



# West Hagbourne news



December 2015 ISSUE 124

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## Plans in our area

There have been a number of items in this year's newsletters highlighting various major planning applications that might impact on residents in West Hagbourne, either directly or indirectly, by such things as increased traffic.

You can read elsewhere in this edition about negotiations between the Parish Council and Oxfordshire Highways about plans for traffic management in the village.

We have tried to put together a map showing where there are current, or recent, planning applications and where works are being carried out. We have included the application for development of the site beside the Horse and Harrow which, although withdrawn in its current form, is likely to be resubmitted.

Many villagers will sympathise with the active campaign based in East Hagbourne, aimed at preventing the building of houses in fields that separate the village from Didcot (see [mindthegreengap.org](http://mindthegreengap.org))

## Thefts

Thames Valley Police is appealing for witnesses following three burglaries (non-dwelling) in West Hagbourne. Between 8.30am and 6pm on Tuesday (10/11) a KTM Ultrafun mountain bike in orange and turquoise was stolen from an insecure shed in Foxglove Lane. Between 17th/18th November power tools were stolen from a van in York Road. Between 26th/27th two more vans were burgled in Main Street. There have also been thefts in Upton during November.

If you have seen any suspicious looking people or vehicles in the area or have any information relating to this message, please call the police on the 24 hour non-emergency telephone number 101.

## Christmas trees

The St Andrew's Church annual Christmas Tree festival will take place between 12th and 22nd December. You can enjoy a forest of Christmas trees, imaginatively decorated by local groups, clubs and families, on display throughout this period. Get into the spirit of Christmas and go along to the church, remembering to vote for your favourite.

## Choir

Hagbourne Community choir is in its third term with around 35 singers but new members are welcome. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings in the Pavilion at Great Mead, opposite the shop in East Hagbourne from 19h15 to 20h45.

For more information contact the conductor, Louise, on 07748712075 or email [lourap@gmail.com](mailto:lourap@gmail.com) or just go along.

## Lady Walkers

Did you know there is a group of lady walkers based in East Hagbourne? They walk once a month, and are happy for non-EH residents to join them. They are also looking for people who would be prepared to lead or co-lead a walk, which could be a countryside or a town route. Walks are normally followed by lunch in a pub or café.

If you feel the need to get outside to blow away the cobwebs of Christmas excess, with some likeminded people get in touch with Alice Smith on 813393 or email [smith@hagbourne.plus.uk](mailto:smith@hagbourne.plus.uk). The walk on January 18th will be led by Cynthia Napper.

For non-females, there is always the monthly walk organised by Paul Chambers (816365) with details in the Parish Magazine.

## Reducing floods

You may have noticed a large tanker lorry in the village recently that seemed to be making a lot of noise. It was here to clean out the drains in the road to ensure a better flow for run off water. This visit was welcome in several parts of the village where standing water was becoming a problem after heavy rain. Certainly the workmen found a completely blocked pipe under York Road. We will watch with interest in the event of future heavy rain.

In addition to the problems of increasingly heavy rain, West Hagbourne was once again threatened with a deluge as a result of a broken mains water pipe in the field at Coscote. The water cascaded off the field and left mud all over the road which was quickly removed by a cleaning lorry, once the water escape had been dealt with.

## Gardening club

Hagbourne Garden Club welcomes members and visitors alike (£2.50 for visitors). Talks commence in Hagbourne Village Hall at 7.30 with refreshments served from 7.00 p.m. . The next meeting is on 28th January 2016, Hagbourne Village Hall at 7.30. Ray Broughton will give a talk on 'Making the Best of a Very Small Greenhouse'. Further details available from Jane on 01235 813350

## Pond work

Work on regenerating the village pond is more or less complete. Removing the tons of silt and mud was a massive task but almost immediately the pond began to fill. In the spring there are plans to plant the sloping margins which will help to stabilise them and prevent the soil being washed back into the basin. The plants will also provide cover for smaller aquatic animals using the sloping sides to access the water. It is possible that the dragon will have to grow some longer legs for next year's competition.

## Lunch club

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

The December Christmas lunch on Friday 18th is now fully booked. Food choices will need to be made a week before the event, and the menu will be sent out nearer the time.



# News

## Bus shelter

Many of you pass through the centre of the village every day but maybe do not see the various people who have put in some effort to keep this area looking tidy. Apart from Sue and Dave keeping the flower borders and planters neat we should all thank Hugh and Tracy (The Square) for providing the water as needed and helping to dispose of waste material. Graham from York Cottage also provides water when needed while Barry and Jackie from Witchaven contribute bedding plants and general tidying up. Finally, but most importantly at this season, Robert (Woodleys) has been sweeping up and collecting the leaves, ensuring that they don't end up blocking the drains or filling the bus shelter. It is a true communal effort and we extend thanks on behalf of the villagers who benefit.



