

West Hagbourne news

June 2014 ISSUE 115

Parish Meeting

This meeting was poorly attended with only three villagers turning up to hear the parish council's report on the year.

For those who were unable to attend, **copies of the reports from the PC Chair and various committees on which the village is represented are available on the village website.**

In the public forum session there was some discussion as to whether the meeting might be better attended if it were held at a location in West Hagbourne, as in the past. It was agreed to explore possible venues. The need to provide better publicity for the meeting was also discussed.

This is the best opportunity for all that live in the Parish to complain, question, contribute, or comment about what affects West Hagbourne.



Madge Trophy

Judging for the Madge Trophy, which is awarded for the best front garden in the village, will take place towards the end of July.

Helen, the landlady of the Horse and Harrow, has kindly agreed to act as the judge in this year's competition.

All front gardens are automatically considered for the competition.

Lunch Club

Despite it being Good Friday about a dozen villagers met at the pub in April to lunch and chat. It was back to normal in May when the numbers reached around 20 people.

The village lunch takes place on the third Friday of the month, at the Horse and Harrow from 12h30. All residents are welcome to join in. Please let Marion (850143) or Sue (850080) know by the Wednesday before or call in at the pub and tell Helen. Next lunch will be on Friday 20th June.

Telephone box?

The telephone box was sold to the Parish Council for £1 but it is beginning to look a little battered. The possibility of repainting was mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting but the clerk pointed out that several other villages have solved the issue of box maintenance by using it to house a defibrillator. In return the box will be maintained for the village. The downside is that the village has to pay for the defibrillator, which would cost around £2000. This seems a large amount but West Hagbourne has a grand tradition of fund raising for charities and in this case it could be a villager who gets the benefit (although let's hope it is not).

What sort of event might be organised? Perhaps a safari supper, coffee mornings or a prize draw? If you want to volunteer for a small ad-hoc group whose sole function is to raise £2,000 then please get in touch with Marion or Sue. If you would rather just make a donation, these could be channelled through the Parish Council.

Vicky's little lamb

It has been a good spring for lambing and you may have seen one very well-fed example on the loose towards the east end of the village.

Little Norman, as he is known, had to be retrieved when he got out and after a taste of freedom, had to be carried home. Wonder what he made of the dragons?



Dragons

Twenty-five dragons appeared around the village for this year's event.

We enjoyed a 'Menacing' Dragon hovering over Manor Close, a 'Cautionary' Dragon warning of Dragons at play, a 'Lost' Dragon looking for its Mummy—some Mummy with her flashing eyes and frightening teeth - and a 'Catering' Dragon, BBQ Special! At the time of writing 'Mummy' has become a 'Just Married' Dragon. Congratulations to the Bride and Groom, we wish them every happiness.

Thanks to all 25 households for participating and for the resulting publicity. The Didcot Herald, Oxford Mail, TV's South Today all gave coverage of this important annual event.

Special thanks go to the intrepid Judges Vic and Christine Clinch from Didcot Baptist Church who on Saturday 26th had a difficult job. They were very impressed by the variety of Dragons, some very dramatic, and by the use of re-cycled materials. All entries were considered colourful, original and imaginative. The results were a close run thing but 1st Prize went to Little Acorns Nursery for 'Good use of Materials and great attention to Detail'; 2nd and 3rd Prizes were awarded to Chapel Hayes and Fermain respectively. Special thanks to Mike Parker and his family for once again providing the Centrepiece Dragon in the Pond, a fantastic colour and now a Mummy—What a surprise! Will the Daddy reveal himself next year?



Hagbourne Garden club

The next meeting of the Hagbourne Garden Club will be meeting at the Village Hall car park in East Hagbourne on Thursday 26th June at 6.20 p.m. to share cars and travel to Greenfield Farm, Christmas Common where we will visit a 10 acre traditional Chiltern

chalk land wild flower meadow set in a beautiful peaceful setting with 100 species of perennial wild flowers, grasses and orchids. Donation to charity for entry.

For further information telephone Jane on 01235 813350.

News

U3A

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

The June meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th June on the topic of Old Didcot on Film with Eugene Coyle. The July meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 July on the topic of The History of Punch and Judy with Alix Booth.

D&D U3A is a self-help, self-managed lifelong learning co-operative for older people no longer in full time work, providing opportunities for its members to share learning experiences in a wide range of interest groups and to pursue learning not for qualifications, but for fun.

There are over 25 interest groups including family history, gardening, wine appreciation, dance, science & maths, art appreciation, philosophy, play reading, creative writing, walking, bridge, crafts, books, poetry, singing, badminton, photography and 5 languages.

