

Summer  
2012

# Beneath the Vale

Published on behalf of Upper Marshwood Vale  
Parish Council

## Marshwood's Broadband Megabits



Filled with superfast broadband - BT's Show Vehicle

**H**ow broadband might work for residents of our villages as well as how we may be wired up by fibre optic cables was made clear to residents who braved the wind, rain and sunny spells to see BT's brand new demonstrator van which parked next to Bettiscombe village hall last month. After engine problems on the previous day, thanks to the AA the van arrived from Bridport and opened its doors to visitors.

With the number of contractors bidding to connect up Dorset now reduced to two, and Dorset County Council's new broadband team just getting their feet under the council table,

this turned out to be a timely reminder of where we are on the road to seriously fast broadband in our area.

Regional Manager, South West BT Group, Michael Dunn: "There will be a competition for procurement for a private-sector supplier. BT has said it will stand up to the plate for all the programmes running across the UK, so we will be there trying to be the partner of choice to roll out services into the rural countryside, into the more challenging areas of the county."

It also became clear just how much more work is needed before an accurate picture of what will

Your Vale  
Newsletter

happen, when it will be finished and just how well our superfast broadband will perform. This then was a glimpse of what broadband installed by BT would involve.

Most of the larger urban areas of West Dorset will attract one or more networks working to the latest NGA - Next Generation Access – broadband standards as it is worth their while investing in these towns. Rural areas are far less commercially attractive, so Government and county funds are to be invested with BT or Fujitsu who will top the cash up to provide a network tailored to local needs.

In general, the speeds and performance promised are very impressive indeed, but these will apply to about 90% of users in Dorset – those that are easiest to connect – but not to all.

Will the remainder be the more difficult places such as Marshwood?

Michael Dunn made it clear that BT will be making no detailed promises until the contract has been awarded and detailed planning can start.

“This is challenging work; its complex, it’s difficult, therefore even if the programme begins in the early part of 2013, then there will be a period of time for planning and, obviously, roll out. And realistically – and I want to be as honest as possible – certainly it could well be 2 years before we reach some solutions, for some communities in the county.”

He introduced a Chinese-built green cabinet that will be installed next to the present BT generation of distribution green cabinets with their welter of copper cables connecting to individual homes and businesses. At £10,000 each these are the key to getting high speed and high volume of broadband traffic from the exchanges and into the villages.



**Chinese-made Green Cabinet  
Lit up for this display**

His colleague Andrew Cook, who manages the show vehicle showed the fibre optic 'cables' that will achieve this and told how these hair-thin strands of glass are grouped together for



protection then blown down smooth pipes laid underground or carried on traditional telephone poles to join the exchanges to these cabinets. A short cable will connect the old copper cables in the original cabinets and thus to computers and phones in your home.

Not only receiving either as he points out: "We talked about downloads, what about uploads?"

"More and more people are providing content to the internet, to social media sites etc.

"The great thing is that FTTC will mean the speeds to upload will be up to 20megabits/second so uploading videos will not take the hours it used to take, it will take seconds."

Some businesses may need extra speed or traffic capacity so the fibre optic can be fed on from the new cabinet all the way to their premises. They will get

the very best, most expensive broadband service; others will, at little extra cost, get much better speed limited by how far their broadband has to travel from the cabinet to their home via those copper wires.

Michael Dunn emphasised the importance of fibre to the BT plan: "As we move out into the countryside, a range of solutions will be deployed to improve

speeds significantly. In some cases that will be fibre, either to a street cabinet or roadside cabinet, in some cases it may be alternative technology. I think its fair to say we are very keen to push fibre as far as we can in the access network."

One of the opportunities several residents gained was to question senior BT people over past performance as a guide to future actions. Others took advantage of advising the BT guys of local problems with existing broadband; no doubt the BT learnt as much about Upper Marshwood as their visitors discovered about how superfast broadband may work out in the future. The BT team were at pains to point out that the other possible contractor if appointed would solve similar problems with similar technology to that on show.

A local Internet user who enjoyed the chance to find out more summed up her reaction:

“Even though I’m a complete layperson, the display made it easy to understand the basics - but the BT people did explain just how difficult it will be to get broadband into an area like Marshwood Vale.”

Another was less happy: “The BT team were very helpful and anything they can do to improve broadband will be gratefully received, but for Bettiscombe this will be at least two more years away.”

But what will this mean to you and me when it does arrive?

