

next meeting

The next meeting of the *Parish Council* will be held on the *Thursday 9th November* at 7.30 in Hagbourne School

coffee morning

Please come along to a coffee morning and bring and buy morning on *Friday 27th October* at Lenton, York Road, starting at 11.00 am on Friday 27th October. All welcome.

book exchange

A small book exchange is held by Marion Judd at Broomsticks. If you are short of reading material, or if you have a book to exchange, please come along and see what there is. A fee of 20p is being charged for Village Association funds. Please phone Marion first on 850 434

keep hedges trimmed

It is the responsibility of all individual landowners and householders to *keep overhanging shrubs and hedges cut back*. Especially where they encroach or hang over footpaths.



village association

The Village Association's *Annual general meeting* is being held at Broomsticks at 7.30 pm on *Tuesday 7th November*. Come along and have your say about next year's social events programme run for village residents. All welcome.

mobile library

the mobile library will stop in the village in The Square from 09:00am — 09:15am
On XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

treat or trick

With Halloween night approaching, the Police are asking everyone to respect the wishes of any residents who *do not want to be troubled* by Trick or Treat. Watch out for the signs. Last year there were some great fancy dress costumes wandering the village in search of a few sweets, and some of the tiny tots who had a lot of fun, but some residents were more frightening than the witches and ghouls that walked the streets.



planning applications

new planning applications have been received for

- New house in Manor Close
- Listed building improvements at Wycherts
- Ivy Farm (withdrawn)

your Parish Council

Phil Taylor 850182 *Chair*
phil@philtaylor.demon.co.uk
Marion Judd 850434 *Vice-Chair*
mbjudd@supanet.com
Keith Little 850094
Bernard Mead 850783
bernardmead@westhagbourne.org
Sue Totterdell 850080
susan.totterdell@pharm.ox.ac.uk



the clerk

Roger Sweet 850492
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

newsletter deadlines

- December 30 November
 - February 30 January 2007
- please email copy for inclusion to parishclerk@westhagbourne.org



notice board

The Parish Council has two notice boards in the village – one by the bus shelter and another in York Road. There is also a public notice board on the bus shelter which residents are welcome to use, and if there's space available to use the York Road board (Jeff Powell holds a key) but please remember to remove notices as soon as they are out of date.

volunteers wanted to count traffic

Is there anyone who would be willing to help with our traffic counting on their computer? This is a time-consuming exercise and Marion Judd would welcome some help with it so that we can report on the year's survey by the end of the year. Please contact Marion on 850 434 if you could spare some time to help.

skill swap

There is now a feature on the website, so if you'd like to offer to do some ironing in return for someone to clear your gutters, or two hours dog walking in return for a trip to the dump - contact Janet and she'll put it in this new slot in the next newsletter

Please send the details of items to be included in the next newsletter to - janet@cockburn.plus.com or call her on VVVVVVVVVVV

Have your say!

New development in South Oxfordshire

We are preparing a plan that will shape the future of our district and we need you to help us make the best decisions

This is your chance to have your say and input into planning the future of your district

Find out about our Site Allocations Plan by coming along to one of our exhibitions where planning officers will be on hand to answer any questions you may have

