

West Hagbourne news



October 2015 ISSUE 123

Road closures

It will already be apparent that work has started on the promised upgrade to Hagbourne Hill and subsequent construction of a roundabout where this road meets the A417.

With the prolonged closure planned, it is hoped that traffic through West Hagbourne might be reduced as drivers are forced to seek alternative routes to Harwell campus and the A34. However, the alternative route through Harwell village is often slow due to the traffic lights by Didcot UTC while drivers travelling to and from the east and north of Didcot will still find the route through Coscote the quickest. The works are planned to last a year, although the complete closure of the route is only for 6 months. We should enjoy any quiet while it lasts as it is highly likely that traffic volumes will increase once the works are finished, at least until the construction of the promised relief road taking traffic from Didcot to the A417 without passing through West Hagbourne.

Moor lane

After our article in the August edition of this newsletter, it seems that the closure notices for Moor Lane have finally arrived. Access to the rear of properties on Main Street is unaffected but eastwards from the end of this improved section, the lane is closed to all motor traffic and partially obstructed by concrete blocks. The blocks are positioned so as to allow pedestrians and horse riders to pass through.



Speeding

Many vehicles continue to speed in York Road, despite this being a residential road with several children and no pavements.

Although some of the blame can be placed on drivers travelling through the village using this as a short cut to avoid a hold up on the narrow section of Main Street, at least some of the cars belong to residents of the village

If you regularly drive down York Road either past York Farm or past Ash Farm, please think about your speed - before there is an accident.

Houses by pub

An outline planning application has been submitted for the construction of 14 new houses in the field adjacent to the Horse & Harrow pub.

Although the development lies in the Vale of the White Horse District it would impact more on West Hagbourne than on Upton.

The Parish Council has objected to the present plans on grounds including that the development is too big, is too urban in design, is isolated from both Upton and West Hagbourne and likely to worsen drainage issues in the area. Upton Parish Council has also expressed doubts that it fulfils any requirements for sustainable development. We await a decision.



Village Association event

Despite the cool weather, the late summer event organised by the Village Association was a success. As a precaution the marquee was erected in the garden on Chapel Hayes, but luckily the rain held off. The communal lunch consisted of a range of pâtés, served with home-made bread, followed by some delicious home-made desserts. To help all this down, jugs of Pimm's were freely circulated. Newer residents took the opportunity to get to know more of their neighbours. Thanks are due to Margaret & Ian Leishman for hosting the event in their garden.



Wallingford Bus

Did you know that there is a bus from East Hagbourne to Wallingford on Wednesdays and Fridays? Route 131 leaves Windsor Crescent East Hagbourne (off Harwood Road) at 10h40. It then goes via the main Bus Shelter in East Hagbourne and then on to the former Load of Mischief Pub at Blewbury at 10.48, arriving in Wallingford at 11.15.

The service departs from Wallingford at 13.30 and arrives back in East Hagbourne at 14.06. It can only carry 16 people but West Hagbourne residents would be joining at the first stop so it is unlikely to be full at this point. So, if you would like to go to Wallingford for a couple of hours - to go to the market or to have a coffee, you could make use of this service and remember if you have a bus pass it is free.

Garden club

Hagbourne Garden Club welcomes members and visitors alike to a talk by local artist Linda Benton entitled 'Art and the Garden'.

Talk commences in Hagbourne Village Hall at 7.30 on Thursday 29th October. Refreshments served from 7.00pm

Time to get festive with the Garden Club at an event to be held in Hagbourne Village Hall on Thursday 26th November when Timothy Walker will be giving a talk on 'The Plants of Christmas'.

Join us for refreshments at 7.00 followed by the talk at 7.30 p.m. Visitors welcome at £2.50 each.

For further info call Jane on 01235 813350



News



Pond work

Work has started on regenerating the village pond. Chris and Sue lay tell us that they plan to remove the deep layer of silt that has built up since the last time the pond was dredged (in 1920). Lowering the bottom this way should help to keep water in the pond throughout the year, rather than drying up in summer. The sides will be sloped so that wild life can access the water more safely and aquatic plants will be added to keep the water clean and to enrich the habitat. Next year they plan to install an ornamental duck house and hope to introduce call ducks. In addition to this refurbishment, the retaining wall along the road side will be strengthened, with new foundations, to repair the damage done when a car went into the pond.

Lunch club

The monthly lunch club at the Horse & Harrow continues to attract a good turnout.

The September event saw the birthday of Mrs Coster one of the regular lunchers, marked with a birthday cake .

Lunches take place on the third Friday of the month and if you want to be on the mailing list for reminders, please let Sue or Marion know your email address. The next two lunches will be on Friday 16 October and Friday 20 November. All welcome. We are planning to arrange a special Christmas meal in December.

Power station

Soon after 9h00 on Saturday 26th September, the peace and quiet of West Hagbourne was broken by the sounds of a large explosion. This was the second scheduled explosive event as part of the demolition of the coal-fired plant at Didcot Power Station, the previous being in July 2014 when the first three cooling towers were demolished. This time it was a part of the 48m high northern wall of the main building. Despite washing down of the site prior to demolition, a plume of dust could be seen rising above the site. The northern cooling towers and chimney are due to be demolished next spring and summer.

Garden waste

If you have a brown bin, on Thursday 15th October, the equivalent of two garden waste bins can be put out for collection. Place any extra garden waste in a clear plastic bag or cardboard box.



Oktoberfest

Didcot Civic Hall is hosting the Almost Oktoberfest with an Oompah Band, German Beers & Bavarian food. On Friday November 6th (almost-October)

From 6 pm to late. Tickets are £10 (from the Civic Hall) which includes a free 1 litre stein for everyone. (though they will be empty)

Hall grant

Hagbourne Village Hall has won a grant of £2,320 to install additional insulation in its roof space, as well as to replace the existing fluorescent tubes with modern LED units.

