

# It just doesn't add up

Errors in the county council document that may decide the future of closure-threatened Forest of Needwood School were described as "shoddy homework" by a councillor last night.

Staffordshire County Council was attacked for its report on post-primary education 1985-90 by Tutbury Parish Councillor John Hicklin who revealed that it couldn't even add up a row of figures.

In the table giving projections of pupil numbers in secondary schools there were three errors in the table for Abbot Beyne which left it with far fewer pupils in 1989/90 than forecast.

Instead of 962 pupils in 86/7 it had 956, instead of 956 children in 88/89 it had 862 and instead of 898 in 89/90 it had only 848 said Mr Hicklin.

In the table to show total school rolls for the area by year the total for 86/87 was 5455 instead of 5451.

The number of pupils in the 12 plus year — the second year — was given as 786 for 89/90, when it should have been 768. The number of 15 plus pupils.

the year when most O levels and CSEs are taken, for 89/90 was given as 989, when it should have been 898.

Even more damning was the county's error in calculating the number of pupils that would come from new housing development in the Burton area.

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## **WEATHER**

**RATHER** cloudy. A few bright or clear intervals in sheltered places. Occasional light rain or drizzle. Drier tomorrow. Wind south-west, fresh, occasionally strong. Near normal temperatures, maximum 6 to 8C (43 to 46F) milder tomorrow.  
**LIGHTING-UP TIMES:** 4.45 pm to 7.44 am.