There's something for everyone!

Tel: 07804159993 or email:

didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

CAB - scams

Scams come in lots of different shapes and sizes, including dodgy online adverts and tricksters using dating websites to build relationships with people they later defraud. Other common types including 'phishing' emails and 'vishing' phone calls designed to con people into giving away sensitive information, investment scams, and advanced fees requested to claim unexpected lottery wins.

With fewer than five per cent of people in the UK reporting scams to the authorities, the **Didcot office of Oxfordshire South and Vale CAB** wants to "fight back against scammers" to ensure they don't get away with conning innocent people. People should report dodgy adverts or sales pitches to the authorities and speak to

a friend or relative about unexpected offers they get on the doorstep, by phone or email.

Top tips for dealing with scams

- If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.
- If you haven't bought a ticket – you can't win it.
- You shouldn't have to pay anything to get a prize.
- If in doubt, don't reply. Bin it, delete it or hang up.
- Persuasive sales patter? Just say: "No thank you".
- Contacted out of the blue – be suspicious.
- Never give out your bank details unless you are certain you can trust the person contacting you.
- Take your time – resist pressure to make a decision straight away.
- Never send money to someone you don't know.
- Walk away from job ads that ask for money in advance.
- Your bank will never attend your home.
- Your bank and the police will never collect your bank card.
- Your bank and the police will never ask for your PIN.
- Computer firms do not make unsolicited phone calls to help you fix your computer.
- Don't suffer in silence – tell others about scams.

What to do if you have been scammed

Report it to Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** to help stop it happening to others.

Often you can't always get your money back if you've been scammed, especially if you've handed over cash.

If you've paid for goods or services by credit card you have more protection and if you used a debit card you may be able to ask your bank for a chargeback.

Get advice and report it to Trading Standards through the Citizens Advice consumer service on **08454 04 05** or online advice at www.adviceguide.org.uk or for help on this or any other issue contact Didcot CAB on 08444 111 444

Editorial

How is West Hagbourne faring these days and what are its prospects for the future? These questions are presumably of importance to many residents in the village and yet very few turned out to the recent Annual Parish Meeting where such things can be discussed with councillors. Maybe you didn't know about this meeting? Those on the village mailing list might have seen a notice that was circulated a week or so before the date but if you are not 'connected' your only notification was posted on the village noticeboards. We think it is time for the Parish Council to revert to the practice of delivering notification of the meeting to every household at least 14 days before the meeting date.

Did the fact that the meeting was held in East Hagbourne put you off? In the past meetings have been held in West Hagbourne although there is an ongoing problem about a suitable venue. Sadly the regulations make little allowance for villages like ours that have no obvious meeting place within their boundaries. Nevertheless, they do allow for even a public house to be used if there is no suitable alternative available at reasonable cost. Perhaps the landlord could be persuaded to allow us to put up the village marquee in the pub garden thus making for an accessible venue within the village?

So what did you miss by not attending? A couple of things are particularly important in our opinion. Firstly, you may be aware of the recent review or parish boundaries. You may even (reluctantly) be in agreement with transferring those parts of the parish that will be within Great Western Park into Didcot but did you realise that Didcot is also taking the 'buffer zone' between GWP and West Hagbourne? Although the field to the west of Park Road is in East Hagbourne parish, the transfer to Didcot of not only the Bloor Homes site but also the land immediately to the south of it is a disappointment. We see this as the first stage in the final absorption of West Hagbourne into Greater Didcot. It may not happen in our lifetimes, but it is surely in the grand plan.

Next there is a potential traffic issue. Apparently plans are going ahead to build a relief road from the Harwell Rd in Didcot through GWP to reach the A417 near the Kingswell. In addition, the A34 junction at Chilton will be opened to the north giving two way access. To get Didcot traffic from the new relief road to the A34 and Harwell site, the road up Hagbourne Hill will be upgraded. As part of this programme, a roundabout is planned for the A417/Hagbourne Hill junction. This roundabout will possibly take some land from the Tyrell Trust plot to the south of the A417. Of course, planners will tell you that traffic from Didcot and GWP going south will take the new relief road out of Didcot to the A417, then turn left to the bottom of Hagbourne Hill. Some might, but without careful planning, aimed at dissuading cars from coming through our village, traffic levels in West Hagbourne are bound to increase. The traffic may not come from GWP but we will be on a clear route from the new Ladygrove north development towards Harwell site and A34 as well as from the new developments in Chilton towards Didcot Town centre.

