

WEST HAGBOURNE VILLAGE HISTORY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

May 2011 - April 2012

Annual General Meeting, 2011

The AGM took place at 7.30pm on 6th June 2011 in the new small meeting room at the Hagbourne Village Hall. It was followed by an open meeting which was well attended by several people from East Hagbourne, Blewbury and Upton. Everybody expressed a wish to continue with the joint meetings as it was felt that it was important to share information and be able to have access to each other's material.

Forward Plan

In the absence of any new members in the last few years it has been decided to wind down the History Group. No new projects will be undertaken but it was agreed that we would complete the Millennium House Project. Part I - recording the houses in West Hagbourne in 2000 - has been completed. Part II involves researching and writing up the histories of the oldest houses in the village. Meetings will be informal working parties. The collection of archive material and maintenance of historical records will continue. The current archive will be transferred to storage once all the material has been listed and catalogued. This includes paper, photographs, CDROMs and electronic records.

Storage of Archives

The History Group's storage cabinet in the small meeting room in Hagbourne Village Hall has been removed for several reasons. The cabinet has been damaged by chairs stored in the room; security is uncertain when the public are attending events at the hall and access is a problem when the pre-school is in session. It has been decided to keep the material in West Hagbourne, as before, until the Millennium House project has been completed. It will then be transferred to a secure and publicly accessible place such as the Oxfordshire History Centre or Didcot Library. The Inclosure Award and map will be transferred to the Oxfordshire History Centre by the Parish Council.

History Afternoon

The History Group and the Village Association joined forces to hold an open History Afternoon at York Farm on 25 September 2011, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Richard Allen. This was very successful as many people came and enjoyed the History Group's collection of historical memorabilia, including scrap books, photographs, albums of local events, correspondence, maps, census returns, moving images, archaeology and computer presentations. Cream teas were provided by the Village Association.