## Bin collections

Over the festive period some bin collections have been changed and may be earlier than usual.

Find dates on the back page.



## U3A

Didcot & District University of the Third Age meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civil Hall. It's never too late to expand your horizons.

The University of the Third Age offers the opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and talents with others and learn from them in friendly surroundings. Why not come along to the next meeting of the Didcot & District U3A and find out what we are all about. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining. A member of our committee will be on hand to make you welcome.

On 15th December there will be Christmas entertainment and on 19th January 2016 Dr Tony Maisey will give a humorous look at transplants and implants.

Tel: 07802 237963 or Email: [didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com](mailto:didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com)  
[u3asites.org.uk/didcot](http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot)

## Health

The Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has just launched a new website for our local area.

The new County of Oxfordshire Advice on Care and Health (COACH) website provides health advice and information on local services.

**FLU VACCINATIONS:** You might want to remind family, friends and colleagues that GPs are holding flu vaccination clinics to help protect adults – and some children – at risk of flu.

**CHILD HEALTH LEAFLETS:** To help people use local NHS services more effectively we have developed some leaflets which you may find useful. To see the Signposting leaflets click [here](#) and for the child health leaflets click [here](#). Both leaflets will be available at Locality forum meetings.

**CHOOSE WELL APP:** download the Choose Well app to your smart phone to find health services closest to you in Oxfordshire.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES CONSULTATION – ENDS 10 JANUARY 2016**  
Take part in the Oxfordshire County Council's consultation on its proposals to adopt a new model of children's services in Oxfordshire for children

**BE CLEAR ON CANCER – 'BLOOD IN PEE' CAMPAIGN:** "If you notice blood in your pee, even if it's 'just the once', tell your doctor."

For more information on the campaign go to <http://www.my-coach.org.uk/>

[www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk](http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk)



## 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/w eight-restriction-orders](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/w eight-restriction-orders) or by phone (0845 051 0845) or email [trading\\_standards@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes)

## Citizens Advice

Heat your home and save money.

Are you having problems heating your house, or do you feel that you're paying more than you should? South Oxfordshire Citizens Advice is urging people to take action, cut their bills by checking that they are on the best possible deal, switch tariff or supplier, or take up offers of help to insulate their homes.

You could benefit from savings of up to £320 a year from energy efficiency measures, an average of £100 by paying by direct debit, and up to £200 by shopping around.

Citizens Advice has published new energy advice information and links to comparison tools. Visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/advisernet/consumer/energy/energy-supply](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/advisernet/consumer/energy/energy-supply) to find out how you can benefit.

Citizens Advice has also issued eight money-saving tips:

Check your bills carefully and read your meter regularly so you can check that you're paying the right amount.

Talk to your supplier if you think your bill is wrong or if you have problems paying. They will give you advice or talk you through repayment options.

Make sure that you are on the cheapest tariff. Check with your supplier and use an accredited tariff-switching website to see who is offering the best deal. Most energy suppliers offer fixed price tariffs, i.e. the price of a unit of energy will stay the same for the length of the deal.

If you use a pre-payment meter, remember that standing charges will be added daily, even when you aren't using energy. Check how much these standing charges are and keep your meter topped up to avoid unexpected charges.

If you use heating oil as your main fuel, buy before winter and see if there are any local oil-buying clubs you can join. A scheme covering many local villages is the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council's Bulk Oil-Buying Scheme - visit [www.communityfirstoxon.org/](http://www.communityfirstoxon.org/)



Make your home energy-efficient. Insulate lofts and cavity walls, install double glazing or use thick curtains to keep the heat in. Get your boiler serviced or replaced to ensure that it is energy-efficient. There are schemes to help pay for this and Citizens Advice can tell you about them.

Save money and energy – don't leave appliances on standby. Fix leaking hot water taps and turn off the light when you leave a room.

Do a home energy check – visit the Energy Saving Trust home energy check at

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/home-energy-check](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/home-energy-check)

Use this check to get a full report with details of your home energy use and the savings you could make.

If money is tight, contact your local Citizens Advice. They can look into your situation and see whether you are getting all the benefits you're entitled to, or if you can get help paying your bills.

