

next meeting

The next meeting of the *Parish Council* will be held on *Thursday 8th January* starting at *7.30pm* in Hagbourne School

hedges

Please ensure your hedges are kept trimmed back to boundary lines especially where they are next to, or overhang the highway.

cream tea

To raise funds for Helen & Douglas House. Come and enjoy a cream tea and mince pies at Broomsticks on *Tuesday 9th December* from *4.30 pm* Everyone welcome, and all proceeds will go to Helen & Douglas House.

potholes

if you find there is a particular pothole on your road which needs attention please let the Parish Clerk know too or you can report it to Highways department *0845 310 11 11* www.oxfordshirehighways.org

neighbourhood watch

The village still needs a new co-ordinator to take on a *neighbourhood watch* role. For further details please contact the clerk.

christmas quiz

As part of the fundraising for a world challenge trip to Equador in 2009 *Saturday 6th December 7.30pm Upton Hall* (Teams of 6) Tickets include supper £ 8.00 Available from Ellie on 01235 850182

local recycling

when you need to recycle any of these items, please just drop them into the marked bins at Lenton, York Rd: *printer cartridges and mobile phones*
12 Manor Close: *old reading glasses*
Broomsticks *batteries*
Fairview, York Rd: *light bulbs*

last post dates

Second Class
Thursday 18th December
First Class
Saturday 20th December

and for *Airmail* Friday 5th December for South & Central America, Caribbean, Middle & Far East, Asia, New Zealand, Africa & Australia and Wednesday 10th December for Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe



A replacement for the broken trough is now in position by the pond and looking great !

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local cards

A range of blank cards of images taken around the village in the snow are available from Ellie Taylor on 01235 850 182



crash & run away

On Friday afternoon just after 3.30pm a small blue car was travelling eastwards collided with a resident's vehicle at the corner of Main Street by Foxglove Lane.

The offending driver barely stopped for long enough to say 'sorry' and then just simply drove on leaving the scene of the accident. The owner of the innocent car Kerry Coleman of York Road, was left very upset and in shock. Her car was almost written off, still in the middle of the road with the entire drivers side seriously damaged.

Thames Police confirmed CCTV footage is being used identify the driver.

If anyone saw the offending car please pass any information you have to the Police on *0845 8 505 505*

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West Hagbourne news

December 2008 issue 86



It is vital that the Parish continues to raise its voice over the detailed planning NOW - as the developers will then proceed to put the details together for everything from style of building, roads, cycle paths and lighting.

Has any consideration at all been given to the residents of Didcot: who already resort to using our unclassified road to get to/from work? The growth of Didcot will, in no uncertain terms, make it harder for them to get around, as well as cause greater traffic flow through West Hagbourne.

The traffic models used by the developers and Highways department, suggest 'they' have plans to reduce the flow through road planning. Sufficient to reduce traffic to one eighth of its 2006 volume !

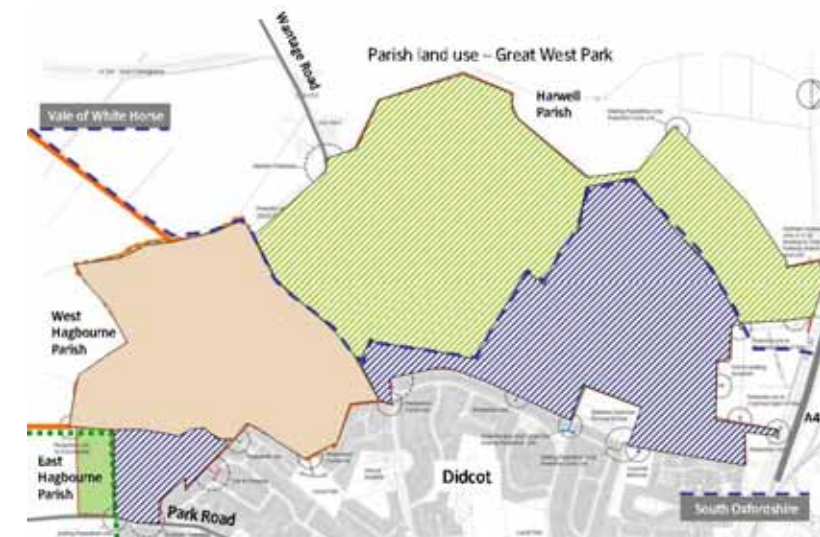
This Parish Council disputes that this is possible and will continue to lobby on residents' behalf.

Current boundaries

This map puts things firmly in perspective. It shows the development divided by the current Parish Boundaries.

No housing is actually planned to be built in East Hagbourne, and over 1,000 within the parish of West Hagbourne

Traffic from most of the site is to be limited by bus gates from entering Portway and Park Road, though some housing will only have access to Park Road.



next stage plans

TaylorWimpey the Developers of Great Western Park - and their partners - in presenting the next stage of the growth of Didcot, have released their refined outline plans for land use.

The extract shown here on the left, may change slightly before their *public exhibition* which is due to be held at Cornerstone Arts Centre - *between 1.30 and 7.00pm on Wednesday 3rd December* but it clearly shows some changes in the separation of the town from the countryside.

