

## More homes

Many of you will have heard by now that Taylor Wimpey are preparing a scoping report for future development on the fields to the west of Park Road. You can see the document here: <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jspMODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P17/S3029/SCO>

This is in addition to the plans already submitted by Catesby Estates (see June 2017 newsletter). Taylor Wimpey are looking at building a total of 1023 new homes on the 50 ha site which lies only 300m north of West Hagbourne, stretching from Coscote to meet Valley Park (the large housing development already scheduled by the Vale on land between West Hagbourne and Harwell Village) and the Driftway. Access is to be provided onto Park Road but mention is also made of a partial southern perimeter road leading to Valley Park. Were this link to go ahead it would give access to many extra houses onto Park Road and breach the undertaking to not allow more cars to access Park Road.

The Chair of the Parish council was interviewed by the Didcot Herald where he highlighted the erosion of the gap between Didcot and West Hagbourne and the likelihood of unacceptably high traffic flows but there are several important issues here. Firstly, the site does not appear in the Structure Plan registered by SODC to provide for future housing need. Moreover, a recent review of the number of houses needed in Oxfordshire concludes fewer are needed than in the original plans, meaning there is no justification for building outside of already identified sites.

Secondly, access onto Park Road was considered a sticking point even for Great Western Park - originally no new homes were supposed to have direct access to Park Road - there was to be a link onto Portway for around 150 homes. This got abandoned somewhere in the process. We have already seen traffic through the village increase above the level predicted by the GWP traffic model for when all of the GWP homes have been built.

These additional 1,000 homes will have many residents looking to access employment sites to the south of Didcot, and trying to avoid increasing congestion in Didcot itself. Traffic in WH, on our narrow winding roads, would be intolerable, damaging our quality of life, our built history and increasing pollution levels.

Moreover, Didcot Garden Town plans make specific mention of green gaps between Didcot and the surrounding villages. If this development gets a green light, West Hagbourne's unique character risks being undermined. The historic importance of the ridge and furrow fields on the east of Park Road has already been dismissed by Catesby Estates. Worryingly, the money associated with Garden Town status is already being squabbled over by SODC and OCC.

Finally, we cannot afford to continue to lose good quality agricultural land. As we plan for changes in our food supply chains when we leave Europe, we should be more focused on home production capacity. Once lost, prime agricultural land cannot be replaced. In addition these fields are important in absorbing rainfall during the increasingly frequent once-in-a-lifetime storms and without them flooding events in the village may be more frequent and more severe.

For those of you who feel that these developments should be strongly opposed, you will have to bide your time. The scoping report stage does not involve a consultation. This will occur should the Planning Department indicate that it will consider a full application. In the meantime we need to be marshalling public opinion and watching how other campaigns have successfully opposed other inappropriate developments.

If you want to get involved, or learn more, there will be a meeting on Monday 9th October at Meadows Edge, from 19h30 to talk about what we can do.

Click here for the scoping report: <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jspMODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P17/S3029/SCO>

## Madge Trophy

Each year the West Hagbourne Village Association organises the front garden competition (you are all automatically entered) and arranges for a judge to visit the village.

This year Mrs. Jane Kinniburgh kindly agreed to act as judge. She was looking for "gardens with variety, colour, and wildlife friendly plants" (her words). Jane was delighted to see so many gardens which had a diversity of shrubs, (especially Woodleys, Blissets, and Sula Sgeir,) gardens displaying a variety of colour, and gardens which had wildlife friendly plants and shrubs. She also commented on the interesting and well-kept garden around our bus shelter. Many thanks to Dave and Sue Totterdell who tend the garden, and Robert Griffiths who cuts the grass.

Jane had difficulty in choosing a winner but her final decision was No 16 York Road and Green Thatch were joint winners.

Congratulations to Mrs Hill and to Mr & Mrs Carter. Highly commended were Chiaro, Meadows Edge, 12, Manor Close, 10 Manor Close and York Farm where the marigolds provided splendid colour around the stone toadstools.

Jane thoroughly enjoyed her visit to our lovely village.

