

HODNET PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Lyon Memorial Hall, Hodnet
on Thursday 30th July 2009

Present: Councillors Mr M. Morgan (Chairman), Mr J. Powell (Vice-chairman), Mr N. Newitt, Mrs A. Taylor, Mr R. Underwood, Mrs R. Revel, Mr D. Hodge, Mr P. Perry and Mr J. Parker.
Also present was County Councillor Mrs K. Calder, Lucy Roberts, Shropshire Council Community Regeneration Officer, Mr S. Howell-Jones (Clerk), and a member of the press.

The Chairman welcomed everyone, and prior to commencement of the meeting made the following address in memory of the late Mr Edward John Dodd.

Before we begin this Parish Council meeting, I would like us to remember Edward Dodd, who died last week. Edward's funeral was held today, as I am sure most of you know. This was very well attended.

Edward was a member of this Parish Council for many years, and also represented North Shropshire District Council and Shropshire County Council, where he was knowledgeable and diligent in his duties.

At his funeral today, I kept hearing how he had helped people with their various problems. In my opinion, one of his greatest achievements was his ability to help deserving people get into council houses.

A great ambition of Edward's was to see a by-pass built for Hodnet and he worked for this for many years, staying on Shropshire County Council until his ambition was realised. I well remember a 'bus' being organised for lobbying Shropshire County Council on the occasion of a vital vote. We never did know who paid for that bus. That was Edward: he never wanted the glory, just to serve people.

The Chairman concluded by asking for a few moments of silence in tribute to Edward.

He then introduced Lucy Roberts, Shropshire Council Regeneration Officer.

Miss Roberts described her role within SC as one of supporting community based projects, by way of assistance with funding, consultation, liaison with other groups and help in creating groups. Funding was available through the Local Joint Committee (LJC) and the Local Area Partnership (LAP). Councillor Calder asked what type of projects were eligible for funding. Miss Roberts stated that any project which benefited the community could be eligible and no minimum or maximum limit had been set. The funding remit for the LAP was different to the LJC in as much as it covers a broader spectrum of projects involving several groups or parishes in one project, such as Walking for Health Group, Stronger Communities Group, Tree Planting Group and so on. Councillor Underwood asked if funding or help in finding land for Allotments was within the scope of a Regeneration Officer. Miss Roberts replied that help in funding and sourcing suitable land could be within her remit.

The Chairman thanked Miss Roberts for her presentation.

Apologies: Councillor Mr A. Cope

51. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2009 – Item 28

Councillor Taylor proposed the minutes be signed as a true record of proceedings, seconded by Councillor Revel and all agreed.

52. West Mercia Constabulary - Official Complaint

The Clerk advised he had received a reply from WMC in respect of the perceived shortage of cars for policemen in the area, but his letter had been passed to local level, and to date no response had been received from Shrewsbury. Councillor Calder advised that a 'pool' car from SC was being made available. When asked who was entitled to use the 'pool' car, she replied that anyone with a valid licence was eligible, subject to advance booking.

53. Access to the Wetlands from Wollerton – Item 29

The Clerk advised that 5 more 'User Statements' had been received. Councillor Underwood suggested the posters, asking for previous 'users' to complete the statement form, should remain on notice boards until the end of August. It was hoped that application to Shropshire Council for adding a suitable footpath to the official map would be made sometime in September.

54. State of Roads - Kenstone - Item 31

Councillor Calder stated she would pursue this matter before the next meeting.

55. Street Lighting at Top of Hodnet Village - Item 32

The Chairman advised that Mr Heber-Percy was adamant in not agreeing to having a wall mounted street light on the south corner elevation of the Bear Hotel. He was amenable to having one erected some 2 metres inside the alcove. Members felt this was of no benefit as most of the light would be directed into the alcove and not the street. Councillor Mrs Taylor and Councillor Powell both stated they felt that any light should be on County Council property and not on private buildings. However, the design for a replacement light by The Hundred House, suggested by Electrical Engineer David Fathers, was acceptable to Mr Heber-Percy and the Parish Council. It was thought that the bracket, which would protrude from the column by approximately 75 - 100cms, together with a lamp of 150watts, might be sufficient to illuminate the dark area. The Clerk was asked to seek costs and ask V & W Electrics to quote for installing same.