For further help: visit [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk), phone 03444 111 444 or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice, which is located at Dales, 9-15 High Street, Didcot OX11 8EQ. For opening hours, see [www.ca.org.uk](http://www.ca.org.uk)

# Parish Council

## Clerk

Andrew Wise  
[parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

## Councillors

Mike Butler Chair 850 523  
[mike.butler@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.butler@westhagbourne.org)  
Valerie Brownsword 850 668  
[valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org](mailto:valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org)  
Hugh Lewis 851 113  
[hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org](mailto:hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org)  
Mike Telford 851 236  
[mike.telford@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.telford@westhagbourne.org)

## District Councillors

Pat Dawe + Jane Murphy  
[pat.dawe@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:pat.dawe@southoxon.gov.uk)  
[jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk)  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
01491 823000

## County Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396  
[patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk)  
Oxfordshire County Council  
01865 792422

## Council Meetings

are held in Hagbourne Village Hall

- 6th January 2016
- 2nd March
- 4th May

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](http://www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm)

## Planning

The outline planning application for 14 houses in the field behind the Horse and Harrow has been withdrawn. The Conservation and Design Officer objected to the proposal and said, with respect to West Hagbourne:

*"The Horse and Harrow forms the visual gateway to the village as you*

*travel east along Main Street to the historic core of the settlement. Along this part of Main Street the housing is extremely limited with substantial open green space separating the few houses and the pub from the defined built settlement edge further east ..... The level of development proposed at this site is considered to be far more intense and concentrated than the pattern of development within the settlement. As such, the proposal does not respond to the character of the area or the setting of the Conservation Area."*

We expect that a new application will be made, for fewer properties which are hopefully more in character with the village. We will consider such an application if it is made.

The application for a house on the plot next to 17 York Road has been rejected by the planners. They considered that having regard to the size of the site and the contrived plot sub-division, the proposal represents over-development of the site, with inadequate standards of amenity for the occupants of the existing 17 York Road.

## Traffic Calming

Three members of the Council met with representatives from Oxfordshire County Council on 6 November, to look around the village and consider in more detail what measures can be taken to slow down through traffic, and to make the route through the village less attractive to through traffic. The expense will be met by Section 106 funds provided by the Bloor Homes developers. Some possible measures might require a traffic survey, but that would not be taken until Hagbourne Hill is open again. Speed bumps will not be used in the village, although there may be a traffic calming feature on the stretch of Main Street from the Horse and Harrow towards the A417. The existing Vehicle Activated Sign, which was inoperative for some time, has been repaired under warranty.

## 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:

### Tuesday 15th December

Cornerstone, 7.30pm  
Café Scientifique: Christmas Special,  
Dr Barry Kellett, from STFC: the 'real'  
astronomy behind the biblical Star of  
Bethlehem.

### Friday 18th December

Horse & Harrow, 12.30pm  
Village Christmas lunch



### Changes to bin collections in January

Thursday 31st December gets collected on  
**Monday 4th January** Grey bin & food bin

Thursday 7th January get collected on  
**Saturday 9th January\*** Green bin & food bin (no garden waste)

Thursday 14th January gets collected on  
**Friday 15th January** Grey bin & food bin

Saturday collections will start from 6am, an hour earlier than usual, so remember to put your bins out the night before.

### Wednesday 6th January

Parish Council meeting  
Hagbourne Hall at 7.30

### Thursday 28th January

Garden Club:  
(There is no meeting in December).

## Next edition



Any news you would like reported in the next Newsletter?

Please e-mail copy for inclusion in the February issue **by 30th January**  
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.

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01235 851423 or email  
littleacorns@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  
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Main Street, West Hagbourne OX11 0NA



### MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

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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 & KEN TAN TANNING  
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Call Becky 01235 851 863 | www.bare-essentials | info@bare-essentials.info

