

# Charlton Marshall News - June 2014

Published by Charlton Marshall Parish Council

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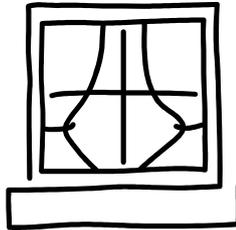
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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S WINDOW

This has been an extraordinarily busy and significant three months for the Parish Council. We possibly are experiencing a premature summer, but as I am reminded every time it rains – at least we know it's the cricket season! Other clues as to the time of the year also exist.



April brought the Annual Parish Meeting, organised by the Parish Council, with three excellent presentations by the Fire and Rescue Service on domestic precautions, our Community Police Team on Speedwatch and the incredibly impressive POPPS\*. It was a shame so few came to witness it, especially when many older members of the community are not online. Next year a few dynamic ideas might well breathe life into this important event.

May witnessed the AGM of the Parish Council with both Chairman and Vice-Chairman re-elected. The monthly PC Meeting followed, but only one member of the public was present. An effort to stimulate some extra interest in the workings of our PC had been the innovatory Saturday morning drop-in session and there will probably be another towards the end of the year.

Charlton Beeches is a classic case in point. It had been an agenda item for nearly 2 years before our final decision was unanimously taken to reject The Woodland Trust's request. Restrictions were dispiriting and maintenance costs potentially high. Attending the meetings or reading the Minutes online or in the 3 Villages News would have helped to remove the element of surprise when the 'for sale' sign went up.



Well done to the Litter Pickers, the Speedwatch team, which is now fully functioning and the small team trying to organise activities in the QEII Field. Further praise to our departing Clerk, Pam Higgins, who has piloted the registration of Parish Council land through to acceptance by the Land Registry. However, although choosing to retire after the AGM, she has been working nearly every day with our new Clerk, Mrs Ali Long, to ensure a seamless transition. We wish both of them well in the future.

\*POPSS = Partnership for Older People Programme

Behind the scenes at a sewage works  
Tarrant Crawford July 7<sup>th</sup> 4pm – 7pm.

**FOR YOUR DIARY**  
**Rounders Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Family Fun Day Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup>**

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW CLERK

Having moved into the village in December 2007, my family and I settled in well. My husband, 3 children and I make the most of living in such a lovely village, we have an allotment, use the trail way often for the school run and dog walking – and make the occasional trip to the local pub!

I help my husband Steve run his local business whilst working from home. However, since our youngest child started school in September I have been keen to find further challenges which would fit in with the family. So, on seeing the advertisement in April for a new Parish Clerk, I felt it sounded ideal – and fortunately I got the job.

So – if you would like me to feedback anything to the Parish Council, feel free to let me know. Many thanks, Ali Long.

## BLANDFORD TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP (TAG)

TAG has held a series of meetings to keep the Public informed and to look for solutions to the proposed cuts in 'bus services. I represented our Parish Council at the meeting on the 29th April.

It was heartening to learn, that despite the financial measures that must be taken to reduce costs of 'bus services, Dorset County Council, is a 'caring' Council and is reviewing what can be done to help those most affected by the changes. Charlton Marshall is relatively 'well off' compared to many in the County with the X8 providing a good service to Poole and Blandford. However, unfortunately, the X8 Service to Poole on a Friday and a Saturday evening *and* on a Sunday, will cease to operate as already announced and at present there are no plans to change that. This will obviously affect social interaction for some.



With regard to the X8 Sturminster Newton/Blandford Service, although a Petition has been circulated to prevent cuts, in reality, more people will need to use this service for it to be retained. DCC has agreed to fund this route until the end of the current School Term and DCC Cabinet will consult on it again.

There are schemes 'in the pipeline' to assist young persons with essential travel, and it was hoped that a 'Transport Champion' from each village would come forward – either a resident or someone from POPP – who may be prepared to co-ordinate some form of service like 'BUS2GO' for those who may be really disadvantaged socially, or from getting to Medical appointments/essential shopping etc.. These suggestions are still a 'work in progress' and there are no solutions in place as yet for those who may find themselves marooned in their village by the reduction in services.

Dorothy Cooper 01258 450420.

N.B. Service X8 to Poole now leaves Blandford at 53 minutes past the hour and the Charlton Inn at 58 minutes past. No buses to Wimborne or Shaftesbury, but there is a bus to Salisbury on Tuesday and Ringwood on Wednesday, and the Weymouth/Salisbury bus runs through Thorncombe.

What do you think of Dorset County Council? Visit their 'roadshow' in Blandford Market Place 7<sup>th</sup> June 11am to 1pm or Morrisons 13<sup>th</sup> June 4.30pm to 7pm.

**ROUNDERS DAY – CHANGE OF DATE TO JULY 5<sup>th</sup> and HELP NEEDED** Fortunately we were tipped off that Spetisbury Primary School has its Summer Fete on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>. As a result, the **ROUNDERS FAMILY FUN DAY** in our Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Field has been **moved** on a week to **Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>**, starting at 11am on 2 pitches.

