacity Assessment undertaken by Carly Tinkler MLI and published as a report in March 2015. The report considered a total of 82 parcels of land around and between East and West Cradley and assessed them in terms of their capacity, from a landscape and environmental point of view, to accommodate development. The study placed all parcels in to categories ranging from very low (capacity to accommodate development) to very high, with a mixture of categories in some cases (eg moderate to high). No parcel fell into the “very low” category. However, 14 were classed as low to very low, including parcel 61 which covers the whole of the HoV site (Morgan’s Field), and was therefore considered to be one of the most constrained sites with regards to accommodating development.
- The proposed HoV site is identified as an ‘important space’ in the Village Design Statement (2004) specifically to retain the rural character of the village and its distinctive settlement pattern. The location of the site acts as a gateway into the village from the south and it is key in its role as part of the strategic rural gap and buffer between the two parts of the village. The Strategic Gap has been in place since 1998 to prevent coalescence between the two parts of the village. Any development on the site, residential or otherwise, will set the precedent for development elsewhere in the Strategic Gap contrary to long standing village objectives and supported by the majority of parishioners when consulted in October 2015.

Furthermore, despite the claims of the vociferous minority interest group there is not a demonstrable need or support for the proposal and there is a real concern that it will have a negative impact on existing community facilities such as the Cradley Butchery/General Store, Crumpton Hill farm shop, Cradley Village Hall and British Legion. In line with our support for existing commercial and social enterprises, the NDP cannot support a subsidised community enterprise that will potentially compromise their viability.

3. Consultation

The consultation process has been undertaken over the past 7 years and has included the extensive evidence base that had been collated for previous Parish Plans with additional surveys and public events as follows:

- Detailed consultation for the 2010 Parish Plan which included a questionnaire that achieved a 59% response rate.
- Questionnaire and two planning for real events in 2014.
- Landscape capacity assessment undertaken by independent consultant Carly Tinkler. This was presented to the parish as part of a public consultation in June 2015 attended by in the order of 200 parishioners.
- A questionnaire issued in October 2015 which was distributed to the whole parish and had a 22% response rate.
- Settlement boundary consultation which was attended by approximately 40 individuals.
- Further consultation with all members of the HoV Group on 14th January 2016.

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Due to the number of committed developments already in place in the parish, future proportionate housing growth can be achieved by proportionate development within the settlement boundary and consequently identifying proposal sites is unnecessary. A criteria policy based approach to the NDP was selected as the preferred approach, which has been endorsed as acceptable by the HCC Neighbourhood Planning team (meeting 2nd December 2014). To better inform the process the simpler questionnaire was selected for use by the Parish Council in October 2015, as it was unnecessary to look at option sites for development.

4. HoV Questionnaire

The Parish Council cannot use a questionnaire that it has had no input into the content or the analysis. The HoV group reference the numbers that responded but have never produced documentary evidence to support their claims. Furthermore, from their own admission the responses were collected by door to door lobbying. As confirmed by HCC Neighbourhood Planning at the meeting of 2nd December 2015, when undertaking consultation using questionnaires the approach should not involve lobbying or direct engagement, therefore, the results cannot be used to inform the NDP.

5. NDP Questionnaire 2015 - Commissioning of consultant

The respondent states that there were no additional quotes this is factually incorrect. Paul Esrich of the AONB also provided a quote to undertake the drafting of the NDP. However, we were advised by HCC Neighbourhood Planning that in order to secure funding we needed to commission an MRTPI Planner. David Crofts was the selected supplier who is a chartered planner with 41 years experience of both private and local authority work.

End of Submission by A Eldridge & NDP Response

Cradley and Storrige Neighbourhood Development Plan

Regulation 14: Draft Plan 9 March until 27 April 2016

Responses from Herefordshire Council service providers were made in in tabular form and have been reproduced below unaltered, including the note below preceding the table. Responses from other consultees in other forms, for example by letter, have been paraphrased. Responses from NDP Group have orange background.

Below are combined comments from the Planning teams, the comments related to the practicality of the policy in relation to development management usage and relation to general conformity with the Core Strategy and its requirements.

