

WEST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd September 2010.

Location: Hagbourne Primary School

Present: Phil Taylor (PT), Marion Judd (MJ), S Totterdell, D Totterdell (Clerk).

the Parish Council were saddened to hear of the death of John Thornhill - a previous parish councillor. The council extend their sympathies to Michele and the family.

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence** – Cllr P Greene, T Barker, M Thornhill.

2. **Declarations of interest**- None

3. **Public participation session** – None

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.
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- Actions raised in minutes of last meeting -
 1. The local master copy of the Village Enclosure document has been confirmed as being part of the secure archived village items. The accompanying map is retained by the Clerk.
 2. The grass banks adjoining the pavement along Main Street have been reduced to maintain the full pavement width.

5. **District and County Councillor's reports:**

No formal reports were received.

6. **Planning consultations:**

- P10/W1049 Rowan, York Road Permission Granted - Responded 03/08/10
- P10/W0626/629/642 and P10/W0680/LB Downs Farm - Responded 24/08/10
- P10/W1150/RMGWP - Responded 31/08/10
- P10/W1274/SCOGWP - Responded 26/09/10
- P10/W1299 and 1300/LB Ivy Farm
- P10/W1328/RMGWP

8. **Finance:**

- The financial statement and cheques for this financial year were presented, and accepted by the councillors.
- The Annual Return for 2009/10 has been received from the external auditors and was formally presented to the meeting and accepted by the councillors.
- The Clerk reported that the first of three annual payments of £600 had been made to the village hall fund for the new extension.
- The banking mandate has been updated to allow four of the councillors to authorise cheques on the council account.

9. **Consultations/ Meetings:**

- The Highways and Transport customer satisfaction survey has been completed and submitted to OCC.
- The town and parish council forum, to be held on 10th November will be attended by members of the council.
- The objectives of the ‘Community Rights to Build’ document, part of the Coalition Government’s Big Society initiative, are noted by the Parish Council. Hopefully this will enable a more effective input from local residents regarding planning activities.
- The council did not endorse the need for a local referendum on council tax (a government proposal to monitor “excessive increases”) since one already exists in that elected local councillors agree the annual budget and are therefore accountable locally.
- The Parish Council await the report of the proceedings of the Big Debate held in Didcot covering the scope of cost cutting in the current financial climate.
- The forthcoming Didcot (27th September) community forum will be attended by councillors.

10. Village maintenance:

- In response to their request MJ has responded to SODC describing the use to which the trees and shrubs from the free tree scheme have been put.
- After discussion it was agreed that the planted garden area by the Bus shelter needed some renovation in the near future to improve the state of the planting. It was also agreed that some new bulbs should be purchased for the tubs and verges for the Spring display (as per budget).

11. Highways Issues:

- There are still some potholes and road damage remaining unrepaired after last winter. The Clerk will contact Highways dept. for this to be addressed.

12. AOB:

- The council has been approached by East Hagbourne regarding a one off free issue of the Parish Magazine to all households in the two villages in an attempt to increase the parish Magazine circulation as a means of information dissemination. The council believes that this will have limited appeal and that for us the village Newsletter, distributed free to every household already fulfils this function for West Hagbourne.
- Copies of the Emergency Planning booklet have been received by the Clerk and will be distributed with the next issue of the Newsletter which will include additional information e.g responsibilities in snowy weather.
- OCC has provided a leaflet listing possible options (and a telephone number for more information) for those needing transport facilities - to get to hospital etc - copies have been posted on the notice boards and an item will appear in the Newsletter.
- The clerk to ask for an additional salt box to be placed at the junction of Main Street and York Road.
- The council noted that OSCA is a possible future source of funds for village activities.

The meeting closed at 20:30pm

Date of next meeting – Thursday 11th November 2010 7.30 pm at Hagbourne School

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