No contractor can promise what will be getting to your home - that depends on where you live and what you want. But what both contractors are aiming at is plenty of speed **and** lots of traffic. Such as two high quality feature films in HD at the same time, one for the kids,

the other for mum and dad - security and tele-health, families half a world away, a group of mates each just a village away – an internet world of many, many features all working so much better than broadband now.

The impossible has become routine with superfast – virtual tours of holiday homes and ancient castles – delivery of services, distance no object for designers, researchers, printers, upholsterers and nurserymen. But this is for Cornwall now; we must be much more patient as our County Council slots in behind Devon and Somerset (don’t ask why - that’s old history) to politely wait our turn.

The trick now is for Project Manager Peter Speroni, Sue Calder and new Superfast Dorset team to ensure that when we do at long last get our own ‘green motorway’ to the rest of the

world, we get the very latest and very best.

A short video of this event will be found on the Parish Council website:

[www.uppermarshwoodcouncil.org](http://www.uppermarshwoodcouncil.org)

Photos 1 & 3:  
Vismedia



First customers; Michael Dunn tells all

## Contents

Page 1- 4,	Broadband comes to Bettiscombe	14	Diamond Jubilation
5	Council News	15	Stoke Abbott's Street Fair
6, 7	<i>Affordable Housing update</i>	16	Quality Council progress
8, 9	From the fields 2	17	Useful Contacts
10,11	<i>Stoke Abbott in 1895</i>	18	Emergency numbers
12	<i>Editorial</i>	19	District & County Councils, Working Parties & Editorial Board
13	Announcement	20	Parish councillors

## Council News

### **Warm Front - final year**

Since June 2000 when this scheme began, Warm Front has assisted well over 2.4 million households across England, helping to make their homes warmer, healthier and more affordable to heat. This is a milestone demonstrates the scale of what has been achieved.

2012 is the start of the last scheme year for since Warm

Front will no longer be available after March 2013. The funding for 2012/13 is £100m and this should ensure that all of the funding is used so that as many households can benefit from living in a warmer healthier home.

Householders can also apply on line if they have access to a computer by going to [www.warmfront.co.uk](http://www.warmfront.co.uk) or they can phone the contact centre on 0800 316 2814

### **Marshwood's lengthsman project a countywide success**

As our Parish Clerk informed councillors that there had been a 25% reduction in complaints about the conditions of the lanes especially flooding, news came in of a wider commendation for the project. The hard work from Steve Lee and team, plus effective organisation by Cclr Bob Wyatt is being held up by our County Council as an

example for other parishes county-wide.

Although most neighbouring parishes rejected the idea initially, with this recommendation many are changing their mind, whilst others, including Char Valley, now borrow (and pay us) for **our** lengthsman's valued services.

## Marshwood's Affordable Homes update

Plans are going ahead to form a Community Land Trust (CLT) for the Marshwood area. This action is being taken as a direct response to demands made at a public meeting in March when plans for affordable housing in the village were unveiled.

Although a clear majority of those attending the meeting, which was held at Marshwood Church, wanted to see the housing go ahead, villagers wished to ensure they retained maximum control of where it was sited, the design and how the properties were allocated.

This can best be achieved by having a legally constituted CLT and one of the other attractions for doing this is that it could in the future be used to provide other local amenities, such as running a village shop. This has been the method adopted in nearby Thorncombe for successfully opening their Community shop.

The committee set up to manage the project for affordable housing has formed a small team to undertake the initial work involved in setting up a CLT. It is planned that it will cover the same catchment area as already exists for Marshwood School.

More details will be presented to another public meeting later in the summer to which everyone in the area will again be invited. Once it is formed membership of the CLT will be open to everyone living in the designated area who will from then on be able to choose the officers and the committees.

Having a CLT should make it easier to obtain funds for affordable housing.

At the public meeting a number of new volunteers agreed to help with the project and the committee now in place is far more representative of everyone living in Marshwood. But there will be full consultation with the village as a whole before any major decisions are taken.

The plans are to build seven houses and the rules of the CLT will ensure that they can only be offered to local people.

Mike Robinson, Marshwood Vale's district councillor who has led the group from the start, had initiated another review of all the possible sites for the housing taking full account of all the views that have been received.

Mark Van de Weyer

Probably the most important decision for the whole affordable homes project is where the homes should be built. Local landowners have offered 7 possible sites for consideration and each of these has been carefully assessed by West Dorset officials concerned about planning and other technical aspects of each site.