The much promised green buffer has been eroded, which has implications for everything from sound and light pollution, to how the new housing will impact on the visual landscape of West Hagbourne.

As ever, town planners take little account of Parish Boundaries, local knowledge or deep felt concerns about traffic; though their own policies demand that they should.

The Parish Council continues to voice its deep felt concerns over the reliance on residents of Didcot and beyond, being able to access the Harwell site and the A34 southbound, via the wholly inadequate road which twists its way through West Hagbourne, which planners, SODC and OCC currently dispute.

Even if in flagrant disregard for its own policy, South Oxfordshire District Council seems happy to rely on others for traffic considerations. Their own Local Plan states it will do all it can to protect Conservation Areas, and the residents own safety/ Yet this village still has no continuous footway, constantly finds itself accommodating overweight goods vehicles and has become immune to the sound of minor collisions & breaking glass, as traffic forces its way around the winding lane which is relied upon as an essential feeder road for Didcot.

in this issue

Parish Council

keep warm guide

Mayoral visit

St George plans

crash & run

Obituary

the trough is replaced

ATTENTION RESIDENTS!

Exhibition of the Developers current plans

Cornerstone
The Arts Centre
in Didcot
1.00 to 9.00pm
Wednesday
3rd December

Merry Christmas to one and all

meetings of the parish council

The Parish Council last met at Hagbourne School on *Thursday 13th November*.

Cllr Patrick Greene gave his apologies

The Council is concerned over West Hagbourne having been defined as an unsustainable village and it was agreed to write to SODC and to follow up on the response received which contradicts what the Council has been told in the past.

It has become increasingly important for the village to ensure the Parish Plan is kept up-to-date, as they are being referred to by planning authorities and used in conjunction with policy decisions.

Finance

The External Audit has been returned and was formally accepted by Parish Council.

The Budget was agreed for 2009/10. Only minor adjustments were made to allow for inflation / increases. A full copy is available.

The replacement planter by the pond, once installed, is to be insured by the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed to spend up to £160 on this item, and so far the History Group have agreed to donate £50. The Village Association will also be asked if they wish to contribute towards the costs.

Monthly report on expenditure was approved
Traffic

Following the last meeting OCC Highways have reported back that the chevron for Brook Lane has been ordered and the signs discouraging vehicles leaving A34 have been ordered.

The Mile stone repositioning has been queried by OCC and all of the other points raised at the last meeting are yet to be actioned by Highways.

SCOTS Report – it is unclear to whom we respond to on this report. (possibly Huw Jones in Environment & Economy). A hard copy of this report required. PT believes we are being sent a copy in the post following the recent Town & Parish Council Meeting held by OCC & SODC at Crowmarsh, attended by PT & MJ.

Planning Applications

The council agreed to include reference numbers in this section from now on to help residents find documents online. It is likely that at some point soon, all planning will be dealt with in this way.

- PO7/W0787 - Ivy Farm Appeal – barn conversion – appeal decision awaited.
- PO8/W0187/LB - Grove Farm – French doors – granted.
- PO8/Wo9221 - Grove Terrace – withdrawn.
- PO8/W0948 - 10 Manor Close – loft conversion – granted.
- PO8/W1080/AG - Hagbourne Farm Partners – grain store – planning permission not required.
- PO8/W1087 - Corbiere – rear extension – revised plans submitted– All Councillors agreed to respond with ‘No strong views’.

Litter pick – this will be carried out when the weather improves. Date to be arranged.

Village Maintenance

Maintenance of Village seats – Terry Pritchard has kindly offered to stain the seat under chestnut tree in the Square.

Moor Lane – Oxford Conservation Volunteers have agreed to carry out some work in Moor Lane subject to an ecological strategy.

Ash – Power Station have confirmed that their ash is no longer suitable for lanes/pathways so Clerk to investigate scalplings instead.

Free Trees will be delivered soon. Where should they go? Moor Lane is the preferred option. It was agreed to establish a strategy for future plantings.

TB asked whether a working party could get together to improve the general state of the pond and remove the rubbish / weed / bollard etc. It was suggested sometime in the Spring would be best, and this could be done with the permission of Chris and Sue Lay as they are the owners of the pond.

Consultations

- Communities in Control – responded
 - SE Plan – responded.
 - SCOTS report – see separate item
- Developer's Liaison Meeting*

The chair reported his attendance at the first of these meetings at which he questioned the reduction of the green buffer zone, the missing footpath from their drawings and the traffic planning. He submitted a report to Councillors on other items suggested for consideration in the design of the development, including the change in design of the cycle ways, street lighting and early planting of trees in all areas, from the outset. Light pollution was also raised.

In the future all affected Parishes are going to be involved in any 106 Agreements from the outset. This was NOT the case with regard to Great Western Park, and it has been recognised by SODC but cannot be remediated now.

A second Liaison Group Meeting will be held on the 20th November 2008 which is to be followed by a Public Exhibition of this part of the extension of Didcot on *3rd December* but only from 1.00pm to 9pm at Cornerstone.