So that gardens reaching their peak at different seasons have an equal chance of winning, judging next year will be in April.

## Water lilies

Would you like to add some colour to your pond? Water lilies Escarboucle, which has a fragrant rich crimson flower and Colonel Welch, soft yellow flowers that are held above the leaves are available from Sula Sgeir, Main Street. For the pond margins there is also a variegated leaved yellow Iris being given away.

## Garden club

Hagbourne Garden Club meets in the Village Hall at 19h30 (refreshments from 19h00).

Visitors welcome (£3).

Thursday, 26th October: John Negus (a photo journalist, trained at Wisley), presents 'Beth Chatto's Garden'.

Thursday, 30th November: Steve Relton, (gardening expert on BBC Radio Oxford), talking on 'Growing Unusual Vegetables'.

For further info tel: 01235 813350

## Village Assoc news

The Village Association's AGM will take place on Monday 13th November at 7:30pm at the Horse & Harrow. This is an open meeting where suggestions and offers of help for future community and social events are most welcome. Please contact the Secretary, Margaret Leishman, at [mjleishman707@gmail.com](mailto:mjleishman707@gmail.com) if you have any comments or ideas for the Association to consider.

The Village Autumn Walk is scheduled for Sunday, 8th October starting at 2pm from The Square. All are welcome to join us for a stroll along local paths and tracks to enjoy the autumn countryside.

## Fireworks

As autumn approaches, please ensure any bonfires do not trouble your neighbours. If you are planning firework celebrations, please remember that these may upset pets and livestock, so warning your neighbours in advance would be courteous.

Similarly one series of bonfires in York Road were set in September without any consideration for others. The ensuing smoke enveloped the whole of the north west side of the village, ruining several loads of washing - and was still visible the next morning.

# other news

## Planning update

Revised plans for the parcel of land between the pub and the garage have been passed on appeal. Permission has been given to build four homes on the land owned by Rowan Napper between the pub and the garage.

## Pam Lay

An only child, born on the 4th July 1929 to Fred and Mary Oates, Pam was a lively, vivacious child and young lady, if sometimes a bit of a rebel, including whilst at boarding school. During the school holidays she was regularly sent to stay on a farm in Sussex which apparently was where she decided to marry a farmer. When she met and married Charlie Lay she fulfilled this wish, and she went from being a single child, to being a busy farmer's wife and hardworking mother to six children. She still found time, however, to excel as a cook, making everything from scratch, including cakes, pickles, jams, and even beer and wine, as well as superb meringues. In the garden her love of colour found full expression and her daily ritual of 'putting the greenhouse to bed' each evening ensured healthy plants. Although Pam's Alzheimer's disease over the last 5 years of her life meant that she could not stay in West Hagbourne she remained at the centre of her family until her death. She will be missed by them and all the people of West Hagbourne whose lives she touched. Pam's funeral took place on August 4th at St Andrew's Church. Her family would like to thank her friends, neighbours and family for the kind donations made to Alzheimers Research UK in her memory. A total of £749.81 was raised.

## Ken Bishop

Kenneth Bishop, who died in July, arrived in West Hagbourne on a horse and cart as a baby in arms, living his whole life in the one house. Although state of the art when he arrived in 1930's, the house remained un-modernised in subsequent years. The large garden, however, was fully exploited feeding the whole family until Kenny decided, in his eighties, to reduce the work load, and only cultivate half the land. One of his many successes was the pumpkins he sent to the competition at the Horse and Harrow. He worked first at the Central Ordnance depot in Didcot and then Milton Depot, always using his woodworking skills. Finally Kenny went to work as a groundsman at Harwell site, specialising in tree surgery, a skill he shared with villagers as required. He contributed to village life in many ways, clearing ditches, tending the road signs at the entrance to the village or cutting grass at Coscote corner. An accident he witnessed as a young man in the Royal Army Service Corps, in Greece put him off driving and he relied entirely on his bike, riding well into his late eighties. He often cycled long distances, either to follow his other passion, Oxford Cheetahs Speedway team, or just to go to the south coast for an ice cream on a sunny day. Ken was out on his bicycle most days but if the weather was too awful, he just rode the static exercise bike he had fashioned in his shed from old cycles. Kenny was a familiar figure in the village often seen as he cycled up to Didcot putting those of us in our cars to shame. He will be missed.