Department	Comments
Planning Services	Overall the plan is well constructed and written, it is clear that a lot of hard work has gone into producing the Neighbourhood Plan.
Neighbourhood Planning	<p>Further detailing of Policy CSNDP7 Areas of Flood risk, this is already covered by policy SS6, SS7 and SD3 of Core Strategy. To make it more locally specific, add in appropriate mitigation measures to the areas identified with flooding issues. This will add more flexibility for potential development according to Policy SD3 in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>There are no comments to make in respect of the presentation, structure and layout and design of the NDP, as it is clear what part of the text within the plan is the policy and which part is the supporting text, as well as what exactly the policy is. It is recognisable as a neighbourhood plan for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990).</p> <p>Response: locally specific references added to Policy CSNDP7.</p>
Development Management	<p>Observations are limited to policies due to resource constraints.</p> <p>Policy CSNDP 1: Settlement boundary</p> <p>Refers to HCS (throughout policies different wording appears to be used) best state: - 'Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031 Adopted October 2015'</p> <p>Probably best to use word "limited" as opposed to "restricted".</p> <p>Refers to "in accordance with housing, design and other policies of the HCS and this Plan"</p> <p>This Plan does not appear to have a design policy - a point expanded upon later.</p> <p>We think that the existing School site should just be included within the settlement boundary (on the plan)</p> <p>Response: the balance between CSNDP1 and CSNDP2 was recast, the former now referring in only general terms to housing provision.</p> <p>Design: new policy included.</p> <p>Proposal to include school within settlement boundary: not accepted, on the grounds that greater protection in the longer term for certain kinds of developed sites can better be achieved by leaving them outside the settlement boundary</p>

Development Management

Policy CSNDP 2 - Housing Provision

Not sure of using word infilling as this implies placing a dwellinghouse between existing. One may for example redevelop. Knock one down and replace with two which would be a minor redevelopment.

So I would consider replacing the word "infilling" with "small scale" and omit the word "only".

In second para. I would consider replacing the word "confined" to "limited".

Response: policy redrafted in the light of these comments and those of the Planning Policy Team (see below).

Policy CSNDP 3 Economic Development

Consider attaching a plan showing location of Ashvale Industrial Estate.

Policy may be slightly too restrictive. May wish to consider a policy which goes onto state something like:-

Development proposals that would involve the loss of employment floorspace would need to demonstrate that:-

- The employment land and / or buildings have been marketed in accordance with an appropriate marketing strategy and on reasonable terms for a period of at least 12 months

Response: Ashvale Industrial Estate depicted on the Proposals Map. Suggested refinement of policy incorporated.

CSNDP 4 :- Community Facilities

I think one should define Community Facilities

I would omit the words:- "The Parish Council will support".

I would say something like:- 'The provision of additional community facilities will be supported where it is demonstrated that...'

I am concerned that a policy that is too permissive could lead to a number of alleged "community facility" buildings that one cannot find a use for or soon become redundant.

I think that the precise use should be specified, the need justified and perhaps even a business plan submitted.

What about policy trying to retain existing community facilities.

Response: policy redrafted to reflect all of these points.

CSNDP5 : Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Not sure of only allowing where "small scale" - what about "medium". Probably best to re-word to prevent Major.

In that regard look carefully at wording in para. 116 of NPPF. How about stating:-

"Planning applications for major developments within the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty will be resisted in except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated they are in the public interest. Consideration of such applications must include an assessment of:-

? the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;

??the cost of, and scope for, developing elsewhere outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and

? any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.

In all other non- major development cases development will only be supported where it does not affect the intrinsic natural beauty of the landscape and is necessary to promote the economic and social well being of the designated area and their communities and enhance the quality of the landscape or bio-diversity.

One could even define "Major development" in the context of Cradley.

