## next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9th July starting at 7.30pm in Hagbourne School.

#### roads & **holes**

At last the worst holes in York Road have been filled in, and we understand some other work is planned for part of York Road later in the year to remedy the worst areas.

However 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

Note that the more reports Highways receives from individuals the faster it will be dealt with. they can be contacted at

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: 12 Manor Close: **Broomsticks** 

mobile phones old reading glasses batteries Fairview, York Rd: light bulbs

printer cartridges and

#### wheelie **bins**

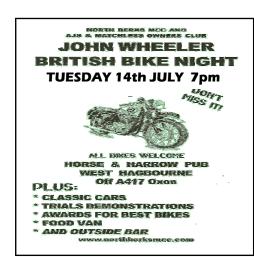
Don't forget that the new waste collection contract has started - the second collection on Thursday 18th June (a grey week)

- Residual Waste (Grey Bin)
- Food Waste (small bin)

Then the following week the recycling in the Green wheelie will be collected. The website has the full calendar available.

#### church *fete*

St. Andrew's Church Fete this year is on Saturday June 13th and the theme is Musicals.



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## parish councillor vacancy

there is a vacancy on the Parish

If you are interested in getting involved, or would like further information about what is expected, please contact the Clerk Michelle Lightfoot on 851 875 parishclerk@westhagbourne



# West Hagbourne news





## St George's day + quiz

The Dragon competition organised by the Village Association had a fantastic reaction from the the media and with 28 dragons to see the village had many hundreds of visitors.

These pictures were taken by Harry Lawlor during the build up and construction of the main dragon. The bottom image shows Mike Parker in the middle of the pond during the installation of the centrepiece! Pictures of all the dragons can be found on the website, along with those used in the national press.

Ted Kendrick won the competition for the best dragon and Julia Little the History Group guiz. (answers on p 3)

#### website

Do you make the most of the website Notice board?

Do you have a local club or interest group you want to publicise, have some news to pass on to others in the village, or a service to offer, something to sell or even a job vacancy to advertise? If so the Notice Board is ideal and it costs nothing. Just send the details to the webmaster@westhagbourne.org

Please note notices must be relevant to the village of

Check out the Notice Board on a regular basis as it always has up to date information and other relevant notices www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm

## MP at annual meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was very well attended this year and was held in a vacant office in Manor Farm courtyard, which avoided the tent being blown away.

Ed Vaizey MP for Wantage attended and he was specifically asked for his support in raising the profile of West Hagbourne, as part of its ongoing campaign to ensure that the road structure being planned for the expansion of Didcot is done in such a way as to protect the conservation area and remove through traffic.

His immediate reaction after the initial discussion was to suggest a *Green Belt for Didcot* which would give comfort to all of the villages who feel threatened by SODC's housing plans. The general reaction from the meeting was that everyone was in generally in favour of this, and that they hoped Didcot itself, and all of the surrounding Parishes would all support this suggestion.

The future of the newsletter, and distribution of reports, neighbourhood watch, the web site, rubbish collection changes in June, potholes, footpaths and the need for another councillor were all covered.

The Parish Council will take on board all of the points discussed, full details of which are now available on the web site.

#### in this issue

**Parish Council** 

June 2009 issue 89

Quiz answers

wheelie bins

Bike Night Horse & Harrow Tues 14th July

## neighbourhood watch

Crime seems to have risen slightly in the area of Hagbourne. A number of cars and sheds have been broken into and items have been stolen.

We would advise people to keep vehicles locked, secured and windows closed. Do not leave valuables in your car even if they are hidden and wipe down any sat nav marks. Ensure that sheds are locked and kept secure as possible.

In the general area anti-social behaviour problems have decreased but residents should continue to call the Police if anything is witnessed.

West Hagbourne urgently needs a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator!

To get involved with Neighbourhood Watch you can either contact 0845 8505505

or go to www.thamesvalley.police.uk.

### artsweeks

Helen Winthrop would like to thank everyone who supported her Textiles exhibition.

With 150 visitors over the 10 days, and donations for refreshments the goodly sum of £120.51 was raised for the Alzheimer's Research Trust."

