

Charlton Marshall News - September 2014

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S WINDOW. Blackberries in abundance have compensated for miserable crops of gooseberries and raspberries. Emails in abundance continue to bombard the Parish Council from outside bodies, creating a somewhat unwanted harvest. What used to snuggle neatly into a small wallet file now has been replaced by up to 80 emails per month being sent to Councillors, with increasing numbers of links adding to the communication deluge. Some of these are relevant, of course, and Ali Long, our new Clerk has been adjusting to the new demands on her family life that the job makes. Delighted we are too that one vacancy has been taken by the now Cllr Harry Tansey.

At the instigation of NDDC, Councillors have been invited to meet with Linden Homes Southern, which has purchased the land off Church Lane. This is quite a refreshing approach, although it will doubtless provide a field day for the cynics.

Talking about communication and Field Days, thank you to all those who responded to details provided in the last two Newsletters and came along to the Rounders Day on July 5th. Excellent help came from three members of the Blandford Club and all those present threw themselves into 90 minutes of activity before tucking into a picnic. The Big Field Day is the Family Fun Day (a wide variety of activities and stalls – some free, some not) in the QEII Jubilee Field on Saturday, September 13th, from 2pm to about 4.30pm. Proceeds are towards refurbishment of the children's play area, which could cost up to £20,000. I hope as many as possible will turn up and support what has been a great day in previous years. Thank you in advance to those involved in planning this, as well as those who will be doing great things on the day.

Sadly, there has been vandalism in that area recently and the message needs to strike home that not only is it unnecessary, but that it wastes your money because we have to pay for repairs instead of being able to invest in improvements.

Now, back to picking the blackberries ... TJH

New ideas welcome

Do you have any inspirational thoughts on how the Village Calendar 2015 should look? Can you spare half an hour to share your ideas? If so the Church Room has been booked on Wednesday the 24th of September from 6 - 6.30pm.

All welcome.

Thank you to all the Charlton Marshall people who supported Music and Merriment. As a result, Weldmar Hospicecare Trust will receive £10,014.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH The volunteer team started work in May, following a training session by two of our Police Community Support Officers. The aim is to slow traffic down, and drivers certainly appear to reduce speed when they sight the bright yellow vests worn by the team.



We started with eleven volunteers but lost one before getting underway. Kevin Luckham our leader has been in charge of every session with the remaining nine spending an hour or two each week. Four volunteers usually go out to spots determined as safe and suitable by the Police

– by the private entrance to Charlton Manor, the speed advisory sign by the Church and near Blandford MOT Service Centre.

Using the approved speed monitoring device, the team collect and record the speed of any vehicle exceeding the speed limit by more than 10% plus two miles per hour. The registration number, of course, is needed and we also collect the make, model and colour of the vehicle and the driver gender. In addition, the number of vehicles, in both directions, is counted. Given the few seconds available to collect this information, shows why four people are needed.

The details are emailed to Dorset Police and checked with DVLA Swansea. Drivers receive a warning letter about their driving behaviour and the information enables traffic officers, safer neighbourhood teams and Dorset Road Safe to identify problem areas and repeat speeders (against whom further action may be taken). Also monitored are drivers using a mobile 'phone and those not wearing a seatbelt.

Of more than 10,000 vehicles monitored over a cumulative 14 hours, 76 offenders were recorded. Surprisingly, perhaps, motorcyclists don't feature in great numbers among the offenders although one was recorded at 54mph but topped by a car at 58mph. These speeds are unusual and the majority of offenders have been noted at between 36 and 40mph.

It is time well spent, in very friendly company and more helpers would relieve the burden on the existing team and provide greater opportunity to ensure a safer A350. Please give this some thought and make contact through the Parish Clerk, Ali Long on (01258) 269203. More information on the village website www.charltonmarshall.org Malcolm Presland

FIREWORKS On Saturday 2nd August four fireworks with exceedingly loud explosions were set off between 8:30pm and 10:30pm. The ferocity of the explosions resulted in a number of calls to the police. Debris was reported as having landed on a conservatory. Children and babies were woken in fright. Dogs and cats were frightened and scared, plus other pets. Farmers' livestock are also out in the fields and can become very worried.

