

LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2006

CALDERDALE UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (UDP)

People may remember that this plan, produced by Calderdale, amongst other things fixes what uses land can be put to. This was of particular interest with regard to the land between Carr Field and Dene View, which was previously earmarked for housing. The Society has been fighting to get this changed since 1982, and the present Plan has classified it as 'protected green space'. The Society welcomed this change, but asked people to object, and suggest that it should be put into green belt, which would protect it indefinitely. The owner of the land also objected and asked for it to be reclassified as housing land.

The Inspector appointed by the Council to hear these objections has now reported, and has confirmed the land as protected green space. This will certainly protect it for the immediate future, but the classification could be altered in future UDPs. The Inspector stated that she did not think that the Green Belt should be altered until there is a complete review, but did say that "she had not seen any evidence which would rule out this classification".

There is no doubt but for the actions of the Society, the land would already be built on, and this is very good news. Almost ten years ago, a number of people subscribed money towards a scheme to stop the land being built on, and as there is now nothing more the Society can do for the time being, we shall be contacting those people in the near future.

The Inspector also agreed that all the land at Thorn Bank should be taken out of green belt and designated as housing land.

HOUSING VALUES

The Halifax Building Society has carried out a survey which has shown that the price of houses in places which take part in the Britain in Bloom competition (having already won their County competition) is 23% higher than in other similar areas. This is put down to all the householders in the village 'making a communal effort to improve their environment'. In other words, all the work that people do in putting out window boxes, making sure that their gardens are looking colourful and generally tidying up the village not only makes it a more pleasant place in which to live, but also increases their property value.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The plan for Kershaw House, which we mentioned in a previous newsletter that the Society had objected to, will be heard by Calderdale Planning Committee this coming Wednesday, shortly after 6pm. Anyone interested in this can go to the hearing in the Town Hall.

A plan has also been submitted by the owners of 10 Carr Field Drive for an extension to the house. The Society has not raised any objections to this, as it was felt to be in keeping.

WEBSITE AND NEW LOGO

The Society website is about to be redesigned and re-launched, with a more user-friendly set-up. We would like to include a new logo which better reflects the village than the tree at the top of this newsletter. Any designs for this should be either left with Tony Hillyard at 58/59 High Street (facing the bridge) or emailed to logo@luddenden.com

The **Next Meeting** is on **Thursday, March 30th, 2006 in the Lord Nelson at 7.45pm.**

Luddenden Conservation Society
Founded 1975; Registered Charity Number 504387
Officers: Rodney Collinge (President and Newsletter Editor); Peter Layfield (Chair), Steve Thompson (Secretary); Tony Hillyard (Vice Chair and Treasurer), Rick Painter (Planning Applications Officer), Henry Goodman (Grants application officer), Jason Boom (Luddenden in Bloom)

For more local and Society information, visit our website www.luddenden.com
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