## A34 closure

"Kier Highways, on behalf of Highways England, will be resurfacing a section of the A34 northbound carriageway from the Milton Interchange to Abingdon, to ensure the network remains in a safe and serviceable condition. The work is currently scheduled to start on Monday 18 September 2017 and is expected to be completed by Friday 13 October 2017 (Monday to Friday only) – please be aware that these works have been carefully programmed but are subject to change due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. In order to carry out the work as efficiently and safely as possible, the A34 northbound carriageway will be closed from the A4130 Milton Interchange to the A415 Marcham Interchange. Access will be maintained for emergency services on blue-light calls. Confirmed dates for the closures will be displayed in advance on signs along the A34." It looks as though these closures will just be overnight. Local alternative routes are also likely to be congested.

## Village Lunch

The next village lunch at the Horse and Harrow will be on Friday 20th October. If you would like to come along, just let Marion or Sue know, or contact Helen at the pub directly



## Recycling changes

The current scheme which has been running at their Household Waste Recycling Centres (e.g. Drayton) for 15 years has allowed residents to deposit up to three DIY waste items for free before being charged a small fee of £1 for each additional item. From the 1st October 2017 this changes to a small fixed fee per item of £1.50 for most non-household or DIY items. Residents can still take household waste for free at their local Household Waste Recycling Centre. More information about the changes can be found online at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste)

**What can I dispose of for free, and what will I get charged for at Household Waste Recycling Centres?\***

Household Waste No charge			Non-household waste Charges apply / Charges may apply	
household waste	household & garden chemicals	hard plastics	tyres	wood & timber
mixed paper & card	gas bottles	small appliances	building materials	<small>Charge</small> Floorboards, doors, skirting boards
cardboard	mattresses	large appliances	plasterboard	<small>No charge</small> Wardrobes, tables
mixed glass bottles & jars	carpet	scrap metal	hardcore & rubble	
garden waste	furniture			

\*For more details and a complete list visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste)

## U3A

As we go into the autumn we hope everyone has enjoyed a relaxing, if somewhat erratic, English Summer?! Perhaps we can hope for an 'Indian Summer' for the next two months, before the clocks go back?

Meanwhile, the Didcot and District U3A, which provides numerous interest activities for the 'retired generation', continues to thrive with over 30 interest groups and is always ready, and hoping, to welcome 'newcomers' at their monthly meetings. These meetings take place on the Third Tuesday of every Month and are held at the Civic Hall, Didcot commencing at 2 o'clock (1400hrs!); they provide updates on the various interest groups along with details of any day excursions, e.g., the Bank of England, BBC Bristol, etc. In addition, a Guest Speaker presents an overview on a subject that is 'near and dear to them' and the following very interesting topics up next are;

17th October - Enigma, Bletchley and the Hunt for Hitler's Secret Weapons by Phil Judkins  
21st November - Victorian Ghost Stories by Bill Spectre  
After which everyone enjoys a convivial chat over tea and biscuits, what is there not to like?! So if you are retired or semi-retiring you will be more than welcome to give The Didcot & District U3A a go . . . . Hope to see you there?!"

For more information phone 01235 211291 or 01235 510048 email [secretary@didcotu3a.org](mailto:secretary@didcotu3a.org)  
Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/di>

### keep up to date

[www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

The website carries all sorts of information, news and contact details

## NHS services

**New 111 Service:** People living in the Thames Valley have new and improved access to urgent care services. The new Thames Valley Integrated Urgent Care 111 service will help you access a wide range of clinical care through a single call, including dental, pharmacy and mental health services, ensuring patients get the right care first time.