Parish Clerk

required

For further details please contact any Parish Councillor or the present clerk - details on page 2

www.westhagbourne.org www.westhagbourne.org

### meeting of the parish council

The Parish Council last met at Hagbourne School on *Thursday 14th May* and held its *Annual General Meeting* followed by an *ordinary meeting.* 

Patrick Greene sent his apologies.

#### Election of Chair

Phil Taylor stepped down as Chair, and was then re-elected Chairman of the Parish Council, proposed by Marion Judd and seconded by Sue Totterdell. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by the Chairman in the presence of the Clerk. Marion Judd was proposed by Sue Totterdell, seconded by Phil Taylor and elected unanimously as Vice Chair.

#### Previous meeting 8th May 2008

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and the Council passed these as a true and correct record.

#### Reports from other bodies

The following written reports were presented to the Council:

- a) East and West Hagbourne Cemeteries Committee
- b) Hagbourne Parochial Charities
- c) Hagbourne School Governors

The council considered the future, and noted the removal of Upton from the catchment area of the school some years ago. The question was raised as to the formal representation of the Parish on the Governing Body of Hagbourne School given the planned new housing .

- d) Hagbourne Village Hall Committee not received yet.
- e) Parish Plan Steering Group
- f) Western Villages Alliance

#### Renewal of subscriptions

The Council decided to renew the subscriptions to the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils and the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council. Donations of £25 each were made to Didcot Volunteers Centre, Didcot Citizens Advice Bureau, the Royal British Legion, South & Vale Carers, Home Start and Against Breast Cancer.

#### Insurance / Banking arrangements

The Council decided to renew the policy with Allianz Insurance plc and reappoint Barclays Bank as the Council's bankers, but to monitor and review if more appropriate arrangements become available elsewhere.

## Do you have any ideas for a fitting memorial to Monica Lawson?

The two Parish Councils of the Hagbournes feel that something should be done, as Monica worked so hard in so many ways and was also a member of the East & West Hagbourne Society which has helped ensure the Hagbournes are on the agenda.

A covered bridge at Shovel Spring has been suggested and to consider building the cross at Coscote might be possible.

Ideas to Marion Judd please

Apologies and reasons for absence – CIIr Patrick Greene & Tom Barker

Paul Chambers, (area Footpath Secretary) from The Ramblers attended. He was concerned about the *diversion of footpath No 2* across the field from lower Moor Lane now that landowners have fenced the route off, albeit allowing access around the edge of the field. Also noted was the absence of adequate signage on the York Farm Footpath and locked gates which prevent easy access along this route. It was agreed to raise this with the Landowner.

#### Clerk Resignation

Michelle Lightfoot has had to resign as Clerk due to her business expanding and this will take effect from 8th July 2009. The Councillors gave Michelle their thanks for the past year's work

#### Planning Applications

Application no. PO9/W139 - Corbiere – rear extensions with porch – revised plans circulated Granted by SODC

Application no. PO9/W0167 - Meadows Edge – side extension, single storey – Granted by SODC

Application no. PO9/W0402 & PO9/W0403 Ivy Farm barn conversion – unanimous decision to APPROVE this application and to support it.

#### Village Maintenance

Memorial roses in the bus shelter garden need to be replaced this autumn due to age and condition (ST to inform Mary Wiley).

Notice boards to be re-vamped/cleaned. Foxglove Lane notice board to be erected.

Ivy to be cleared from Ivy Farm on Main Street.

Strimming of verge in Moor Lane

Village seats still need to be given a coat of preservative.

Oxfordshire volunteers will work in Moor Lane in September, and some hedge / tree planting will take place later in the year.

#### Highways

It was agreed to ask Highways to help get the Milestone re-erected it as it is a "scheduled monument" and on highways verge.

The Clerk was requested to write to Highways by Amanda Mansbridge at Little Acorns Nursery to change the highway at the side of their property to footpath. Brian Short had already replied. The Council was unhappy at the prospect of this area becoming anything other than a footpath, and would not want it to become a parking area, as the Council had dealt with this in the past.

#### Any Other Business

The Council was asked to prepare an emergency plan in case of a Flu pandemic. The Council agreed to improve its communication plan and ensure an efficient way of contacting residents in the event of an emergency. This will involve identifying any vulnerable residents, and creating neighbour links to ensure information can be dispersed quickly and help obtained if necessary.

