

East Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting - 17th June, 2010.

A meeting of the East Hagbourne Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday, 17th June, 2010 when the following members were present :-

Mr D Rickeard (Chairman)

Mr D Button

Mr D Harding

Mr R Rendell

Mr R Parsley (Clerk)

Mr P Greene (District and County Councillor)

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Mr Duff due to business commitments, Mr Emery due to evening classes, Mr Dawson on holiday and Mr Alberry and Mr Wilkins due to sickness.

To allow Mr Greene and some members of the public to leave early, items 4, 5(d) and 12(a) were taken early.

2. Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th May, 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Actions and Matters Arising.

See Action List – see appropriate agenda items and Appendix 1 for full details.

2009-10-02. Register the Recreation Ground, Car Park and Hopfields with the Land Registry. A meeting is expected next week to progress; Mr Button and Mr Rendell will action

2009-10-09. Make recommendations to update the Village Website. A working group has met to review two proposals for a new 'engine' that will make maintaining the site easier. Report deferred because Mr Alberry unable to attend this meeting

2010-01-14. North Croft junction maintenance. This remains a difficult question. Mr Rendell will continue to make enquiries

2010-03-02. New controller for car park lights. Mr Rickeard to check with the VH Committee whether the work has been carried out.

2010-05-01. Mr Rickeard reported that a court order had been obtained and that the squatters had left Butt's Piece. The Court Order applies to 'persons unknown' so should be a deterrent for the future.

2010-05-17. Mr Rickeard reported that following email discussion among PC members, HUFC had been authorised to share the Recreation Ground facilities with Cholsey FC for the coming season, subject to them reaching a suitable agreement within the terms of the lease.

4. District and County Councillor.

Mr Greene stated that the new government will have a huge effect on budgets. OCC's budget will be reduced by £11m this year and savings of up to £100m will take place over the next

5 years. The modernisation of Oxford Railway station is now on hold. A special meeting of the full council will be held on 27th July, 2010. Money will be transferred from one section to another to cover important issues. He reported that there was no information at present on the financial issues. Mr Rickeard asked if the OCC grant for the Village Hall would be affected. Mr Greene was unable to comment, but suggested that the VH Committee might copy him on their correspondence with OCC.

The SODC recycling programme is in the top two of the Country achieving 70%. They were very pleased with the support from residents. Mr Rickeard commended SODC on the range of materials accepted for kerb-side collection, which was more extensive than in most Districts.

Mr Greene said that the Core Strategy for the local development was in a state of flux. The future housing policy will now be decided at community level and could mean less houses to the north of Didcot than were predicted at present, however the GWP development is already committed and will go ahead as planned. Mr Rickeard asked whether the reported remarks by Cllr Cotton would have any influence on future housing policy; Mr Greene said that Cllr Cotton was no longer a cabinet member.

5. Items for Decision.

(a)Village Hall Project. Mr Rickeard asked if we should increase our agreed donation of £8000 to the Village Hall building project. He referred to information circulated since the last meeting and the financial report received from Mr Jones which indicated a shortfall of £13,600. It was noted that the shortfall figure is an estimate and includes contingency, so the exact figures are not yet known. Mr Button suggested that the Parish Council could arrange a loan if requested by the VH Committee, however it seemed prudent to wait for the final outcome before any decision was made.

(b).A donation to the Air Ambulance (Berks/Oxon/Bucks). It was proposed by Mr Button to donate £100.00, seconded by Mr Rendell and carried unanimously.

(c).Mr Rickeard asked if we need a village handyman to replace Washington Hunda. It was agreed to appoint a replacement that was self employed and had the necessary tools.

Action – Mr Rickeard and Mr Parsley.

(d).Clay Pigeon Shoot. Mr Hitchins spoke on behalf of the local residents who were objecting to the clay pigeon shoot that was taking place on a paddock off Great Mead in close proximity to residents in Blewbury Road. He stated the noise of the guns was disruptive to village life and that the location did not meet the guideline that any shoot should be at least 1km from local properties. The shoot was set up within this distance and there was also a footpath bordering the paddock on the southern side and a bridleway on the northern perimeter. There was a residential property 200m from the site in the line of firing.

He had contacted the police who had registered no objections and had contacted SODC who at this stage had requested he maintains a log of the events but did not comment on the future outcome. He mentioned that Mr Way, the owner of the land, had said he was within his rights and was not willing to withdraw the shoot. Mr Burgess, who owns the paddock adjacent to that where the shooting is taking place, said that it did not cause concern for his animals.

Mr Hitchins promised a copy of the letter he had received from SODC.

Mr Parsley and Mr Emery had also talked to Mr Way who said that the police had visited the site and that he advised them before each shoot. The activity was not a club or commercial activity, but restricted to himself and his son, using a single gun.

Mr Rickeard said that SODC were the right people to approach to assess complaints of noise.

6.Planning Applications.

(a).The following planning applications have been received since the last meeting. The Parish Council's comments are indicated.