So you can see how important it is for villagers to be kept up to date with what is happening around them. This is the function of the Annual Parish Meeting.

We have also been asked about progress with the Community Led Plan. Sadly the response level to our questionnaire, circulated in 2012, was so low that OCC and SODC would not take any notice of a plan based on these responses (although they did miss that replies were per household and not per person).

What can you do about it? Well, getting involved is always possible. Standing for the Parish Council, making sure you respond to consultations, writing to your MP and local councillors, attending a normal parish council meeting, reading the PC minutes are all ways to keep informed.

Sue Totterdell & Marion Judd

Village garden

The efforts of last autumn are beginning to pay off as the area beneath the noticeboard has burst into flower. Hopefully there will be something providing colour throughout the summer.

Work on the planters around the horse chestnut tree and the bus shelter has been rather delayed this spring but hopefully the bulbs will have been removed and replaced with summer planting by the time this newsletter is circulated.

Greener heating

Rural homeowners living off the gas network have long had to pay extra for oil, LPG or electric heating. The Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is here to encourage these households to consider lower carbon alternatives when replacing an old boiler.

The RHI aims to even out the relative cost of installing and running a new renewable heating system instead of one using fossil fuel. With the RHI you receive a payment for every unit of renewable heat it is estimated your system will generate.

Supported heaters include biomass or pellet boilers, air, ground or water source heat pumps, and solar thermal

panels.

The RHI is open to homeowners, private landlords, social landlords and self-builders. If you installed a renewable heat system between 15 July 2009 and 8 April 2014 you may also be eligible.

Applications for the RHI is by a form on the [Ofgem website](#).

You can also get free advice from the Energy Saving Advice Service on 0300 123 1234.

Health Issues

A summary of the Oxfordshire's Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) five year strategy is available on the OCCG website

www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk It gives patients and the public a quick summary of the plan, and brief details of five major change programmes which are primary care, urgent care, planned care, mental health and medicines management. It also details the Better Care Fund plan that will be delivered jointly with our social care partners.

OCCG wants to gather views on initiatives within the 5 year strategy along the way. To keep up to date and get involved please register on OCCG's Talking Health online consultation system

Patient care: An electronic system launched by OCCG in April 2013, allows clinicians to view some medical information from patient records held by GPs and the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust. This means out of hours GPs, hospital pharmacists and doctors, senior nurses and consultants in A&E and community hospitals can view details of patient medication, recent tests and treatments leading to safer decisions about patient care.

Children's Health: A booklet called "*Managing your child's health*", provides valuable advice to parents about what to do and where to go when a child is ill or injured is now available in local health services including GPs, pharmacies, hospitals and health centres as well as on the OCCG website.

There are 10 GP practices SE Oxfordshire with a population of 89,984. The Clinical Director is Dr Andrew Burnett. Sara Wilds is the Assistant Director of South East and South West Localities, email: sara.wilds@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk If you would like to join a Patient Participation Group in the locality, contact your local GP.

For information about end of life care please visit NHS Choices website.

Parish Council

Clerk

Lucy Dalby 817 464
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

Councillors

Mike Butler Chair 850 523

mike.butler@westhagbourne.org

Valerie Brownsword 850 668

valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org

Hugh Lewis 851 113

hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org

Eve Setch 850 858

eve.setch@westhagbourne.org

Michele Thornhill 850 489

michele.thornhill@westhagbourne.org

District Councillor

Leo Docherty 01235 519028

leo.docherty@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

Meetings in 2014

- 2nd July Ordinary Meeting
- 3rd September "
- 5th November "

Minutes of all meetings of the Parish Council are available online.

If you cannot find them contact the clerk or if you do not have access to the internet, call the clerk and a printed copy will be delivered to you.

www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm

Planning Applications

There's a new application for a house at Grove Manor Farm. You can see this or search for any current or past planning applications.

See decisions based on your post code at <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationCriteria&TYPE=Application>

HGV's & potholes

The Community led plan highlighted that the police are not interested in reports of oversized vehicles in the village. You should report breaches of weight restrictions in West Hagbourne directly to Trading Standards

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/weight-restriction-orders> or by phone (0845 051 0845) or email trading_standards@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report potholes direct to Oxfordshire Highways. If you can supply a photograph that gives some idea of the extent of the pothole(s) this will help assess the urgency of its repair.

or by writing to:

Southern Area Office
Oxfordshire County Council
Milton Road
Drayton OX14 4EZ

You can do this online at

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/contact-highway-enquiries-team>

by telephone: 0845 310 1111

All of this information and the relevant links are available on the village web site. Go to Noticeboard:

www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes

Village Tidy up

There will be a litter pick and general tidy up around the paths and village on Saturday 21st June - meet at the bus shelter at 10am. Pickers and bags will be provided, all welcome.