The money has been provided by the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE2) and funding partner Grundon Waste Management Ltd. With work due to be completed during the summer holiday period, the work will not only help to reduce energy costs, but will also provide a much cosier environment particularly for the pre-school group who use the village hall during the daytime. Richard Elliott, chairman of the Management Committee, said: "We are delighted to have secured this grant to allow us to carry out this work. These were two of the recommendations made by the recent energy audit carried out on our hall, which was also mostly funded by TOE2, and without which we would not have considered these measures. There were several other actions recommended which we are presently looking at implementing." Fiona Danks, TOE2 Director, said: "We are delighted to support this project which will help to make Hagbourne village hall much more welcoming whilst also cutting fuel bills and reducing its carbon footprint. We recognize the valuable contributions that community buildings such as this village hall play in local communities and we are keen to encourage all such buildings to make energy efficiency improvements"

Hagbourne Village Hall is one of the social centres for the villages of East and West Hagbourne. The scene of countless parties, annual meetings, the local pre-school, the home of the HAMS theatre group, numerous sport- and hobby-based activities, and the location for many post-church events, the Hagbourne Village Hall is alive with the life of our two villages.

U3A

Didcot & District University Of The Third Age meets 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. 20 October, The Organ Grinder, by John Hunt

17 November, Mapledurham Watermill, by Corry Starling

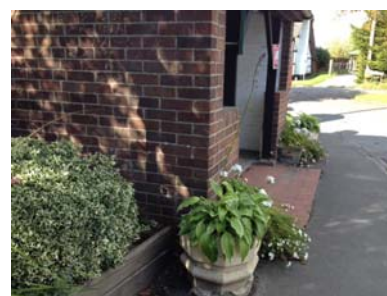
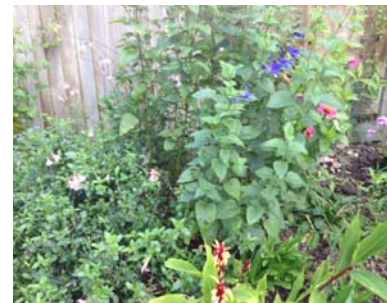
15 December, Christmas Lunch and Entertainment, details to be announced

Tel: 07802 237963 or email didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com
<http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Village Garden

The village garden is settling down for winter, having provided some colour throughout the growing season. This year many of the original plants have had time to establish and spread.

Additional planting will be made in the autumn and the usual bulbs will be put into the various planters for an early spring display.



Macmillan

Friday 25th September saw plenty of action at the Horse & Harrow public house as Helen, the landlady, had decided to hold a coffee morning as part of the Macmillan Cancer Charity's Biggest Coffee Morning initiative.

Although it is called a coffee morning, the main item on the agenda was cakes of all shapes and sizes. The biggest problem for the people who came along to support the fundraising was choosing which cake(s) to try.



Most sampled at least two. Clear favourite in the morning session was the parsnip cake, made by Mrs Robinson.

The winner of the 'Spotty Cake' competition was Mike Hyrcko whose guess of 590 was closest to the actual total of 576.

The total raised was £345.



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

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 then 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. www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes

Parish Council

Clerk

Andrew Wise
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 | |
| Mike Telford | 851 236 |
| mike.telford@westhagbourne.org | |

District Councillors

Pat Dawe + Jane Murphy
pat.dawe@southoxon.gov.uk
jane.murphy@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

Update

There was a good response to an advertisement placed with OALC for the position of a replacement clerk. After interviewing suitable candidates the decision was taken to appoint Andrew Wise. He is also the clerk of nearby North Moreton.

The clerk can be contacted via parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

There has been a meeting with OCC Highways department, who are coming up with new plans for traffic calming - and this will not involve speed bumps. This will use Section 106 funding that was made available when planning permission for the Bloor Homes development was approved.

It took a long while to make contact with the correct people but SODC had passed responsibility to OCC and thanks to the intervention of our county councillor there has now been progress

Mike Butler, Chair

Council Meetings

are held in Hagbourne Village Hall

- 4th November 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

local events

If you have items you are prepared to give away, send up a short advertisement with the details for inclusion (free of charge) in the next newsletter.

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

Thursday 15 October

Extra large garden waste collection

Friday 16 October

Horse & Harrow, 12.30pm
Village lunch

Tuesday 20 October

Café Scientifique: Professor Jane Langdale, Breeding crops for the future, Cornerstone 7.30

Thursday 29 October

Garden Club: Art and the Garden!
Hagbourne Village Hall 7.30

Wednesday 4 November

Parish Council meeting,
Hagbourne Village Hall 7.30

Thursday 26th November

Garden Club: Timothy Walker 'The Plants of Christmas' at Hagbourne Hall at 7.30

Friday November 6th

The Almost Oktoberfest
6 pm Didcot Civic Hall £10

Monday 16 November

Village Association AGM
Horse & Harrow 7:30

Friday 20 November

Horse & Harrow, 12.30pm
Village lunch

Next edition



please e-mail copy for inclusion
in the December issue **by 30 November**
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org



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

*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.maryannndesign.co.uk

Marquees

The Village Association has two Marquees which can be used by residents. There is a small charge of just £25 plus a returnable deposit of £50 to be paid on commencement of the hire.

West Hagbourne residents wishing to use the marquees do so at their own risk and the Association will not be responsible for any claims for accidents that may occur during the rental period.

The 12metre x 5metre and the 11metre x 4metre marquees must be returned in the storage boxes provided at the end of the hire. Tables and chairs are also available.

For advanced booking and details please contact
Keith Walton 01235 851089

All donations go towards our village funds.

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



**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

Bare Essentials

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

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

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