In reply to a question re the painting of existing lamp posts in Shrewsbury Street, the Clerk advised that Richard Pugh had said the work would be carried out sometime during the summer, but appalling weather had delayed the job.

56. Allotments - Item 36

The Clerk advised that after a month of publicity, he had only received two replies. It was decided to shelve the matter for the foreseeable future.

57. Access Steps to Lyon Hall Car Park - Item 37

The work has been carried out and all repairs made good.

58. Public Transport to Telford - Item 38

The Clerk read a letter received from SC, but members felt it did not address the main issue and asked him to write again.

59. Wrekin View Naturist Club Invitation to Bi-annual Open Evening - Item 40

Councillors who attended the open evening said how much they enjoyed the occasion. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks.

60. Overhead Cables in Hodnet and Marchamley - Item 42

The Clerk advised he had written to Eon Energy and submitted a map of the area in

question. A reply was sent by E-mail, which stated what the work would entail and the costs, which 'would easily fall within the six figure bracket'. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Heber-Percy, enclosing copy of the E-mail. Lucy Roberts, who had stayed on to listen to the meeting, said she would investigate any funding possibilities.

Incidental to this matter, Councillor Powell advised that reference to the undergrounding of cables had been raised in his report to the Parish Plan Committee, copies of which were distributed to the members.

61. Pavement Gutters - Shrewsbury Street, Hodnet - Item 44

A letter had been received from SC, advising that consideration would be given to replacement of the existing gutters with different types, during the current financial year, subject to funding being available.

62. Bean Bank, Wollerton - State of Road Surface - Item 45

A letter, received from Meres & Mosses H.A. stated that although the road did not belong to them, they would be pursuing funding from Severn Trent and residents of private properties in Bean Bank, together with help from existing tenants and themselves, to carry out repair work to the road surface. Some minor repairs had already been carried out.

63. Parking outside Hodnet Primary School

Councillor Calder advised that at a meeting outside the school on Friday 10th July, Dave Gradwell from SC agreed to draw up a detailed drawing of suggested improvements to the parking situation and this would be brought to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

64. Hedging by Meadow Footpath, Station Road.

The Chairman advised that Mr P. Wellings had been asked to cut back the hedge from the path for the time being, but future maintenance would be discussed when the RoSPA report safety inspection of the playground area was carried out.

65. Maintenance of Shrubbery, Trees and Hedging on The Meadow, Station Road.

It was brought to the attention of members that maintenance of The Meadow was being neglected, with overhanging branches, shrubbery and hedging overgrowing footpaths, etc. The Clerk was asked to notify Meres & Mosses H.A.

66. Youth Project Fund.

It was agreed by all members that the remaining £55.00 of the Youth Project Fund should be put towards costs incurred in the upkeep of the Recreation Ground.

67. Traffic Accident at Lyon Hall - 18/07/2009

It was agreed by members that the accident site was the responsibility of the Parish Council and the Clerk was asked to initiate a claim for all repairs and reinstatement work.

68. State of Pavements on A53 in Wollerton

It had been reported that road sweeping operations by Shropshire Council had inadvertently uplifted tarmac surfacing of the pavement area from approximately Norbury House to Catchem Corner on A53. The Clerk was asked to inform SC of the situation.

