

## THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

The Village Hall has an important part to play in the overall arrangements for parking in Toddington - but we're aware that its role isn't always understood. So we'd like to set the record straight, and ask for your co-operation.

The Hall and the surrounding land are owned and managed by Toddington Village Hall Association (a registered charity) for "the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish". The Trustees, a small group of volunteers, are bound by a governing Deed and strict legal requirements. The Parish Council has no responsibility for the management of the Hall.

The car park isn't a public car park, and those who are paying to hire and use the Hall have priority for its use. However, in the spirit of its charitable objectives; to support community activities; and to help alleviate overall parking difficulties, the Association has traditionally allowed use of the car park by the general public - as shown by the notice at the entrance (*see opposite*). While we aim to keep the car park available at all times, there will inevitably be occasions where adverse weather conditions or maintenance requirements cause it to be closed in the interests of health and safety.

It's not practical for us to police use of the car park on a daily basis, so the Trustees have to rely on the goodwill and common sense of those who use it. For the most part, this simple arrangement works well but, for the twice daily "school run", we're sorry to say that goodwill and common sense often seem to evaporate.

At those times we are now regularly seeing more cars trying to use the car park than spaces allow. Cars parking outside the marked areas have damaged paving slabs and often block emergency exit doors from the Hall. Inconsiderate driving and the sheer volume of traffic frequently threaten the safety of pedestrians. In short, some people are making it an unnecessarily hazardous place.

Those who use the car park do so entirely at their own risk, but we'd all be a lot safer if everyone acted responsibly. So, please don't abuse the benefits which the car park offers.

**PARK ONLY IN THE MARKED BAYS  
DON'T PARK IF IT'S ALREADY FULL  
DRIVE SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY  
BE AWARE OF PEDESTRIANS**

Thank you for your help.

Dorothy Corvesor  
Hon. Secretary TVHA