Date of next meeting – *Thursday 8th January* at 7.30pm at East Hagbourne School

The Parish Council wish everyone in the Parish a very happy festive season and would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank on your behalf of you, to all those who do their bit around the village and beyond, from picking up litter to clearing footpaths and maintaining the planting.

A special thanks to Tracey for printing the newsletter, to Dave Totterdell for his work on Moor Lane and the garden by the bus shelter, to Chris Lay for his help in removing trees in Moor Lane and Rowan Napper for his help in bring back to life the land by the Horse & Harrow. Also to Ken Bishop for his work on the entrances to the village, Rob Allin for strimming by Scotland's Ash and to our Clerks, Roger Sweet and his successor Michelle Lightfoot.

Parish Council

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planning applications

These are now available as web links via the west site at www.westhagbourne.org

newsletter

This newsletter is *published by* West Hagbourne Parish Council

We welcome contributions on all subjects and in particular anything of relevance on issues that directly affect the residents of the parish of West Hagbourne.

copy deadlines

February issue 30 January 2009

April 30 March

June 30 June

please e-mail copy for inclusion to parishclerk@westhagbourne.org or drop off at Brookmead.

for England and St George

St Georges' Day celebration, April 2009

Members of the History Group and the Village Association met together on 17th November to plan a St Georges' Day celebration for the village. With events taking place on the actual day, which is *Thursday 23rd April* and then on the following weekend *Saturday 25th April*.

Lots of exciting ideas were discussed and more suggestions from residents on activities they would enjoy, would be welcomed. If you have some good ideas, please contact any member of the Village Association or the History Group.



Main Street

Over a hundred years ago Main Street in the village was a slightly different place to the busy thoroughfare we experience today.

Then it was little more than a lane for horse & cart but was safe enough to walk up the middle of the road - not something you'd want to do today.

Penelope Duck

Penny passed away peacefully on Saturday 1st November 2008 aged 62 years after a long battle with cancer.

She will be greatly missed by her husband Michael, her son Richard and his wife Sammie, son Stephen, her parents Joan and Dave, and granddaughters Kiera andayah.

The family would like to thank all her friends and neighbours for the messages of condolence, the floral tributes at the funeral, and the comfort she received from those who visited her and kept her going during her darkest days.

Donations can be sent to the Woodlands Surgery District Nurses charitable trust fund who provided so much care and support.

Mayoral visit

Twin Town Mayor visits West Hagbourne

The last weekend of September saw the visit of a party of residents from Didcot and district's Twin town, Meylan. As usual they were hosted by members of the association, many of whom live in West Hagbourne.

Our French visitors are always charmed by our pretty village, delighting in the thatched cottages and the traditional English gardens. This year we also had the pleasure of hosting the Mayor of Meylan, Marie-Christine Tardy, who stayed with Sue and Dave Totterdell. Although her visit was short, in addition to seeing the new Cornerstone and Didcot's town centre, there was time for a walk around West Hagbourne, taking in the conservation area, the pond and the countryside out to the Sustrans track. This was her first opportunity to enjoy at first hand a typical small village in south Oxfordshire and she was obviously enchanted.

As Meylan, which is close to Grenoble, is also under pressure from developers, this was a useful opportunity to show her what is at risk from Didcot's planned expansion.

top tips for keeping warm

By setting your heating to the right temperature, you can keep your home warm and lower your bills. During the day set the thermostat to 21°C (70°F), and during the night set it to no higher than 18°C (64°F).

Set your heating to come on just before you get up and switch off after you've gone to bed. If it's very cold, set your heating to come on earlier and turn off later rather than turning the thermostat up.

If you can't heat all of the rooms you use, heat the living room throughout the day and your bedroom just before you go to bed. Remember to close curtains and shut doors to keep heat in the rooms you use most.

If you have open fires make sure they are properly ventilated. Use safety guards and don't hang your washing near the open flames. If you use a fire or heater in your bedroom at night, always keep a window and door open.

Use your electric blanket as instructed and get it tested every three years. Remember never to use an electric blanket and a hot water bottle together.

Switch your appliances (such as televisions and microwaves) off rather than leaving them on standby. This will save money and energy and help you to Act On CO2.

For more information on energy efficiency, you can call 0800 316 2805 (8am–6pm Mon–Fri and 9am–5pm Sat) or visit www.warmfront.co.uk/energy-efficiency-advice.htm

Energy Saving Trust

The Trust's local advisers provide free, impartial advice on making your home more energy efficient. They can also tell you about grants for implementing energy efficient measures that may be available in your local area. Call 0800 512 012 (9am–5pm Mon–Fri) to speak to an adviser, or visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Jean Heapy

It was with sadness we report the death on November 17th of Jean Heapy, 74, whilst on a Christmas shopping trip in Oxford, she fell after an incident in Queen Street; a homeless woman has been charged with manslaughter

Jean and her husband Peter both worked tirelessly on the Cemetery and their hard work will continue to be of benefit to all of us living in the Hagbournes for many years to come.