The date of next meeting – *Thursday 9th July* at 7.30 pm 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 website at www.westhagbourne.org

#### newsletter

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

#### copy deadlines

August 30 July October 30 Sept December 30 Nov

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

West Hagbourne news

#### Quiz answers

**Q1A** How many names are there on the war memorial plaque?

ANSWER 1A Five: Anthony Ernest Allen, Frederick John Butler, Leslie Denning, Kerry Gill Ryan and William James Smith

Q1B Name the man who was killed in WWI

#### ANSWER 1B William James Smith

A new memorial plaque which included all the names of the fallen was erected by the Village History Group. It was unveiled and dedicated by Father Edwin at a special memorial service on Sunday 30 June 2002

Q2 Name the thatched cottages in the village

ANSWER 2 Blissetts, Enard Cottage, Green Thatch, Thatch Cottage, York Farm Cottage

Q3 Which house was once a bakery?

#### ANSWER 3 Woodleys

Woodleys took its name from the Woodley family who lived there for several decades. John Woodley was the village baker and his wife Sarah kept the shop in the latter half of the 19th century.

Q4 Identify as many weather vanes as you can

What are they and where are they?

ANSWER 4 Bricklayer at Green Thatch, Cat at Chiaro, Cat & mouse at Lilley Cottage, Dog at 12 Manor Close, Griffin at Longmynds, Horses and Haywagon at Lizard Bank, Horse and hounds at Brook Furlong, Rooster at Chapel Hayes, Sailing boat at Tall Trees, Witch at Broomsticks

Q5 Where was the toll house situated?

#### ANSWER Opposite the Horse and Harrow

The Harwell-Streatley turnpike once ran past the Horse and Harrow. A toll gate was positioned outside the pub and a toll keeper lived in a small toll house there.

Q6 Where can you find the 'growing stone'?

#### ANSWER 6 Moor Lane

During a recent clean up of Moor Lane, a longlost village treasure was uncovered. This is a large stone which was once partly submerged under a pond close to Grove Manor Farm. For the children of West Hagbourne, it once held a special magic and was known to them as the 'growing stone', possibly because it appeared to grow and shrink according to the changing height of the water.

Q7 When did electricity come to W Hagbourne?

#### ANSWER 7 1936

When electricity first came to West Hagbourne in 1936, only one socket per household was allowed.

Q8A How many farms in the village in 1900?

ANSWER 8A *Seven:* Down Farm, Grove Manor Farm, Ivy Farm, Lime Tree Farm, Manor Farm, Ragged Farm and York Farm

Q8B Name two which have since disappeared ANSWER 8B Lime Tree and Ragged Farms

## Lime Tree Farm stood at the end of York Road

next to York Farm stood at the end of York Road next to York Farm from at least 1841. The farmhouse was pulled down in 1971. Ragged Farm was a small holding of about a quarter of an acre in Moor Lane. When the Powell family bought it in 1815 it became a fruit and vegetable farm.

**Q9** What event takes place each year, attracting thousands of people to the Horse and Harrow? the centuries is revealed through documents, photographs, maps, drawings and the

## ANSWER 9 North Berks Motorcycle Club's British Bike Night

Q10 Name the three places at St Andrew's Church where you'll find the York family crest?

ANSWER 10 Font, South chapel window, Exterior of west window

**Q11** Where is the memorial tree dedicated to Isobel Walmsley?

ANSWER 11 *The garden beside the war memorial/bus shelter*. After the death of her husband in 1971, Isobel Walmsley became a tour de force in the village, organising many charitable events and fund-raising activities as well as delivering meals on wheels. When she died in 1993, Isobel Walmsley left £250 to the William Tyrrell Trust. A prunus tree was planted in the garden by the bus shelter and a plaque was erected in her memory in 1994.

