

West Hagbourne news

February 2015

ISSUE 119

Hagbourne Hill

You may have noticed the signs warning of a **9 week closure** of Hagbourne Hill. This is part of the programme of works which was the subject of a consultation last year. It involves the installation of a round-about at the bottom of Hagbourne Hill, a 'turn left only' option where the village road meets the A417 (you will need to go to the roundabout and go all the way round to head towards Wantage) and an upgrading of the road up Hagbourne Hill. We are told that this increase in traffic will come from the new road that is being built from Great Western Park to meet the A417 close to the Kingswell. Not all villagers are convinced that this will be the case. It is therefore doubly worrying that there is a document in the planning domain which shows that Taylor Wimpey have options on the rest of the land between Didcot and Coscote bends and are seeking to have this land included in future (2031) planning documents. It is important to note that SODC has not currently agreed to put this land into their longer-term development plans.

Dragons

This year the annual Dragon competition

to celebrate **St George's Day** will be held between 18th April – 2nd May, with judging taking place during the week of 21st April.

The winners of the competition will be announced on Saturday 2nd May when the Village Association is holding an afternoon tea event from 2:30pm onwards in the grounds of Chapel Hayes. All residents are cordially invited to attend. For any new residents, the dragon competition takes place annually in April when dragons of all sorts are displayed in peoples' front gardens. The competition is great fun for everyone, attracting visitors to the village and publicity through local media. The large fierce dragon who usually visits the pond for the competition is always a great favourite for children and adults alike.



Moor Lane

It was twelve months ago that the relentless rain, assisted by a burst water main, disrupted the village for several weeks. Drainage engineers from the county and district councils were quickly on the scene in February to survey the various watercourses that had fallen into disrepair and to set about putting things right. Or, at least, that was the plan. By late summer little had changed, apart from minor repairs to a gully along Main Street from the Horse and Harrow, and unblocking a drain by the pub (responsible for the permanent large puddle at that junction). But things have improved since. The overflow from the pond has been cleared and, at the beginning of January, SODC finally set about upgrading the Moor Lane watercourse.

The major alteration is a new, larger culvert (that's 'pipe' for anyone who only speaks English) outside Enard Cottage, a foot and a half lower in the ground. Water had to flow 'uphill' from Main Street to the previous obstructed culvert, which is not ideal as part of a flood prevention strategy. We wait with interest and some trepidation for the next deluge or burst water main, to see how it copes in practice.

Once again it is disappointing to see that spoil from Moor Lane ditch has just been piled up along its banks from where it will just wash back in when it rains. Planting grass seed (and wild flowers) along the tops of the spoil heaps might stabilise this to some extent.

It will be interesting to see what difference this makes as the problem seemed to lie in getting the water into the ditch, rather than the ditch itself.

Traffic calming

In 2006 SODC published a West Hagbourne Conservation Area management plan that stated "The frequency and volume of traffic through the conservation area, particularly along Main Street, is detrimental to the character and appearance of the conservation area.

Polluted water sprayed from the highway and airborne pollutants are likely to have an adverse effect on the condition of the historic cob wall. Slowing the speed and volume of motorised vehicles would help to protect the conservation area's rural character.

Any traffic calming scheme should take on board the principles of The English Heritage publication 'Streets for All - South East', which provides guidance on how to avoid street clutter".

Since publication of the plan, successive Parish Councils have repeatedly drawn traffic planners' attention to the village's urgent and ongoing need for traffic calming. Although it might be best to bypass the village altogether, this has never been part of local traffic planning.

Despite Main Street being an unclassified road characterised by its hazardous bends and narrow stretches without pavements, traffic calming measures are still not in place. It was eventually agreed that these might be funded by the developer Bloor Homes through a Section 106 agreement with SODC but we have yet to see any plans. With the predictable traffic congestion in Didcot on the increase, it is unfortunate for us that through traffic is likely to increase as the GWP development proceeds.

Rather than waiting to be told what is planned for us, perhaps we should be thinking about what sort of traffic calming would be most suitable for West Hagbourne. Do we want chicanes if we have large farm vehicles requiring access? Do we want speed cushions when there is an associated noise? Where should calming be sited? Do we want to merely slow traffic or deter it from coming through the village? Write to us at the newsletter and tell us (and SODC) your views.

The last through traffic count was in 2005: it is time for another.



Lunch club

There was an excellent turnout for lunch at the Horse & Harrow on Friday 16th of January. On this occasion we sat at one large table which made it easier to talk with more friends and neighbours. Lunch was, as usual, delicious – thanks to the chef who always does us proud.

The next village lunch is on Friday 20th February at 12.30. Please let Sue or Marion know by Monday 16th February whether you can come along as the pub needs numbers in advance.

WW1 event

Didcot Library will be hosting a day of events related to the First World War on Thursday 19th February. Free refreshments. Between 10 and 12.30 there will be readings and poetry (get in touch if you want to read something). No ticket necessary.

For further info tel: 01235 813103 From 13.30 until 16.00 there will be a Drop-in Craft Event for children organised by 'No Two Things'. Come and make a rag rug and a memory box.

