

## next meeting

The next meeting of the *Parish Council* will be held on **Thursday 12th March** starting at **7.30pm** in Hagbourne School

## litter pick

Provisionally arranged for **28th March** at **2pm** subject to the weather being fine.

## roads & holes

if you find there is a particular pothole on your road which needs attention please let the Parish Clerk know, or you can report it yourself to Highways department **0845 310 11 11** [www.oxfordshirehighways.org](http://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.

## 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**  
**old reading glasses**  
**batteries**  
**light bulbs**

## rat problems

If you are suffering from an increase in the number of rats around your property or have an infestation, let the clerk know so she can pass on the information to Environmental Services who are concerned about the issue.

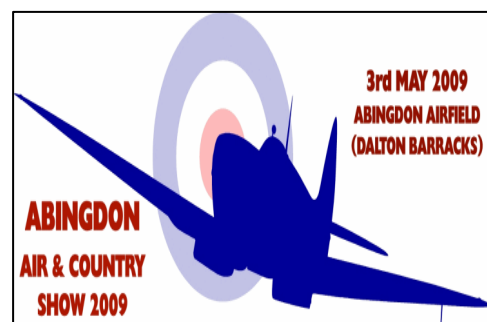
## paperboy message

"Thankyou for the generous tips received over the Christmas period Happy New Year, Harry!"

## diabetes?

Woodlands Medical Centre, Didcot, are hosting a talk by Professor David Matthews on 'Managing Diabetes'. Aimed at helping patients and carers to manage diabetes and will cover: What is diabetes? How does it affect you? Keeping control. How to manage diabetes when you are ill. Healthy eating **Monday 20th April 2009** 7pm at Cornerstone Arts Centre

no charge but places may be limited. Please book places call 01235 750524.



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## St George's Day 2009

This year the Village Association, supported by the Village History Group, will be organising various events to celebrate St George's Day.

These will include a dragon competition with a prize for the best dragon on display, and a prize-winning history quiz. Competition results will be announced at a **St George's Day supper** open to all villagers, including children, which will be held on **Saturday 25th April** in Hagbourne Village Hall.

So please put this date in your diaries now!

More details will be included in the next newsletter and will be available on the village website.

## madge trophy 2009

This year judging will be in September.

## village association AGM

Will be held on **Tuesday 24th March**, at **7.30pm** at the George & Dragon, in Upton. All welcome.

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# West Hagbourne news

February 2009 issue 87

## accidents happen

Within a week, there were two significant collisions in the west end of the village. A multiple vehicle incident happened at the foot of Hagbourne Hill which saw the Air Ambulance land by Scotland's Ash and required the Fire Brigade to cut a driver free from the wreckage.



On another day, a head on collision involving two cars happened right outside the Horse & Harrow.

Concern has been raised over the perceived speed on this stretch of Main Street, but measurement of flow and actual recorded speed in the last week of November in 2008, shows that only 12 vehicles were travelling between 46 and 51mph - nothing faster.

The mean average speed of traffic travelling westbound was measured as 31.2mph whilst the Eastbound result was lower at 25.5mph.

## long term traffic plan

Oxfordshire County Council has recently published its South Central Oxfordshire Traffic Strategy (SCOTS) report, which has considered the impact and requirements of traffic in the Didcot / Wantage area.

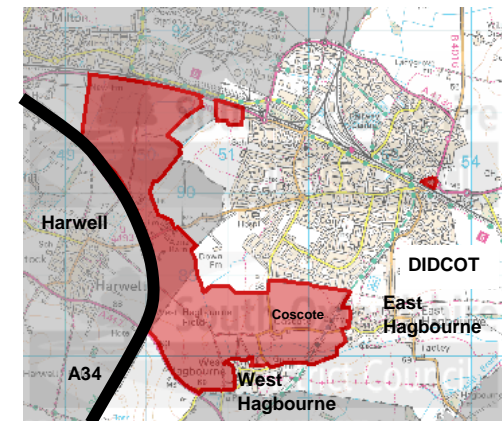
The report considers the impact of increased vehicular usage and mathematical modelling on what would happen if things like a perimeter road was added to Didcot, improvements were made to Featherbed lane or if some roundabouts were improved, including Rowstock.

Much of this document is hypothetical, but it does try to answer where the most sustainable location for new growth could be, in transport terms. This inevitably puts forward the conclusion that Didcot, and its proposed development sites best meet the criteria for the 'specific area' under consideration.

The Parish Council does not believe that its conclusions make sense and intend to question OCC.

## now what ?

In one very detailed submission to SODC, a planning consultant (RPS) has proposed a site for development that swallows up Coscote and all of the land stretching from the A420 to A417. The boundary of the area comes right up to the back gardens of Main Street, Manor Close and York Road with no buffer zones shown.