All exhibitions run from 3pm to 8pm

Berinsfield Church Hall Monday 9 October

Chalgrove John Hampden Hall Monday 23 October

Henley Town Hall Thursday 19 October

Thame Town Hall Tuesday 10 October

Wallingford Town Hall Friday 30 October

Wheatley Merry Belle Thursday 12 October

Woodcote Village Hall Wednesday 25 October

For more information visit: www.southoxon.gov.uk/planning-policy

telephone: 01491 823725

email: planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk

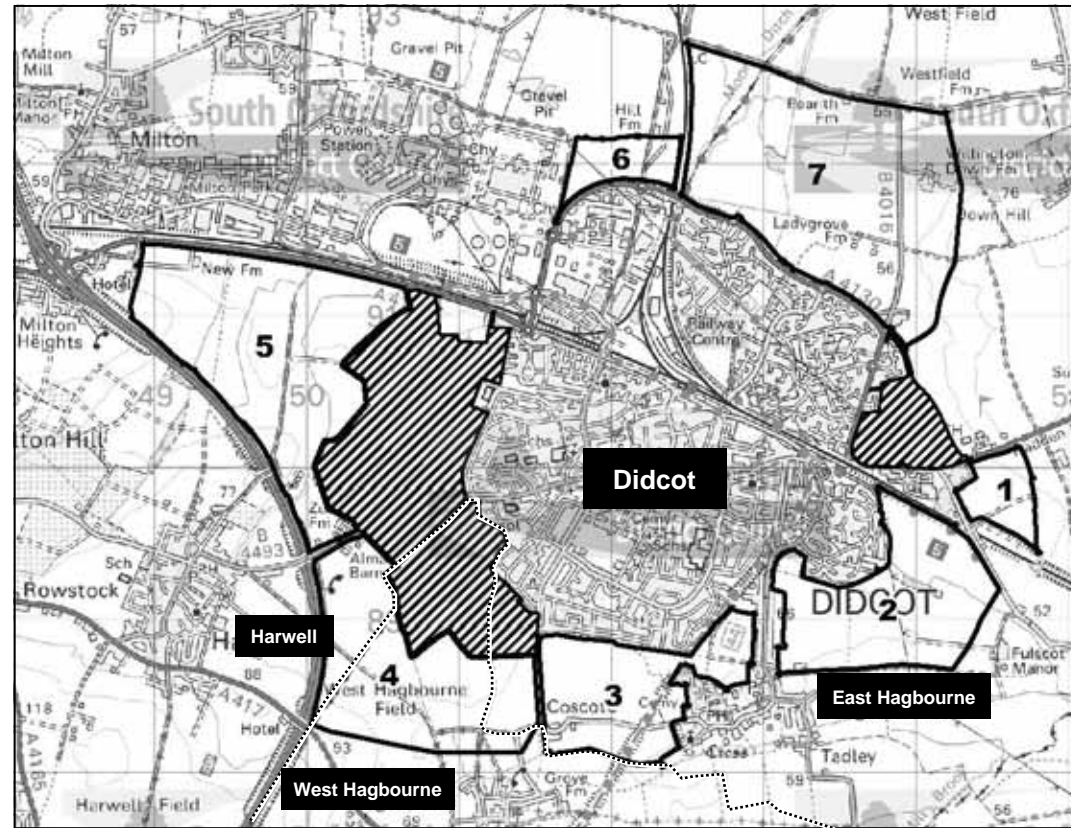
South Oxfordshire District Council

West Hagbourne newsletter

October 2006

Vol 2006 Issue 72

where will Didcot expand next ?



The hatched areas show the extent of land where planning permission is already with granted.

West Hagbourne Parish Boundary

South Oxfordshire District Council has instructed a *planning consultant* to work jointly for them and the Vale of White Horse in readiness for the forthcoming South East Plan Examination in Public.

They have been specifically instructed to *examine where to locate the NEXT 3,000 houses* proposed in the South East Plan which takes us up to 2026.

This is the plan showing the seven sites under consideration

As you can see, Area 4 comes within *half a field* of the village and would take a large part of West Hagbourne Parish.

This is the next stage of proposed housing - and comes after Great West Park's 3,300 houses which have now been granted planning.

The consultants assure us that they are fully aware of the complex planning history and current situation surrounding housing development at Didcot, including the fact that it is immensely sensitive for both politicians and the public.

Nevertheless, they say they have a job to do, and are seeking to advise the two Councils where the "best" location or locations for these 3,000 dwellings would be, given the various physical and infrastructure constraints (flooding, landscape, wildlife, minerals, pollution and transport etc.).

The exercise is due to be completed by 22 December, in order to feed into the EIP process.

By that date, however, the outcome of the study will have had to have been considered by South

Oxfordshire, the Vale and Oxfordshire County Council, and have been the subject of public consultation.

A number of exhibitions to display the results of the study will be held between 30 October and 24 November, both in Didcot and the surrounding parishes. The Consultants will meet the Parish Council on November 9th.

It is very important you make your views known to both your District and County Councillor and to the consultants undertaking this consultation for SODC.

in this issue

Parish Council report

come and meet the planners at the next Parish Council Meeting on 9th November at 7.30

The Parish Council met on *Thursday the 14th September* at Hagbourne School. *General forum.*

There was no forum as no members of the public were present. But Patrick Greene gave a report as SODC District Councillor and OCC as County Councillor.

