



next meeting

The next meeting of the *Parish Council* will be held on **Thursday 14th May** starting at **7.30pm** in Hagbourne School. The Council will hold its Annual Meeting first, which will be followed by an ordinary meeting.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** is due to be held on Saturday **16th May** at 3pm in the garden of Broomsticks which will be attended by your local MP the Rt Hon. **Ed Vaizey**

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 or you can directly email to the depot by using southernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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**
12 Manor Close: **old reading glasses**
Broomsticks **batteries**
Fairview, York Rd: **light bulbs**

artsweeks 2009

Helen Winthorpe Kendrick is again holding an exhibition of her textiles at 'Driftway' in York Road, West Hagbourne during the Oxfordshire Artweeks 2009. It will include framed and 3D pieces of creative embroidery, incorporating fabric, oil pastel, paper, and computer parts. You will be welcome any time between **1.00 - 6.00 pm** from **Saturday 16th May** to **Monday 25th May** (Thursday 21st May, open until 8.00 pm). Refreshments will be available with proceeds going to the Alzheimer's Research Trust."

St George's dragon supper

25th April Hagbourne Village Hall **7:30pm**
Delicious pies, potatoes and puds. There will be a raffle and the winner of the best dragon will be announced. Tickets Adults £5, children £3 will be on sale up until 20th April and available from:

Betty Kendrick 850788 Val Walton 851089
Hazel Rack 851241 Mike Parker 851389

quiz

Saturday 9th May
Upton Village Hall **7:30pm**
Tickets £8 including hot supper
Ecuador fund raiser for World Challenge
See notice boards for more details

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parish councillor vacancy
Due to a recent resignation, there is a vacancy on the Parish Council.
If you would be interested in getting involved, or would like further information about what is expected, please contact the Clerk Michelle Lightfoot on 851 875
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

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West Hagbourne news

campaign starts

The Village Association kick starts its campaign in April to raise awareness of the threat to West Hagbourne from the extensive plans to expand Didcot.

By organising a series of events, centred around a Dragon Competition it hopes to highlight the issues affecting a small historical community.

St George was almost devoured by a Dragon and this theme continues with a quiz, village supper, and a special children's event.

Full details will be circulated to every house during the in the run up to St George's Day which is 23rd April.

tractor fire

Brook Lane came to a standstill recently when the engine of a tractor towing a heavy load of logs caught fire. The fumes could be smelt all across the village and the sound of sirens once again echoed across the parish.

The road was closed, with the emergency services attending, causing all sorts of traffic chaos from both ends as people tried to turn around and find alternative ways to continue their journeys.

growth of Didcot

If you haven't visited the web site recently, now is the time to have a look.

It features information about how plans to grow Didcot are likely to affect the Parish, the village, the roads and employment.

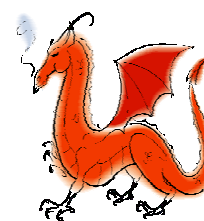
The Vale of White Horse has already put forward its detailed plans to build right up to the Parish Boundary, and by using developer funds drive a road through the fields very close to the west of Manor Close, and South Oxfordshire District Council has proposals for new housing to the north east of the town, with some post 2026 coming very close to West Hagbourne.

visit www.westhagbourne.org for links to the documents, response forms and further details

children's dragon workshop

There will be a dragon themed workshop for children on the afternoon of **Friday 17th April** run by Mrs Rosie Gardiner at Rowan in York Road

Some materials will be available. for more information and times please contact Rosie on 851091



St George's day quiz

In this month's West Hagbourne News you will discover a village quiz compiled by the History Group. This quiz forms a part of the village's celebration of St George's Day.

The answers will be unveiled and the winner announced at the St George's Day supper on 25th April at the Hagbourne Village Hall. There will be a £20 gift token for the winner. In the case of more than one correct entry lots will be a drawn to decide the winner. Entries must be completed by **20th April** at the latest.

They can be returned to any of the following: Ted Kendrick: Driftway, York Rd; Eva Pinkava, Longmynds, Foxglove Lane; Mary Wiley, Silva Felix, York Road or Fred and Edna Scott, Chapel Hayes, Main St. Don't forget to fill in your name and address at the bottom.

The quiz is open to everyone who lives in West Hagbourne. We hope that you will enjoy rediscovering your village as you try to answer the questions. Most of the answers are right under your noses.

Good luck!

The West Hagbourne History Group

dragon competition

To celebrate St George's Day the Village Association is holding a competition to build the best dragon in the village.

These need to be displayed *in front gardens* from **18th April** and judging will take place on the 23rd April

Prize giving will take place at the St George's day supper in Hagbourne village hall on the evening of Saturday 25th April.

The judge will be William Collings, landlord of the George and Dragon, Upton. The prize will be £25 voucher towards a meal for two at the George and Dragon or a voucher for HMV.

More details of the supper and where tickets can be obtained will be circulated to every house at the beginning of April.