The proposals will be considered in South Oxfordshire District Council's core strategy for the period 2016-26 which is still being prepared.

The Vale of White Horse have already included the part of this area which is in their District in their draft core strategy which is in consultation now. See the web site for links to the documents and higher resolution maps.

The Parish Council is very concerned that these proposals must have been discussed in advance of them being made public, and as a result of the Vales decision to move forward on this specific area, the Hagbournes are now under significant threat of being subsumed by Didcot.

These plans gather pace and appear to represent a real threat to West Hagbourne, its conservation area, and the maintenance of a significant rural gap between settlements. SODC policies should protect its rural villages and the best agricultural land but they are under strong pressure from central Government to deliver building sites for thousands more houses and seem to have decided on Didcot as the best location. Meanwhile developers would rather put all the houses in one site than provide infrastructure to several locations.

If the proposals are implemented in their present form, the Parish of West Hagbourne could be reduced to half of its present area.

With Great Western Park, already approved, it appears that the consultation process is about to start again.

**West Hagbourne residents should make sure that SODC is no doubt how they feel about the proposed traffic schemes and development sites at every opportunity.**

## in this issue

Police

Parish Council

St Georges Day

Carers sought

Footpath upgrade

Snowman missing

the advance of the wheelie bin

Oxfordshire Highways' own figures show that **peak hour traffic travelling through the village has increased by 30%** in the last two years, and no new houses have been built yet !

Village Association  
**AGM**

24th March

## meetings of the parish council

The Parish Council last met at Hagbourne School on **Thursday 8th January**.

John Thornhill gave his apologies

No members of the public were present.

### District and County Councillor's report

PG referred to possible "bin taxes" in the future and assured the Council this will not affect SODC. He also confirmed that recycling contracts will be honoured for recycling waste.

The Council expressed their sadness at the loss of Monica Lawson, Chair of East Hagbourne Parish Council. Memorial Service to be held at St Andrews Church on Saturday 17th January at 10.30 am.

The SCOTS report has not arrived in hard copy. PT suggested that East and West Hagbourne challenge the contents of this report together with representatives from the Consultants who produced the Report attending an arranged meeting where they can explain the implications the report will have upon the two villages. PG would help facilitate.

The Character Study of West Hagbourne is missing from the Local Development Scheme 2008-2011. PG to query.

PG asked to be copied in on all relevant correspondence – especially regarding the recently visible 'development sites', which is of great concern to the council.

### Traffic

Following the last meeting OCC Highways have fixed the chevron in Brook Lane and the signage for Didcot changed to discourage vehicles leaving A34 at Chilton.

The listed Milestone repositioning has yet to be actioned by Oxfordshire Highways.

The Council will meet with County to discuss the implications. This to be in conjunction with East Hagbourne who are as likely to be affected by any new changes.

### Planning Applications

Application no. PO7/W0787 - Ivy Farm Appeal – barn conversion – Refused (dismissed)

Application no. PO8/W1087 - Corbiere – rear extension – revised plans circulated – Refused

### Village Maintenance

Maintenance of Village seats – Terry Pritchard offered to stain seat under tree – stain purchased – will do this in the Spring.

### Litter pick

to be carried out when the weather is fine. Provisionally arranged for **28th March**.

## local Policing

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the village a Happy New Year and hope that everyone had a good Christmas.

We will be planning Police Surgeries again soon. Notices will be put up in advance around the village with dates and times.

We also have school talks booked in for the next month, in and around Hagbourne. We will be covering neighbourhood issues such as criminal

### Moor Lane

PT met with Cynthia Napper on 12th January to discuss a formalisation of an environmental strategy before any work can be carried out by OCVF.

Planings/scalping have been sought from Oxfordshire Highways and ML is arranging for these to be delivered to Moor Lane. Working Party will be required to spread along Moor Lane. Date to be confirmed.

ST confirmed that Chris and Sue Lay are happy for native species of shrubs to be planted along the railway embankment up to the bridge at Church Footpath.

### Correspondence

Roger Sweet has asked for some help, either with the upkeep of the Didcot Development section of the website or for it to be "adopted" by WHPC in order that it is kept updated with the latest information.

This was discussed and agreed to improve the flow of information about links to relevant locations, with the intention of keeping text to a minimum.

The obligations of the Council may become complicated on this - as the Council is not permitted to do more than simply reporting the facts, and providing the core information.

### Adopt a Kiosk

It was agreed that the BT phone box should be kept in the village and adopted by the Parish, though in a non operational state – Clerk to investigate cost of "adopting it". The History Group had supported this option in advance of the meeting.

### Freedom of Information

a new scheme needs to be adopted formally from January 2009 with a model guide. To be added to agenda for March meeting.

