

HODNET PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Lyon Memorial Hall, Hodnet
on Thursday 15th January 2009

Present: Councillors Mr I. Etherington (NSDC), Mr M. Morgan (Chairman), Mr J. Powell (Vice-chairman), Mr N. Newitt, Mrs R. Revel, Mr P. Perry, Mr J. Parker, Mr R. Underwood, Mr. R. Downes, Mrs A. Taylor, Mr A. Cope and Mrs K. Calder (NSDC, SCC)
Also present was Mr S. Howell-Jones (Clerk) and Mr K. Jones (SCC Enforcement Team Leader - Rights of Way)

The Chairman introduced Mr Kevin Jones and invited him to take the floor. He outlined his work with Rights of Way and the plan to upgrade Parish Paths, Bridle Paths and Rights of Way, by recruiting Wardens and/or groups of volunteers to restore and maintain existing Rights of Way. The Warden would be responsible for walking the paths and reporting to SCC, identifying needs for new footpath furniture, waymarking and general maintenance requirements. He emphasised that all new footpath furniture, such as stiles, gates, fences, bridges, etc: would be funded by SCC, but landowners would be responsible for installing any such furniture. Signage and waymarking would be the responsibility of SCC. In answer to a question from Councillor Underwood, Mr Jones stated that SCC was responsible for the surfacing of footpaths, but if the path was under crops, the landowner would be responsible. With regard to the Wollerton Wetlands, he pointed out that this matter was not within his remit. Councillor Underwood also mentioned that there appeared to be no provision for dog friendly stiles and this put off a lot of potential walkers. Mr Jones advised that there was no obligation to provide such stiles, but suggested that volunteer groups could always create a better access for dogs when replacing furniture, such as gates instead of stiles. In answer to a question from Councillor Downes, Mr Jones said the formation of a Unitary Council had no impact on the Access Team and should not affect his department's work. The Chairman thanked Mr Jones for his talk and stated that due consideration would be given to his suggestions, after consultation with the Parish Plan Steering Committee.

Apologies: Councillor Mr D. Hodge

- 117. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 11th Dec 2008 – Item 98**
Councillor Powell proposed the minutes be signed as a true record of proceedings, seconded by Councillor Newitt and all agreed.
- 118. Access to the Wetlands from Wollerton – Item 99**
Councillor Underwood advised he had conducted further research into the matter and a possible way to resolve the problem would be to put in a formal claim for a footpath, based on prior usage. He further advised that 'User Statements' could be acquired from previous users of the path, stating they had used the footpath in question during the last 20 years, without let or hindrance. Councillor Underwood stated he was looking for support from the Parish Council for his endeavours to open a way to the wetlands and proposed to pursue the matter further. This was seconded by Councillor Powell and all members heartily agreed. The Chairman thanked Mr Underwood for all his efforts.
- 119. Installation of Playground Equipment – Item 100**
The Clerk advised that the subsidence problem had not yet been undertaken due to the adverse weather, but would 'chase up' Mr Parry to complete the work.
- 120. Closed Circuit Television, Hodnet – Item 101**

After much discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk write to residents in Station Road/The Meadows, between The Fire Station and the end of The Crescent, to ask if they would like to have temporary, mobile CCTV in the vicinity and, if necessary, be prepared to have cameras mounted on their property.

121. Traffic Calming Measures for Marchamley and Wollerton - Item 102

The Clerk had been advised by SCC that the work to install 30mph signs in Marchamley was due to start in late January or early February. He advised that the work in Wollerton had been delayed due to an objection being raised by West Mercia Constabulary. Councillor Calder stated she would try to get further details from Alice Dilly.

The Clerk also advised that he had received an E-mail from SCC advising that the majority of HGV's passing through Hodnet, Marchamley and Wollerton were gaining legitimate access to properties in the area. This was disputed by Councillors and the Clerk was asked to write again.

122. State of Roads - Kenstone - Item 103

No work has been carried out to date, but adverse weather has not helped the situation. It was agreed to leave the matter until the next meeting.

123. Road Markings and Signs at Fauls Lane/Wood Lane - Item 107

The Clerk advised that The Parish Council had received a letter of thanks from Mr Trotman for assisting in getting the matter resolved.

124. Clerk's Salary Review - Item 108

The Chairman stated that future salary reviews would take place at the October/November meetings for any implementation to take effect from 1st January of the following year.

125. Siting of Clothes Recycling Bank. - Item 109

The Clerk advised that he had sent a letter requesting information about Nord Recycling and also asking for the Charity Registration No. To date he had not received a reply and it was agreed the matter be dropped.

126. Street Lighting at Top of Hodnet Village - Item 110

No further information from E.on Energy Services has been received and the Clerk advised he would pursue the matter further. Despite a letter to the occupant of The Hundred House, no action has been taken to cut away foliage, which is obstructing the street light at the entrance to Church Street. Clerk to contact the Hodnet Estate.

127. Precept 2009/2010

After due discussion it was proposed by Councillor Powell that the precept should remain at £15,500. This was seconded by Councillor Parker and supported by one other member. A counter proposal for a precept of £16,000 was put forward by Councillor Cope and seconded by Councillor Newitt. This was approved by four other members. There was one abstention. The amendment was duly carried.

128. Determination of Planning Applications

Ref: No. 08/01949/FUL - Erection of stables, tack room and hay/fodder store for existing equestrian use at West Midlands Shooting Ground, Kenstone, Hodnet, Market Drayton. **Full Planning Permission Granted.**

129. Planning Applications

Ref: No. 09/00016/PN (Prior Notification) - Additional covered storage required for hay at Greenacres, Lostford, Market Drayton. **No Comments.**

Ref: No. 09/00049/FUL - Demolition of existing attached outbuildings, erection of two storey extension and first floor extension over existing flat roof to provide additional kitchen/dining and two bedrooms/bathrooms at Hollycroft Farm, Peplow, Market Drayton.
It was agreed to hold a site meeting on Saturday 24th January at 10.00am

130. Accounts - Expenditure

Mr C. France - Lyon Hall Car Park/War Memorial Maintenance for 2008	£117.00
K.G. Landscaping - Recreation Ground Maintenance for 2008	£1242.00
E.on Energy Services - Installation of Metal Plate - No.52 The Grove	£58.75
V & W Electrics Ltd - Street Light Maintenance for November 2008	£137.20
Lyon Memorial Hall - Room Hire - 11/12/2008	£13.00
NPower Ltd - Street Lighting Account - 01/10/2008 - 31/12/2008	£1134.46

Accounts – Income

C.O.I.F. Interest - 01/09/2008 - 30/11/2008	£266.17
E.on Central Networks - Wayleave Payments from 01/01/2009 - 01/01/2010	£53.18
Nat West Bank Ltd - Interest from 01/10/2008 - 31/12/2008	£51.68

Payment of accounts was proposed by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Underwood and all agreed.

131. Correspondence

Local Committee Meeting for Market Drayton and Rural Parishes
West Mercia Constabulary - Your Police Service for 2009 and Beyond
Communities & Local Government - Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity
SCC - Summary of Accounts 2007/2008
West Mercia Constabulary - Police Report and Statistics from 01/04/2008 - 31/12/2008
Shropshire Council - Strategy & Development Newsletter No. 1 - Appointments

132. Matters Arising from Correspondence

None

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23pm