P10/W0556/LB	12 Main Road	No strong views.
P10/W0590/RET	10 Fieldside	-ditto-
P10/W0754	Lower Cross Farm, Blewbury Road	-ditto-
P10/W0588	10 Fieldside	-ditto-
P10/W0804	16A New Road	Under Discussion

7.Parish Plan.

(a).Communications. The Parish Magazine is not received by all parishioners. At the last meeting it was proposed that a free issue of the Parish Magazine, including a more informative article from the Parish Council, is sent to everybody so that they are aware of the magazine and encourage them to subscribe in future. Mr Rickeard had discussed with Mrs Corderoy who is supportive and has suggested that the November issue would be the best timing. She will approach the PCC. It was agreed that the Council would cover the extra costs. Mr Rickeard much larger number of copies. In terms of the content for the PC pages, Mr Rickeard has prepared some notes which he will circulate

Action: Mr Rickeard to circulate notes and continue liaison

(b).Road Safety. Mr Emery has now heard from Mr Turner, OCC, who has been absent with an injury for some time. He is agreeable in principle to traffic surveys at three points in the village and will meet Mr Emery to finalise locations.

The working group of Mr Emery, Mr Rickeard and Mr Button met last week to consider actions we could take in the interim. Mr Murray has also been invited to join the discussion, but was unable to attend this meeting.

Action: Mr Emery liaise with OCC on survey points and other queries raised

Action: Circulate interim proposals before the next meeting

8.Britain in Bloom.

Mr Rickeard stated there were no volunteers to help with this years competition so he proposed that we withdraw our entry for 2010. Mr Button seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

Action: Mr Parsley to explain our decision to BiB and withdraw.

Mr Rickeard said that we should in any case encourage residents via the Parish Page to tend pavements and roadsides adjacent to their properties. He would work with Mr Parsley to identify areas where the Parish Council should take action.

Action: Mr Button - prepare input for Parish Page, Mr Parsley, Mr Rickeard to ensure PC maintenance is actioned

9.Reports.

(a).Monica Lawson Memorial. The design of the seat had been agreed and Mr Taylor, West Hagbourne Parish Council was obtaining quotes from various craftsmen.

(b).Dog Cleanliness. Mr Harding suggested sites for the three new dog bins. One on the left hand side of the footpath from Passey's garage to North Croft, a second by the allotment fence at the end of Wilcher Close and the third at the entrance to the footpath past the old milking sheds off Blewbury Road taking into account that a bungalow will be built on the adjoining plot.

Action: Mr Parsley.

(c). Flooding. Mr Rickeard stated that all residents on the water course from Fieldside to the Church had received a Newsletter noting that one of the main concerns was Himalayan Balsam. A working party will be arranged to keep the stream clear.

He had contacted OCC regarding to provide plans of the car park drainage in preparation for their expected work at the end of the summer. He proposed to talk to Mr Baldwin, SODC on the continued maintenance of the streams.

Action: Mr Rickeard discuss summer maintenance with Mr Baldwin and residents

(d). Didcot Development. Key events are covered in Mr Greene's report. The SODC core Strategy document has not been adopted and is on hold pending clarification of the new Government's policies.

(e). Butts Piece. Mr Rendell reported that Mr King has sent a circular letter to all allotment holders including a copy of the Agreement. He requested our thanks be duly noted. He also thanked Mr Needle who had set out all the allotments with the help of Mr King, Mr Duff and Mr Jones.

There were 23 holders at present and 8 allotments were still available. Mr R Jones, Headmaster, Hagbourne School had advertised the vacancies in the school Newsletter.

There is a good community spirit and help has been given to other holders by,for example, rotovating the ground.

The Agreements have to be completed and signed by the Clerk in cooperation with Mr Rendell.

Action – Mr Parsley and Mr Rendell.

A request had been made to erect a shed but this had been turned down. Acceptability of low storage boxes is being considered.

Action – Mr Rendell.

The rules need to be streamlined and updated.

Action : Mr Rendell and Mr Rickeard

A suitable sign is being considered by Mr Rickeard and Mr Rendell. It was suggested it included a contact for running repairs, however Mr Rickeard thought this might be better on a separate sign inside the allotment area.

Mr Rendell stated that an Allotment Committee was needed and it was agreed to arrange a meeting of all the holders in the near future.

Action – Mr Rendell, Mr Rickeard.

Mr Rickeard suggested a meeting with Mrs Napper to set up a programme for the work needed on the wooded area when the birds have stopped nesting.

Action: Mr Rickeard

(f).East Hagbourne Website. No Report.

(g).Standing Orders. Mr Button to issue a draft report.

Action – Mr Button.

10. Correspondence.

Mr Rickeard stated that he had received an invitation to the opening of the new school gates on 25th June,2010 at 1.15pm, and suggested that others may also wish to attend.

11.Finance.

