

**West Hagbourne Village History Group**  
**Minutes of meeting Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at Fairview, York Rd.**

**Present:** Josie Hill, Ted Kendrick, Eva Pinkava, Sheila Taylor, Val Walton, Mary Wiley

**Apologies:** Eve Setch, Linda Thompson

**Minutes of meeting 9<sup>th</sup> February** -----agreed correct

**Matters arising :** Gift tokens----Sheila has given a £25 gift token to Mary Ann as a token of appreciation for the work she did on the planter and History board map. Mary Ann thanked the History Group.

Mary has a £20 Garden voucher for the winner of the history quiz which will be announced at the St. George's Day supper on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Receipts have been sent to Linda and £9 petty cash went to Edna.

**Chapel Survey**----no news as Emily Martin has not sent her report

**Enquiries**-----Mary and Sheila have replied to the Norris family after looking at the parish registers which Mary now holds. Mary is also liaising with Peter Woodley re the Woodley family. He is hoping to visit the village soon. Josie replied to David Ford's enquiry re the Dunch family and has not heard any more. Mary continues to make enquiries re Father Anthony and George Bullock.

**Military Museum, Woodstock, Soldiers of Oxfordshire**-----Val has left a message for Major Hugh Babbington Smith inviting him to speak to the History Group and other interested people later in the summer-----waiting for a reply-----will make contact later.

**St George's Day Celebrations:** Sheila has sent the final quiz questions to Tracy for printing for the Village newsletter. Questions and answers will be displayed at East Hagbourne Village Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> April. Completed quizzes should be returned by 20<sup>th</sup> April to Longmynds, Foxglove Lane, or Driftway, York Rd., or Silva Felix, York Rd., or Chapel Hayes, Main St.

Josie will take the display boards to the hall for 6pm. Eva has boards for her information on St. George----( information will be sent to the village website ).

It was suggested that we have a table to display member's projects, photos, including a demonstration copy of Windsor Hakeborne ( Mary ), and tea towels and notelets. Josie will collect these and the millennium book from Edna.

**A. G. M. :** to be fixed. Our aim is to get more people interested and involved in our History Group so it was suggested that we invite a speaker with some specialist knowledge of the local area. Josie will speak with Peter Cockrell who was one of the editors of Blewbury's book " A View from the Hill " Ted mentioned Paul Smith who has spoken at Didcot History group and was the Archaeological Advisor to the editors of " A View from the Hill " and wrote three chapters. We will need to discuss these possibilities. Sheila has spoken to Craig Barfoot congratulating him on his article re the Great Fire of Hagbourne which was published in the Hagbourne News. He thought it would be a good idea to have a speaker to interest people from both villages and showed interest in being involved in some kind of History group for East Hagbourne. John Lawson was mentioned as a person who could give info on who had shown the most interest in the archive. Sheila will be contacting him.

**Annual Report for Parish Meeting:** This takes place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Josie will liaise with Sheila re writing the report as I will be away. Hopefully as many members as possible will attend the meeting.

Sheila proposed that our book, Windsor Hakeborne, is presented to Ed Vaizey at the Parish Meeting so he will have the story of our village. Members agreed.

**Treasurer's Report:** none as Linda was unable to attend. Linda has the accounts book and will get the accounts audited as soon as possible.

**A.O.B.**

Concerns were expressed over proposals for new housing developments to the west and south of Didcot though last week's Didcot Herald mentioned development to the north of Didcot. However, West Hagbourne is still among the options for further housing development. Mary suggested that as a History Group we should be responsible for writing letters expressing concern for preserving our village to anyone who might have influence including M.P.'s, South Oxfordshire District Council, and the council for the Preservation of Rural England.

**Date and venue of next meeting** -----to be decided