



Charlton Marshall Parish Council

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News - Autumn 2017

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S WINDOW.....

It was a huge shock to the community to hear of the untimely death of Cllr Dorothy Cooper. She was a wonderful lady who was always prepared to work unstintingly for our village. She loved helping people and never blew her own trumpet in the process. Her warmth of personality and selfless dedication will be seriously missed. Our thoughts are very much with her devoted husband, Barrie.

The major event on September 16th is the Fields in Trust Family Fun Day. The Parish Council decided to move it on a week to miss other worthy distractions, such as the Blandford Carnival. I hope as many people will come as possible. There is a wide variety of attractions, including the wonderful inflatables supplied by Spacy Tracey and the Afric'Arts drummers, who saved the day last year when it rained. New this year will be a climbing wall. There will be races with prizes and a raffle. I must thank Blandford Leisure Centre for providing the first prize for that of a year's membership. That is worth just under £400. We need to renew the Play Area fencing and make it a little bigger to accommodate one extra piece of equipment. In order to be successful when applying for grants, it has to be shown an effort has been made to raise money, so a small charge is being levied. This overall cost, regardless of firms, will be well into five figures – a gob smacking amount, as they say. Please come and support the day.

Of other matters, we still do not know what is going to happen to the ultimate reorganisation of local government in Dorset, the North Dorset Local Plan seems to be under threat because insufficient houses have been completed. This is not all NDDC's fault, by the way. We still wait for solutions to our hospital system, following extensive consultation.

Fingers crossed for good weather on Saturday, September 16th. Also book the Christmas Tea Party on Saturday December 9th. TJH.

VANDALISM

Sadly there have been a number of incidents of vandalism recently in the QE11 Playing Field and play park. Broken glass has also been found in the park. If you see anyone committing an act of vandalism please report to the police on 101. The playing field and park are checked regularly but if you see any damage or anything that needs attention please report this to the Clerk by email on charltonmarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk or you can leave a message on 07776269144

Hopefully if we are all vigilant we will stop this from happening.

A WARM WELCOME to all who have recently come to live in Charlton Marshall. We recently issued a booklet full of local information. If you do not have a copy please contact the Clerk.



Dorothy (right) with Councillor Pam Higgins in the QE11 field

COUNCILLOR DOROTHY COOPER

Dorothy, until recently our Vice Chairman (her wish not to be a 'Chair'), has died from a brain tumour, which it was discovered caused her to black out and crash her car at the bottom of Park Hill in mid May 2016. She had been receiving the best treatment, but in the end, despite her indomitable spirit and optimism that she would recover, the cancer took her from us at the age of 68. She had so much more she wanted to give. She was a marvellous volunteer with a profound belief in the goodness of mankind. As a Councillor, nothing was too much trouble and she attended important meetings of DT11, TAG (local transport), Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils, Divisional meetings run by County Councillor Hilary Cox and many more, reporting back with absolute clarity. Her unsung work behind the scenes in the Village Design Statement production, Litter Pick Day (refreshments), the Community Benefit Fund, Xmas Party (a really accomplished musician) and Fun in the Field Day (glorious home baked cakes) showed just how much she loved and cared for our village. She will also be hugely missed as one of Pat's wonderful group of volunteers in the Church Room.

There was much more in a packed life and, at her funeral, the Blandford URC church, which was so important to her, overflowed with friends. It was a fine testament to an exceptional lady.