## house to rent in France

Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7

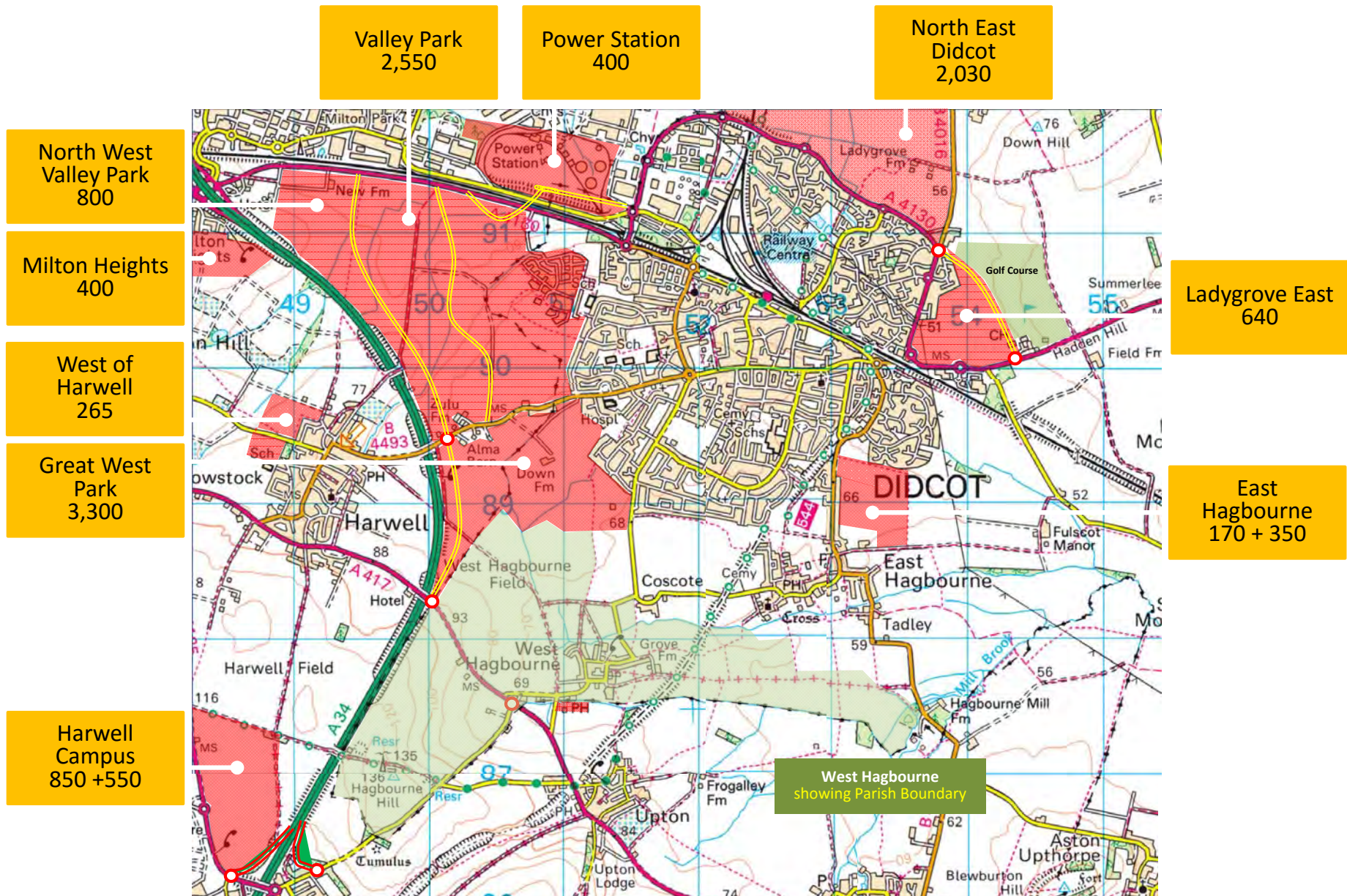
Just minutes from quiet family beach,  
great biking and sailing, two bedrooms,  
washing machine, dishwasher, TV