Other specialist advisers who work with the steering committee contributed their experience. Their recommendations, along with their reasons were made available via chairman Mike Robinson at the last meeting. Planning considerations included elevation and visibility.

In order of being offered these are:

- 1 - Thane Farm
- 2 - Field between The Firs and Blue Haze
- 3 - The Dungeon site
- 4 - Colmer Farm site A
- 5 - Colmer Farm site B
- 6 - Colmer Farm site C - or the school playing field
- 7 - Site next to the Old Chapel

Two of these ticked most of the boxes for our advisers but in the end the Thane Farm site found favour and was chosen by the committee as their recommended option.



**Sun rises on Thane Farm site**

This has yet to be confirmed by the village as a whole but Beneath the Vale has been asked not to offer too much detail at this time as negotiations with the land owner have yet to be concluded.

Further information will be made available at a public meeting for all interested villagers now scheduled to take place at the beginning of July and probably at Blackdown Village hall which boasts better parking than other local venues.

At this meeting the committee expects to present their efforts in forming the CLT and progressing the project as swiftly as possible to take full advantage of possible sources of finance.



**Colmer Farm site C  
or school playing field**

## From the Fields - Matthew Bowditch\*

Looking out of the window I can see the dairy cows all sat down in the field ruminating .

This started me thinking on food for the farm animals, especially the role of grass.

We live in a climate that does not make it easy to grow plants that can sustain humans all year round. So the use of animals to produce food from the plants that we cannot digest has evolved.

It is the early summer there is an explosion of growth, which is all too short. The farmers have to collect and store the fields' bounty when the stage of growth is right and the weather is suitable.

The options are to put the cows into the field and let them graze or farmers could cut and collect the grass and feed the cut grass direct to the cattle. This is called zero grazing.

At this time of year grass grows strongly so there will be too much grass in the fields. Often an electric fence is used to divide off a part of the field so make the cattle eat the area closer. Alas, the cows also dung on the grass and lie on it so making it inedible and wasted. The fence can be moved on to a new part of the field, daily or as needed.



Where there is too much grass, much of it must be preserved for winter feed as cows are kept under cover for 6 month of the year. Essentially the preserving options are either drying out to make hay or anaerobic fermentation better known as silage.

When the spring sunshine has filled the grass leaves with sugars, silaging is started and the grass is cut then pressed together to exclude air and wrapped in black plastic. Those big black bundles seen in fields or stacked in farmyards are tightly wrapped grass, so the seal of the plastic is essential.

Alternatively, those big trailers filled with grass take it back to the farm where the grass is loaded into large silos, pressed down and sealed in. Either way, silage has organic acids which preserves the food value. The same beneficial

acids are produced by the process of fermentation in the cow's stomach and build up to make the milk.

Good silage smells good!

After silaging or hay making the grass is fertilised artificially and soon recovers its leafy look. The process can go on twice more in the season depending on the weather and the quality of the grass plants.

Hay making takes place later

than silaging because the grass must have flowered before cutting. If it gets a sea mist or rain on it goes mouldy, loses food value and can be a health hazard, so it is very difficult to make good hay in our Dorset hills.

So the tractors and trailers rushing through the lanes are collecting the cut grass straight from the harvester the grass that will go to the silo to feed the stock for the next winter and even later if necessary.

*\*Matthew Bowditch comes from a long standing Stoke Abbott farming family, is a vet and chairs our Parish Council.*



### Useful phrases

**Bale wrapper** - a machine that wraps the silage bales in plastic.

**Whole crop** - wheat or barley that is still green with the corn is developing, is also cut and made into silage.

**Clamp** - a covered heap in which silage, turnips, beet or potatoes are being stored.

**Tiller** - wheat that splits into several stalks each with their own head is called tiller wheat.

**Springing** - a cow about to calve is said to be springing as she relaxes ready to calve.

**Bagging up** - before calving the udder swells or bags up.

**Stale** - a cow that produced her maximum amount of milk, reduces flow before calving when she is said to be stale.

**Standing corn/ laid** - corn upright and uncut, as opposed to 'laid' where it is tangled up by wind or rain usually with a good heavy head. Hard to harvest

