

## WEST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at Hagbourne Primary School

**Present:** Cllrs P. Taylor (Chair), S. Totterdell, M. Judd, M. Thornhill and T. Barker.

**In attendance:** L. Dalby (Clerk) D. Totterdell (retiring Clerk) and County/District Cllr P. Greene.

#### **11/1 Apologies and reasons for Absence**

There were none.

#### **11/2 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest**

There were none.

#### **11/3 Public Participation**

There was none.

#### **11/4 Minutes of the Councils meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

The minutes were agreed with one amendment and signed by the Chairman.

#### **11/5 District and County Councillors Report**

A copy of Cllr Greene's report forms part of these minutes.

#### **11/6 Appointment of new Clerk**

Cllr Taylor proposed that Mrs Lucy Dalby be appointed as the new Clerk. This was seconded by Cllr Judd and all present welcomed Mrs Dalby to the post.

As the responsible financial officer to the Council, the outgoing Clerk Dave Totterdell had passed over all records, cheque books and log in information.

#### **11/7 Planning Consultations**

P10/W1328/RM – GWP Granted

P10/W1841/RM – GWP No strong views

A letter has been received from Owen Jones representing Bloor Homes who offered to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the detailed planning application they intend to submit for 159 new homes on land west of Park Road, Didcot. The site currently has outline planning permission. The Clerk will contact Mr Jones to arrange suitable dates for the meeting.

#### **11/8 Finance**

The financial statement and cheques for this financial year were presented and accepted by the councilors.

It was agreed that the Council would consider replacing the tubs under the tree. Sue Totterdell would research replacements, and suitable watertight liners, in order to improve the longevity of this central feature.

The new Clerk asked if the Council would pay her salary to coincide with each meeting rather than quarterly, it was agreed to discuss this request at the next meeting.

The Clerk also asked if the Council would be happy to contribute to her individual membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks along with the other Councils she is Clerk to. It was agreed to discuss this request at the next meeting.

### **11/9 Consultations/Meetings**

- Cllr Judd & Terry Pritchard responded to the LTP3 consultation on behalf of the Council.
- Cllr Totterdell has prepared a response to the SODC Core Strategy Consultation. The Council formally approved her submission and thanked her for all her hard work and appreciated the amount of time involved in what was a very detailed response. The Clerk will post the response to SODC asking for the envelope to be signed for, in addition to the forms being submitted electronically. A copy of the response will be posted on the website and sent to members of DROP.
- Representatives of Taylor Wimpey had met with the Parish Council to discuss and explain their opposition to the details of the northerly growth of Didcot contained in SODC Core Strategy. Taylor Wimpey opposes the Core Strategy as they could deliver the extra housing on land (much of which has to be in the Parish of West Hagbourne, between Coscote and the A34 which they currently own options.
- Runaway Climate Challenge – Sheila Taylor reported back to the Council after attending this summit. Much of the content was aimed at larger organizations and there was some confusion over what a small Parish such as West Hagbourne could participate in - Cllr Judd reported that it may be possible to tag onto projects being run by other local parishes. Sheila Taylor was thanked for attending the meeting.

### **10/10 Highways Issues**

- Road by Green Thatch  
Lee Turner from OCC Highways has visited the village and discussed this dangerous stretch of road. He agreed to consider increasing the number of white lines and repainting the current ones, and to feed back when he had considered what could be done to make it safer for the aging residents who have no safe pavement access to their homes. The Clerk will contact Mr. Turner for an update.
- Wooden Bollards – destroyed on Main Street  
An email has been received from OCC confirming that replacement bollards will be ordered.
- Handrail for steps at Grove Terrace.

Prompted by new residents, a request has been made that a rail is provided to make these steps safe for those using them.

John King (Local Area Highways Rep – Didcot Area) has emailed the Council about the handrail. He feels that it is not a maintenance issue but OCC may provide a handrail if the Parish Council were prepared to pay for the rail and its installation. The Council agreed that the Clerk should make further enquiries about which authority is responsible for installing this type of equipment, as the verge, pavements and location are NOT the responsibility of the Parish. County Cllr Greene suggested that the Clerk contact the Area Steward Keith Stenning to discuss the matter.

- Provision of Salt Bin  
The need for a salt bin on the bends at the west end of on York Rd was discussed. The Clerk reported that the County Council can provide salt bins and keep them topped up if the Parish Council is prepared to pay for the bin initially. The Council agreed that as the salt bin would mainly benefit road users, driving through the village rather than only residents the County Council should be asked to pay for the bin. The Clerk will contact OCC Highways to discuss the matter.
- The Clerk will once again report the potholes by Coscote Corner.
- Cllr Patrick Greene was asked for his input and help in improving the flow of requests as described above, and most importantly for his help in speeding up the process of traffic calming, the only benefit so far identified under 106 agreement for West Hagbourne. The Core Strategy relies on this traffic calming but specifically says this will only be implemented by 2027.

#### **10/11 Any other business**

- The Chair congratulated West Hagbourne for its almost complete support of the Infinity campaign, the Blewbury exchange won the BT competition for early provision of high speed fibre optic broadband connection for the affected villages.
- A letter has been received from Didcot Town Council, which is keen to maintain a close working relationship with neighbouring parishes. The Council agreed to respond to the letter confirming their wish to work together with all their neighbours for mutual benefit. It was agreed to reply.
- Traffic Census – one volunteer has come forward to help with the next village traffic census, the Council agreed to ask OCC if the traffic could be counted via black boxes and it would then consider what to do once the results had been collated. Two previous traffic counts were done in this way, but the advantage of a people driven measure ensures size/type vehicle is also recorded.
- Hagbourne Charities – Cllr Judd will attend the forthcoming meeting.
- Old files evaluation – in keeping with current guidelines from SLCC Cllr Taylor and Mr Totterdell have thinned out the files before the Clerks handover. Files relating to the Tyrell Trust will be handed over to the trustees.
- Bench – as recorded in the minutes of September 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 the bench by the bus stop will not be treated.

- Cllrs Taylor and Judd will contact East Hagbourne Parish Council to discuss progress on finding a craftsman to produce the Monica Lawson bench.
- British Legion Poppy Day – the invitation to host a British Legion Poppy Party in June will be passed onto the Village Association.
- It was agreed that the Snow Guide produced by OCC should be published on the website and included in the next newsletter.
- It was agreed that Cllrs Taylor and Judd should attend the opening of the Hagbourne Village Hall Extension on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

The next meeting of the Council will be Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 8.30pm at Hagbourne School.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....Date.....