Lets have a big turnout of dragons, fierce, fiery or funny!



in this issue

History Group

Kiosk adopted

Parish Council

Village Assoc AGM

Artsweeks '09

Ed Vaizey MP to attend the **Annual Parish Meeting** May 16th

there will be a green *skip* in **Foxglove Lane** for garden waste only
18th & 19th April

meeting of the parish council

The Parish Council last met at Hagbourne School on **Thursday 12th March**

Patrick Greene sent his apologies.

Alan Browse attended as a member of the public.

The Council passed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and correct record.

Finance

Monthly report on expenditure was agreed. There were two cheques for signature.

The cost of hiring the room at the School has increased to £15 per session. This increase was agreed with effect from May meeting.

Resignation – Councillor John Thornhill has resigned as a Councillor. The Council formally accepted his resignation and agreed to make the relevant changes to documents/bank account etc. The Council agreed to write and confirm resignation and thank him for his involvement.

The Clerk will advise SODC and publicise a vacancy, asking anyone interested to attend the next meeting in May.

Town & Parish Standards

The Clerk will send updated Code of Standards to NALC to confirm our own recently updated Standards are compliant, with a view to adopting any necessary amendments at the next meeting in May.

Traffic

A detailed meeting on the SCOTS report and its implications was held with East Hagbourne Parish Council. This may lead to a further meeting with Jacqui Cox (OCC). The Council have been given the opportunity to discuss ways to establish optimum routes that would reduce/remove West Hagbourne through traffic, as Didcot grows.

It was noted that there are still large vehicles causing damage through the village through driving over kerbs etc., and that the cob wall outside of "Wycherts" is being damaged by passing vehicles splashing it with water during wet weather. Advice to be sought from Highways as to how this might be protected in a more effective way.

Planning Applications

Application no. PO 8/W1346 – 10 Manor Close, single storey rear + side extension - APPROVED by SODC

Application no. PO9/W139 - Corbière – rear extensions with porch – new plans circulated – NO STRONG VIEWS from the Parish Council.

Application no. PO9W0002 Extension to existing agricultural building for housing livestock at Coscote Farm (Parish of East Hagbourne) – NO STRONG VIEWS (it was noted Coscote is not actually in the Parish of West Hagbourne)

Application no. PO9/W0167 Meadows Edge – side extension, single storey with accommodation in roof space – (Sue Totterdell declared an interest and took no part in the discussion) NO STRONG VIEWS from the Parish Council.

Village Maintenance

Maintenance of Village seats – Terry Pritchard will coat the seat in The Square with stain in the

coming weeks. The other seat in the square needs some maintenance along with the seat near Manor Farm.

Litter pick – to be carried out when the weather is fine; provisionally arranged for 28th March. Reminder to go out to residents – note to go on notice boards.

Grass cutting – Contract for 2009 to be carried out by Scion Estates as per last year. Slight amendment to area as verges will now be cut to 30 mph signs towards A417. Price increased slightly but still agreed to be good value.

Another load of scalping was to be requested from Enterprise, if possible. Clerk to organise.

Consultations

The Council agreed to respond to three consultations which have been, or are about to be published. SCOTS Report, Core Strategy SODC and Vale (received).

The Core Strategy for SODC is likely to affect this parish and full details will be made available on the web site in due course.

Correspondence

The Council discussed the implications of "Communities in Control: Real people, real power – Codes of recommended practice on local authority publicity" as this affects the obligations of the Council and how it promotes its views and comments on issues.

With this in mind it was agreed that the Parish Council would opt out of responsibility for 'publishing' of the village website (and the Newsletter) and would ask the Village Association to take formal 'ownership' of both.

The Parish Council will pay a nominal fee to the Village Association to use several pages on the website for its minutes and contact details. Clerk to write to the VA to suggest this as a way forward; also to ask Tracey Anderson to take on the publication of the Newsletter.

BT Adopt a Kiosk

The clerk reported that the application to adopt the phone box is in progress. There will be no phone in use, but the phone box will remain and will become the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain.

Freedom of Information

In order to adopt the new scheme reference documents have been requested.

Rubbish

Changes to waste collection (effective 8th June) – details of wheelie bins have been received.

Each household will receive full details nearer the time. It was noted that some residents may struggle with the bins.

Didcot Development

A meeting on the Expansion of Didcot will be held at the Cornerstone, Didcot on Thursday 26th March from 1 – 7 pm for attendees to "have their say". The Council agreed to distribute a flyer to inform residents of this, as the newsletter would not publish until April

The next ordinary Parish Council meeting will follow the AGM on **Thursday 14th May** at 7.30pm at East Hagbourne School

Parish Council

Phil Taylor Chair 850 182
phil.taylor@westhagbourne.org

Marion Judd Vice-Chair 850 434
marion.judd@westhagbourne.org

Tom Barker 850 858
tom.barker@westhagbourne.org

Sue Totterdell 850 080
susan.totterdell@westhagbourne.org

vacancy

Parish Clerk

Michelle Lightfoot 851 875
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

District Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396

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

newsletter

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

June	30 May
August	30 July
October	30 Sept
December	30 Nov

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

The **Annual Parish Meeting** is due to be held this year on **Saturday 16th May** at 3pm in the garden of Broomsticks and will be attended by your local MP the Rt Hon. **Ed Vaizey**

West Hagbourne news

St George patron saint of England

Surprisingly little is known about Saint George. According to tradition he was born to Christian parents in Cappadocia, now part of Turkey, in the 3rd century AD. George became a soldier in the Roman army in Palestine and quickly rose through the ranks during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian. George bravely denounced the Emperor for his extreme cruelty and persecution of Christians. He refused to deny his faith, even under torture and became a Christian martyr when he was beheaded on the 23rd of April in the year 303AD.