**Parlour** - milking parlour

## A century of Stoke Abbott Characters

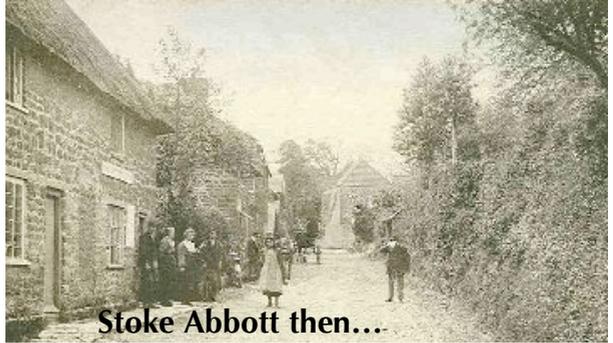
### *Description of Stoke Abbott from 1895 by Frederick Swaffield*

*Stephen Jones transcribed these recollections from Fred Swaffield's handwritten ruled exercise book now in the Dorset Record Office. He retained Fred's phonetic spelling to convey the local dialect of that time. More information is on his website [www.dorsetbay.plus.com](http://www.dorsetbay.plus.com). Our grateful thanks are due to Dr Jones.*

**Old Jack Norris**, when he had a drop, used to roar and holler the top of his voice. If anyone tried to stop he would cuss and bring his fist down across the table and make the cups jump up in the air. A young man wanted to sing after Jack had sung one song. Didn't that set Jack up - he wanted to sing all night. He wanted to fight this young man. "He ood die vore he'd led a boy like that sing. Young fellars wodn't gwine a cock walk over ee. He'd cheat the world all to pieces vore he'd gie in to em." And didn't he bring his fist on the table. He made the table fair jump.

### **Tom Swaffield**

Tom has been a very lively fellow in his time. He liked a bit of fun as well as anyone. He liked a glass of beer and he would follow the hounds or play a game of skittles as good as I have seen. He used to be a flax dresser and work on the farm sometimes. In his young days he worked at Horsehill Mill also at Chenham Mill as a comber.



He has told me that Stoke in his young days was a very lively and rough place. "Tidn half ner quarder the volk yer now an half houses be down." He has told me where houses stood of which there is no trace now.

He remembers when there was no policemen. The village constable was Robert Elliott. When policemen came about first they didn't like it very well because they used to do a lot of poaching. One night a policeman was out in the road waiting for a certain gang coming out of the Anchor. He spoke to one of them and another gid en a push and that started a bother and they sarred shemful nearly killed en and then they went off poaching. "Done et a purpose" Tom said.

## Harry Slade

When the daylight saving bill came in he wouldn't have that at no price. The men used to get him on a night - it was worse than a pantomime. He said

"Do you think my Grandfather clock what been going two hundred year would go if I altered en too this newfangled bloody gingerbread time. No he wouldn and I shouldn spect en too. Not her."

One of them said "Spose you was to altered en and he went wast do do do." "I'd bwheat en up. I bwheat en up ass whad I'd do." "Spose theest had to catch the eight o'clock train twoudn be no good to git out there at nine he'd be gone." "I oodn goo wi tha thing. I'd catch the next. Thad ee ood. I'd wait for the next. I oodn go with the fust one if he didn go proper time."

## George Ackerman - Tom Caddy

We boys used to like to hear George tell of his experiences on his rounds especially when he used to meet Tom Caddy, who lived at Marshallsay at that time. Tom was a very queer stick he would make a cat laugh. I have heard him myself but a lot of it could hardly be written down. Tom always cocked out one leg and pointed a finger up in the air when he spoke. His wife's name was Poll and they used to create fun alive at Marshallsay.

## Harry Bartlett

We had a grand day Queen Victoria Jubilee. The band rode in on one of Mr Smith's farm waggons all through the village. Harry Bartlett drove them - he had old Smiler. Harry was sat up in front smoking away and every now and again he did smack his whip and the horse did jump and nearly jerk the band off their seats.

Then Harry did turn round and say to them playing the fiddles "Come on scrape it out bidde there a scratching at en" and then to the flute player "Why doesn en blow in the thing - pon me soul I cant yer what theet playing a bidde there a spitting in en. All thee breaf ull be gone directly than theet want some more cider." Then Harry would gie em another jerk. All the men were in procession behind and all fairly well oiled. "It was a going on" Vale Ivory said. "He never yerd ner zeed nuffin like et in all his puff".



.... and now

## Editorial

Several weeks of hindsight can be a Godsend. As well as direct concerns about the affordable homes project, the most important legacy of the affordable housing debate seems to be how many Marshwood residents are now thinking about the future of the village.

