West Hagbourne oxfordshire.

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2009 ISSUE 90

Road surfaced

At last part of York Road is about to be re-surfaced and this may involve some short term disruption. Sadly highways have only included the stretch between the Square and Limetrees in their scheme this year, despite other parts of the road being equally deserving of some improvement.

New Clerk

The Parish Council received only one application for a new Parish Clerk, and subject to formalities have approved the appointment of Dave Totterdell.

Please give him your support; his contact details are on page three if you need to get in touch.

Flu insert

In the event of a pandemic affecting residents of West Hagbourne it's important that you think about who you could help, and who could help you if help is needed.

Assistance with little things like collecting prescriptions and keeping in touch will make a real difference if lots of people become ill. See insert!

Changes

The newsletter has undergone a bit of a transformation as we try and use it to point you towards the more detailed information which is available on the website.



Chapel update

West Hagbourne's Chapel – latest findings:

The History Group has now received the published report on the geophysical survey of West Hagbourne's chapel, undertaken by a geology student at Royal Holloway College, University of London, in August 2007.

The chapel, first mentioned in a Royal Charter of 1133, was situated on land behind Chapel Hayes. The exact location of the chapel was first confirmed by a study conducted by the Berkshire Archaeological Research Group (BARG) in 2004, followed by a second examination in 2006.

The latest study, also supported by BARG, consisted of a comparison of resistivity techniques and a new seismic refraction method.

Unfortunately the latter experimental study produced no meaningful results. This could be due to several factors, including the possibility that there were no chapel remains as low down as 3 - 4 metres where the level of imaging took place.

However, the resistivity survey suggests that the chapel in fact covered a slightly larger area around 2 metres to the east than previously indicated.

Further confirmation comes from an analysis of recent aerial photography by Google Earth, showing a roughly rectangular patch of lighter, more yellow grass in the middle of the field, suggesting the remains of a building on our chapel site.

Whilst the seismic survey results were no doubt disappointing for the student, the successful resistivity survey, together with aerial photography analysis, confirms the presence of a building in the field at Chapel Hayes. This is most certainly the 12th century chapel referred to in the royal charter and other local literature and early maps. The latest survey also suggests an enlargement of the chapel's assumed size.

Once again, the History Group would like to thank Fred and Edna Scott for allowing their lives to be disrupted by the continuing exploration of their field.

Village History Group

Madge trophy

Judging for the Madge Trophy is being held on Thursday 3rd September. This year the judge will be Brenda Andrews, who is the Technical Manager of Didcot Town Council.

News

Conservation area

LINKS

The Oxfordshire LINks are alliances of local groups and agencies set up nationally in 2008 by central government to replace Patient & Public Involvement Forums.

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The function of LINks is to represent the interests of patients and public through working with providers of health and social services. The Oxfordshire LINk Stewardship Group came together in March this year. Its members are local people democratically elected by registered participants in the LINk. Various well informed LINks members sit on boards, committees and voluntary groups, or are users of services.

Any individual or group can tell the Stewardship Group about concerns or issues with health/ social care services in Oxfordshire and what changes they would like to see happen.

The Stewardship Group wants to hear people's opinions about the services they use and will work to make sure those with statutory responsibility for Health and Social Services hear them 'good and loud'. The more voices and opinions they hear, the more easily they can plan the projects to be pursued on your behalf. Their first objective is to make sure our Local Involvement Network is accountable to patients and public and secondly, that they are a credible independent voice for the Oxfordshire population. They want to make timely improvements in services that local people use. They require your experience and help in identifying those issues which need to be addressed. Inevitably, the Stewardship Group itself is not representative of all geographical areas and many groups are not represented,

however they hope to remedy this with your help.

You are invited to contact locality manager Adrian Chant and his staff team if you wish to report any issues or otherwise comment on any aspect of your local health and social care services. The LINks office is in Witney and they can be contacted by phone on: 01993 862855

Alternatively, Marion Judd is a local West Hagbourne member and would be happy to pass on information on your behalf.

Recycling

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

The website has a printable full calendar of recycling and residual waste collection dates for your kitchen noticeboard westhagbourne.org/recycling

Land offer

Whilst waiting for action from Greene King, over the land near the Horse & Harrow, The Parish Council has additionally been offered a small area of land off Moor Lane. Further details in next issue when some feedback has been received from the planning dept.

Foxes

Yet again foxes have plagued those keeping chickens and ducks resulting in the loss of many dozens of birds who have been attacked during the hours of daylight. Guinea fowl, geese and laying hens have all been attacked, despite secure fences being in place.

In common with most historical villages a large part of West Hagbourne has been designated a conservation area, i.e. "an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". West Hagbourne Conservation Area extends from Grove Manor Farm in the extreme east of the village westwards as far as the Horse and Harrow and includes the farm house and buildings of York Farm and Manor Farm, the Horse and Harrow pub and many of the houses and gardens in the centre of the village, most of which are listed buildinas.

As well as the built area, the conservation area includes a lot of important open space, including Moor Lane and the land to the south, the land between Manor Farm and Brook Furlong and some of the land at York Farm and Grove Manor Farm. The conservation area map on the website shows this clearly, the black line showing the boundary and the green hatched areas showing the important open space within the conservation area. In 2006 SODC carried out a character appraisal of the conservation area and produced a management plan, and these are both available on line.