His reputation for virtue and chivalrous conduct became the spiritual inspiration for the Crusaders. The banner of St George, consisting of a red martyr's cross on a white background was probably adopted as the uniform and flag of English knights during the reign of Richard I. Later it became the national flag of England and forms part of Britain's Union Jack. It is also the flag of the Church of England and as such, appears on the font in St Andrew's Church in East Hagbourne.

The Crusaders brought back to England the myth of St George and the Dragon. There are many versions of this story but most speak of a town, possibly in Libya, which was terrorised by a dragon. A princess had been offered as a sacrifice to the dragon but George slew it and rescued the princess.

As stories of George's courage and bravery in defence of the Christian faith spread, he was beatified by the Roman Catholic Church. He also had a large following in the Near East as well as recognition by the Russian and Greek Orthodox Churches. St George became the patron saint of several countries with many churches dedicated to his name throughout the world.

In modern times he was made patron of the Scouting Movement by its founder Baden-Powell.

In 1222, the Synod of Oxford declared April 23rd - the date of his martyrdom - to be St George's Day. He became established as the patron saint of England around the time that Henry V led the English to victory at the battle of Agincourt in 1415. In Shakespeare's play Henry V, the king rallies his troops with the now famous battle cry "upon this charge, cry God for England, Harry and Saint George!"

The celebration of St George's Day in England is now enjoying something of a renaissance, possibly owing to the rise of nationalism in Wales and Scotland. This year there will be festivities throughout England including London and here in West Hagbourne.

For a fuller account of the life and myths of St. George visit the village website or attend the St George's Day supper on Saturday 25th April at the Hagbourne Hall.

West Hagbourne Village History Group

There will be a **Green Skip in Fox Glove Lane** on **Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th of April** for all your garden waste and trimmings.

2009

the village association

Minutes of the AGM of the West Hagbourne Village Association held on Tuesday 24 March 2009 at the George and Dragon, Upton.

Present: Keith Walton, Val Walton, June Little, Betty Kendrick, Ted Kendrick, Mike Parker, Andrea Mitchell, Peter Mitchell, Robert Griffiths and Hazel Rack.

Apologies: Marion Judd, Bridget Pickup Roger Sweet.

Minutes of previous AGM These were taken as read.

Secretary's Report

There were three meetings held this year with an average of seven members at each. There was only one event, a lunch on the 27th July.

Chairman's Report

Thanks to the committee and particularly to Marion for the use of her lovely garden and house.

The Pimms, Pate and Puddings lunch took place on Sunday 27th July at Broomsticks by kind invitation of Marion Judd. The committee provided delicious food and those who came told us it was one of the most enjoyable events held in recent times.

Madge Trophy

The West Hagbourne Best Front Garden Competition was held and the Madge Trophy Cup awarded to the winner. The judging took place on Tuesday 5th August. The judge was Mr Roger Phipps. The judge's overall view was that many gardens were well tended using a variety of plants and shrubs.

The best garden was judged to be 5 Manor Close. "A typical village cottage garden, well kept, beautifully designed and full of flowers." Second, 11, York Road, "Well kept and a riot of colour. Full of flowers, in baskets and containers."

Third, Green Thatch, "A garden whose overall shape blends in so well with the cottage buildings. Full of flowers and outstanding box hedges."

The competition has been held for many years.

We thanked the judge and presented him with a small token of our gratitude. The Madge trophy Cup is held by the winner for twelve months. We thank all gardeners who help to make West Hagbourne such an attractive village.

Treasurer's Report

The balance at the start of the year was £1131.33 and £1210.76 at the end. The lunch made a profit of £119.26. Expenses were for an audit, printing, Madge trophy engraving and voucher for judge, and repair to a marquee pole. These came to a total of £39.83.

Election of officers and members of committee

All officers and members of the committee formally stepped down. Nominations were taken as follows.

- Peter Mitchell, Hazel Rack, Keith Walton,
- Marion Judd, Betty Kendrick, June Little,
- Mike Parker, Bridget Pickup, Val Walton,

There being no other nominations these nine members were elected. Peter, Keith and Hazel agreed to continue in their roles as Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Betty agreed to be Vice Chair.

Any other business

It was agreed that the association would take on responsibility for paying the fees for the village website.