Listening to a newcomer to the affordable homes project is another cause for a broad grin. Ideas bandied around for the as yet a twinkle-in-the-eye-CLT are remarkable:

- a replacement Marshwood Stores and car park for when John Walther at long last takes a rest
- a picnic orchard and playing wood next to the village
- a playground for mums to park their off-spring
- a village superhall.

The idea of a serious village hall is particularly interesting as new village halls are so much more than a meeting place and venue for village events.

Wearing another hat than the editorial trilby, we went to Leigh Village Hall to meet Oliver Letwin. The venue was an eye-opener.



**A community centre like this for Marshwood? Leigh's new village hall**

Set back from the main road through the village, the new Dorset-barn styled hall is as wide as Bettiscombe is long, seats up to 150 and has a series of smaller rooms and kitchen off this main hall that incorporates a stage and dressing rooms.

Outside is car parking for over 72 cars and handicapped parking, all on those clever all but invisible grassed-in grids, with water harvesting underneath.

So the new building appears set in green fields without hard urban concrete or tarmac.

A part-covered patio area spills out directly from the hall.

Oh yes, the rate for hire is only slightly more than the old wooden hall.



**Leigh village hall opens onto a patio area for outside events**

Other ideas proposed for our own Marshwood village superhall include

- a one-day-a-week doctors surgery,
- vets surgery for a different day,
- a summer café,
- a park for the library bus

an events area with power and water points,  
a replacement for the Bottle pub as and when it falls down has been mentioned!

Naturally the CLT must first concentrate its initial efforts on the affordable homes - if that is what the village tells the new Trust is what it wants.

But it is comforting to know that our own trustees are thinking beyond the immediate needs. It is also very helpful that so many possible sites for the future have been offered by community-minded landowners.

### Announcement

# **Hog Roast**

**-- a two-course lunch  
with delicious desserts  
& a glass of cider or juice**

**at Pilsdon - follow signs  
from Pilsdon viewing point at Lob Gate on B3164  
or from Trunkies Corner (Batts Lane) to marquee**

**On 12.30 pm, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July**

## **Tickets**

**- ring Henry Smith on 01308 868313  
Adults - £12.50, Under-12s - £6.00**

**Proceeds to Bettiscombe Church and Hall**

## Diamond Jubilations

With Marshwood's Diamond Jubilee celebrations well under preparation, a welcome £250 boost has been passed on to the organisers in the form of a grant from West Dorset District Council to cover some of the costs.



National funding for such events has been distributed via district councils.

Fundraising for Marshwoods free party has already produced enough cash to pay for more than one burger and should allow for some relish as well.



Indeed residents recall a most successful bring and buy sale and a splendid antique clock on offer to the highest bidder. Sadly the non-working clock was unsold so was withdrawn to enable Party organiser Ann Studley to do some research. Talking with a one time Marshwood resident and clock expert, it turned out that the clock, even if not working, was worth about £90.

What was needed was someone who could lovingly restore the old lady.

An ad in the Marshwood Vale Magazine did the trick and Ann was visited by a couple from Somerset who came south to Broadwindsor – it was the wife's birthday - and then on to see the clock.

The just-retired gentleman was looking for a clock to restore and found exactly what he wanted, the elegant mantle-clock with its classic Austrian movement.

Ann, playing on the safe side, had asked £85 and the delighted new owner refused to spoil the purchase by making her an offer.

The original owner is delighted that the old clock is going to a good home, Ann is delighted that her efforts succeeded, and the new owner returned with a genuine bargain, something to clean, fettle, refurbish, restore, adjust and enjoy.

And that boost should keep the lemonade going for at least another round.

## Stoke Abbott's Street Fair

*Catherine Leech writes:*

The 2012 Stoke Abbott Street Fair will take place from 2pm on Saturday 21st July.

One of the area's favourite annual events, visitors can look forward to a warm welcome and fun atmosphere with live music, delicious cream teas and lots of interesting stalls such as Granny's Attic, crafts and the ever-popular secondhand books. Locally-sourced cakes, preserves, plants and other goodies will be on sale too.

The Novelty Dog Show is back by popular demand - entries can be made on the day with lots of prizes on offer for dogs (and their owners) of all ages.

The Children's Games Garden is in a lovely new venue in the heart of the village and there will be a skittles alley at the New Inn for the first time in many years.

Visitors can take part in all sorts of competitions, including guessing the name of one of the village's resident Highland Cattle - and, of course, the annual raffle with some fabulous prizes.