(a).Payments since the last meeting :-		£
Scion Estates	(Grass Cutting)	585.64
Glasdon UK Ltd.	(Dog Bins)	440.09
T.Kidd	(Internal Audit)	100.00
Hagbourne Village Hall	(Hire)	27.50
East & West Hagbourne Cemetery	(Refund of VAT)	396.88
Trojan Fencing	(Fencing)	3923.90
Scion Estates	(Grass Cutting)	585.64
Shelley Signs	(Signs)	64.63
(b).The receipts were :-		
Various	(Allotment Rent)	405.45
A.Thomas	-ditto-	5.00
(c).The account balances are :-		
Community A/C.		1355.54
Business Base Rate Tracker A/C.		61024.63
Savings Bond.		80000.00
(d).East and West Hagbourne Cemetery :-		
Community A/C.		702.96
Business Reserve A/C.		852.71
(e).Project Balances :-		
Play Area		2018.87
Butts Piece		15417.34
Parish Plan		615.48

Sports Facilities	85140.40
Britain in Bloom	414.62
Village Hall	8000.00

(b). Internal Audit 2009/10.

Mr Button proposed, seconded by Mr Harding and agreed unanimously that the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31st March, 2010 for East Hagbourne Parish Council and East and West Hagbourne Cemetery be approved. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

12. Any Other Business.

(a)

(b).It was reported that the wide flower border outside 'Buckels', Main Road was blocking the footpath and there had been a complaint from a local resident. Mr Rickeard agreed to talk to Mr Topping and ask him to tidy up the area.

Action – Mr Rickeard.

(c) A reminder was given of the charity event on Saturday 3rd July at the Recreation Ground

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.48pm.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 22nd July,2010 at the Fleet Meadow Community Hall, Didcot at 7.30pm.

Chairman :-

Date:-

Action No	Action	Responsible	Status
2009-10-02	Register Recreation Ground, Car Park and hopfields with Land Registry	RR/DB	Meeting next week
2009-10-09	Make recommendations on updating the village web site so that it is more easily accessible and undatable	CA	
2010-01-14	Discuss our understanding on North Croft maintenance and define a way forward	RR/DR/RP	RR will progress
2010-02-04	Review new model standing order and make a recommendation for EHPC	DB	
2010-03-02	Action new controller for car park lights	RP	DR to check status
2010-03-08	Organise OCC traffic surveys	RE	replaced by 2010-06-03
2010-03-09	Progress Britain in Bloom	RE/RP/DR	withdrawn
2010-05-01	Check insurance cover re squatters, progress court order if necessary	DR/RP	done
2010-05-02	Judge memorial bench entries	ID/DR/RD	done
2010-05-03	approach accountant to carry out internal audit	DR	done
2010-05-04	Attend ORCC 90th Birthday event with Mr Jones	DR	on 3rd July
2010-05-05	Ask SODC to include street address and a brief description in the title of emailed planning applications	RP	requested, but not actioned
2010-05-06	Make a specific plan for a newsletter to be issued in the autumn	ID/RR/DR	in progress
2010-05-07	Develop more specific plans for traffic actions	RE/DB/DR	in progress
2010-05-08	Take down BiB national Finalist signs	RP	done
2010-05-09	Circulate BiB strawman	DR	not actioned
2010-05-10	Liaise with Mr J Jones to obtain detailed information on VH financial needs	DR	done
2010-05-11	Purchase 3 new dog bins	RP	done
2010-05-12	Have Butt's Piece cut fortnightly	RP	done
2010-05-13	Draft rules for allotment holders	RR	done
2010-05-14	Consider appropriate signs for Butt's Piece	RR/DR	done
2010-05-15	Follow up on photos from the Fun Run	DR	Mr Tyler has promised more photos
2010-05-16	Attend LTP3 drop-in 20 May, with Mrs Harrison	DB	done, reported to RE

2010-05-17	Progress Cholsey FC request to use Great Mead	DR	done
2010-05-18	Put 3rd July event on web site	CA	requested
2010-05-19	Action fencing at Great Mead playground	RR	in progress
2010-05-20	Action repairs and St Anne's court playground	RP	in progress
2010-05-21	Have grass cut back at Coscote corner	RP	done by OCC
2010-06-01	Seek applications for a village handyman	DR/RP	
2010-06-02	Circulate proposed content for free Parish Mag issue in Nov and continue liaison with Mrs Corderoy	DR	
2010-06-03	Progress traffic surveys with OCC	RE	
2010-06-04	Circulate interim traffic plans before next meeting	RE/DB/DR	
2010-06-05	Withdraw BiB entry	RP	
2010-06-06	Agree and action summer maintenance	RP/DR	
2010-06-07	Install new dog bins	RP	
2010-06-08	Discuss summer stream maintenance with Mr Baldwin and residents	DR	
2010-06-09	Sign allotment agreements	RP/RR	
2010-06-10	Streamline and update rules including storage boxes etc	RR/DR	
2010-06-11	Finalise signs	RR/DR	
2010-06-12	Arrange meeting of allotment holders and form an operating committee	RR/DR	
2010-06-13	Discuss wild area maintenance plan with Mrs Napper	DR	
2010-06-14	Action obstructed footpath adjacent to Buckels	DR	