

Location: Hagbourne Primary School

Present: Phil Taylor (PT), Sue Totterdell (ST), John Thornhill (JT), Tom Barker (TB),
Marion Judd (MJ), Matt Rice & Janie Slaymaker (Trading Standards)
(part of meeting), Cllr Patrick Greene (part of meeting)

Members of the public present: Sheila Taylor, Mary Wiley

1. Apologies and reasons for absence - none

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. Public participation session

Mary Wiley and Sheila Taylor expressed their concern over the condition of the village garden. Needs to be maintained continuously. At present the gardening being carried is felt to be inadequate as it does not get enough attention. It was suggested that Malcolm Brownsword be approached to whether he would consider this. MJ to approach existing gardener and confirm outcome, PT to discuss with Malcolm. The History Group were going to produce some content for the next newsletter.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Council passed the minutes as a true and correct record. There were no matters arising.

5. District and County Councillor's reports

Patrick Greene had received various questions in advance of the meeting. He read out part of an e-mail received from Anna Robinson of SODC about the Masterplan (expansion of Didcot). There was a question over "sustainable villages". ST pointed out that WH is a sustainable village with 3 points. However, the planning permission for Ivy Farm Cottage Barn was refused in part on the grounds that WH is not a sustainable village. Seems to be some confusion. Patrick Greene suggested a meeting between the Hagbournes with Anna Robinson and Adrian Duffield to clarify several points and to discuss the expansion of Didcot, and the real threat to the Parish. Clerk to arrange and liaise with Monica Lawson of East Hagbourne Parish Council. Agenda to be agreed.

Highways issues – boundaries, kerbs, resurfacing. Seems to be shortage of funds to carry out works. It was pointed out that Didcot are receiving new kerbs etc and WH have no work done. Again, PG suggested meeting to be set up with Highways to discuss various issues outstanding.

Planning gain and 106 agreements were brought into question, as WH had been given no advice relating to how the Parish might have gained, especially as such a large proportion of the Great West Park will be built within existing WH Parish boundary. The question was raised of a cycletrack leading to Wantage Road from WH so that children could cycle to school safely. PG was not sure what money is attributed to what. He will investigate and report back.

6. Appointment of new Parish Clerk

PT formally introduced Michelle Lightfoot as the new Parish Clerk

7. Purchase of fire-proof storage and an external hard drive

Archives will be stored at Barretts Storage in Chalgrove at a cost of £29.38 for a year. This amount was agreed. Hard drive purchased at £69.

9. Council Aims and Objectives 2007-11

PT circulated the above. These form the core of the present Councils policy and are driven by the input received from Parishioners who attend the annual Parish Meetings.

10. Agreements with OCC for Grass Cutting – carry over to next meeting.

11. Land Opposite Horse & Harrow PH

Greene King have confirmed that they hope to conclude this matter by the end of 2008.

12. Consultations

- a) Standing Orders & Chairmanship (July 2003) – no response
- b) E-planning
- c) Oxfordshire County Council's Primary Capital Programme – Consultation on Draft Strategy for Change – requested extension of deadline
- d) Thames Water Consultation – have to register to respond. ML to arrange for link to be put on website.

13. Finance

The Council accepted and approved the attached monthly report on expenditure and the report on cheques signed since the last meeting. The cheques on the attached schedule were duly signed.

14. Eleanor Bowey - obituary

The Council sadly noted the recent death of Eleanor, who had been a Councillor for four years and had lived in the village for many years, a suitable obituary will be prepared for the Newsletter.

15. Village Maintenance

- a) **Work to Moor Lane**
Thanks to Chris Lay and Dave Totterdell for all the work carried out so far. PT suggested using the Oxford Conservation Volunteers to help with more ditch clearing and cutting back. They charge around £80 per day for approximately 15 people. Would be useful to have them help do some of the awkward work. Subject to their survey, discuss at next meeting.
- b) **Horse in the pond**
There was an incident where a saddle shy horse bolted and ended up in the pond. A resident rescued the horse, abandoning their ice cream! No damage was caused.
- c) **Other issues** – village garden – discussed earlier. A pole has now been removed and a new waste bin will be provided on the telegraph pole toward the Horse & Harrow.

16. Traffic issues

7.5 Tonne Weight Limit

Matt Rice and Janie Slaymaker from Trading Standards joined the meeting. They discussed how residents can help with the implementation of the 7.5 tonne weight limit and the way in which they deal with the drivers. Main offenders are those lorry drivers who use satellite navigation and it takes them on the shortest route (through West Hagbourne). Sat nav systems do not alert drivers to areas where there is a weight limit in force.

There is a "Neighbourhood Weight Watch Scheme". The contact form is available to download from the public part of the Oxfordshire County Council's website. However online reporting is something being set up for the near future. Matt handed hard copies of the form to the Clerk. There is also a hotline number already posted on the noticeboard. Trading Standards would prefer to receive each incident as it occurs as they can deal with it quickly rather than waiting for a list of offenders.

For the first offence the driver receives a simple caution, signs it and receives no further penalty. For the second offence they receive a written letter as a formal warning. The driver will be prosecuted, not the Company. A fine of up to £1000 can be given. A database of offenders is kept and statistics are available from Trading Standards.

Trading Standards do not have any powers when it comes to foreign vehicles. However they have overcome this in the past by working with Thames Valley Police to issue fixed penalty notices.

Trading Standards are in the process of producing yellow weight restriction check signs which will warn drivers that restrictions are in place and should deter them from driving through the village.

To help with identifying lorries over the weight limit - any lorry with chevrons on the rear of the vehicle is over 7.5 tonnes. It is the actual weight they could carry, not the weight they are carrying at the time. The information required is the date/time, location, registration no., distinguishing marks on the vehicle.

It was noted that there is no signing at Chilton for Didcot.

17. Communication

a) Correspondence –

PT to reply to letter from Mrs Sage, Ivy Farm Cottage. Issue of trough to be raised at Annual Parish Meeting. What do the villagers want to replace it with?

E-mail from Mary Ann Le May reference verge damage by large vehicle. She is going to place large rocks on the verge and concrete them in. SODC apparently require planning permission for any kind of barrier. It was pointed out that there is a photo on SODC website showing the original boundary set up on the corner near the pond.

b) Newsletter - any items to the Clerk or PT.

c) Other - none

18. Any other business

ST attended The Didcot Community Forum. She found it interesting and the mission statement was that Didcot was "brilliant". David Buckle, Chief Exec of SODC, said we would have the best eco housing in the area with the next stages of expansion at Didcot. ST confirmed that OCC and Didcot First are lobbying to change Didcot Parkway back to 'Didcot'.

PT represented the Parish Council at the Induction and Installation of The Revd Jason St John Nicolle as Rector of the Churn Benefice at St Andrews Church, East Hagbourne.

Date of next meeting – 10th July 2008 at 7.30pm

Chairman..... Date.....