



# Charlton Marshall Parish Council

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## News - Spring 2018

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S WINDOW

February 26<sup>th</sup> 2018 might well have been significant as someone's birthday. However, it was also the day that the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid altered your world, because the next morning you woke up in the new unitary authority of Dorset County. The largest reorganisation of a county in England is about to take place and the eyes of all in high places are watching. The process of reducing the 9 councils to 2, which should save £100m, is huge, and must be delivered in April 2019. If it all works seamlessly, you might not even notice. However, with Dorset County becoming more distant with its administration hub in Dorchester, there is likely to be far more reliance, and an increased expectation, on Parish and Town Councils. Their roles will be redefined, involving them in roads and road safety, bus provision, planning and local developments and housing. Housing is a real issue to us all. Neighbourhood Plans are now regarded as essential to provide a local slant on policy. 20,000 new builds are needed in Dorset by 2033. The annual average during the last 5 years has been 737 and that has now risen to a required 1,176 for the period 2016-2033.

Further massive changes afoot are to do with the NHS. Many will have filled in responses on the proposals aimed at making hospital facilities more efficient. Dorset has to plan for the increasingly large proportion of old people and the added demands that brings. On top of that, we all need to be safe, and statistics show that the elderly in Dorset are very vulnerable when it comes to online or telephone fraud. This type of crime has significantly changed the role of the police. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Martyn Underhill, works phenomenally hard under real financial duress. Combining Cornwall, Devon and Dorset forces, to save money, whilst concentrating facilities and expertise, is now very imminent.

Our Annual Parish Meeting is on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. Nibbles and drinks from 6.30 pm for 7 pm start. Please come and listen to John Parker, the county's expert on parish councils (recently on a national committee), as well as Recycling Team Leader, Marten Gregory, from Dorset Waste Partnership, who will give an illustrated talk on rubbish and recycling – a multi million pound business – to help us all help the environment. There will be ample time for questions before the second half in which local groups tell us what they are doing – please let the Clerk know if you want to speak.

The snow at the beginning of March sent a warning that the vulnerable can be quickly isolated. Several of the older brigade are not on line and so information does not reach them. I am sure many neighbours have popped next door to help, but if not, please think about it if we get another cold snap.

Many thanks. Cllr Tim Hill

### COMING TO A VILLAGE HALL NEAR YOU

Marten Gregory – The man who knows!

How green is my village?

Is my recycling really recycled?

What happens to my rubbish?

Let him tell you and show you

Ask him your questions

At the Annual Parish Meeting

In Charlton Marshall Village Hall

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 6.30 for 7.00

See 'Chairman's Window' for more details.



The new seat in the Gravel Lane Parish Garden – bought with Community Benefit money

### CHARLTON MARSHALL SCOUT GROUP is a very active group.

The children learn new skills every week in a fun environment (term time only). We meet in the Village Hall. **Beavers (aged 6 to 8)** on Fridays from 5:30 to 6:45, activities range from den building and pancake making to visits to the Royal Signals Museum and Go Ape.

**Cubs (aged 8 to 10 and a half)** on Mondays from 6.00 to 7:30, activities include orienteering, potato firing, night hikes and problem solving.

If your children wish to join please come along for a taster session or for more information ring Peter on 01258 720052.



**DO YOU FLY A DRONE?** Dorset Police are running 'Safer Drone' courses. It's too late for the one in Blandford, but there are others. See [safedrone@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:safedrone@dorset.pnn.police.uk) Topics covered include the law, pilot responsibilities, privacy, the drone code, and are led by police drone operators.