

East Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting - 16th July, 2009.

A meeting of the East Hagbourne Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday, 16th July, 2009 when the following members were present :-

Mr D Rickeard (Chairman)
Mr C Alberry
Mr D Button
Mr R Dawson
Mr I Duff
Mr R Rendell
Mr M Wilkins
Mr R Parsley (Clerk)

Two members of the public also attended.

An apology was received from Mr R Emery due to another engagement.

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.

2.Matters Arising.

(a).Neighbourhood Watch. Mr Duff reported that Mrs Parker had not left the district and would continue as the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator at present. He stated that two local residents had registered an interest to take over. Mr Duff to ask Mrs Parker to come to the next meeting or to send a report.

3.District and county Councillor's Report.

Mr Greene circulated a list of members of the OCC Cabinet.

He stated he had been appointed Chairman of 'Growth and Infrastructure' for OCC covering Housing, Capital Expenditure and the strategy to obtain the best value by the end of the financial year.

He is also a member of the Working Group for 'Minerals and Waste' and the 'Speed Management Awareness Group' and a representative on the Wallingford Neighbourhood Action Group.

He reported the Oakley Wood Recycling Depot has reopened and that SODC are taking the government to court over the greenbelt housing plans for Greenoble Road, Oxford. Mr Duff noted that if building does not go ahead there it could mean more houses for Didcot.

He stated the new 'Waste Collection Service' was settling down after the initial four weeks and the number of complaints had reduced considerably. Generally it is a huge success. Each week over one hundred tonnes of food waste has been collected.

Extra bins will be considered at a later date but no surplus rubbish must be left in black sacks only in clear plastic sacks. The number of missed bins is approximately seventy and complaints may be registered on 01491 823416.

No specific problems had been reported so far from within the Parish, including from the Village Hall.

4.Items for Decision.

(a).Disposal of Equipment. The sit-on-mower has been disposed of and the disposal of the remaining equipment is in hand.

(b).Parish Council Vacancy. Mr Rickeard proposed Mr D Harding to fill the vacancy, seconded by Mr Wilkins and the motion was approved unanimously.

(c).Monica Lawson Memorial. Mr Duff and Mr Dawson have discussed a joint memorial for Monica Lawson with Mrs Totterdell and Mrs Judd of West Hagbourne Parish Council. The proposal at present is to plant a tree and provide a wooden bench between East and West Hagbourne. The site had not been agreed and they were waiting for the outcome of the last West Hagbourne Parish Council meeting. The suggestion was agreed in principle.

Mr Wilkins stated that £4000.00 was needed for the new school memorial gates. It had been assumed that the money would be raised by the school and the PTA. Mr Rickeard and the clerk to contact Mr Jones to clarify the position.

(Mr Jones has since confirmed that they hope to start work on the gates by September and complete fund raising by the end of the year. Contributions from individuals and organisations are welcomed.

5.Community Sports Project.

Mr Rickeard reported that the WREN grant application requires more information and that more public access may be necessary to receive a grant.

There had been no further communication from the Football Club.

The Play Area grant application to SODC has been resubmitted to reflect the increase in Playdales original quote. At the suggestion of SODC, wetpour will be used immediately underneath and around the equipment with grass in between resulting in a saving of about £11000 on the original plan. SODC would also prefer that the mound remained. Subject to these conditions SODC has offered a grant, although at a lower figure than requested. This means that the Parish Council will need to contribute an additional figure estimated at just over £2000. Subject to final ratification of the SODC grant the financial position is now satisfactory and Mr Rickeard proposed that the Parish Council should make up the shortfall in money and that Mr Rendell should then go ahead with the scheme, seconded by Mr Duff and approved unanimously.

Mr Rendell noted others as well as himself, including Mrs Rendell and Mrs Lawson had both worked hard to make the project a success.

6.Reports.

(a).Planning Applications.

The following planning applications have been received. The Parish Council's comments are indicated.

P09/W0478

70 New Road

No strong views

P09/W0346

23 Blewbury Road

-ditto-

P09/W0283

Rear of 40 New Road

-Refused –
An overbearing and
overdevelopment setting
a precedent for excessive
housing density.

The development at 40 New Road has now been approved by SODC with conditions.

(b).Didcot Development. No report.

(c).Butts Piece. The water supply has not yet been found. Scion Estates Ltd have quoted £140.00 to trace the pipeline. They have also quoted £65.00 per cut to keep the play area tidy. Any work on the allotment area will be held in abeyance until the water supply is resolved.