So one could say that:-"For the purposes of this NDP Major Development means development involving any one or more of the following—

(a)the winning and working of minerals or the use of land for mineral-working deposits;

(b)waste development;

(c)the provision of dwellinghouses where —

(i)the number of dwellinghouses to be provided is 10 or more; or

(ii)the development is to be carried out on a site having an area of 0.5 hectares or more and it is not known whether the development falls within sub-paragraph (c)(i);

(d)the provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1,000 square metres or more; or

(e)development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more;

Response: suggested addition of parts of paragraph 116 of the NPPF not accepted, on the grounds of repetition. Parts a and b of the suggested redrafting not accepted on the grounds that minerals and waste are not appropriate topics for an NDP. The thresholds in parts c d and e were considered unnecessary in the light of the eventual simplification of the policy with a more positive stance.

Development Management

Policy CSNDP 6 : Local Wildlife Sites

Appears to word(s) missing. After “ Development proposals which could (surely should be would) directly or indirect” one should then have “affect” or “impact upon”

Response: amendments accepted.

Policy CSNDP7 - Areas of Flood risk

Not convinced that this policy is necessary or indeed that well refined.

Why is such a policy needed given the Core strategy policies SS6, SS7 and SD3 of Core Strategy???

If one does have a policy surely one distinguishes between Flood Zones 1, 2 and 3.

Response: see above in relation to Neighbourhood Planning.

Policy CSNDP 8 - Strategic Gap

This is the policy that I really think is much too restrictive etc. Is it required given settlement boundary.

Even if it is, there are very significant issues as to whether this policy is too restrictive as it proposes to “protects from all development”.

Development would include the erection of an agricultural building, the change of use of agricultural land to public open space, the erection of a stable etc.

Does the Parish really mean “all development”.

So I would say why not restrict development to that:-

- a) Reasonably required for agricultural and forestry purposes;
- b) Public open space;
- c) Community facility (or facilities)

Response: policy considered necessary in the light of Core Strategy Policy RA2 which allows for development outside and adjacent to a settlement boundary as well as within it. The policy was considered justified given the nature of the gap, the proximity of the two settlements, the origin of the gap in an earlier development plan, and the importance attached to it by the majority of electors.

Suggested clauses a and b added, but not c.

Development Management

Policy CSNDP 9 - Conservation Area

Delete words "not" and "unless" and insert where "unless" is with "where it"

Response: policy redrafted to reflect this approach.

CSNDP 10 - Protected Areas of Open Space

Is this policy necessary? Surely the Church & environs are protected re: character and appearance of conservation area and setting of listed building(s).

Surely Brookside green space would be protected by way of conservation area and landscape policies?

Response: policy retained in order to maintain the approach of the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan in which these protected areas were first identified.

CSNDP 11 - Recreational open space

Replace word "not" with "only" and replace word "unless" with "where"

Response: policy redrafted to reflect this approach.

Moving on, I think there are other areas where the NDP may wish to include policies. For example:-

- ◆ Design
- ◆ Household extensions
- ◆ Equestrian related development
- ◆ Tourism - should self-catering tourism accommodation in open countryside be limited to conversions (any building or buildings of merit). Is one happy with new build tourism accommodation in open countryside etc etc

Response: a new policy (CSNDP9) on design, including a reference to householder extensions included; Policy CSNDP3 amended to reflect the comment on tourism.

Planning Policy			
	Equivalent CS policy (if appropriate)	In general conformity	Comments
CSNDP1- Settlement Boundary	RA2	Y	<p>Tightly drawn boundaries- could the required amount of windfall developments be accommodated within them to meet the remaining target?</p> <p>Response: Neighbourhood Planning Team endorsed approach of making no allocations. See also cell below.</p> <p>Flexibility should be given for development proposals that are <i>adjacent</i> to the settlement boundary as well as within it, in accordance with Policy RA2.</p> <p>Response: policy amended to be consistent with RA2.</p>
CSNDP3- Economic Development	RA4, RA5, RA6, E2, E3, E4	Y	
CSNDP4- Community Facilities	SC1	Y	<p>This policy is quite basic and the issue is covered more comprehensively by the equivalent Core Strategy policy.</p> <p>It could be more effective if it was set out to supplement to the Core Strategy policy, with a local flavour specific to the needs and aspirations of the Parish. For instance, should any particular community facility proposals be sought/encouraged that there is an identified need for? Are there existing specific community facilities that special protection should be afforded to?</p> <p>Response: policy amended to reflect these concerns.</p>
CSNDP5- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	SC1LD1, LD2	Y	
CSNDP6- Local Wildlife Sites	LD2, LD3	Y	

