

East Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting – 11th June, 2009.

A meeting of the East Hagbourne Parish Council was held on Thursday, 11th June, 2009 when the following members were present :-

Mr D Rickeard (Chairman)
Mr C Alberry
Mr D Button
Mr R Emery
Mr R Rendell
Mr M Wilkins
Mr R Parsley (Clerk)

Two members of the public also attended.

Apologies were received from Mr R Dawson on holiday and Mr I Duff due to business commitments.

1. The minutes of the annual meeting held on the 7th May, 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. Matters Arising. None.

3. There was no report from Mr Greene, District and County Councillor.

4. Items for Decision.

(a). Purchase of the Local Council Administration 8th Edition. It was proposed by Mr Button, seconded by Mr Wilkins and agreed unanimously to buy a copy.

(b). Archery in the Recreation Ground. A request from Simon Windsor to use the recreation ground for archery practice was discussed. Although the parish council would like to promote more sporting activities on the recreation ground but there was concern that it would be difficult to ensure safety. It was pointed out that it cannot be closed to the public and even if an area was roped off it was considered to be dangerous to other users. In addition a minimum of two people over eighteen must be present at all times and extra insurance would be necessary. The Chairman asked for a show of hands and the request was unanimously turned down. A reply will be sent to Mr Windsor explaining the decision.

(c). Disposal of Equipment. The disposal of the Parish Council's equipment was discussed. The outcome for each item was as follows:-

(a) Pedestrian Honda Mower. Mr Wilkins to ascertain the second hand value before disposal.

(b) Leaf Blower. Mr Alberry to inspect and make an offer.

(c) Stihl Hedge Cutter. Mr Wilkins offered £25.00. The offer was accepted.

(d) Strimmer. Mr Rickeard proposed that the strimmer is offered to Mr Dawson for ad hoc jobs around the village. The proposal was adopted

(e) Sit-on-Mower. Mr Wilkins to arrange disposal for scrap.

5. Community Sports Project.

Mr Rickeard stated that there had been a site meeting with SODC followed by a meeting with

SODC at Crowmarsh in support of our grant application for the MUGA. The main comment raised was that SODC would like the tennis courts to be open and available to the public at all times. Our proposal is that access should be by key. We expect a decision from SODC in July. WREN will also be approached for a grant however that decision will not be until November. It had been suggested that a ladies netball team enter a competition for over 18 year old that would help strengthen our case. So far there are five possible recruits. Mr Rickeard will follow up.

The grant application to SODC for the Play Area is in progress and some queries had been received. There will be a meeting with SODC next week. Mr Rendell urgently requires a written quote from Mr Wood, Cherry Tree Farm to remove the mound on the existing Play Area to include in the application.

6.(a).Standing Orders. Mr Rickeard stated that a new simplified version of the standing orders is needed. It was agreed that Mr Button should draft a new copy for review at a future meeting.

(b).Use of the Website. Mr Rickeard proposed that the Parish Council minutes should be included on the website in future. This was unanimously agreed with certain editing to the financial report. It was agreed to start with the minutes of the meeting on 7th May, 2009. Mr Rickeard to edit the minutes before they are included. Minutes will not be posted until they are approved.

7.Reports.

(a).Planning Applications.

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

P09/W0345	1. Windsor Crescent.	No strong views
P09/W0384 & P09/W385/LB	48. Main Road	-ditto-
P09/W0478	70. New Road	Under discussion
P09/W0346	23. Blewbury Road	-ditto-

(b).Didcot Development.

Mr Emery reported on the Didcot Railway Station upgrade and pointed out the traffic problems that we could be faced with but on a brighter note there will be an additional bicycle storage. Mr Button and Mr Alberry attended an exhibition.

The Supplementary Plan for the Didcot Town Centre has been issued by SODC and Mr Emery will provide comments.

(c).Butts Piece.

Mr Rendell thanked Mr Beran for the letter from The Hagbourne Charities. The possible need for three entrances to the allotments and the need to be aware of possible flooding was noted. The allotment area would be fenced on three sides and the boundary fence on the adjoining property would complete the fenced area.

The water supply is proving a problem as the existing pipes cannot be found. Mr Wilkins volunteered to help trace the existing pipes. Thames Water require a £200.00 survey fee and a possible expensive charge to install a new pipe line, so all effort will be made to find the original pipe.

Letters have been sent out to all prospective allotment holders to explain the current position.

SEE BELOW

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1.The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th June, 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to an amendment to minute 7(c). The letter sent to all potential allotment holders was the original one seeking expressions of firm interest and inviting them to become part of the working party to set out the allotments. In addition after the meeting Mr Beran wished to make it clear that neither he nor the Charities are insisting on the east and west gates in the case of flooding but has instead recommended an approach to the Environment Agency at Wallingford to seek their recommendations.

(d).East Hagbourne Website.

Mr Alberry stated new information is still being received and that Mrs Button is helping him to regularly update the website.

(e).Calor Gas Village of the Year Competition.

Our Application to participate in this completion has been acknowledged and the villages that have been selected for the next round will be advised in the near future. Thanks to Mr Duff for preparing the application.

(f).Flooding.

Mr Rickeard reported that a new group made up of local residents had been formed to monitor stream banks, carry out minor clearances and report any larger problems in the Tadley area. Mr R Fear agreed to coordinate the volunteers and arrange regular patrols. Volunteers had also carried out clearance along Parsonage Lane.

The Parish Council will continue to liaise with SODC, OCC and the Environment Agency to press for future maintenance. There is a need to plan ahead for next year when more financial help should be available.

8. Correspondence.

(a).Planning Receipts List. The list of planning applications circulated by SODC will cease from the 15th June, 2009 as the information is available on the SODC website.

9. Finance.

(a).Payments since the last meeting :-

	£
Glasdon U.K. Ltd. (Litter Bin)	48.01

(b).The receipts were :- Nil.

(c).The account balances are :-

Community A/C	3353.99
Business Base Rate Tracker A/C	161455.54

(d).East and West Hagbourne Cemetery.

Community A/C	1255.66
Business Reserve A/C	2038.04

(f).Annual Audit – 2008/2009 Accounts.

(i)The Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31st March, 2009 for East Hagbourne Parish Council and East and West Hagbourne Cemetery were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

(ii)On the Internal Auditor's recommendation it was recorded that the clerk's salary is subject to income tax and that the Inland Revenue are fully aware of the details.

10. Any Other Business.

(a).Parish Plan Update.

The missing questionnaires have been returned and analysed. Mr Hands will report the results in due course.

(b).Britain in Bloom.

Mr Emery reported that the Bloom Team have raised £300.00 from local businesses to help finance the competition.

The judging date for the Regional Round is on 13th July, 2009 and the National Round on 6th August, 2009.

The jobs necessary to improve the appearance of the village have been identified and allocated for the necessary action.

(c).Mr Cox asked who was responsible for the bridleway to the Paper Mill and noted that it was in the need of cutting. The clerk to confirm.

(d).Mr Rendell reported that the dog bin on the northern corner of Butts Piece had not been emptied. The clerk to check and take the necessary action.

Mr Emery suggested that more warning signs against dog waste should be displayed. He will check for any additional information.

(e).(i)Mr Wilkins volunteered to take over as the village Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator in place of Sarah Parker who we believe has left the district. He was worried that some insurance policies might not be valid if the scheme lapsed.

(ii).He also reported abnormal nightly loitering in the area and cautioned everyone to be vigilant.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 16th July, 2009.

Chairman: *D. Dickes*

Date: *16/07/2009.*