News

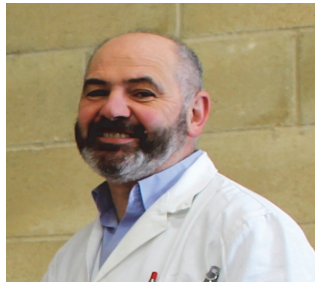
Garden Club

This club is open to all residents of the Hagbournes. Meetings commence in Hagbourne Village Hall at 7.30pm refreshments available from 7.00 pm. Members and visitors most welcome. For more info contact Jane on 01235 813350. The programme for 2015 is:

Thursday February 26th: 'More Secret Gardens of Hampshire' by Patricia Elkington, owner of Little Court Gardens, Winchester.

Thursday March 26th: 'Skulduggery In The Shrubbery' presented by professional speaker Stefan White, looks at the Tradescant Family

Thursday 23rd April: 'Trees and People' by John Tyler.



Laurence Gardiner

Sadly we report the recent death of Laurence Gardiner of Rowan in York Road, on 14th January. Our thoughts are with his family and friends. The funeral was held on Friday 30th January when a large congregation almost filled Saint Matthews church, Harwell.

An engineer apprenticed at Harwell, Laurence had worked for the past few years at Radley College. A keen cricket player for Letcombe since a young man, he had developed a passion for golf which he approached with the same seriousness he applied to the simplest practical task. Always a perfectionist in everything he did, Laurence was Treasurer of the Hagbourne Fun run for many years and more recently he ensured that all the flags and bunting flew safely at the Jubilee celebrations in the village.



A 1940's Evening

On Saturday March 21st in Harwell Village Hall. A 1940's themed evening, a joint venture between the Twinning Association and Harwell Village Hall committee, will be one of the last to take place in the old village hall before refurbishment.

Entertainment includes a quiz, film clips of the local area from the 1940s and 1950s, and a fish & chip supper. Contact Sue Totterdell for tickets.

Lung disease

South East Oxfordshire Locality is piloting a scheme helping people with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) which includes a range of lung conditions. The pilot, managed by practice nurses from a group of South East locality practices, targets people with COPD.

Nurses identify patients who might need more support and ring them to check they are well and have sufficient medication, or to assess if there are additional measures which could help with the management of their condition. They will invite patients to see their nurse or GP if they think this is necessary and appropriate. If the pilot proves effective, the scheme might be extended to include other GP practices.

CAB

Didcot CAB offers a drop in service 5 days a week. From 4th February we will be open on Wednesday mornings.

Monday	10-1pm 1.30-4.00pm
Tuesday	10-1pm Closed
Wednesday	10-1pm Closed
Thursday	10-1pm 1.30pm-4pm
Friday	1-1pm 1.30pm-4pm

The Didcot Citizens advice bureau is located in "Dales" 9-15 High Street.

We can also provide information on most issues over the phone Mon- Fri 10h00-16h00. Call 03444 111 444. Information and fact sheets are also available on our website www.adviceguide.org.uk

U3A

Didcot & District University of the third age meetings are on the third Tuesday each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

On Tuesday 17th February 2015 our speaker will be Brian Wood talking about 'A Rustic Copper' and on Tuesday 17th March Tony Boffin will tell us all about Lord Nuffield, British Car Manufacturer and Philanthropist. 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 for fun, not qualifications. There are over 25 interest groups with something for everyone! Tel: 07804159993. Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com. Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Who to call?

You can help us take the strain off NHS services by being prepared and choosing the right service.

For advice, phone NHS 111, available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year – all calls from landlines and mobiles are free.

Get health advice from your GP Surgery between 8.30am and 6.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays);

Visit your local pharmacist who can provide treatments and advice for a wide range of complaints including coughs and colds and can advise you on what to stock in your medicine cabinet;

If you sustain an injury, such as a sprain, broken bones or minor burns, there is a Minor Injury Unit at Abingdon, open between 8am and 10.30pm, seven days a week in the winter months.

Defib meeting

Almost 30 people attended the meeting, arranged by the Village Association, to learn more about the proposal to site a community public access defibrillator in West Hagbourne.

A representative of the Community Heartbeat Trust provided information and answered questions. Phil Taylor gave a brief background to the project, which arose following a query about maintenance of the village telephone kiosk and explained the decision to link with the Community Heartbeat Trust, a charity with several years' experience in installing defibrillators in hundreds of villages across England.

Examples of three different defib units were demonstrated and made available for the audience to examine.

Our speaker Richard Schofield was responsible for starting the schemes to install a defibrillator in disused telephone kiosks. He explained that a defibrillator delivers a controlled electric shock to the heart via external electrodes (pads). During a 'heart attack' the heart beats chaotically, rather than with a strong rhythm, and this means that it cannot pump blood effectively around the body. The audience was surprised to learn that the purpose of the electric shock is actually to stop the heart, stopping these uncoordinated beats, and allowing the natural rhythm to be re-established.

Following further generous donations, some given at the end of the event, the defibrillator fund now stands at **£1,800**

A number of questions were raised:

How useful is it to install a CAPD (a community public access defibrillator)?