(d).East Hagbourne Website. Mr Alberry reported it is all going to plan and that the pictures of the Church fete have been included. The Parish Council minutes are also now included. Mr Duff to check on any 'Britain in Bloom' input.

(e).Calor Gas Village of the Year Competition. East Hagbourne were one of the twelve villages selected to attend the finals at Yarnton. Mr Duff, Mr Jones and Sam Rendell were East Hagbourne's team and were successful winning the district prize of £500 which will be used for a worthwhile cause.

(f).Flooding. Mr Rickeard stated they are waiting to talk to the Environment Agency regarding the local committee's tasks. He will also chase Monsoon to cut and clear the vegetation that is urgently needed.

(g).Standing Orders. Mr Button to present a draft copy at the next meeting.

7. Correspondence.

(a).There were no volunteers to attend the NALC/IDeA Academy for Councillors in September, 2009.

8. Finance.

(a).Payments since the last meeting :-

	£
Scion Estates Ltd. (Grass Cutting, etc.)	1432.96
P&S Ashley. (Fencing)	13.57
Trojan Fencing. (Barrier Repairs)	29.90
BCDP. (Analysing Parish Plan Questionnaires)	440.45
Scion Estates Ltd. (Grass Cutting , etc.)	573.18
R.Parsley. (Clerks Salary & Expenses)	1330.13
NALC. (Subscription)	17.00
D C Solutions. (Hedge Cutting, etc)	187.35
LexisNexis. (Book)	59.05
D C Solutions (Hedge Cutting, etc)	212.33
I A Hickman (Audit)	125.00
Mrs J Smith. (Britain in Bloom Various)	1002.78

(b).The receipts were :-

Hagbourne School PTA. (Monica Lawson Fund)
Barclays Bank. (Interest)

108.00
21.74

9. Any Other Business

(a). Parish Plan. Mr Hands and Mr Hollis will analyse the summary of the questionnaires and liaise with the Parish Council in preparation of their report.

(b). Britain in Bloom. The regional round was on 13th July, 2009 and the report will be included in the next Parish Magazine. There were one or two hiccups but it was generally a success. The National round is on 6th August, 2009.

(c). Vote of thanks to John Townsend. Mr Duff and Mr Rickeard to draft a letter of thanks to John.

(d). Due to Mr Townsend's resignation from the Hagbourne Charities committee a Parish Council representative will be required to fill the vacancy, however since the committee usually meets only once a year this is not an urgent matter.

(e). Parish Council Meeting 3rd September, 2009. Mr Duff will chair the meeting in Mr Rickeard's absence.

(f). Tree planting – Ryman's Crescent and Wilcher Close. SOHA have planted two new trees at both sites to replace trees that had been cut down.

(g). Footpath – Blewbury Road to Fieldside. The clerk to provide a map identifying the position of three village footpaths that are in dispute to Mr Rendell who agreed to help identify ownership of these paths.

In the meanwhile it was agreed to make the footpath accessible using Parish Council resources after consulting local residents for their approval.

(h).General Maintenance Contractors. Mr Button stated that when engaging new contractors it is essential to ask other clients for their opinions, to ensure they were bone-fide and that they had the necessary insurance, etc.

(i).Recreation Ground Fire. Rubbish that had been dumped in a corner of the Recreation Ground and had been set alight burning adjacent trees. The Fire Brigade had been in attendance.

It was agreed in future not to dump Parish Council hedge cuttings, etc. i/n the area and to clear the site of any residual material.

(j).Village Hall Footpath. Part of the hedge bordering the footpath by the Village Hall is obstructing the path and consequently users are walking on Village Hall land. In view of the future plans to extend the Village Hall and to reinstate the boundary fence it was agreed that Mr Duff contact Mr Hughes and arrange for the hedge to be cut. Mr Dawson noted that the path needs to be wide enough to accommodate parents with pushchairs. The eventual path layout needs to be reviewed in conjunction with the Village Hall before the boundary fence is positioned.

(k).Mr Rendell reported they were dangerous holes in the footpath from Bakers Lane to Northcroft by the railings bordering the stream. The problem has been reported before but unfortunately no action had been taken. The clerk to progress.

(l).(i)Mr Alberry asked if we had taken up the offer of free trees by the Council's Forestry and Countryside team. The information had been passed to Cynthia Napper.

(ii).He also enquired if the Football Club had a bar licence. It was agreed they did hold one.

(m).Mr Duff raised the question of replacement notice boards. In discussion those at The Crescent, New Road and possibly a new one at the Millbrook play area were mentioned. Mr Duff to review and make a proposal for the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 3rd September, 2009.

Chairman :

Date :

