

# West Hagbourne newsletter



wishing you all a very Merry Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year

December 2004

Vol 2004 Issue 61

## your *Parish Plan*

*Watch out for the Parish Plan survey, coming to your household soon.*

It will be delivered and collected in person.

Please answer as many questions as possible so that we can include your views in future plans for the village.

A summary of the responses will be circulated to all villagers early in 2005 followed shortly afterwards by a public meeting so that people can add further comments and contribute to the writing of the Parish Plan.

This is a Plan for all villagers, so have your say, be included. For those of you with internet access a pdf version of the form will be available shortly on the West Hagbourne Village Website which is [www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

## the bench *returns*

After much needed attention, the commemorative bench by the bus shelter has been restored and put back in its rightful place. Thanks to Fred Scott for all his hard work and effort in re-building the bench. See story on page 3



### *in this issue*

Traffic update

Budget approved

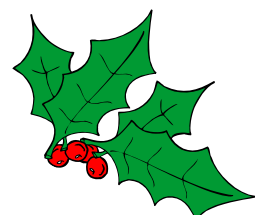
Refuse dates

NEW  
Dial a Ride

Village  
Association

Parish Council  
update

Please keep  
Horses off our  
footpaths



# Parish Council report

The Parish Council last met on the 11th November 2004

## **Planning applications**

- a) Plot at Ash Farm, York rd – outline planning for the erection of a single dwelling with garage – approved by the Parish Council
  
- b) 6 York Rd – erection of single storey extension – Approved by the Parish Council

**Bus shelter** – received one quote for repair of roof so far – a further two quotes are required. The cost for this will be met out of Parish Council funds.

**Garden area** next to bus shelter - A gardener has been engaged to care for this garden area. There will be an autumn clean up in December and general care and maintenance sessions in the coming year. The seat has been repaired and a new plaque provided by the Village History Group.

## **Trees, shrubs and flowers**

A further review of the village will be made with a view to further tree and shrub planting and the findings will be considered at the next Council meeting.

**Moor Lane** – the recent outpouring of sewage into ditch was reported several times and followed up with SODC Environmental Officers and there has been some investigation by Thames Water who have spent some time flushing out pipes and looking into the problem.

## **Traffic update**

On going dialogue re traffic control along the narrow stretch of Main Street. The Highways contractors cannot receive instructions to start this work until all details, involving other agencies, have been processed and this is taking its usual protracted amount of time.

## **Parish Plan**

Quotes have been received for printing of questionnaire and hopefully the Steering Group will have to circulate to all households before Christmas.

There has been a meeting with representatives from Upton (also in the throes of preparing a Parish Plan) to compare results. There is also an interest to share ideas with neighbouring villages and explore the possibility of fostering a 'small village' action group.

## **SUSTRANS**

The Parish Council has been promised by SUSTRANS that they will clear up and make good both School Path and Moor Lane, where they both go under the railway bridges recent repair work by contractors has churned up mud.

## **Finance**

Budget for 05/06 was presented to Council for discussion. There were no significant changes expected in the Parish expenditure and this should show no change in our element of the Council Tax. A precept of £3,500.00 was agreed.

[www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

John Baile and Roger Sweet have kindly agreed to help co-ordinate the West Hagbourne website.

It is hoped that for now the tasks can be split, so John is going to co-ordinate the village organisations side of things and Roger the links and Parish Council related issues.

If you have any ideas or requests for inclusion in the site please let us know what you'd like to see..

## **Green Waste Collections**

In the last edition of the newsletter you were asked - if you would you agreed to an increase of Council Tax to provide

- a) a Green Waste Collection Service and
- b) Dog Hygiene boxes'?

Only two people took the time to reply – a disheartening response, and from it we must assume that everyone is happy with the current arrangements. Subsequently the Parish Council will remove this item from our issues agenda?

SODC are reconsidering their provision of green waste - which should include a change to the green bags scheme, as currently these are dumped directly into landfill. We will advise you of any changes to these arrangements.



## **How to make your home safer over the holiday period**

- Tell your neighbourhood watch scheme when you will be away
- Set timers for lights, TV and radio
- Keep presents and valuables away from windows and outside viewing
- Lock your car – even in the garage
- Cancel the newspapers and milk deliveries
- Ask neighbours to collect your post or to push it through the letterbox properly
- Lock all external doors and window locks on all opening windows
- Lock your shed and lock away all tools and ladders

## the *Village Association*

The **AGM** on the 13th November was held in Upton Village Hall.

The Chairman talked about the year's activities. There was to have been a supper in March but unfortunately it had to be cancelled due to poor ticket sales. In May a 'bring and share supper' followed the Annual Parish Meet in a marquee at Broomsticks. Our final event of the year, in November, was a Skittles evening with fish and chip supper.

The **Madge Trophy Award** was this year presented to Bob and Joyce Beacroft for their beautiful garden at Lilley Cottage. Bob was delighted to receive the award. The garden was his project planned from scratch with trepidation but anyone who has seen it will know what a huge success it is.