Planning applications

The Council considered the planning application for a new chalet bungalow on land adjoining 4 Manor Close. The Council decided to respond by saying it has no strong views on the application but has concerns that it would give the effect of overcrowding which would affect the scale of the street scene in Manor Close, and point out the overhead cables which infringe on the site.

The planning application for repairs and alterations for a barn conversion at Ivy Farm has been withdrawn and the application for nursery rooms and sleepover accommodation at Little Acorns Day Nursery has been granted by SODC.

Experimental traffic proposals

The white lines and some road markings and signs have now been removed on an

experimental basis and Oxfordshire Highways will now be requested to re-measure the speed of traffic through the village so it can be compared with the traffic speed as measured earlier this year.

It was noted that the nature of the driving of some traffic through the village has changed since the experiment started. The decision on which lines, markings and signs could legally be removed was taken by Oxfordshire Highways when it met parish councillors earlier in the summer but the Council will discuss with Highways whether some of the signs should be replaced.

Improvements to rights of way The Council discussed possible improvements to rights of way, especially some that link the village with Didcot and other villages. Suggestions for specific improvements will be discussed at the next Council meeting, including proposals of the Village Action Group which was set up as a consequence of the Parish Plan.

Land ownership map

A map suitable for recording land ownership has now been obtained and the Council will start to compile the information to be recorded on the map.

Land adjacent to the Horse and Harrow

The owners Greene King have confirmed their agreement that the plot could be released to the Council and, as the previous contractor has failed to start the work, further quotations for the site clearance have at last been obtained.

Hagbourne Village Hall

The Council was advised that there are proposals for a possible extension to Hagbourne Village Hall

Tyrrell Trust

The Council was advised that Mike Butler, who is a trustee of the Tyrrell Trust, has prepared a tenancy agreement for both the site and the adjacent unused allotment plot and the tenant will be signing both agreements. Mike Butler's work on this was much appreciated. The Council will now try to find out whether Thames Water has any plans for the adjacent field.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on *Thursday 9th November* at 7.30pm at Hagbourne School.



triplets

Julia Tiller gave birth to triplets *James, Isabel and Sophie* in November 2005. They are all doing fine.

This is a memorable occasion for West Hagbourne.

Keith Walton



Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)

This virus belongs to the same class and behaves very similarly to the human virus responsible for AIDS. However, there is no cross-infection between species: FIV is entirely cat-specific. The key feature of the disease is that a cat may be infected many years before clinical signs are shown. During this latent period however, the cat will shed virus particles in its body fluids and therefore potentially infect other cats.

What are the clinical signs?

There are no signs of latent infection – the cat will appear normal in every respect. Signs associated with active infection are variable and consistent with suppression of the immune system. Suspicion that a cat has an active infection is based on poor response to treatment for common ailments and general malaise. Ultimately a cat with an active infection will die.

How can my cat become infected?

Infection involves transference of body fluids containing virus particles into a healthy cat. There are therefore four main routes of transmission:

- Birth of kittens from an infected queen
- Sexual activity
- Bite wounds
- Grooming

A cat cannot catch the virus through mere contact with another cat, nor by sharing its environment; there must be transference of body fluids. It should also be stated that infection does not always occur, so a bite

from an infected cat does not guarantee that the bitten cat will be infected. However, the more intense the contact and the greater the duration of exposure to infected fluids the greater the chance of contracting the disease.

Fighting, and more specifically biting, is the main route of transmission.

Domestic cats versus feral cats

Cats are free-roaming animals and all parts of the country have communities of feral cats. By its nature, a feral cat community will indulge in all four of the main routes of transmission. Most domestic pet cats are neutered, which rules out the first two routes, makes fighting less likely and unless the cat is part of a multi-cat household rules out inter-cat grooming.

For this reason, in any geographical area the feral cat population will tend to be either infected with FIV or completely unaffected; the domestic cat population will be sporadically affected, depending on the status of the feral population and whether any domestic pets have been brought into the community from another geographic area.

How does this affect West Hagbourne?

Recently, a domestic pet cat developed symptoms consistent with FIV infection, tested positive for the virus and sadly had to be put to sleep. A short time earlier a sick feral cat with similar symptoms was brought to us and had to be destroyed. This implies that the West Hagbourne area is an area positive for the virus. It is likely that if other feral cats were to be tested they would be positive also.

