

## **Driving ban for man who ignored crossing patrol**

**Issue Date – 26/11/2009**

A motorist who failed to stop when a lollipop lady was helping a school pupil to cross a road in Hednesford has been banned from driving for three weeks.

Paul Ross Saddler, of Cottage Lane, Burntwood, today (November 26) appeared at Cannock Magistrates Court charged with failing to stop for a person at a school crossing.

He previously pleaded guilty to the offence by post.

The 26-year-old was travelling along Littleworth Road just before 9am on May 14 2009 when he committed the offence.

Lollipop lady Debbie Davies had clearly displayed her stop sign and was helping a Kingsmead High School pupil to cross the road.

But Saddler, who was travelling towards Hill Street, failed to acknowledge the sign and continued to drive along the stretch.

Staffordshire County Council's Road Safety Team prosecuted Saddler for contravening a crossing patrol.

Magistrates also fined Saddler £180, ordered him to pay £35 in court costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

County councillor Mike Maryon, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environment, said: "Child safety is of paramount importance and as a county we will not tolerate motorists ignoring lollipop people when they are carrying out this vital role within the community.

"Failing to stop at a crossing not only endangers the patrol but puts children and other adults at risk. This case demonstrates that we will not hesitate to take action against any individual who fails to stop when a school crossing patrol officer asks them to do so."

Ends