The treasurer reported that the end of year balance is £2046.00, a slight decrease on the previous year. The Skittles evening was the only profit making event of the year.

### ***The new committee***

Peter Mitchell (Chair), Keith Walton Treasurer, Hazel Rack Secretary.

Committee members: Steve Gore, Marion Judd, Betty Kendrick, June Little, Bridget Pickup, Julia Tiller Dave Totterdell and Val Walton.

After the end of business the committee watched a video of the Jubilee celebrations.

The **next meeting** will be **Thursday 6th January**

Have you any ideas for events for the coming year? Please contact Hazel 851241.

The first event planned is a supper on **Saturday 5th February** – if you have your new diary put it in.

## ***paths or bridleways***

Would all horse riders please note that **they are excluded from using any of footpaths** unless designated as 'bridleways' or 'byways'.

Moor Lane to Hagbourne Mill is a designated 'byway open to all traffic' (B.O.A.T) as are the tracks running toward the Driftway to the west of the village, which **ONLY then** becomes a Bridleway as it leads to Harwell.

In particular—the path between East Hagbourne and West Hagbourne is a 'FOOTPATH' and should not be used by riders.

We love to see horses and their riders - **but please use the appropriate routes.**

## ***History Group news***

You may have noticed that the wooden seat has now been returned to the garden next to the bus shelter. It has been carefully repaired and restored by Fred Scott. It now looks even better than it did before.

The work has been funded by the Parish Council and the History Group who have also replaced the memorial plaque which disappeared some years ago.

The seat was erected in memory of John E Lay shortly after his death in 1957. John Lay was chairman of the Parish Meeting (precursor of the Parish Council) for 32 years and was a highly respected and much-loved member of the village community.

### FARMING & WILDLIFE CALENDARS £6 each

The **Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)** is the UK's leading independent provider of environmental land management and conservation advice to the farmer.

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon FWAG 2005 **Calendars** are now available to purchase, the final outcome of the art competition and exhibition held at the Vale and Downland Museum earlier in the year.

The pictures 'linking farming and wildlife together' are by local artists and each page has also been sponsored.

All proceeds will support this countryside charity. The calendars make wonderful presents why not send one to a friend abroad?

*FWAG considers conservation in its widest sense and in addition to wildlife, its work covers the protection of landscape features, archaeological and historical sites of interest and public access.*

*As a result of FWAG's work valuable habitats are now being created and enhanced, contributing to a halt in the decline of farmland wildlife.*

*Through sympathetic land management, FWAG and the farmers acting on its advice are ensuring the traditional British landscape is preserved for this and future generations.*

Available from Sue Lay, Manor Farm. 01235 850738

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## next meeting

The next meeting of the West Hagbourne *Parish Council* will be held on the **13th January 2005** at Hagbourne School, East Hagbourne.

Everyone is welcome, and the first 30 minutes of the meeting is used as a forum for you to raise specific issues - or to discuss problems from around the village. Anyone wanting a copy of the minutes or who has any queries should please contact the Parish Clerk - Ruth Webb on 851352

## dial a ride scheme

A new bus service for the elderly or disabled, specifically for those who find it difficult to use conventional public transport has been launched in South Oxfordshire - it started on 15th November

Full details, including membership leaflet, is available from local libraries, centres etc or by phoning **01869 327048**

How do I qualify?

- You must live in South Oxfordshire
- You must not have your own transport
- You must not be able to use other forms of public transport without experiencing some difficulty
- Age and nature of disability are irrelevant, if you have no easy access to transport, then you will qualify.

## need a Doctor outside surgery hours?

New arrangements for out of hours for emergency medical services

The number is: **0845 345 8995**

## village supper

To be held on Saturday 5th February - for further details call Hazel Rack on 851241



## planning applications

The outcome of SODC planning department is still awaited on the following: Ivy Farm Barn conversion of a barn, Retrospective application for Thatch Cottage. And the major development of Didcot Great West Park.

New outline permission for house at Ash Farm

New rear extension at 6 York Road

The *examination in public* for the South Oxfordshire *District Plan 2011* is now underway. The Didcot section started on 21st November and will be held at SODC Offices in Crowmarsh, with a few sessions in Didcot for further details [www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)



## [www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

Keep an eye on how the web site develops over the next few months.

to link to your group or if you have any suggestions then let a councillor know, all ideas welcome!

### your Parish Council

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### the clerk

**Ruth Webb** 851352  
[ruthannwebb@aol.com](mailto:ruthannwebb@aol.com)

### Christmas refuse collection dates

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December as normal

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

### Christmas Tree Recycling

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2005

Didcot (Station Road Car Park) 8am to 12pm

You should get a special recycling sacks for cards and paper this Christmas - remember to use it and leave it out on the 30th

### Weekly Recycling

If you haven't got a green box, or would like another one, contact the clerk. Just put all your paper, plastic, packaging and wrappers in it, and leave it out with your rubbish on a Thursday.