

PRESS RELEASE – LYON MEMORIAL HALL – November 2006

The village hall in Hodnet is the Lyon Memorial Hall, built in 1913 as a memorial to Dr Lyon, who had been the resident doctor in the village. Details of the opening ceremony are displayed inside the hall, as they were published at the time in the Shrewsbury Chronicle.

The hall has served the local community ever since, with changes to heating and lighting systems as current ideas changed. The only change to the outside appearance, apart from the removal of the chimney, was an extra meeting room, added on in 1983.

The present work, completed in September 2006, has resulted in new toilet facilities, an entrance foyer, a new store for chairs and tables and a new room which can accommodate small meetings, act as a cloakroom and contain administrative documents for the hall and for local organisations. The kitchen has been completely remodelled and enlarged.

Heating is now based on an oil-fired central heating system, which is powerful enough to be extended into the rest of the hall eventually. New double-glazed windows have been installed and the walls of the renovated area have been dry-lined and insulated.

The cost of this work has been approximately £80,000, of which £60,000 has been a grant from the Rural Enterprise Scheme of DEFRA and £20,000 was given by a charitable trust with local connections to Hodnet. We also received a donation from our neighbours, Hodnet Medical Centre.

The committee of the hall is now seeking funding to complete modernization into the rest of the building. The hall will then be virtually a new facility inside an unchanged exterior.

The financial adviser to the scheme has been Mr Bruce Crawcour, the Architect - Mr Les Leicester, the Quantity Surveyor - Invicta Services (Construction Economics) and the building contractor - DGP Building and Maintenance.

The hall also has its own new website :
<http://www.express-solutions.co.uk/lyonhallhodnet/>

R C Anslow
Chair of the Committee during the period of the work

30 October 2006