

Charlton Marshall News August 2011

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Chairman's Welcome to the New Members

We said good-bye to valuable, long serving Councillors - Chairman Ian, Malcolm and Enid. Ruth Berry, Marcel Schillig and Liz Park all answered the call. Tim Hill, who was co-opted 2 years ago, was elected Chairman.

I welcome the three new members and hope they enjoy their role in trying to continue to make improvements for the whole village. We are controlled by Act of Parliament, and there are lots of rules. We are 'summoned' to meetings – no lame excuses. Terminology is often arcane. However, our wonderful Clerk, Pam, has already organised an Induction Morning for the new members and me, in order to cover the basics. The excellent Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC) runs courses and our new councillors will all have attended one by August. The Chairman has been on the 'New Chairmen' seminar and there will be another for both Clerk (who is salaried) and Chairman, emphasising the importance of that relationship.

The common misconception is that we don't do anything. We are often frustrated by the next stage up. However, persistence usually pays off. We are, after all, using your Council Tax money and we have to see it is invested properly.

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm in the Church Room. The public are invited to come and have their say as the first main item on the agenda! **NB** September's meeting has had to be moved to August 30th.

TJH 7/7/11

Meet the New Council

Tim Hill

Elected Chairman in May 2011. Member of the PC for 2 years. Law degree. Retired history teacher. Finest hour as PC member - completing the Burial Regulations. Now co-ordinating the Village Design Statement. Also Chairman, Treasurer and Primary Secretary of Dorset Schools Cricket Association, Member of the Dorset Cricket Board, Manager of DCB Under 17s and a Lord's Taverner for 20 years. Bit of a railway freak. Member of many charities, including National Trust, English Heritage and Dorset Wildlife.

Marcel Schillig

I have lived in Charlton Marshall for nearly 20 years with my wife Lynda. I was born and brought up in Switzerland before coming to the UK at the age of six. I work for the American IBM Corporation as a Resource Strategist and I am responsible for over 4500 resources in the USA plus another 1800 globally. I have joined the Parish Council as a direct result of my involvement with the Church Lane Action Group where I realised that I can, and need, to represent our community within the district and beyond. In my limited spare time I drive tractors and enjoy countryside pursuits - I like challenges.

Dorothy Cooper

Dorothy has lived in Charlton Marshall for the past 11 years, having moved from Blandford town with her husband Barrie, to take up a farm at Birch Close.

In 2008, after retirement from a long employment with Bournemouth University, Dorothy discovered the activities going on in the village and enthusiastically became involved in the 'Church Rooms' project as a volunteer which proved to be the 'gateway' to a new life and a wonderful way of meeting new friends. Soon after, she was approached to become a Parish Councillor and was elected to serve on the Council – a position which continues to this day.

Ruth Berry

I was born in Oldham but have lived the majority of my life in Dorset. My family and I moved to the village in 2009. I am a married mother of four children, two of which attend Spetisbury Primary School. When not looking after my family, I work part-time as an administrator for a small family run firm in Holton Heath. I enjoy playing netball, keeping fit and socialising. I was introduced to the concept of becoming a Parish Councillor during my involvement with The Charlton Marshall Action Group, in the interest of preserving the character and history of the village.

Elizabeth Park

My name is Elizabeth Park and I have two sons, Oliver and Elliot. We have lived in Charlton Marshall for nearly five years, having moved from Tunbridge Wells six years ago. I am a doctor and work at Salisbury, Dorchester and Poole Hospitals. My interest in the Parish Council increased after becoming involved in the Charlton Marshall Action Group eighteen months ago. I hope that some of the experience I have gained in planning and highways will be of benefit to the Parish Council but more importantly, I hope to help maintain the ethos of the village.

Karen Harper

I have lived in the village for 11 years, having grown up in the area, and have been a councillor for 6 years. I live with my partner, Simon, and our two children. I'm a farm secretary and also managing director of a clothing company. I'm usually found out horse riding and running around after the children!

The Village Field Project

As with most schemes at this stage of their development, the pace of the progress made has been variable!

The good news is that a preferred supplier of the equipment we desire has been appointed. The committee is working closely with this company to ensure that both parties completely understand the needs and specific requirements of our community. Progress also continues on the legal transfer of the field (our chosen sight for the project) from NDDC to the Parish Council which should be completed by the end of August.

On a more difficult note, the obtaining of external funding is proving more challenging because of significant cutbacks in finance for community schemes. Your committee is working hard with a number of intermediaries to explore many funding options and we remain confident that the support this project receives within the village will enhance our case, particularly when we can demonstrate success in being able to raise money from our own efforts.

Additionally, we are organising another Family Fun Day on the field on Saturday September 3rd. There will be a Dog Show from 12 noon and the Fun Day will start at 2pm, ending at 5pm. More details can be found on the attached leaflet with this newsletter.

Finally, an appeal for interested and committed villagers to join our committee! If you have a skill that you think we could use (book-keeping, project management, fundraising, events organisation to name just four!) please contact either Angela Challice, our Secretary - angiechalice@hotmail.co.uk or me on 451763.

Peter Elliott

Chairman, Village Field Project Group

Land at Church Lane

The new application to develop 30 dwellings on the land at Church Lane went to NDDC Development Control Committee on Tuesday 28th June 2011. The Parish Council is pleased to report that the application for planning permission was refused unanimously by the Committee. The key grounds for refusal relate to the site layout, the number of buildings proposed within the site, together with the spacing and arrangement of the buildings. Their proximity to each other would result in a form of development, which fails to respect the form, scale and density of development found in the immediate surroundings to the site. It would also detract from the existing character of the setting and the public views particularly from the railway towards the Conservation Area. The other grounds for refusal include amenity issues for residents surrounding the site, with particular emphasis on the access at Church Lane and the closeness and elevated position of the proposed houses to existing properties surrounding the site. We now await the next step, which may be an appeal or a new proposal.

Meanwhile thanks must go to all those who objected to the proposal and in particular to all who wrote in letters of objection, the residents, the speakers, the Action Group, the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and District Councillor Richard Moyle.

Notices

Dog Poo. Be a Responsible owner and pick up.

Did you know that it is an offence as well as being very unpleasant and a health hazard, if you do not clean up after your dog in a public place?

The Dogs (Fouling of Land Act 1996) applies to all Public Areas within North Dorset District, except those areas excluded by the Act. Parishioners with queries or complaints can contact the Dog Warden at NDDC by telephoning 01258 454111.

Play Park

Please do not take dogs into the play area. There are clear signs stating **NO DOGS**. If you see someone ignoring the signs, get in contact with the clerk with details of date and time it happened. Any vandalism should be reported to the Parish Clerk asap.

Bonfires

If you must have a bonfire please follow these simple guidelines: -

Warn your neighbours beforehand - they are much less likely to complain

Light the bonfire at a time least likely to affect your neighbours, eg not on a warm day when people will be in their garden or when washing is out drying

Only burn dry material not damp, which causes more smoke

Build the bonfire away from sheds, fences and trees

Check there are no cables - like telephone wires - above the bonfire

Don't use petrol or paraffin to get the fire going – it may get out of control quickly

2012 Calendar

Photos were selected at the Church Fete by residents for a village calendar 2012. The finished item will be ready for early November and will cost £5.00.

STOP PRESS

Grit Bins are coming!!!!