What is the risk to my cat?

Fortunately the risks are not high: this positive virus status has not developed overnight, but has only been brought to light by the disease in a pet. There is often very little communication between wild and domestic cats, so fighting is the only risk. If other pets are infected they may pose a risk, but again only if there is fighting or prolonged grooming. If your cat never fights there is no risk.

village history group

Please note the following changes to the office bearers after the last AGM.

current office bearers:

Chairman:

Josie Hill 01235 210900

Secretaries:

Val Walton 01235 851089

Diane Garland 01235 850624

Treasurer:

Linda Thompson 01235 851240

How should I protect my cat?

There is no vaccine for this disease, so the only way to guarantee protection is to keep your cat as a house-pet; a situation that is somewhat unnatural and may be poorly tolerated by many cats. It may be better to accept that there is FIV in the area and continue to let your cat lead a normal life: the disease status of the area hasn't changed and your cat has remained free from the virus up to now. However, there are ways in which you can reduce the risk of infection:

The peak times for cats to fight are dawn and dusk. Therefore, encouraging your cats to stay indoors at these times and overnight will significantly reduce the risk.

Garden fences can be fitted with wire mesh overhangs, to encourage a cat to stay in its own garden. The Feline Advisory Bureau can offer advice on this.

What if my cat has FIV?

This is a grey area. The fact that a cat has FIV does not necessarily mean that it will develop clinical disease (there may be many pet cats positive for the virus that we don't know about) although most do. Theoretically your pet may pass the virus onto another cat, but only through biting; if your cat does not fight it will not endanger other cats. If you have an FIV positive cat and it is the village bruiser, fighting with any cats that come onto its territory, then the responsible course of action would be to ensure that it is confined to the house or a run if it will tolerate it. If your FIV positive cat strays little from your garden and tends to keep itself to itself then the risks of it passing on the disease are much reduced and certainly less than from the local feral population.

When should I have my cat tested for FIV?

A general rule of thumb used by some specialist cat vets is a "three strikes policy" i.e. the third time a cat is seen for a bite wound then it is tested.



Memorial trees

For people who may wish to plant a tree within the parish in memory of a deceased family member, a system is now in place to help them do this.

The History Society has agreed to keep a record of trees planted and this will develop over time into a historical document for future generations.

If anyone decides they would like to plant a tree in memory of someone, please either follow the procedure below or contact the Parish Clerk for advice:

- identify your preferred spot (e.g. somewhere on the parish boundary or along a hedgerow)
- ask the landowner's permission to plant the tree
- once permission has been obtained
- choose and plant your tree

Contact the History Society, to have your tree entered onto the register and village map (Eve Setch at Wycherts, Main Street). You will be asked to provide the name, year of birth and death of the deceased person, the type of tree, date planted, where it is located and who planted it (relationship to deceased).

The map and register can be viewed by contacting the History Society.

Heavy lorry watching

It would help the village's traffic problems if more people would report overweight vehicles seen passing through Main Street whenever possible through the Parish Clerk who can then record how big the problem has become.

Residents with an interest in taking action to prevent heavy vehicles passing through the village in breach of stated weight limits are reminded of the procedure for reporting details of these vehicles as given in the February newsletter:

Drivers of heavy vehicles/loads that flout the permitted weight limit by passing through Main Street can be reported directly to OCC's Trading Standards service who say they will take action.

Forms for reporting vehicles to OCC are available from the Parish Clerk.

The OCC Trading Standards department can also be contacted directly by:

Contact them on 0845 051 0845 or email trading_standards@oxfordshire.gov.uk

website: <http://www.oxon-tss.org.uk/>

address: OCC Trading Standards Service, PO Box 618, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1DX

You can phone or visit their website to find out about the wide range of consumer advice leaflets available.

Useful information provided includes how to stop unwanted junk mail and cold calling and explains how you can block premium rate calls.

next newsletter

This has been a busy time of year, especially for younger members of the village.

You may have taken public exams, be off to University, or planning an exciting gap year, or about to start your first job.

You may have taken part in adventure trips, a musical or sporting activities here or abroad.

Do tell the rest of the village about your activities.

Please send items and pictures for the next Newsletter to janet@jcockburn.plus.com before the end of November