Planning Policy

CSNDP7- Areas of Flood Risk	SD3	N	<p>Development should be located in accordance with the Sequential Test and Exception Tests (where appropriate) outlined in the NPPF paragraphs 100-104. It must also have regard to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2009 for Herefordshire.</p> <p>Where there is an identified issue with flooding, appropriate mitigation measures should be included.</p> <p>These would be more in accordance with policy SD3 of the Core Strategy and National Policy, and offer greater flexibility.</p> <p>Response: see above under the comments of the Neighbourhood Planning Team.</p>
CSNDP8- Strategic Green Gap	LD3	N	<p>This may not be strictly necessary to designate. It is arguably an extensive tract of land, which would not be consistent with the criteria for an NDP Local Green Space designation set out in National Guidance.</p> <p>The defined separate settlement boundaries for Cradley East and West, along with CS policies for countryside development, can provide sufficient protection against development of a scale that could threaten any future coalescence of the two settlements.</p> <p>Response: see above under the comments of the Development Management Team.</p>

Planning Policy			
CSNDP9- Conservation Area	LD1, LD4	Y	<p>As with CSNDP4, this policy is quite basic and is covered in more detail by the equivalent Core Strategy policies, making it seem superfluous. It would have greater purpose if it acted as a supplement to the Core Strategy policies, applying them to a local context.</p> <p>For instance, it could require development to incorporate certain design features or materials that conserve and enhance the setting of the Conservation Area.</p> <p>Response: policy redrafted in the light of the comments of the Development Management Team.</p>
CSNDP10- Protected Area of Open Space	LD1, LD3, LD4	Y	
CSNDP11- Recreation Area Open Space	OS3	Y	

Other comments/conformity issues:

Issues with Core Strategy conformity in this NDP are relatively minor. However, Neighbourhood Planning affords Parishes the opportunity to *supplement* Local Plan policies to reflect their own local needs and aspirations, rather than echoing them. In a number of cases it is clear that this could be exploited better, which would give the policies in question more purpose and make them seem less superfluous.

Response: The Parish Council has endeavoured to introduce locally distinctive elements to some policies. It has also identified potential areas for action by the Parish Council independently of policies and has identified in the supporting text (for example) a fuller range of local services and facilities and environmental assets.

Landscape / Archaeology/ Conservation	No responses received.
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Strategic Housing	No responses received.
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Economic Development	<p>General comments:</p> <p>Cradley and Storrige Neighbourhood Plan appears to be in general conformity to the Core Strategy. It has almost achieved its requirement for housing growth identified in the Core Strategy but is open to working with the Herefordshire Council and developers to identify new and suitable sites, if required.</p> <p>Consideration has been giving to the majority of NDP areas up to 2031, however, these are lacking in detail somewhat. The Plan outlines a number of key areas for action (below) and ED comments are alongside each:</p>
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Economic Development

10.1 Housing

The Parish Council will work with Herefordshire Council, and developers where necessary, to ensure that any additional housing growth takes place in the right locations and is of any appropriate standard - **almost reached required housing target and agreeable to additional development where appropriate.**

Response: noted.

10.2 Re-use of Land and Buildings

The Parish Council will work with residents, owners of land and buildings, and other stakeholders to bring back into economic use any brownfield sites and vacant properties, especially those which make a positive contribution to the character of the area - **very encouraging to see but no sites or buildings identified at this stage. It might be worth drawing up a set of criteria to be used when assessing applications for this type of development or refurbishment as well as identify potential sites.**

Response: noted.

10.3 Economy

The Parish Council will encourage businesses to improve local employment opportunities - **majority of residents travel outside of the parish for employment. What is going to be put in place to improve local employment opportunities? No detail. Examples could include re-use of redundant buildings, office space, small scale manufacturing, live/work.**

Response: amendments to policies CSNDP3 and CSNDP4 cover these points.

