

HODNET PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held in Lyon Hall, Hodnet
on Thursday 27th October 2011

Present ; Councillors Mr J Powell (Chairman), Mr D Hodge (Vice Chairman), Mr R Underwood, Mr J Parker, Mrs R Revel, Mr A Cope, Mrs A Taylor, Mr R Downes, Mr M Morgan Mr H Trevor, Mr N Newitt, Unitary Councillor Mrs K Calder

Also present and Mrs M Rees (Clerk).

Land at Station Road

Councillor Trevor advised the Parish Council that a family of Travellers had purchased a small parcel of land just off Websters Lane and have moved a caravan on to the site. Mr Sutton of Shropshire planning and the Gypsy Liaison Officer have been contacted and it is understood that retrospective Planning Permission is being sought for a static caravan. The site does not have any connected utilities and complaints from local residents have been received about the noise from generators used for power on the site. In addition visitors to the Travellers have caused concern by speeding down Websters Lane. The Clerk was instructed to inform PC Sturland regarding the speeding issue.

The Squirrel at Wollerton

The Council have been advised that the premises are now occupied and that the owner is undertaking renovation of the upstairs accommodation with a view to submit planning application to change the use of the premises to residential. Previous prospective purchasers have been advised emphatically that the Council will not support any such change. Whilst the Council is aware that the Enforcement Officer is apprised of the situation, the Clerk was instructed to write to Stuart Thomas – Shirehall Development Management in the strongest possible terms to advise that the Council are unanimously against these premises being changed for residential use.

Marchamley Bus Shelter

The Council agreed that the quote from Mr Lloyd of £410 be accepted for the repair of the Bus Shelter. The Clerk will write to the farmer concerned who did the damage to arrange reimbursement.

Lyon Memorial Hall Car Park

A letter has been received from Hodnet Medical Centre and whilst they are in favour of providing a disabled parking space nearer to the Surgery they cannot accommodate the space within their own Car Park. It was decided that a disabled parking space would be designated in front of the Lyon Hall adjacent to the road, the Medical Centre have already advised their staff not to park in this particular area.

Councillor Parker advised the Council that following a recent Health and Safety risk assessment, it will be necessary to mark the Car Park immediately by the entrance ramp to prevent vehicles being parked there and thus restricting the exit from the Hall in the event of an emergency.

In addition it was also mentioned that a metre wide walkway be designation alongside the Hall for pedestrians. The Council considered the request and a discussion took place to assess the risk, however it was decided that a designated walkway was not required.

The Council agreed to accept the quote from H & G Ash Roadmarkings Ltd for the marking of the Car Park subject to the addition of the hatched area by the entrance ramp and the marking of a disable parking space in front of the Hall.

Market Drayton Place Plan

Councillor Hodge presented his findings following review of the Parish Plan and the present Place Plan. The Council was shown a copy of the Market Drayton Town Plan and the Clerk was requested to obtain a copy for all of the Parish Councillors.

Councillor Hodge gave two examples from his research where he felt that the Parish Council should be seeking to prioritise.

1. Data produced from the Parish Plan and subsequent actual census data shows Hodnet Parish has a very high proportion of residents between the ages of 40 and 65 years old. The numbers of residents between the ages of 20 to 39 years are only a third of that number in the older age group. It is concerning that young people are leaving the Parish and the two main reasons would appear to be

- Jobs
- Housing

(Councillor Calder advised that 17 families were currently awaiting housing in the Parish and she was also awaiting figures for employment and empty properties)

2. The Parish Plan provided ample evidence of the services and resources that were considered by residents to be vital to the Parish e.g. the Surgery, Post Office, Shop

The Parish Council should be actively planning to improve and protect elements important to the Parish. A list of priorities and needs of the Parish drawn up by Councillor Hodge were discussed. From this list forward plans are to be made to take advantage of any funding available from for example the Community Infrastructure Levy which would be informed from Hodnet Parish Council's submission to the Place Plan.

It was agreed that Councillor Hodge prepare the Councils submission to the Place Plan for agreement at the next Council Meeting in December.

All the Councillors thanked Councillor Hodge for his extensive and comprehensive work on this matter

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20 p.m.