

Charlton Marshall News November 2010

Charlton Marshall Village Fun Day - 11/9/10

The day dawned overcast and damp; the gloom-mongers at the Met Office seemed to be in their usual element but the preparations went on. Rapidly, the village field behind Hopegood Close was transformed into an arena and many people from the local community engaged in a consultation with a difference!

Yes, we wanted many people of our parish to comment on the designs displayed in the marquee, but we also wanted to demonstrate, particularly to our younger residents, that such a facility if tastefully and appropriately developed could provide a wonderfully positive and healthy community resource.

The event had an amazing response, with just under 200 people attending. Games and activities of all descriptions were there for everyone to enjoy- races organized by JEAN VESEY were so popular, additional heats had to be run and the tug of war at junior level became a tense battle of the sexes, with the girls emerging triumphant. It didn't take long before the event was in full swing, the sun to shine brilliantly, and almost everyone to be immersed in some kind of athletic endeavour. The afternoon's fun was rounded off by BILL and MARION WHITE running the egg throwing (and catching) contest, which also had to be extended by popular demand.

In summary, a great day and a happy day and one which highlights the sense of community shared by so many in the village. The committee's next task is to distil the comments/ feedback made on Saturday and to prepare the appropriate bids from various funding sources, which will enable the reality to be brought nearer.

Finally, many thanks to all those who helped in so many ways; those who lent equipment, those who donated the generous prizes for the raffle and not least those who came and enjoyed!

PETER ELLIOTT

Land at Church Lane

Highlights from the Parish Council Meetings

August

- **Land at Church Lane** - Plans were received on 15th July and an extension of time was acquired to enable residents to view the plans, and for the Parish Council to make their comments.
- **Play Area** - Play equipment companies are producing designs for the field. There will be a total of 5 designs. It was also discussed that there would be a village fun day.
- **Village Design Statement** - Village design statement to be completed in the next 15 months.

September

- **Land at Church Lane** - The Parish Council comments have been submitted to NDDC. The Action Group had a meeting with Bob Walter MP, who recommended they contact Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, who could get involved in the matter. A meeting was held with Dorset CPRE, who has given them advice of what they can do. A letter is also being sent to Trevor Warrick, Planning Policy, regarding the reclassification of the village from category C status.

October

- **Village Fun Day** - Marcel Shillig thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the village for the fun day, and mentioned that everyone who attended thought it should become an annual event.
- **Dog Mess** - Dog mess has been reported in the play park where owners haven't picked it up. Should there be a fining system? The councillors are going to look into replacing the current woodchips with a surface which would make dog mess more visible. Closing the gaps in the fence was also an option discussed.
- **Play Park** - A copy of the final plan for the new equipment was displayed and will be sent to companies for a 'best price' quote.
- **Family Fun Day** - The comment made in Open Forum re "could this become an annual event" was discussed. If the members of the Community Project committee organise it, the council should support financially.

Plans to build a new Village Hall

I have been asked recently why a new Village Hall is needed in Charlton Marshall and I believe now seems to be the time to discuss the issue. As a registered charity, the Hall is self funding, therefore, the committee have asked the assistance of the Parish Council when submitting plans, so that the costs of the planning fees are reduced by 50%.

A new Hall is needed because the present one is 70 years old. The felted roof is nearing its limited life and with reroofing costs of around £20,000, and with a wooden floor which contractors say cannot be sanded or recoated any more, the maintenance costs of the building will become costlier, therefore, we feel that the prudent decision is to replace the hall at the earliest date.

We are attempting to get plans passed for the new hall to be at the front of the existing site; to demolish the present hall, and tarmac the car park when the new hall is complete.

As of today the cost is around £430K, but by the time funds are raised, this will no doubt increase to around £500K. A fund raising committee is now in place and money is being raised. When the plans are passed, major funding will have to be found.

However the Parish will be expected to raise in the region of 10% or around £50K towards the project, quite a challenge, which I am sure we are up to!

Any volunteers or ideas would be appreciated!

Roger Higgins, Treasurer and Trustee

Rainbow Guides

This past year has been a very special year for the Rainbow Guides because we have been very busy celebrating the centenary of the Guide Movement. The Rainbows have been joining girls from all the Sections at various events. We started the celebrations with a Launch Party at the Corn Exchange, where we were able to learn new skills including circus skills, nail art, badge making, dancing and singing. The next event was a trip to Paultons Park, where we met members of the Movement from all over Dorset, which was a great day. Following that, we went to Bournemouth Football Stadium for a Pageant, where the Rainbows took part in a dance dressed as a flower. To celebrate the Centenary, we also planted 100 dwarf daffodils on the bank outside the Church Room, which will remind us of the special year we've had. On 20/10 at 20.10pm, we will join all the other members of the Movement in Blandford to have a final party and to remake our Promise with a live broadcast from our Chief Guide, which is going to be really special. Also, all members who attend will be receiving a special Promise Badge. Within the Unit, we have been working on badges in connection with the 100 years and have done many fun things. At Rainbows we have lots of fun, make new friends and we are always looking forward to new adventures!

Should you like to know more about Rainbows, please ring Elizabeth Pickering on 01258 453156

ONLINE CENTRE AND COFFEE SHOP 10.30-12.30 Mon to Fri (coffee shop only on Fridays). The centre registered for National Online Week 18-21 Oct and also the BBC's First Click initiative, which was due to go out on the local news on Thurs 21 Oct. The aim is to get as many people as possible on-line and able to use a computer. If you missed out, then just drop in and see what it's all about or tel Jean on 01258 452457 for more details.

PHOTOS of the village fun day taken by Norman Carey are on display in the Coffee Shop, and can be ordered at 50p each.

DIGITAL CAMERA COURSE – another six week course begins on Saturday 6th Nov. Norman Carey has agreed to run the course on Saturday mornings in the Church Room from 10am – 12 noon, cost is still only £20. Tel: 01258 452457 to book a place.

THE YOUTH CLUB had a great night out at the Fire Station in Oct and especially enjoyed seeing who could reach the furthest using the hose. Our grateful thanks to the crew who kept us all entertained. Another visit to the gym club will have been and gone, and a 'Dorset's Got Talent' and Spooky Games Night are planned for Nov. Anyone in Year 5 or above will be made very welcome, tel: 01258 452457 for dates and times.

THE PARISH COUNCIL has been given permission to erect a notice board at Thornicombe next to the telephone/post box.

A GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW will take place at the Afternoon Tea being held at the village hall on the 18th December. Details of the sale of tickets will be displayed in the Church Room and Village Hall. The money raised will go towards the playing field equipment. Hope to see you there!

THE VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT was introduced at a well attended public meeting at the Village Hall on Tuesday, October 19th. A motion to proceed was carried by a show of hands. Sarah Jennings and Kevin Morris explained the crucial role of NDDC before Derek Duke (Child Okeford VDS), Peter Boxer (Sturquest TDS) and Tony Gibb (Iwerne Minster VDS) enlightened us with their experiences. www.charltonmarshall.org.uk will keep you up to date.