

WEST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9th July 2009

Location: Hagbourne Primary School

Present: Phil Taylor (PT), Sue Totterdell (ST), Marion Judd (MBJ), Tom Barker,
Dave Totterdell (member of public)

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** – Cllr Patrick Greene

2. **Declarations of interest** - None

3. **Public participation session** – DT observing role of Clerk

4. **Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

The Council passed the minutes as a true and correct record.

5. **District and County Councillor's reports** – PWG not present and no report received

6. **Replacement of Clerk**

- Dave Totterdell has applied to take on the role of Parish Clerk, and the Parish Council agreed that they would like him to take up the post of Clerk wef 9th July 2009.
- ML to ensure that issues of conflict of interest does not exist formally, by checking with SODC, as ST is a Councillor.
- Handover to commence immediately subject to above.
- Webmaster to be contacted regarding change etc. ML to notify various contacts of the change.
- Contract of Employment to be signed by Dave Totterdell.
- The Council thanked ML for her help and assistance whilst in the role of clerk and wished her well as she continues to develop her business.

7. **Planning Applications:** PO9/WO467 13 York Road – NO STRONG VIEWS
PO9/WO545 Scotland's Ash Garage extension to waiting
room – NO STRONG VIEWS

Speed of circulating Planning Applications must improve as there is quite a short timescale to respond.

8. **Consultations**

- None ongoing

9. Finance

- Monthly report on expenditure was accepted.
- Cheques were signed as per the expenditure breakdown.
- The 2008/09 Accounts have been audited internally and were duly signed, these will be sent off to the external Auditor next week (deadline 17th July).
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10. Village Maintenance

- Ivy needs clearing from Ivy Farm along Main Street. PT/MJ will carry out this work.
- Oxford Conservation Volunteers will be working in Moor Lane on Sunday 13th September. Preparation required – stake out and mark what is to stay/go. Brambles to be cleared and pulled back. PT advised that the Council should write to Powells and Blonds to let them know what is happening. Cynthia Napper of Northmoor Trust has visited the site and her recommendations have been passed to OCV.
- There was a recent disturbance in the Square and the water butt was tipped over, glass broken and lots of noise (approx 1 am – 2 am on a weekday). Concerns that bus shelter will be vandalised. Need to look at securing the water butt to protect it and prevent further incidents. PT to put something in newsletter. The Police were informed of the disturbance and they attended.
- Used hypodermic needle behind water butt to be removed with sharps kit and disposed of in the correct manner.
- Chris and Sue Lay have shown an interest in becoming the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, and have been given contact details to begin the process.

11. Highways

- Damaged milestone to be replaced. Write to Brian Short at Highways to ask them again to help reinstate it, as this is a "scheduled monument" on Highways verge.
- Side of Little Acorns Nursery – response awaited from Peter Ronald at Highways. The Parish Council expects the land to the side of the Nursery to be reinstated as it was.
- New cobbles on verge in Main Street have already been damaged/removed by car colliding with it. Car damaged two tyres. Highways were informed.
- It was noted that in York Road – part of it has been marked for re-surfacing
- TB suggested that the Pond needed cleaning out. PT to contact Chris and Sue Lay to ask if ok to get a group of volunteers to get in the pond and remove the weed. A trailer will be required to dispose of it.

12. Communication

- **Newsletter**
- Many advertisements now in place. Offer advertisers option of inclusion on website. The Council agreed to increase annual rates for advertising - £30 to

residents/village businesses for website/newsletter and £60 to non-residents/businesses outside of village.

- PT had met with Roger Sweet and John Baile to discuss the establishment of a media group and to consider how the Newsletter/Website can be developed in the future. It was agreed that as the newsletter was now self funding, the advertising revenue would now pay for the website hosting as well as the newsletter printing. Though the url would remain in the ownership of the Parish Council, it Council agreed to act as banker for the sub-committee ("Media Team"). The establishment of a separate committee will allow the two items to work towards a cohesive style / coordinated approach to content.
- **Correspondence**
- Roger Sweet had e-mailed 3rd July expressing his concern over the plans to refurbish the village seat in the Square. The Parish Council noted his concerns which were provoked by the use of the word 'stain' and this was understood. The Clerk to reply to RS to acknowledge this, advising of the products which were to be used to prolong the life of the seat under the Chestnut tree.
- The Council received an extensive e-mail from Roger Sweet, which was read by all Councillors, regarding his views on the BT Kiosk adoption. The Parish Council noted all the content, and were reminded by the Clerk that they had discussed the option to adopt the BT kiosk in January 2009 when it was considered and agreed unanimously, that the Parish Council should adopt the kiosk with no phone/power supply. The Council did not agree any further consultation was necessary, but would highlight the plan in the next newsletter. The Clerk advised the process of identifying the MPAN number was still in progress.
- The Council received a letter from the History Group, which was read out to the meeting, supporting the decision to retain the kiosk and giving their views on memorial proposals for Monica Lawson.

13. Any Other Business

- The Council have initiated discussions with East Hagbourne Parish Council for a joint memorial to Monica Lawson – ST and MJ attended a meeting with two Councillors from East Hagbourne. Under consideration were 'designed benches':
 - A tree and bench be placed between the Church/railway embankment.
 - A tree/bench be placed on the corner by Shovel Spring, along Church Footpath
 - A bench on the Sustrans path ramps with a view toward East Hagbourne
 - Replace old metal bench on Church Footpath with a new one plus a tree.
 - Suggestion of a design competition for children in the villages.

- Chris and Sue Lay have offered a small piece of land they own, in the east end of Ragged Farm field adjacent to Moor Lane - possibly as a play area or site for a meeting place. PT has requested initial feedback from SODC/Conservation Team, and is awaiting a response.

The meeting closed at 20.55pm

Date of next meeting – **Thursday 10th September** 7.30 pm at Hagbourne School

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