**Q12** What was the original name of the only three-storey house in the village?

ANSWER 12 *Moggs Cottage* was the original name of Wycherts, a three-storey house which was once thatched. This question was intended to exclude the manor houses and farms but if anyone had given the answer Watlingtons as an earlier name for Grove Manor Farm they would have received a bonus point]

**Q13** What is the connection between Windsor Castle and West Hagbourne?

ANSWER 13 *Walter de Windsor*. Lord of the manor of West Hagbourne was appointed the first constable of Windsor Castle by William the Conqueror. Anticipating the present royal family by several hundred years, Walter assumed the name de Windsor and founded the Windsor dynasty which held the manorial estate of West Hagbourne for nearly 600 years. This explains why the village was once known as Windsor Hakeborne.

Q14 The great fire of 1659 separated Hagbourne into two villages. True or False?

#### ANSWER 4 False

There is an apocryphal story that East and West Hagbourne were once one and the same village, separated by a fire on 10 March 1659. There is plenty of historical evidence to support the fact that there have always been two separate villages, not least the two distinct entries in the Domesday Book of 1086.

This is one of several myths uncovered by the History Group in Windsor Hakeborne: the Story of West Hagbourne

Q15 Name the three West Hagbourne family shields on the font in St Andrews

#### ANSWER Windsor, York, Drokensford

Q16A & 16B What event once took place on the roof of the Horse and Harrow? What year did this event take place?

ANSWERS 16A & 16B A group of regulars at the Horse and Harrow took part in a 12-hour marathon cribbage game on the roof of the Horse and Harrow to raise money for the Didcot Toy Library for disabled children in 1992.

*Q 17* What year was Windsor Hakeborne: the Story of West Hagbourne published?

#### ANSWER 17 The Year 2000

Windsor Hakeborne traces the history of the village from the Bronze Age to the end of the twentieth century. A picture of village life over

the centuries is revealed through documents, photographs, maps, drawings and the reminiscences of those who have lived in the village. The book was launched at Didcot Library and is still available at Chapel Hayes or by order form on the village website.

Q18 To whom are the 3 benches dedicated?

ANSWER 18 The erection of the seat under the chestnut tree in the Square in 1996 in memory of the many villagers who have contributed to village life was prompted by the death of Ken Dawson whose name appears on the plaque. The seat close to Lilley Cottage was erected by relatives in memory of Jeff Higgins and Mike Wilson who lived at Wycherts.

The seat in front of the memorial garden next to the bus shelter was erected in memory of John E Lay who died in 1957. He was chairman of the Parish Meeting for 32 years.

Q19 What year did West Hagbourne become part of Oxfordshire?

#### ANSWER 19 1974.

West Hagbourne was part of Berkshire until the county boundary changes of 1974.

**Q20** Where can parts of the Hagbourne Hoard be seen today?

#### ANSWER 20 The British Museum

The Hagbourne Hoard consists of both Bronze and Early Iron Age artefacts discovered on Hagbourne Hill. They include a Bronze Age axe, spearhead and straight pin. The Iron Age finds are a curved pin, two terrets and two horse-bits. The first find was made in 1803 and deposited with the British Museum in 1861. Fragments of two bronze spearheads were deposited there a year later.

Q21 In whose name is the memorial cup presented for the best kept front garden each year? Full name please for a correct answer

#### ANSWER 21 Clifford Madge

The Madge Trophy is a cup presented to the village by Mrs Jean Madge in memory of her late husband Cliff, himself an enthusiastic gardener.

Q22 What is the name of the village's last surviving charity?

#### ANSWER 22 The William Tyrrell Charity

William Tyrrell the Elder founded the charity which still bears his name. He died in 1662 and in his will he remembered the "poore of West Hagborne". The land he left to the poor amounted to a total of five and a half acres spread throughout the open fields before the Inclosure Award was drawn up in 1843.

The original strips were exchanged for a single plot situated at the bottom of Hagbourne Hill. The land was mostly let out as allotments and the income distributed to the needy under the auspices of the Tyrrell Charity and now administered by trustees.

Q 23 the oldest house in West Hagbourne?

#### ANSWER 23 York Farm

The house at York Farm is by far the oldest in West Hagbourne. It is also one of the earliest timber-framed houses to survive in England.

The oldest part dates back to 1264 or 1265 and much of the original timber framing of the hall and wing remains despite 'modernisation' in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Village History Group 2009