

WEST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th July 2010.

Location: Hagbourne Primary School

Present: Phil Taylor (PT), Marion Judd (MJ), Tom Barker.
Michele Thornhill (MT), D Totterdell (Clerk).

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** – Cllr P Greene, S Totterdell.
2. **Declarations of interest** - None
3. **Public participation session** – S Taylor and M Wiley attended to report on the AGM and current status of the Village History Group. The AGM was held on 24th May in the Village Hall. The issue of concern was the continuing activity of the History Group since it was felt that additional support was needed. Four villagers from East Hagbourne attended. The following are the significant items raised both at the AGM and at this meeting
 - Future storage of archived material. A possible storage system could be metal containers.
 - Location of original Enclosure Act (PT & DT)
 - Going forward, a list to be maintained of all archived items (both villages).
 - The full list of available past village Newsletters to be identified. MW to email her list to the Clerk.
 - Explore the possibility of a storage resource in the new extended village hall.
 - A further joint meeting will be held in November between the two village groups to monitor progress and discuss future projects.

In addition, the availability of allotments on the Tyrrell Trust land was raised by MW as they are now becoming popular again. MJ explained the current situation regarding the agreement for use of this land with M Napper. This agreement allows for reinstatement of the allotments if required.

4. **Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**
 - The Council passed the minutes as a true and correct record. Signed by the chair.
5. **District and County Councillor's reports:**

A verbal report was received from Cllr Greene and reported by PT for this meeting. The main points were,

Housing - No further news on the extension of Didcot, it was expected that there would be no change from those adopted in the draft Core Strategy although the numbers may change in reaction to new government policy.

Budget – Cuts will be introduced to achieve savings. There will be zero council Tax increase from Oxfordshire County Council.

Highways – Atkins are still trying to catch up with the backlog of road repairs.
6. **Planning consultations:**
 - P10/W0458 Broomsticks - the planning application has been approved by SODC.

- The Clerk to consult the Webmaster regarding the planning details available on the website.

8. Finance:

- The financial statement and cheques for this financial year were presented, and accepted by the councillors.
- The Clerk reported that after discussion with the Council the grass cutting grant had been increased to include additional verges between the Horse & Harrow and the 30mph signs past the nursery. The areas (opposite the Horse & Harrow and beyond the limit signs) would be funded from within the Budget.
- The *westhagbourne.org* domain has been renewed for 5 years.
- Costs associated with the Village Hall extension and the leasing of Ragged Farm land have not yet been incurred although allowed for in the budget.
- PT requested that the cost associated for a new batch of Welcome Packs should be further justified since there was no allowance for Parish Plan items in the budget.
- In the current economic situation the Parish Council is aware of fiscal constraints being applied to spending. Every effort will be made to achieve savings across this year's budget with the intention of preventing any increase in its precept for next year.

9. Consultations reports:

- LTP3 – ST responded on behalf of the Council before the deadline.

10. Village maintenance:

- The grass cutting schedule has been confirmed with the council – see above in 8.
- The Grove terrace nameplate is being repaired. The Clerk to pursue the upgrading of other signs.
- After discussion it was agreed that the kiosk paintwork should be renewed as appropriate on a 2 yearly basis.
- Oxford Conservation Volunteers will be employed in the autumn to carry out further work in Moor lane.

11. Highways Issues:

- A survey of potholes/road damage will be carried out in the parish and submitted to the Highways dept. as a basis for road improvement.
- The Clerk to contact highways regarding the encroachment of banks and garden boundaries onto footpaths.
- The area around the milestone on the A417 will be treated to maintain its visibility and prevent further damage.

12. AOB:

- The current version of the Village Newsletter should appear on the website. This has lapsed recently but is being addressed.
- The possible purchase of the land opposite to the Horse & Harrow is still on-going despite the brewery claiming to have actioned this with their legal team.
- The recent article in the Newsletter about obtaining a fast broadband link for the village has initiated some response to the Clerk who will log this for use when possible options can be evaluated.

The meeting closed at 21:40pm

Date of next meeting – Thursday 23rd September 2010 7.30 pm at Hagbourne School

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