10.4 Facilities

The Parish Council will work with local organisations and Herefordshire Council to improve facilities and services for local people. The creation of more retail units in the parish will be encouraged. **The Plan states that a number of village facilities and services will be run by the community and volunteers - is this sustainable in the long term? What retail sites have been identified?**

Response: the NDP does not actually state this.

10.5 Natural and Built Environment

The Parish Council will work with all relevant bodies to ensure that wildlife and the countryside in the parish is protected - **no comment.**

10.6 Transport and Communications

The Parish Council will work to find ways to improve road safety, and address speed and parking issues. High speed broadband in the parish must be a priority - **what is being done to progress this if wishing to encourage home working and employment opportunities within the parish?**

Response: spread of broadband outside the scope of an NDP.

<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>Overall, the vision and objectives within the plan are appropriate for the size of the settlement and growth will be managed at the appropriate level whilst allowing the parish to maintain its rural identify. More detail would be beneficial around the key issues identified that they wish to take forward.</p> <p>Response: noted.</p>
<p>Environmental Health</p>	<p>I refer to the above and would make the following comments with regard to the proposed housing development area identified in the 'Cradley & Storrige Neighbourhood Development Plan- 2011-2031- Consultation Draft-Third Draft-February 2016':</p> <p>My understanding is that apart from the two sites referred to throughout the NDP; Pixiefield and Fairlea Close, which have already been granted planning approval, no other specific sites have been identified in this plan and as such I would advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given that no other specific sites have been identified in the plan I am unable to provide comment with regard to potential contamination. <p>General comments:</p> <p>Developments such as hospitals, homes and schools may be considered 'sensitive' and as such consideration should be given to risk from contamination notwithstanding any comments. Please note that the above does not constitute a detailed investigation or desk study to consider risk from contamination. Should any information about the former uses of the proposed development areas be available I would recommend they be submitted for consideration as they may change the comments provided.</p> <p>It should be recognised that contamination is a material planning consideration and is referred to within the NPPF. I would recommend applicants and those involved in the parish plan refer to the pertinent parts of the NPPF and be familiar with the requirements and meanings given when considering risk from contamination during development.</p> <p>Finally it is also worth bearing in mind that the NPPF makes clear that the developer and/or landowner is responsible for securing safe development where a site is affected by contamination.</p> <p>These comments are provided on the basis that any other developments would be subject to application through the normal planning process.</p> <p>Response: noted. No action necessary given the acknowledgement in the last sentence.</p>

Parks and Countryside	No response received.
Education	No response received.
Transportation and Highways	No response received.
Waste	No response received.
Natural England	<p>NE welcomes proposed policies CSNDP5 Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and CSNDP6 Local Wildlife Sites.</p> <p>It also identifies and names the five Sites of Special Scientific Interest which lie wholly or partly in the parish.</p> <p>In a separate letter, NE confirms that a Habitats Regulations Assessment will not be required.</p>
	Response: all five SSSIs identified in the Plan. Material on the concept of green infrastructure also added.
Natural England	<p>Support the NDP as a good example of community led planning. Disagree with it on the subject of the value of locally listed buildings.</p>
	Response: on careful reflection, no change.
Malvern Hills AONB	<p>Comprehensive response under the following headings: the special character of Cradley, housing provision and design, non-residential development, landscaping and landscape management, nature conservation, the AONB itself, views and listed buildings.</p>
	Response: detailed scrutiny of the entire plan, resulting in amendments to policies and additions to supporting text.
Turleys, on behalf of local landowners	<p>Representations on behalf of the owners of two parcels of land, originally put forward for consideration as potential sites for housing through the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). These sites were assigned the reference numbers HLA024001 and HLAA024003.</p>
	Response: no change, on the grounds that both sites were rejected in the 2009 SHLAA.
	Objection not only to the omission of these sites but also to the draft policies.
	Response: no change, on the grounds that the objections raised no issues in addition to those by the Development Management and Planning Policy teams. The draft Plan has incorporated most of their comments, and where it has not done so, reasons have been given.