Dorset Rounders will be there to provide the kit, helpful hints and fun things to do. Norman Carey will be face painting (£1 per face or 50p per icon).

The mixed rounders is free, but there will be a raffle. Please bring your own picnic.

Two or three adults have agreed to organise sides, but we still need a couple more to take the plunge. Teams can be of 12 (minimum of 6). Local schools have been notified.

I am sorry the football did not work as hoped, but there was no external support. I am sure mixed rounders will be more popular.

Please contact me by the end of June if you want to organise a team or just join in - [t.j.hill@tesco.net](mailto:t.j.hill@tesco.net)

**DRIVING STANDARDS – CHURCH LANE and CERLETON PARK** Complaints from pedestrians and drivers have been received about the reckless nature of some of the driving in Church Lane and Cerleton Park. Please do not enter Church Lane from the A350 on the wrong side of the junction. Please do not accelerate wildly past the Charlton House Court entrance and the Charlton Manor / Church Lane junction and please keep an eye on your speed when coming **down** the Cerleton Park hill. Emerging from the Church Lane / Cerleton junction is blind to the right. Problems are made



worse by vehicles parked opposite that junction which force drivers from Charlton Manor and Church Lane to go into the wrong lane, occasionally to be confronted by vehicles coming up from the A350 which they simply cannot see until they have completely pulled out. Many thanks for your co-operation in this.

**BEST VILLAGES COMPETITION – DORSET COMMUNITY ACTION** This is the season for judging our village. No notification is given, and rightly so. The litter pick indicated that the litter problem is decreasing, which is good news and a tribute to everyone. Admittedly we have no control over stuff chucked out of cars as they pass through the village, but do feel free to pick it up and put it in the bins. Many thanks for maintaining such high standards..

#### **'THANK YOU'**

Just a few lines to say 'Thank You' to present and former Parish Councillors for their support over these past 7 years. I've enjoyed being the Clerk to the Council and serving the community and hope I've managed to help in every way I could to make the Parish a better place. My 'Thank You' also includes the many residents who have helped me when the need has arisen, e.g. Mark, editor of this fine Newsletter, the band of voluntary delivery folk who, come rain or shine deliver it and any other piece of information the Council needs to circulate, the Family Fun Day and especially the wonderful Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee celebrations. I'm sure you'll give Ali, the new Clerk, your help when the need arises too. I look forward to seeing you around the village and at the various events that happen during the year. Best Wishes Pam

#### **CHARLTON MARSHALL LITTER PICK**

A huge 'thank you' to the valiant residents of Charlton Marshall who turned up on the 26th April to help the Parish Council clean up the village.

We really appreciated you coming along and could not do it without you. Because you came, the job was done quickly and what seemed an 'onerous' task, turned out to be quite fun. Unlike 2013, when we were deluged, the day stayed fine and of course, that made picking up litter, much easier.

The purpose of the day was to prepare a well-presented village for the 'Best kept Village' Competition. Charlton Marshall earned a prize in 2013 and we hope to do well again. The Judges come unannounced on any day, so it is really important that we keep up the good work of keeping Charlton Marshall looking its best.



So, thanks once again to those who helped at the Litter Pick and may we request, if you see litter – please pick it up and either take it home or bin it. We can't keep the Village looking lovely without you!

#### **DOING RECYCLING BETTER**

We are now recycling much more at the kerbside. Dorset Waste Partnership is removing 150 local recycling sites across the county. This includes the Charlton Inn, and Tesco's and Morrison's car parks. At these sites you can now recycle only textiles and shoes in charity skips (please do continue to use the Air Ambulance skip at the Charlton Inn).

The alternatives now are the Co-op car park or the recycling centre at Blandford Heights. At the Co-op you can recycle waxed drink and food cartons e.g. Tetrapak, foil, shoes, textiles, handbags.

Carrier bags can be recycled near the main entrance at Tesco and milk bottle tops at the Church Room (no other tops). According to <http://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/plastic-film> it looks as though we can now recycle most plastic bags unless they have this symbol. There is a print of the website on the Church Room notice board.



To contact Dorset Waste Partnership or for more information go to [www.dorsetforyou.com/recyclefordorset](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/recyclefordorset) or phone 01305 221040. See also the booklet and labels delivered with your bins and bags last year. Where does our waste go? See <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/where-waste-goes/recycling>.

Then what about all those confusing symbols on packaging? After a lot of searching I found the following – apologies to those without a computer but there is far too much to reproduce here Ed. <http://www.recyclenow.com/recycle/packaging-symbols-explained> <http://www.disposalknowhow.co.uk/symbols.php> <http://www.disposalknowhow.co.uk/plastic.php>

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council. Could you be the person to fill it? Details from the Clerk, Ali Long 01258 269203 or [charltonmarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:charltonmarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk)

**STOP PRESS!!** Blandford Choral Society will be performing a Summer Concert in Charlton Marshall Village Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>. June at 7pm. Tickets £8 to include light refreshments. Please ring 01258 456572 to book – limited seats! In aid of Charlton Marshall New Village Hall Funds.