If you live in the conservation area you should be aware that there are additional planning controls over certain works carried out within the conservation area. This does not mean there can be no change but it does mean that any development must preserve or enhance the historic character of the area. Be aware also that, as well as buildings and open spaces, trees within the conservation area are also protected. If you wish to fell or carry out surgery work on a tree with a diameter of 75mm (3") or greater, measured 1.5m above the ground, you must obtain

SODC's consent and SODC may require you to replace the tree with another. Trees grown for their fruit however may be exempt.

An interesting omission from the West Hagbourne Conservation Area is the house and garden at Witchaven because all the neighbouring property in Main Street is included, including Chapel Hayes. The other nearby houses are all either listed or designated as being of local note. Neither Witchaven or Chapel Hayes is of particular architectural or historic interest but the intention of a conservation area is to protect the quality and special interest of the neighbourhood or area as a whole. So this anomaly presumably means that Witchaven could be substantially altered subject only to ordinary planning controls, whereas at Chapel Hayes any development would be subject to conservation area planning requirements, even although both could undoubtedly have a considerable impact on this part of the conservation areal

Also it is hard to understand the recent inclusion of the Horse & Harrow and its grounds within the conservation area. Undoubtedly the pub has some historic significance but does this part of the village really have any special architectural interest? The Horse & Harrow is not even a listed building (i.e. it is not thought of as having special architectural, historical or cultural significance) and has been merely designated by SODC as "a building of local note".

For more information, the map of the conservation area, links to the SODC's conservation areas pages and SODC's character appraisal and management plan see the website westhagbourne.org/ cons_area

Roger Sweet

Notices

Potholes

Please report potholes to the Highways department as soon as they appear. Full details of how to report them are on the website, or phone Highways on 0845 310 11 11

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The more reports they receive the faster they are dealt with. westhagbourne.org/noticeboard

Crime

Hopefully we will have a new neighbourhood watch coordinator for the village by the time the next newsletter is published, details then.

Thankyou!

A special thank you to everyone who has supported me over the past two years by coming to the fundraising guizzes, dinner parties, the Christmas cards, making contributions and given sponsorship towards my '09 expedition to Ecuador.

Thanxx! Ellie Taylor

Moor Lane

Oxfordshire Conservation Trust Volunteers will be doing some severe clearance of brambles and scrub along the first stretch of Moor Lane in September. They will also be planting some small strips of replacement native hedging.

Thanks

Thank you to everyone who has sent cards or messages of sympathy, or simply thought of our family, following Catriona's recent tragic death.

It will take us a very long time to come to terms with our loss and we shall be grateful for your continued support.

Janet Cockburn

Tyrrell trust

Attention all residents - small grants are available from the Tyrrell Trust:

The Trust is a small local charity that offers grants to village residents in need of financial help, especially to young people who need help with funding musical, sporting, educational or other worthwhile initiatives. In the past grants have been awarded to help with fundraising for trips such as World Challenge or other charitable or local educational expeditions and for national-level sporting activities.

If you are interested in applying please contact Bridget Pickup (850 392) 12 Manor Close, West Hagbourne, giving details of the project to be sponsored.

Health news

Attention all Health Centre Patients. Would you like to receive the Health Centre Newsletter by e-mail?

If you would like to receive news about the Practice in electronic form in future please e-mail Marion Judd who is collating e-mail addresses from West Hagbourne to pass on to the Patient Participation Group who help produce and distribute the newsletter. Marion's e-mail is: mbjudd@supanet.com

Media group

Your help is needed on the website and the newsletter. A new group has been set up to add interesting content to the newsletter and bring together a regular team of contributors.

It will also co-ordinate the two formats and gradually bring them together to improve the way we communicate with residents.

To get involved contact the webmaster@westhagbourne.org

Parish Council

Clerk

David Totterdell 850 080 parishclerk@westhagbourne.org Meadows Edge, York Road

Councillors

Phil Taylor 850 182 phil.taylor@westhagbourne.org

Marion Judd 850 434 marion.judd@westhagbourne.org

Tom Barker 850 858 tom.barker@westhagbourne.org

Sue Totterdell 850 080 susan.totterdell@westhagbourne.org

Vacancv

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please talk to a councillor or you can contact the Clerk by email on parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

District Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396 patrick.greene@southoxon.gov.uk South Oxfordshire District Council 01491 823000

County Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396 patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk Oxfordshire County Council 01865 792422

Planning applications

These are now available as web links westhagbourne.org/planning

Copy deadline

October December

30 Nov Contributions for the newsletter are

30 Sept

always welcome on all subjects but in particular anything affecting the residents of the parish of West Hagbourne

For sale or wanted Small ads are free if you live in the Parish

please e-mail copy for inclusion to parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

Minutes

westhagbourne.org/councilminutes

In the past the minutes of meetings have appeared in full in the newsletter, as well as being available on the web site since 2004. Full minutes will no longer be included in the newsletter. From now only the headline and key points will be featured in these pages.

If you would like a copy of the minutes emailed to you, please contact the clerk.

However if you do not have access to the internet, please contact the clerk and we'll get a copy delivered to you.

Phone kiosk

BT has asked if the Parish will take over the maintenance of the phone box in the Square, but this will mean the rarely used phone itself will be removed. No date has been agreed, but this should happen sometime in '09.

Auditing

The Parish Council agreed its financial accounts for 08/09 and these will now be submitted for external auditing.

Next meeting

The Parish Council will next meet at 7.30pm in Hagbourne School on Thursday 10th September

Kerbs

Several people have reported damage caused by the broken kerbstones along main street and these will be reported to Highways, as the new work done has already started to break up as a result of the size/frequency of vehicles using the village.







All staff fully insured

Call Gayle: $01235\ 819927\ (m)\ 07749\ 778145$

01235 850 738