Skip

There will be a skip will be in the farmyard at Ash Farm on York Road for garden and green waste over the weekend of the **21st & 22nd June**

house to rent in France

Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7

Just minutes from quiet family beach, great biking and sailing, two bedrooms, washing machine, dishwasher, TV



600€/week June + Sept
750€/week July
for more information and photos
contact totterdells@btinternet.com 01235 850080



Little Acorns

Happy, family run day nursery and out of school care.

Including drop off & pick up to some local schools.
Flexible sessions – am, pm, term time, school day.

For further information, to request a brochure or to arrange a visit please contact us

01235 851423 or email littleacorns1@btconnect.com

Scotland's Ash Garage

MOT testing from 6am
Diagnostic Fault Finding and Servicing on all types of vehicles
Air Conditioning Exhausts
Body Repairs Courtesy Cars

HUGE SAVINGS ON TYRES



01235 850 707

www.scotlandsashgarage.co.uk
Main Street, West Hagbourne OX11 0NA



Bare Essentials

HOT STONE MASSAGE | SWEDISH MASSAGE | FAKE BAKE & XEN TAN TANNING
OPI PEDICURE | WAXING | JEAN MARIN FACIALS | LASH & BROW TINTING
RADIO FREQUENCY | IPL LASER HAIR REMOVAL

Call Becky 01235 851 863 | www.bare-essentials.com | info@bare-essentials.info

For the garden of your dreams -
consult a professional

MARY ANN LE MAY

• GARDEN DESIGNS •

Blissetts West Hagbourne OX11 0ND
Tel: 01235 850523 Fax: 08700 516043
www.maryanndesign.co.uk



Your local Computer & Audio Visual company

IT Services	AV Services
IT sales & support Upgrades and repairs Virus removal / cleanup Network setup Windows re-installation NO FIX NO FEE! www.computer-repair.uk.com	AV sales & support Flat screen TV installation Projector installation Home cinema installation Sound system installation Interactive white boards www.audiovisual-installation.co.uk

Tel: 01235 851237 / 07855 543082
Email: sales@pladdystechnologyservices.co.uk

If you have a local event, please get in touch and we will include it in the next edition.

St Andrew's Church
Saturday 7th June Church Fete at Hagbourne School. The theme this year is Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Community shop
Thursday June 19th Community shop AGM Hagbourne Village Hall 20h30
All welcome.

Didcot Choral Society
Saturday June 7th at 19h30
An evening of Mendelssohn's Elijah with Abingdon and District Musical Society at the Yolanda Patterson Hall, St Helen and St Katharine's School, Abingdon. Conducted by Alexander Walker, Leader: Kate Bailey

Didcot Cineworld
(a selection of live broadcasts)
Thursday 12 June 19h00 live screening from the National Theatre of A Small Family Business by Alan Ayckbourn

Saturday 19 July Andre Rieu's Maastricht concert broadcast live (TBC)

Sunday 20th July Monty Python Live (mostly) broadcast from the O2 arena (TBC)



Need A Local Plumber?

07816 399315
01235 851176
hagbourne_farm_plumbing@hotmail.co.uk

CHAUCERS picture framing

by Sallie Pickering

High quality framing at realistic prices
Huge selection of frames, mounts, creative ideas and inspiration
Conservation Framing

(01491) 652984
info@chaucersframing.co.uk
10% off orders over £50 with this advert

Marquee for hire

Residents of West Hagbourne are welcome to borrow the Village Association's marquee for a fee of £25. You need to find your own site and put it up yourselves (advice is available). Anyone borrowing and erecting the marquee does so at their own risk - there is no insurance provided to cover any damage to the tent or anyone using it.

Au pair wanted

French family seeks an English speaking au pair from 9 to 30 August to help look after 4 children (3-12) in Brittany (Gulf of Morbihan). Sailing, beaches, crepes! Board & lodging provided plus 350€ spending money.
contact Sue Totterdell (01235850080) for more information.



MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Action songs, musical games,
Percussion instruments, puppets
LOTS OF FUN
Classes in Didcot and Blewbury
other classes available
01235 851091
www.tinytunetime.co.uk

For sale or wanted small ads are free if you live in the Parish, or if you would like a feature on your local business please e-mail copy for inclusion to editors@westhagbourne.org