600€/week June + Sept  
750€/week July

for more information  
and photos

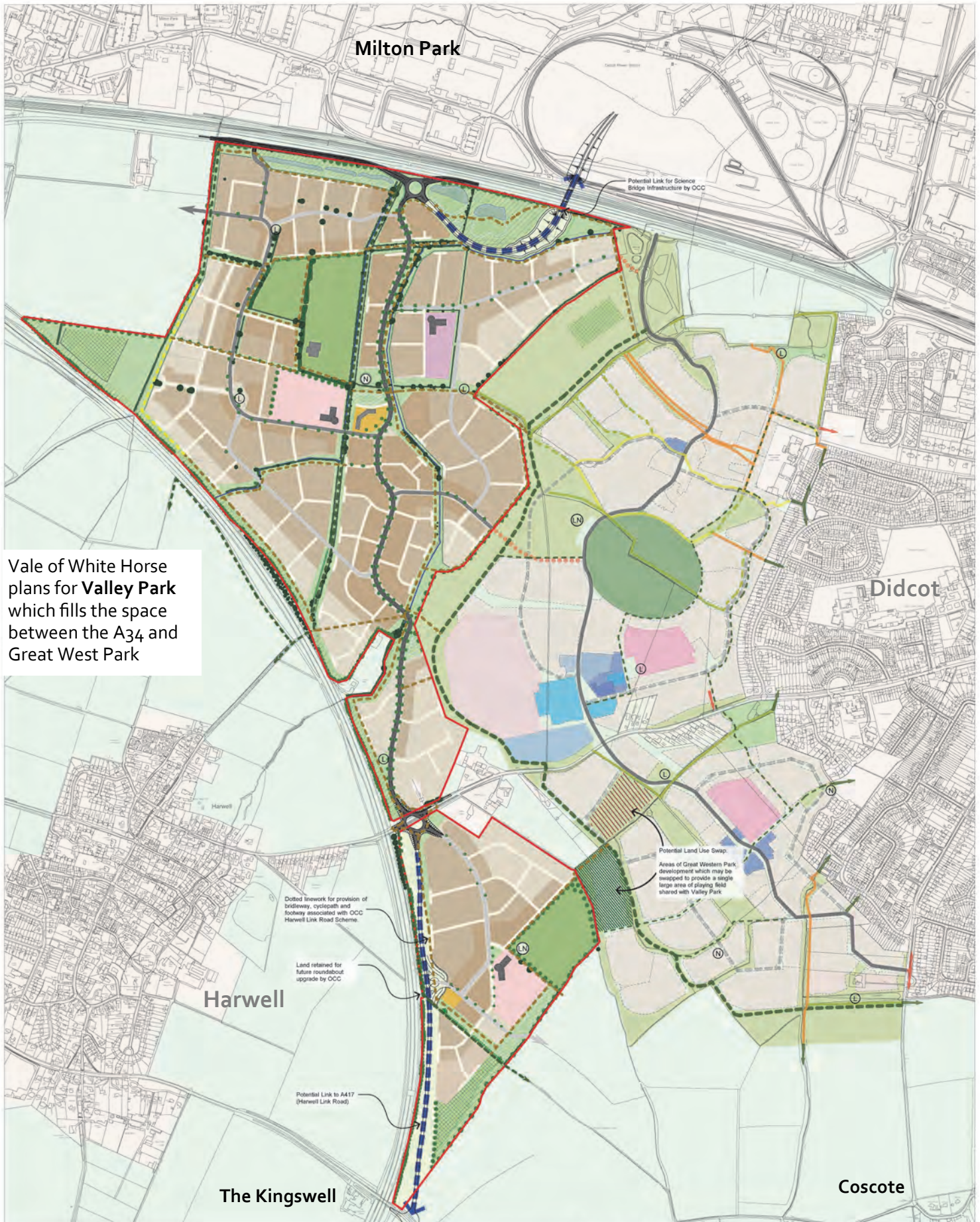
contact [totterdells@btinternet.com](mailto:totterdells@btinternet.com) 01235 850080



This indicative map clearly shows the location and volume of housing which is currently being considered by South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils. It highlights the risk posed by the where the 'next' areas of growth will logically be placed.

The planners seem to have completely overlooked, or at least mis-judged the impact this level of growth will have on villages – especially West Hagbourne – and the roads which run through them. The increase in the number of vehicle journeys to work, the railway station, local schools, shopping and leisure facilities will prove to be significant.

Even with Hagbourne Hill closed, traffic levels in the village have remained high. Once the upgrade is complete it is inevitable that the road will become busier than ever unless appropriate steps are taken to dissuade drivers from choosing the road to and through West Hagbourne.



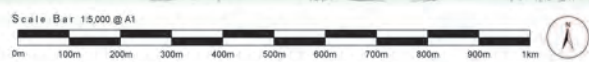
Vale of White Horse plans for **Valley Park** which fills the space between the A34 and Great West Park

Potential Land Use Swap:  
Areas of Great Western Park development which may be swapped to provide a single large area of playing field shared with Valley Park

Dotted Inetwork for provision of bridleway, cyclepath and footway associated with OCC Harwell Link Road Scheme

Land retained for future roundabout upgrade by OCC

Potential Link to A417 (Harwell Link Road)



Key			
	Site Boundary = 178 12ha		Local Centres
	Residential (lower density)		Playing Fields
	Residential (medium density)		POS / Semi-natural Green Space (to include NEAPS and LEAPS)
	Residential (higher density)		Allotments
	Primary School Site		Amenity Space/Landscape Buffer
	Special Needs School Site		OCC Strategic Infrastructure
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		N-S Main Primary Street Route
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		E-W Main Street
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		Secondary Highway Route
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		Tertiary Highway Route
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		Existing Public Right of Way (Footpath/Bridleway)
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		New Footpath/Cycle Path
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		Proposed Footpath Diversion
	OCC Strategic Infrastructure Route		Watercourses
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		New Tree Planting
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		New Hedge Planting
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		LEAP/NEAP Combined Location
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		NEAP Location
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		LEAP Location
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		Attenuation Ponds
	Existing Landscaping (hedges & trees)		Great Western Park Proposed Road Linkages

RPS	
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