69. Determination of Planning Applications

Ref: No. 09/00970/LBC - Installation of exterior floodlights/spotlights illuminating church affecting a listed building at St. Luke's Church, Church Street, Hodnet, Market Drayton. **Not proceeded with.**

70. Planning Applications

Ref: No. 09/00852/FUL - Erection of mobile home for temporary residential accommodation at Home Farm, Peplow, Market Drayton. **No objections.**

Ref: No. 09/01479/FUL - Demolish existing outbuildings and construct two storey extension to south elevation and two storey extension to north elevation at Barrow Cottage, 17-18 School Lane, Marchamley, Shrewsbury. *The demolition of redundant outbuildings allows for a large extension to the house. The Council felt it should be reduced in size to blend in with the existing residence.*

Ref: No. 09/01640/TCA - To remove trees and various works to trees within Hodnet conservation area at St Luke's Church Yard, Church Street, Hodnet, Market Drayton. **No objections.**

Ref: No. 09/01675/FUL - Erection of first floor extension over existing living room at Station Villa, Station Road, Hodnet, Market Drayton. **No objections.**

Ref: No. 09/01677/FUL - Erection of a two storey extension to side following demolition of existing single storey extension at Cob Cottage, 26 Marchamley, Shrewsbury. *The committee support this application.*

Ref: No. 09/01808/TCA - To remove 2 Leylandi trees, 4 Conifer trees and take 3 metres off 5 Sycamore trees within Marchamley conservation area at The Old Manor House, School Lane, Marchamley, Shrewsbury. **No objections.**

71. Accounts - Expenditure

Lyon Memorial Hall - Room Hire 18/06/2009	£16.00
NPower Ltd - Street Lighting Account - 01/04/2009-30/06/2009	£1110.42
J.N. Thomas - Repairs to Railings on Access Steps to Lyon Hall Car Park	£30.00
Playsafety Ltd - Annual Inspection of Recreation Ground Playgrounds	£106.95

Accounts – Income

Nat West Bank Plc. - Interest from 01/04/2009 - 30/06/2009	£1.83
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Payment of accounts was proposed by Councillor Hodge, seconded by Councillor Powell and all agreed.

72. Correspondence

Market Drayton & District Road Safety Group - Invitation to attend meetings
North Shropshire Safety Scene Group - Thankyou Letter
Hodnet Pre-School Playgroup - Thankyou Letter
SC - Speed Management Strategy - Consultation on Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) Policy
SC - Helicopter Noise Liaison Groups
No Panic - Charity - Request for Funding
SC - Independent Policy Commission into Primary School Organisation in Shropshire
SC - Proposed Electoral Fees for Parish and Town Councils
SC - Introducing your New Council with Magazine 'Shropshire'
SC - Swine Flu Publicity
West Mercia Constabulary - Rural South - Newsletter
Owen Paterson MP - Law & Order Survey Results
RAF, Shawbury - Request for New Station Commander to meet Parish Council
RoSPA - Play Area Safety Inspection Report - July 2009
Prees Parish Council - Letter re Plan. App. 09/70036/FUL - Rearing of Game Birds

73. Matters Arising from Correspondence

a) SC - Helicopter Noise Liaison Groups

Councillor Hodge advised he would attend one of the meetings if he was available.

b) SC - Proposed Electoral Fees for Parish & Town Councils

It was considered that the fees structure would encroach heavily on small parish precepts. The Clerk was asked to convey this message to Shropshire Council.

c) RAF Shawbury - Request for New Station Commander to meet Parish Council

The Clerk advised he had written to RAF Shawbury giving a list of possible dates and was awaiting a reply.

d) RoSPA - Play Area Safety Report - July 2009

The Chairman called for a site meeting to discuss the findings of the report on Tuesday 4th August at 7.00pm

e) Prees Parish Council - Letter re Plan. App. 09/70036/FUL - Rearing of Game Birds

In light of serious complaints against the application, the Clerk was asked to notify SC of the concerns. When the resubmitted application was to hand, it was decided a site visit would be conducted. All members were invited to attend. This would be followed by a meeting of all interested parties on a date to be arranged.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm