

Spring
2012

Beneath the Vale

Published on behalf of Upper Marshwood Vale
Parish Council

Affordable Homes for Marshwood

Mike Robinson, district councillor and chairman of our Affordable Housing steering group tells of progress so far:

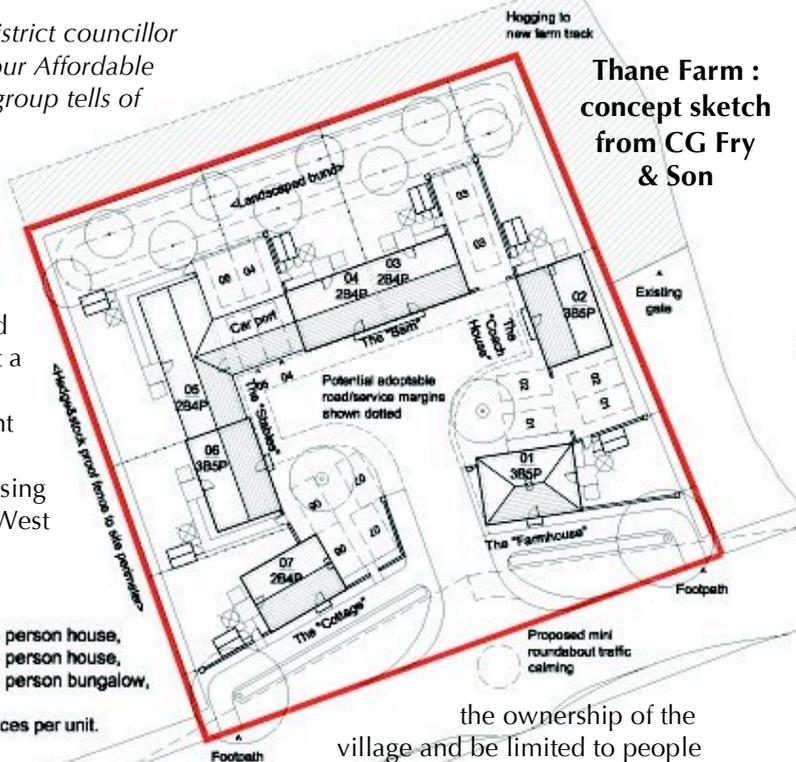
The Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Plan, published two years ago, identified the need for new houses, at a price local people could afford to rent or buy. A recent review of the Housing Register, held by West

Schedule:

- 7 units total,
- 3 No. 3 bed 5 person house,
- 3 No. 2 bed 4 person house,
- 1 No. 2 bed 4 person bungalow,
- 2 parking spaces per unit.

Dorset District Council, and a discussion with local families, confirmed that there was still a significant need for such houses.

Land suitable for housing has been identified and discussions have taken place with housing association, Hastoe, and builders, C. G. Fry with a view to building the houses in Marshwood. To achieve this and ensure that the land would remain in



**Thane Farm :
concept sketch
from CG Fry
& Son**

the ownership of the village and be limited to people with a local connection, it was decided that it would be best to work with an established Community Land Trust (Symene – based in the Vale). Using a Community Land Trust (CLT) for a “community led” development, would mean that we could qualify for a grant towards the development, from the Homes and Community Agency (HCA). All their normal grants have been allocated, so this is our only option

Your Vale
Newsletter

unless we built a number of “Open Market” houses to help fund the project. We hope we would not have to do this, as this would not deliver the same number of affordable houses.

Under a CLT, the village would own the land and Hastoe would manage the project and lease/purchase arrangements with the householders. Being a Community Land Trust would enable the village CLT members to have ongoing influence over the allocation policy and the development of the site.

Whether the houses would be for rent or shared equity (max 80%) would depend on the demand identified from the Housing Register held by West Dorset District Council. Currently there are 12 households on the Housing Register with a local connection, and it is more than likely that when people are aware that houses might be available that others will register (details on page 3).

As the registration process is fairly intrusive, people are often put off registering until they see the practical possibility of housing being made available. The houses that could be built, with the support of the local community, would provide secure and affordable accommodation, built to a high standard with good levels of energy efficiency.

Rental levels would be set with reference to those charged by local private sector registered landlords (RSLs) for similar houses. The HCA say that the rents should be at a maximum of 80% of comparable houses in the locality.

Whilst it is not possible to predict the market situation that might exist in 2015 (the target date for the houses to be ready for occupation), the current rent would be in the region of £120 per week for a 2 bedroom house and £130 per week for a 3 bedroom house.

Shared equity arrangements would be based on fair market values and the element of the house not owned will be subject to a fair and reasonable level set by the HCA.

If and when the house is sold, the seller would receive an increase (or decrease) in their share of the market value. The house would remain with Hastoe, who would assist with the sale to a person with a local connection.

Much progress has been made by the steering group and it is now time to seek wider approval from the Marshwood community. A village meeting for all residents has been called for 22nd March at Marshwood church to discuss the efforts so far and the next steps. Please do come.

Also at this meeting others interested in low cost community homes and may become involved by joining the team and contributing to the future of the village.

For Marshwood, this is a very important development so this Beneath the Vale has more on Affordable Housing. Caroline Dilke sets out good reasons for building such houses on page 4, while to be fair, the opposing reasons are on page 6. We also look at how the scheme might be run, page 8, before the editor has a personal perspective on page 12.

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Council News

It could be You

All occupants of affordable homes have to have a strong link such as living here, family or work in Marshwood.

Although the final selection of these new residents will be made by locals, the initial selection will be made from West Dorset's housing list.

So if you or someone in your family needs a home in Marshwood and they aren't on that list, apply now.

A good place to find more information is the Housing Register whose details are on page 19 in this issue. Or call 01305 251000 and ask for the Housing Advice Centre who will answer your questions and send you any forms.

Council Meetings

2012 Council Dates

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 15 th March | Bettiscombe | Full Council |
| 19 th April | Shave Cross | Planning* |
| 17 th May | Bettiscombe | Annual Council Meeting |
| 21 st June | Shave Cross | Planning* |
| 19 th July | Stoke Abbott | Full Council |
| 16 th August | Shave Cross | Planning* |
| 20 th September | Bettiscombe | Full Council |
| 18 th October | Shave Cross | Planning* |
| 15 th November | Bettiscombe | Full Council (Budgets) |

** Planning Meetings to only take place if required.*

Members of the public are welcome observe council meetings and take part in the 'democratic half hour' open section of the meeting

Yes In My Back Yard

Caroline Dilke wants young families in Marshwood and asks us to agree



Marshwood's children are our future

Photo: Helen Whitehead

We live in a landscape that has largely been created by farmers over many centuries. The small meadows, mixed hedgerows, spinneys and sprinklings of cattle and sheep have traditionally been the most economical way of gaining a living from hilly terrain. Their beauty is a by-product of hard labour and necessity. But they also provide a habitat for wildlife that is threatened elsewhere by modern monoculture farms.

Those of us who (perhaps by working in well-paid jobs in cities) have been able to buy a home in this rare and precious landscape have contributed to a huge rise in house prices. So the farmers themselves, whose wealth is rooted in their land so is not readily cashable, are being priced out of the

place their families have lived in for generations. This is an injustice.

Not as a charity, but as a practical way of ensuring that local farmers and tradespeople can continue to contribute to the economy and character of the Marshwood Vale, our housing scheme aims

to give a much-needed leg up to those who at present have jobs and family in the area, but are forced to live in sub-standard accommodation such as caravans, or to share with in-laws. The government has set aside taxpayers' money for such schemes, and we should take advantage of the grants before the expiry date.

Perhaps local shops, schools and bus services are not a priority for well-off retired people, but when they have disappeared – because there are no young people to use them – a village becomes a less attractive prospect for everyone. Those who obsessively strive to maintain the value of their own property may have got it wrong. Will future house purchasers really want to live in a dead village?

Unfortunately there are very dark fears bubbling under the surface of this debate: fears of social disorder, of slum dwellers from far-off cities invading our peaceful landscape. These are ridiculous, but the nimbys are doing their best to play on such fears. We need to focus on the facts: more than 20 families living in close proximity to Marshwood are in dire need of housing.

It is worth looking ahead 20 years, to a time when – if no assistance is given to young workers – most of the farms and small traders will be gone. In my old age, do I want to live among mostly elderly people? Perhaps some would be happy with this. May I suggest they move to sheltered accommodation in a leafy suburb?

They can live among like-minded pensioners, with no mud to dirty a posh car. For me, part of the charm of Marshwood lies in the manure on the roads, the farm vehicles, the untidy livestock and the joyful sounds of children playing. Plus the feeling of being just one of an interesting mix of individuals.

I find it shameful and distasteful that anyone could object to a young working family being helped to find somewhere decent to live. But those most in need tend to be a bit shy of drawing attention to themselves. Those shouting loudest tend to be the incomers, trying to push away the ladder once they themselves are safely up.



We asked a leading opponent of this project to set out his concerns. His article was received and prepared for publication. However at the last moment it was withdrawn without reasons being given, so this is a late substitute for the real thing.

if it ain't broke don't fix it.

Who will get these homes?

We are told - by whom and on what authority - that the families who THEY want to join at the heart of our community will be selected by local folk and that these families will all have a Marshwood connection.

Of course this will happen at first but with the sky high rents that few of these less well off these homes are intended for will afford them.

Then THEY will have to allow some overflow occupants from Yeovil or Crewkerne rather than have the embarrassment of one or two unwanted homes standing empty. Do we really need to invite in the unfortunates from nearby (or distant) towns and cities?

What about the elderly poor; don't we owe them a future within their community?

Too expensive?

THEY say it is for young and impecunious families especially agricultural workers, but how many of these can afford the £500 per month they will cost just to rent.

Who is paying for all this?

It is not the housing association but a government fund or, more honestly, it is money taken from

taxes, yours and mine. And most of us think there are more important uses for the public's money.

Wrong site?

Marshwood - all of it - should have been given that choice, not THEM. Three sites were offered - or so we are told and two were rejected - by whom.

Yes THEM.

Why? - deafening silence. Sounds a bit dodgy.

Wrong kind of housing?

By carefully showing only plans, not drawings we have no idea what THEY want to be built all over that upper field.



But look at Fry's website or at their work in say Thorncombe or Maiden Newton, and we get an idea. Faux

cottages in flint and brick, just like the rest of the village isn't.

And now we are told that the construction will be to a far better standard than any other in the village in a twee Fry look.

Insulation, access for handicapped, laid out for the elderly, more carbon neutral. Height of fashion more like it.

And on our rates and taxes.
No thanks.

Council's job not an ad-hoc self-appointed committee?

Who is this steering committee - its not the Parish Council in disguise - they don't seem to have control of it, so who are THEY?

The Good and the Great of Marshwood? LOL!* Movers and Shakers? the very idea is ridiculous.

No, its just a few busybodies with too much time on their hands. The

* LOL apparently means *Laughing out Loud* - Ed.

council should step in and kill off their pretensions without delay.

Why change?

Marshwood didn't even start in Marshwood but down in the vale near Poorhouse Lane and it has moved and changed with the times for centuries.

It is a popular place to move into demonstrating that today's Marshwood is a healthy, well-balanced community. Just in tune enough with our troubled times but just sufficiently removed to be comfortable and comforting.

We **are** rural but some of us come from an urban background with skills and experience that all can use. So why inject unknown and possibly unsuitable changes that only a few want?

Just let us evolve into the future as we have always, gently and one step at a time.

Marshwood villager



A Community Land Trust for Marshwood?

What is a Community Land Trust...

A CLT is a non-profit, community-based organisation run by volunteers that develops housing or other assets made available at permanently affordable levels for long-term community benefit. Usually constituted as an Industrial and Provident Society or Company Limited by Guarantee, it may or may not have charitable status. Other legal forms for a CLT are a Charity or a Community Interest Company. All three forms protect hold land and property for the community in perpetuity.

... and why should we need one?

Like an ordinary commercial company, it can run housing and other property based projects on behalf of the whole community usually projects or developments such as affordable housing.

Unlike companies, CLTs are for the benefit of the community. They are flowering under localism initiatives of the present government as a way of combining local action and ensuring enduring control by community representatives.

If the CLT runs things for us all, who runs the CLT?

A representative and democratic committee is voted in from and by



Affordable homes for residents of Buckland Newton from their Community Land Trust

local residents, usually as a result of a parish or village meeting. Membership is open to the whole community. The 'community' is defined by the CLT itself.

In our case, Symene CLT was started by people from Symondsburry but covers Marshwood and we have been welcomed to join. In due course, a CLT exclusively for Marshwood could be established if this were deemed preferable.

Individual councillors may serve on the CLT, but the Parish Council would not have a right to appoint its representatives.

The Trust must regularly report to the community it serves.

Those involved in the CLT will normally have limited liability like an ordinary limited company.

Why can't the Parish Council run the CLT?

Under the new localism legislation there is nothing to stop your council undertaking the work should it wish to. When set up, a CLT sets its objectives - which must include benefiting the community - and then focuses on doing it. By and large, councils have a far wider range of powers, have limited manpower for the work involved and are able to be less enterprising than CLTs.

What is an assets lock?

These are rules to stop the CLT losing the plot or its social mission and selling off assets unless they are sold for the benefit of the whole community. A CLT is subject to regulation by the Charity Commission or the Financial Services Authority.

A bit pie-in-the-sky, do CLTs work?

Available since 2005, there are now over 80 CLTs and umbrella organisations varying in size from 3 homes to enterprises with more than 1000 members. Their areas of operation include cities, towns and villages nation wide. Delivering housing schemes is being made more practical through partnerships between CLTs and housing associations where the CLT owns the land and the HA takes the development risks.

What can a CLT do for Marshwood or Stoke Abbott?

If residents wish, other villages in our group of parishes can do something similar, or we can all bring about something parish-wide. It is about what is wanted, where it is needed and how it is to be done.

However, in the case of the plans for affordable housing in Marshwood set out elsewhere in this issue there are good reasons for co-operating with an existing Trust. But in joining with others we gain the experience of other local people while still ensuring full involvement of Marshwood folk in Marshwood matters.

What is a CIC and how is it different?

A Community Interest Company is one of the three legal entity that can be used to form a CLT.

For Marshwood, it could run a pub if the Bottle deteriorates, operate an evening minibus service for youngsters, open a business park to bring in small businesses and provide work for school leavers, operate an energy-generating service for locals.

Anything indeed that Marshwood residents think will benefit the Marshwood community.

We will be supported in this by the Somerset, Devon and Dorset Community Land Trust Project which has been working with Symene and other emerging CLTs in the area.

Matthew Bowditch is Chairman of Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council; he also leads the editorial group that oversees the production of each issue of *Beneath the Vale*. But more important than that many residents know him better as a vet and partner in Beaminster-based *Girling and Bowditch*. As he specialises in the larger animals, who better then to involve us non-agricultural folk in farming matters?

Farmer's seasons in the Upper Marshwood Vale

1 - February and March

It was a remark by a new councillor that made all of us to do with BTV stop and think. "Those of us in later life that have come to the Vale don't instinctively understand the farming seasons as distinct from temporal ones."

So perhaps this series of thoughts will stimulate interest and understanding. I shall not be able to list in chronological order all the activities that happen each quarter but perhaps 1 or 2 subjects in each season along with a little vocabulary will give a rural flavour.

Lambs

Sheep usually start lambing in January. This is the most crucial time for the productivity of the shepherd farmer. Newly born lambs can die of hypothermia very

quickly. Dry frosty weather is better for them than rain and sleet.

Some farmers bring their sheep in to allow them to lamb indoors but once the lambs are strong they are thrive better outside.

Where sheep lamb outside, you may see some lambs apparently caught in a plastic bag – they are not – they have plastic macs fitted by the farmer to keep the rain out!

Temporary shelters may also be built from bales to give shelter from raw elements.



The numbers marked on the lambs' sides correspond with their mothers' numbers!

Lambs are not born with short tails; they have to be treated with rubber bands around the tail so after a while the end drops off. The reason for this is because in later life maggots can get into long tails and cause rot.

Tractor Activity in the Vale

The reason for tractors on the Vale roads in the early spring is to get the farmer and materials from the farm to the field or from field to field and the time of year and weather conditions are the key.

There are grass crops, grain crops and maize, with each needing different husbandry times.

Regulations govern the amount of fertilizer – another topic – and when it can be used.

Some parts around and near the Vale are deemed a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone where the land drains into waters overloaded with too much slurry. In these areas muck-spreading is banned from September to January. So January to March is a busy time for spreading dung, hence more tractors towing their mucky tanker

During this period, when the weather is good - farmers spread the fertiliser, but when weather is bad - rain or snow - no dung-spreading.

Grass thrives best on slurry and dirty water, while maize likes rotted manure and grain does best on artificial fertilisers.

Useful phrases

- Winter Corn – wheat or barley sown in September/October and harvested first
- Spring Corn – wheat or barley sown in spring
- Cuckoo Corn – very late sown corn
- Hogg – ewe 1 year old, not lambed yet
- Store Lamb – last years lamb for meat.
Fattened on dairy grass over winter
- Pur Lamb – castrated male lamb
- Dry – not milking
- Springing – getting ready to calve
- Headland – the top and bottom of the field for tractors to turn in when working

Editorial

I t would be a very strange village where everyone agreed with everyone else.

But in all real villages some subjects are bound to be contentious. Affordable housing is one of those and feelings can run high.

The idea of such homes in Marshwood village has been around for some time. Then our Parish Plan survey found that a consensus in favour existed. 73% of Marshwood residents thought the idea of low cost homes was important and 88% wanted these homes to go to young families. But this was not a vote for a **specific plan** for homes on a given site.

As a result Mike Robinson with a steering group set out to find out what was possible as well as what was wanted. It took too much time to find that money could be sourced, alternative sites could be found, and a way of running the project which was seen as open and democratic was available.

Many of the technicalities associated with the sites were dealt with by District Council officials who gave their opinion on the relative merits of the sites – and in doing so allowed the steering group to decide.

Now *at last* the group can make their initial recommendations to all

residents of Marshwood village and to find out if these ideas meet the approval of the majority. That is what the Village Meeting on the evening of 22nd of March in St Mary's Church is about.

It is also about any problems that residents have with the idea of this project or concerns about the details. It is the starting point; the plans are by no means developed, the operation of these homes including who will get them is only partly set out and there are many, many details yet to be agreed by us all.

Even more important is what neighbours and other residents **want** to see happening – your ideas, your insights, your worries and concerns.



Four questions to be answered:
Should the houses be built on Thame Farm site?
How will the project be conducted?
How to we ensure that Marshwood residents get what they want?

and in the light of the answers to these questions:

Do a clear majority of people from Marshwood Village still want affordable homes for Marshwood?

It is also time for the original steering group to cease examining the feasibility and desirability of the idea of Affordable Homes in Marshwood and to push for the development of these more detailed plans, IF THAT IS WHAT THE VILLAGE MEETING TELLS THE COMMITTEE.

If not we all pack up and go home – those of us that have homes to go to, that is.

Of course there is an alternative; you can do nothing, Blame the wind and the rain for staying at home on the 22nd of March. You can let a few good folk work at getting a quite good set of homes for some really quite

pleasant occupants and then moan at what ‘THEY’ have done to the village. Worse is possible; look at other villages where objectors sought to derail their homes project with anonymous letters seeking to mislead, making up threats of draconian imposition and falsely claiming to represent the majority.

Do we really want the shattering of Marshwood’s hard-won community spirit in the same way as a result of this deceitful campaign? I know I don’t.

Instead come to Church, learn the truth, help us get the very best plan for Marshwood - and make up **your** own mind.

Then, if your view is not the same as your neighbours, we must remain good neighbours - and this means full respect for their opinions.

After all we all want to live in a great village. **Don’t we?**

For over a year a steering group has considered the Parish Plan’s ideas for new homes for local people at a price or rent they can afford.

Now the group will report to Marshwood residents at a

Marshwood Village Meeting

**A display followed by discussion
of proposals for**

New Homes in Marshwood

at

Saint Mary’s Church, Marshwood on Thursday 22nd March
Doors open 6.30, discussion starts 7.00 pm

Ice Station Marshwood

For a couple of months Marshwood residents leaving friendly territory northbound may have spotted a new, rather stout roadside pole firmly cemented into place just beyond Birdsmoregate.

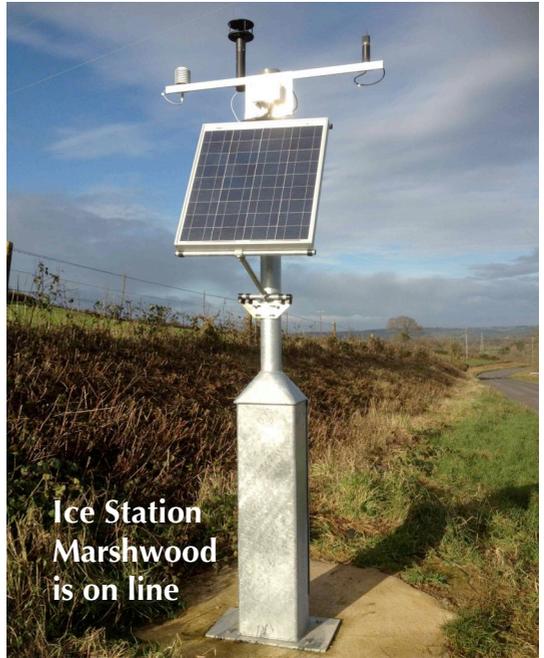
The unusual fat-bottomed no-shoulder shape suggested more than another sign but enquiries of officials drew no answers.

Then one sunny Friday morning workmen appeared bearing gifts to be attached to the structure.

Soon it was clear these attachments plus three sensors in the road surface itself measure the weather conditions at Marshwood – air temperature, surface and deep temperatures, salt levels, humidity and hence dew point, wind speed and, to show the icing conditions locally.

A substantial solar panel powers it and batteries for night times and mobile phone technology calls in the results to appear on a website used by the Network Traffic Control Team in county hall, Dorchester.

Marshwood's ice station along with others at Sixpenny



Handley, Christchurch and Shaftesbury are new units joining 6 more weather units already scattered around far-flung bits of Dorset.

Following a sneaky tip, BTV sent its nosiest reporter to check – but after a detailed search, back came the report – no camera and no speed detectors, thank goodness.

But the Findlay Irvine Icelert Mk 6 system does allow for expansion, so a camera could be added later although operators concede this is unlikely. As well as helping to guide the teams operating the road-



The control room at County Hall

gritting service this winter, these road robots will help to provide ice warnings for drivers.

So as Dorset Highway Operations has given us a nice new toy, in return we will give Dorchester our weather data.

Although coordinated in the control room, using a web-based service the team can use their home computers to precisely monitor overnight snowfalls even from their homes.

Let's hope it gets the gritters out in time.

One final twist, our Iceberg unit will be gutted in the spring and its entrails moved elsewhere.

With little or no requirements for ice detection in the summer our Icelert will migrate elsewhere, not to warmer climates but to monitor warmer climates.

Bettiscombe Village Hall Curry Night

**Friday 13 April 2012
7.30 pm**

Why bother to cook at home tonight
Come & join us for a curry

Selection of curries available with
accompaniments

Drinks available or bring your own

Table quiz

Raffle

£6 per head

Bottle-owner Brookes Bashed

West Dorset District Council has served an order on the owners of Marshwood's listed Bottle Inn setting out the defects officers have noted and giving them 8 months to rectify the deterioration. Addressed to Mr and Mrs Brookes of Winkie, South Australia, the Section S215 Notice lists 52 actions to deal with the damage to the exterior.

The long-term deterioration especially of the thatched roof has angered villagers and B3165 road users alike and "has created an untidy appearance, which adversely affects the amenity of the area being in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty."

No mention has been made of the widely perceived fear that the repeated failure of the Brookes to act to save the Bottle is part of a plan to allow the total collapse of the building to become an excuse for a change of use to residential property.

Council officials are well aware of this strategy as WDDC councillor Mike Robinson confirms: *"WDDC planners and councillors would not look favourably on any such attempt to change the use from a public house to residential. Other West Dorset pub owners have tried to do this without success."*

A rough estimate for the work sets the cost to the Brookes as £100,000 - £125,000.



The penalty for ignoring the order is up to £100 per day.

Wide-ranging rumours claim that the Brookes are only the nominal owners of the Bottle as other members of the family have an interest, that loans and part shares in the property are secured against any sale, that banks are seeking the return of their loans and even that the Brookes are pursued by money lenders when in the UK. Although consistent and coming from several sources, these rumours cannot be substantiated.

It is known that there has been at least one genuine approach to the Brookes to reopen the Bottle as a going concern. It is also accepted that the Bottle and its land would be far more valuable if change of use to residential could be obtained on the basis that The Bottle was no longer viable as a public house.

However the offer was from businessperson with a record in the licensed trade so there clearly is a good business awaiting revival.

Many villagers would also like to see the reopened pub as part of the community perhaps with the hall used in the community.

The Brookes replied to these allegations by e-mail from Australia. Their comments are shown verbatim:

"We are absolutely amazed at the interest and fabricated articles written about our pub.

"As you are well aware, we came over to the UK from Australia in May in 2011 in order to get the pub re-opened again. We spent a few weeks completely redecorating the interior and cleaning up from previous tenants and also to talk to a prospective tenant. This tenant was given a free hand and free rent to occupy the pub for two months before the tenancy began.

"We informed him that we would start renovations (i.e. thatching) in August once the rent began. As the villagers no doubt noticed, the scaffolding went up at the beginning of August, in good faith on our part, but then nothing.

"Well instead of the villagers etc putting the blame on the Brookes, perhaps they should be looking at Christopher Thomas, who had two months free rent and then did not return a signed contract or even pay one penny to the Brookes!! (In fact he put in two young men to do his dirty work for him).

"This man has a very poor history of running pubs - Look at The George Inn in Bridport (5 very short months) and a very similar story at The Royal Oak at Great Wishford in Wiltshire!!

"We acted in good faith with Christopher Thomas, who has completely let us down and who now seems to enjoy contacting the media re stirring up the dirt on The Bottle Inn!



"We shall be returning to the UK as soon as we can to sort out the above problems"

Michael and Pauline
Brookes

Mr Thomas has not been in touch with the BTV team nor have we approached him.

News in Brief

Speed traps to slow drivers

Regular drivers on the B3165 through Marshwood are ignoring the fine new 30 mph speed limit, so the police are striking back. After a period of observation local officers are now agreeing with residents that speeds are creeping back up once more and have recalibrated their speed gun.

Out of sight behind a bush near to the Dungeon area, the gun has spotted drivers at well above the old 40mph limit.

With regular use of the gun it is hoped that drivers will modify their habits if only to keep their licences. Accordingly some drivers caught in this way may not get points on their licence but could be offered a fine and a remedial one-day driving course at Winfrith instead.

Here a combination of persuasion and enforcement is used to help drivers modify their driving habits.

Marshwood's lengthsman a success

Parish lengthsman Steve Lee and his team are to be copied by other parish councils in Dorset councillors were told at a recent PC meeting. Working under the organisation of Parish councillor Bob Wyatt, their pioneering work has proved so successful that similar schemes are to be rolled out all through the county.

Cllr. Wyatt places much of the credit for the success on the hard work of Steve as they get on top of problems such as potholes and flooding;

"If someone calls me we can often fix it the next day. Flooding for example is now so well controlled that the lanes are now in better condition than they have been for decades." he claims.

Their work includes roadside repairs such as clearing drains often blocked for years, reshaping the verges and attention to public places throughout the four parishes.

As well as working for the Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council, Steve is 'loaned' out to Char Valley to do similar work.

Councillors also noted recent resurfacing in many parts of the Vale by Dorset Highways have provided a far smoother road surface and restored width lost to encroachment by the banks.

Between the Highways and Steve and his lads, most drivers will have noticed real improvements to the lanes.

Now how do we stop those huge lorries.....

useful numbers

Health and Welfare:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|
| Rural Housing Officer | Rob Asprey | 01305 252447 |
| | R.Aspray@westdorset-dc.gov.uk | |
| Housing Advice Centre | Contact through | 01305 251000 |
| | http://www.dorsetforyou.com/395122 | |

Your District Councillors

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| Marshwood Vale | Mike Robinson | 01308 868979 |
| | cllrm.robinson@westdorset-dc.gov.uk | |
| Broadwindsor | Jacqui Sewell | 01308 867145 |
| | cllrj.sewell@westdorset-dc.gov.ukk | |

Your County Councillors

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| Marshwood Vale | Geoffrey Brierley | 01297 560660 |
| | g.j.brierley@dorsetcc.gov.uk | |
| Beaminster | Rebecca Knox | 01308 863365 |
| | r.knox@dorsetcc.gov.uk | |

Working parties: chairman/co-ordinator

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Affordable Housing Cclr. | Mike Robinson | 01308 868979 |
| | cclrm.robinson@westdorset-dc.gov.uk | |
| First Responders | Annemieke Blondeel | 01308 868543 |
| | annemieke.blondeel@bluebottle.com | |
| Broadband | Charles Somers | 01297 678178 |
| | somers984@btinternet.com | |
| Oaks Action | Caroline Conran | 01308 868010 |
| | c.conran@mac.com | |
| Energy, long-term projects | Ali Cameron | 01297 678546 |
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Beneath the Vale: Editorial Board

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