

WEST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th January 2010.

Location: Hagbourne Primary School

Present: Phil Taylor (PT), Sue Totterdell (ST), Marion Judd (MBJ), Tom Barker.
D Totterdell (Clerk).

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** – None.

2. **Declarations of interest** - None

3. **Public participation session** – Nick Swanzey attended and contributed to the discussion on local footpaths and rights of way. Some ancient rights of way around West Hagbourne have been modified by landowners resulting in a change of access. This has been discussed with M Sumner (Oxfordshire County Council) who, together with parish councillors and others as appropriate, will carry out an inspection of the area. It is hoped that a solution satisfying both the commitments to the rights of way and the needs of the landowners will be found through increased dialogue.

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:**

Cllr Greene reported that:-

- The Wallingford development site A option will now go to further consultation and this will delay publication of the Core Strategy.
- The Great Western park development infrastructure was also being reviewed against the initial reduced number of houses.
- He was unable to comment on the number of new houses to be built on the lower Broadway at this time.
- Resulting from the recent severe weather additional costs have been incurred for road treatment. It was pointed out that the main road through the village is regarded as an important feeder route for Didcot, but was not a priority for salt treatment. The Council pointed out that this was a risk to its population. PG suggested that more emphasis should be put on the effect of severe weather on the infrastructure in LTP3 going forward.
- The Parish Council appealed for clarification regarding the legal position (and any liability) for people wishing to clear pathways etc of snow and ice.
- The possibility of individuals having more than one Green recycling bin was raised. PT will respond.

6. **Planning Consultations:**

- Village Hall extension P09/W1103 – Planning application submitted
- Thatch Cottage P09/W1000/LB – Listed Building, permission granted.

- Housing need survey – the first step in pursuing any need for additional affordable housing in the village has been to review a pro forma survey from ORCC. It was agreed that the council (in collaboration with ORCC) will formulate a version of a Housing Needs survey, and this to be relevant to West Hagbourne.

7. Finance:

- Expenditure - A statement of expenditure was submitted to the meeting and accepted.
- Following a request from the school via the LEA representative, Lynn Carter, it was agreed that a donation of £200 would be made toward the Monica Lawson memorial gates which are to be installed at Hagbourne school. This was in proportion to a similar contribution made by East Hagbourne Parish Council.

8. Consultations:

- LTP3 – the council has responded.
- Your Vale – it was agreed that Phil Taylor will draft a response highlighting the impact of additional building at the Harwell site on the village traffic etc.
- Green infrastructure strategy – ST will consider responding on behalf of the council.

9. Village Maintenance:

- BT telephone box – BT have received the signed contract and are awaiting the final authority from OCC.
- Rights of way issues – see note in item 3 above.

10. Highways Issues:

- Road Safety Team – it is suggested that at the annual Parish meeting a display of literature be made available.
- The Highways dept. have been made aware of the newest potholes etc on roads in and near to the village. Clearly their workload will have increased as a result of the severe weather but the Parish Council will continue to pursue this.

11. Transport:

- The Parish Council will seek a Parish Transport Representative to attend the ORCC meetings on behalf of West Hagbourne.
- It has been suggested that villagers would benefit from use of the X32 bus service to Oxford. The council will look into the possibility of suggesting a minor route change to include West Hagbourne.

10. Communications:

- The meeting discussed, at some length, the procedure for dissemination of villagers' views on issues where a common interest had been identified. It was agreed that, in keeping with the council's policy of openness and transparency, any future correspondence with the council from villagers (together with any response) will be posted on the village website unless the matter is deemed to be of a private nature.

11. Any other business:

- In view of possible reduction in capability of Didcot Fire Service from a full time force, it was agreed that the council should register its support for maintaining the service.
- The council will look into the need for a formal Risk Assessment procedure for the council activities as appropriate. The clerk will seek advice.
- The meeting discussed the use of the St Andrews Parish Magazine as a vehicle for publicising village news and the time constraints of its deadlines. It was agreed that, as the West Hagbourne Newsletter not only does this adequately but also has a full village circulation unlike the Parish Magazine, this would not be pursued. However the council will review the inclusion of a summary in the magazine.
- A meeting between First Great Western representatives and interested parties (including Ed Vaizey MP) to discuss increased parking charges was attended by ST and MBJ. Little satisfaction was achieved for those facing the increases.
- Ruth Webb has resigned as village representative on the Village Hall committee. A request for a volunteer replacement will appear in the Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 21:30pm

Date of next meeting – **Thursday 18th March 2010** 7.30 pm at Hagbourne School

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