We would ask that all residents respect their neighbours and the community by notifying neighbours and being responsible with the release of fireworks and ensuring they are within the law at all times.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Family Fun Day – Saturday 13th September. The attached 'plan of events' has a lucky number on it – if you bring it with you on the day and your number is read out you win £10.

Christmas Tea Party – Saturday 13th December

CHARLTON MARSHALL'S ROUNDERS TOURNAMENT

Early in July, along with the help of some ladies from Blandford Rounders Club, a group of like-minded adults and children joined together at the QEII Jubilee Playing Field for a couple of games of rounders. Norman did some lovely face painting and the children had a great time.



The rounders was fun and despite some of the oldies having not played for numerous years, there were some fabulous 'hits'. As well as some great catches, there were a couple of lost balls and time for a much needed picnic afterwards.

DO YOU ENJOY WALKING, HORSE RIDING, CYCLING AND DRIVING ON DORSET'S PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY, AND HAVE THE TIME AND INCLINATION TO HELP IMPROVE THEM? The 'Dorset Local Access Forum' is recruiting now. They look at ways to improve country parks, bridleways, conservation landscapes, public green space and so-forth. The forum is likely to meet at least 3 times a year (certain allowances can be claimed) and the deadline for applications is 12th September. For further information please go to www.dorsetforyou.com/408788

OUR NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR. I'm known as Harry to most and have lived in Charlton Marshall since moving here from Poole in December 2005 with my wife Carol and then 2 year old daughter. Our youngest was born in 2006 so this has been the only home our children have really known. I started my own business in 2000; now grown into a thriving website and marketing business employing 40 people with offices in Poole and Chandlers Ford and co-owned with my brother. Our family very much enjoy being in the countryside as well as the social side of Charlton Marshall where we have made many friends. We also support and fund-raise for Spinal Muscular Atrophy Support UK, a charity that is close to our hearts. When not spending time with family and friends, I enjoy reading, watching films, dabbling with electronics and brewing small parts of the countryside into wine.
Harry Tansey

THE COMPLETION OF THE QEII PLAYING FIELD EQUIPMENT It is pleasing to be able to report that the final piece of play equipment has been installed – the ski-stepper. And it is great to see all of the playing field amenities being used so widely by a range of ages. The little play area is looking tired and sadly there have been several reports of vandalism to the fencing and wooden bollards. Therefore the coming months will see some maintenance and repair works being carried out – which will include improvements to the parking area.

WHAT GOES ON IN THE VILLAGE HALL?

Monday	Dog Agility Classes	1400 – 1600
	Scout Group - Cubs	1800 – 1930
	Zumba Fitness	1945 – 2045
Tuesday	Bowls	1400 – 1630
	Bowls Matches	1900 – 2130
Wednesday	Yoga	0930 – 1100
	Pilates	1400 – 1500
	Brownies	1730 – 1900
	Bowls	1915 – 2045
Thursday	Dog Agility Classes	1000 – 1200
	Rainbow Guides	1615 – 1730
	Scout Group - Scouts	1800 – 1945
	Table Tennis League	1945 – 2215
Friday	Scout Group - Beavers	1730 – 1845
	Bowls	1900 – 2130
Sunday	Kung Fu Classes	1800 – 2000

Further info and bookings, Margaret Chambers 456572

... AND IN THE CHURCH ROOM?

Monday to Friday 10.30 - 12.30 - Coffee Drop In

Last Monday at Coffee Drop In Stroke Association group

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.30 - 12.30 Internet access and computer mentoring

First Tuesday monthly 7.00 pm Parish Council

Third Tuesday monthly 7.00 pm Mothers Union

Second and last Wednesday monthly 7.30 - 9.30 pm
Charlton Marshall Art Society -

Thursday 2.00 - 4.00 pm Art and Crafts

First Friday monthly 1.00 pm Lunch Club

First Friday monthly 7.30 pm Bingo

Further info and bookings Pat Osborne Tel 453516

AN APOLOGY I hope nobody missed a bus in Blandford through my error last time. The X8 of course leaves Blandford at 50 minutes past the hour