This is a win/win choice. If nobody in the village ever needs it, you win. If someone needs it and you have one installed locally, you win.

How do you choose the location?

Ideally this is a central, public place. Many communities have chosen to use their redundant telephone kiosks

Although the notional useful range is a radius of a quarter of a mile from its location, units can be useful for emergencies occurring beyond this. It was noted that the CPAD in West Hagbourne might be closer for Coscote residents than the one in East Hagbourne.

Are CPADs part of the emergency response?

The ambulance service has a map of the locations of all CPADs in their area and can direct someone to the nearest one available in the event of an emergency.

What is involved in the installation?

A cabinet, which is heated (to protect the CPAD battery and gel pads from cold) and lit, is installed in a suitable location. The yellow unit is highly visible. Installation must be certified by a qualified electrician.

How vulnerable is the unit to vandalism?

The cabinet we plan to get is robust and bolted into the telephone kiosk.

In the event of an emergency, the 999 operator provides you with the code to unlock the cabinet.

So far no units located in kiosks in this area have suffered any problems.

What do I do if someone has a suspected heart attack?

Prompt action saves lives. The first 5 minutes are crucial but it's never too late to try.

Follow the Chain of Survival

The most important intervention is cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). A defibrillator is an addition to this, not a replacement.

What is the Chain of Survival:

Call 999 and start CPR

If possible, access the CPAD via a code given by the emergency call handler. Emergency call centre have a number of call handlers who specialise in heart attack calls. **Or get someone nearer to bring the unit to the casualty.**

Use the CPAD if appropriate. Switch it on, follow the instructions on where to place the pads and when to apply the shock.

Await emergency services

What if I am in the house alone?

The most important thing is to call 999. They will decide what else is possible.

Some villages have set up a system of volunteers to bring the CPAD to an emergency. These are usually people living close to where the unit is located who are at home during the day, and who can be contacted by phone. People living alone can have a panic button (which you can wear) that can be activated to bring the volunteers to your home.

The CPAD's are self-explanatory-you do need no training to use them.

It will only tell you to 'shock' the patient if this is the appropriate treatment.

Why do we need a CPAD when Didcot ambulance station is five minutes away?

These days there are rarely any ambulances actually present in an ambulance station at any one time. The likelihood is that it would already be on a job and could have to come from much further away.

Can you use a CPAD if someone is fitted with a pacemaker? Yes.

How do we keep it working well?

The CAPD needs to be checked once a week that it is in full working order. This will take a volunteer (who has been given the unlock code) a couple of minutes, and the outcome of their check is logged onto a dedicated central web site.

What are the ongoing maintenance costs?

Batteries last around 4 years on standby and can administer up to 70 shocks. Even when a battery reads 10% it can still give 10 shocks. Replacement batteries cost around £180.

Gel-containing pads (costing £30 per pair) should last 2 years if not used. A spare set is usually held.

This amounts to around £240 every 4 years, or £60 a year (60p per household if added to the precept).



Parish Council

Clerk

Barry Gill 850 435
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
Jackie Bannister 850 435
jackie.bannister@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

Council Meetings

are held in Hagbourne Village Hall

- 1st April 2015
- 13th May 2015

Minutes of 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

Council vacancy

Roger Sweet has resigned as a Councillor so we are still looking to co-opt another volunteer who would be willing to become a Parish Councillor until the May elections.

Anybody willing to help should contact any of the remaining councillors.

Michael Butler

Parish Clerk

The Parish Council has found a replacement Clerk—Barry Gill will also be the Responsible Financial Officer for the Council and was appointed at the February meeting.

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 via their online form which can be found on their website, <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/weight-restriction-orders> or by phone (0845 051 0845) or email trading.standards@oxfordshire.gov.uk. Their dedicated Road Traffic Enforcement Team will investigate further.

Please report potholes direct to Oxfordshire Highways. If you can supply a photograph that gives some idea of the extent of the pothole this will help assess the urgency for its repair.

You can do this online at highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk

by telephone: 0845 310 1111
or by writing to: Southern Area Office
Oxfordshire County Council
Milton Road Drayton OX14 4EZ

All of this information and the relevant links are available on the village web site.
<http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes>



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local events

If you have an event you want to publicise,
please get in touch

Tuesday 17 February

U3A Civic Hall, 14h30 - Brian Wood talking
about 'A Rustic Copper'

Tuesday 17 February

Cafe Scientifique 19h30 Cornerstone Bar

Thursday 19th February

Didcot Library WW1 event

Friday 20 February

Lunch Club, Horse & Harrow 12h30

Wednesday 25 February

Didcot Film Club Cornerstone, 19h30 -
'The Thomas Crowne Affair' 1968

Thursday 26 February

Hagbourne Garden Club, Village Hall, 19h30
'More Secret Gardens of Hampshire'

Sunday 8 March Cineworld Didcot 15h00 -
Bolshoi Ballet, Romeo & Juliet

Wednesday 11 March Cineworld Didcot 19h30
- ENO, La Traviata

Saturday 21 March

Forties night, Harwell Village Hall, 19h30

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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.



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