New Trough will be covered under the Insurance Policy at no extra cost.

Litter in Park Road ditch is unacceptable – includes a TV. Clerk to write to EH Parish Council to ask them to organise clearance.

It was suggested that there could be a joint memorial to Monica Lawson put in place by both EHPC and WHPC. Clerk to write expressing condolences and to suggest perhaps a tree or plaque in her memory at some point where the two Parish boundaries meet.

Date of next meeting – **Thursday 12th March** at 7.30pm at East Hagbourne School

damage, anti-social behaviour etc...

We will also be attending Parish Council meetings and Neighbourhood Watch meetings, where we will be discussing recent issues and plans for the coming year.

If anyone has any questions or queries or you need police advice please call **0845 8505505**  
PCSO Clare Beale

## Parish Council

**Phil Taylor** Chair 850 182

phil.taylor@westhagbourne.org

**Marion Judd** Vice-Chair 850 434

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**John Thornhill** 850 489

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## Parish Clerk

**Michelle Lightfoot** 851 875

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## District Councillor

**Patrick Greene** 813 396

patrick.greene@southoxon.gov.uk

## County Councillor

**Patrick Greene** 813 396

patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk

## planning applications

These are now available as web links via the west site at [www.westhagbourne.org](http://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](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org) or drop off at Brookmead.

## have you some time to spare?

Have you got some time to spare to meet someone new and help them?

Our scheme to train and place volunteers is gathering speed, and we already have a terrific team in the field.

But here at the South & Vale Carers Centre in Didcot we would like to recruit more: would you be interested in helping out someone caring for a relative in their own home? You would be introduced to a household where the carer and the cared-for person are living, and asked to stay in the home while the carer took some time off: perhaps an hour a month, perhaps an afternoon a week.

Chris Elliott is waiting to hear from anyone interested, and has much more information to give.

Please email her at the Carers Centre

[chris@svcarers.org.uk](mailto:chris@svcarers.org.uk)

or phone her there on **01235 510212**

She will be delighted you've called!

## it must be Parents' evening!

Sweaty palms? Dry mouth? Heart beating fast?

As a parent, it can be very stressful going into school to hear about your child's progress, even when your child is doing well. You wonder what the teacher is going to say and hope there aren't any problems.

For parents whose children have additional needs, for example SEN/LDD (Special educational needs/learning difficulties and/or disabilities) those feelings of stress can be multiplied several times over. Even keeping up with the changing jargon in education can be a challenge!

It's so much easier if they have someone at the meeting with them so that they can be sure they heard what was being said or be clear what has been agreed. Having the chance to talk things through beforehand with someone who is good at listening can make all the difference. It helps a parent make sure they are clear about what they want to say at the meeting and helps everyone focus on what is important for their child.

Could you support a parent in this way? All you need is

- Some spare time
- An interest in education
- To be good at listening and seeing things through

It doesn't require a regular time commitment; you get to decide how much time you can offer.

Training is provided and all expenses paid so you won't be thrown in at the deep end or out of pocket.

### INTERESTED ?

Parent Partnership Oxfordshire

ring 01865 810516 for details

or e-mail

[parentpartnership@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:parentpartnership@oxfordshire.gov.uk)



## new waste collection services

A new service for rubbish and recycling will start in South Oxfordshire in **June** of this year ( and in the Vale of White Horse from October 2010 ) with the introduction of wheelie bins.

The District Council will be running a full communications campaign to inform residents of the changes and the roll out of the scheme.

The 'new service' will include:

- weekly separate **food waste** collection in a kerbside bin
- fortnightly **residual waste** collection in wheeled bins
- fortnightly collections of dry **recyclables** in wheeled bins (which will now include glass)



The existing ( paid for ) Brown Bin for garden waste will remain as a fortnightly service.

Over the next few South Oxfordshire will be working closely with Town and Parish councils to identify those properties that may have difficulties storing and using wheeled bins and to provide

## footpath improvements

After many years of lobbying by the Parish Council, responding to requests to make it possible to safely walk along this part of Main Street without getting wet feet; the footway between York Road and the Horse& Harrow has been recently been resurfaced.

A solution to the constant dislodging of the kerbing has been implemented, with posts now protecting the ramped areas which replace the exposed corners that kept being hit by vehicles.

The construction of the cobblestone kerbing has been changed around the manholes which sit on the line of the kerb, and the path itself re-aligned and the grass verges tidied up.

Concerns over the visibility of the hardwood posts have been raised and the Highways Department have given assurances that reflective roundels will be affixed soon.



## snow days



In early February the significant snowfall closed schools and children all round the village enjoyed at least one snow day!

The village and surrounding fields were strewn with a collection of snowmen.

This one in York Road was one of the tallest !