**For more information:** <http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/news/new-thames-valley-integrated-urgent-care-iuc-service-is-launched/36744>

**See a Doctor at weekends:** You can book an appointment via your surgery to see a doctor on Saturdays and Sundays and in the evenings in Oxfordshire. OCCG has commissioned a scheme to allow more patients to see a GP or practice nurse during these times to improve access to healthcare in the county.

**For more information:** <http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/news/more-gp-appointments-improve-access-to-doctors/34980>

**New exercise guidelines for over 50s:** Are you walking briskly for at least 10 minutes a day to improve your health? Download the app and check out your activity levels.

# 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)

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Oliver Doogue 851 156

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## District Councillors

Pat Dawe + Jane Murphy

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[jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk)

South Oxfordshire District Council  
01491 823000

## County Councillor

Simon Clarke

[simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Oxfordshire County Council

## Council Meetings

are held in Hagbourne Village Hall

- see website for future dates

Minutes of meetings of the Parish Council are available online.

If you cannot find them contact the clerk, 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)

From now on, shortly before each meeting of the Parish Council the agenda will be circulated by email to all those on the list.

To comply with legal requirements, a physical copy of the agenda will still be posted on the Parish Council notice board.

## Parish Email List

If you wish to be placed on this list, or wish to check that your entry is correct, please send an email to the Clerk at

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

## Planning updates

If you want to be notified about planning applications that affect West Hagbourne, you can sign up for email alerts.

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

## HGV's & potholes

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) 0845 310 1111 or go to [www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes](http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes).

1. Villagers are reminded that garden waste should not be left on roads, tracks or footpaths. It should be left in the brown bins for collection or it can be taken to the waste facility in Drayton.

2. The latest news is that the work to narrow Main Street between the pond and York Road, with signs to indicate that it is a single track stretch and give way markings, will take place in February 2018.

3. A representative of the council will be meeting with the District Councillor, a representative from East Hagbourne and other people from SODC to discuss strategies for resisting planning applications which reduce the gap between Didcot and the villages.

Mike Butler

## local events

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

### Friday Lunch Club

At the Horse & Harrow 12.30pm

Friday 20th October

Future dates will be circulated via the mailing list.

### Macmillan Coffee

Saturday 30th Sept

10h30-12h30 at York Farm.

### Didcot's Farmers' Market

is held every second Saturday of the month from 8.30am to 1.30pm

### Didcot Film Club

The club meets at Cornerstone in Didcot Annual membership costs £5.

It shows the sort of films you probably won't see in mainstream cinemas.

Film tickets can be bought via the Cornerstone site or in person.

## can you help?

We are always keen to hear from you about news you have, or events you think other residents would like to know about.

If you have something to sell, give away or tell others about, listings are free if you live in West Hagbourne.

If you would like to contribute, help to distribute the newsletter or if you could help find additional advertisers we would love to hear from you.

editors@westhagbourne.org

## for sale

Chunky Oat Cookies made with all natural, locally sourced ingredients.

£3 for a pack of 8 cookies

Choose from Stem Ginger, Cranberry, Seed & Nutmeg, and Fruit & Spice

please call 851631 to place your order.

Samples available at the time of baking.

## wanted

Does anyone have any unwanted baking sheets? Mandy at 3 Manor Close would be pleased to hear from you on 851631.

www.westhagbourne.org



### Little Acorns

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

Including drop off & pick up to some local schools.

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## Marquees

The Village Association has two Marquees.  
£25 plus a returnable deposit of £50  
The Association will not be responsible for any claims for accidents that may occur during the rental.

**12 x 5 metre and 11 x 4 metre**  
Tables and chairs are also available.

For advanced booking and details  
please contact **Robert Griffiths** (Woodleys)  
rob.griff@yahoo.co.uk  
All donations go towards our village funds.

## Next edition



please e-mail copy for inclusion  
in the next issue by **November 30th 2017**

about Hagbourne News

This newsletter is funded by its advertisements  
edited by Marion Judd and Sue Totterdell  
formatted by Phil Taylor and printed by Hugh Lewis

contact  
editors@westhagbourne.org

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## house to rent in France

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