Parking is available (£1) by the Beaminster approach to the village. Visitors are invited to join the traditional Sick Club parade which starts at 1.45pm at the New Inn.

Anyone interested in having a stall should contact Lucia Borradaile ASAP - 01308 868424.



## Bottle Bounces Back - opening July possible

The future Marshwood's greatest and most famous asset, has long been a story of decline and despair. As the thatch crumbled off the roof and the moss took root, residents and council officials alike despaired of seeing the once-lovely pub ever opening its doors again while licensees came and went.

But just when no real hope was left and the porch thatch finally collapsed, 3 good folk have stepped forward to break that circle of decline and fall. And as a symbol of hope that disaster of the porch is instead being lovingly restored to immaculate.

But rather than just sitting back and facing the inevitable, the new team have seized the initiative, commissioned thatcher, Zach Watts, rolled up their sleeves and started painting.

Funds to rectify the dilapidation are being invested against a background of dispute and perhaps inevitably, litigation. So these are brave guys, our new neighbours, the Blakes - and their partner Christopher Thomas. He has been in the trade for 40 years and Nigel for 20 so these are not innocent, dewy-eyed tyros dabbling, but seasoned professionals fully aware of the sad background and of the problems they face.

Marshwood has had a lucky break attracting folk like them to the village's last pub, their nerve and hard work has to be admired and supported.

The story of how this has happened is as fascinating as it is complex. It deserves fuller coverage in the next issue of BTV. Hopefully this will include the Bottle's opening night when once again the pub will be full of Marshwood residents - and those so-important tourists who once again have somewhere in Marshwood to stop, enjoy a simple meal and relax.



**Determination:  
Nigel and Chrissie Blake**

Meet Nigel and Chrissie Blake. In partnership with Christopher Thomas who holds the lease on the Bottle Inn, they have spent the money. Behind this, lies a sad tale of a string of commitments to repair the pub, promises that have not taken place. These included an agreement to re-thatch the whole roof; this too did not happen so finally closing the pub as it was unsafe for the public.



**Welcome to the new Bottle**

## Useful Contacts

### **Public Transport:**

Bus services:	Axe Valley & West Dorset Ring and Ride	01404 46520
	Mike Halford MiniCoaches	01308 421106
	Sewards Coaches	01404 881343
	Stagecoach South West	01823 672247
Western Area Transport Action Group		
	Secretary: <a href="mailto:joy.michaud@btinternet.com">joy.michaud@btinternet.com</a>	01308 897892

### **Health and Welfare:**

Dorchester Hospital Governor		
	Wendy Nightingale	01297 678165
	<a href="mailto:wendy_nightingale@hotmail.co.uk">wendy_nightingale@hotmail.co.uk</a>	
Wayfinders, Partnership for Older People's Project (POPP)		
	Rose Bird	07971 338398
	<a href="mailto:wayfinderrose@btconnect.com">wayfinderrose@btconnect.com</a>	
	Carol Pearce	07971 338622
	<a href="mailto:wayfindercarol@btconnect.com">wayfindercarol@btconnect.com</a>	
Rural Housing Officer	Rob Asprey	01305 252447
	<a href="mailto:R.Aspray@westdorset-dc.gov.uk">R.Aspray@westdorset-dc.gov.uk</a>	
Housing Advice Centre	Contact through	01305 251000
	<a href="http://www.dorsetforyou.com/395122">http://www.dorsetforyou.com/395122</a>	

### **Environment:**

Flytipping, Graffiti & Abandoned Cars (WDDC)		01305 251010
Dorset AONB	<a href="http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk">www.dorsetaonb.org.uk</a>	01305 228239

### **Safety and Security:**

Police	Non Emergency	01305 222222
	<a href="mailto:enquiries.bridport@dorset.pnn.police.uk">enquiries.bridport@dorset.pnn.police.uk</a>	
Marshwood Vale Safer Neighbourhood Team		01305 226912
	<a href="mailto:marshwoodvalesnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk">marshwoodvalesnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk</a>	
Crimestoppers		0800 555111
	<a href="http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org">http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org</a>	
Anti Terrorist Hotline		0800 789321
	<a href="https://secure.met.police.uk/athotline/index.php">https://secure.met.police.uk/athotline/index.php</a>	

## Others

Dorset County Council	Switchboard <a href="mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk">dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a>	01305 221000
Trading Standards Consumer Advice		08454 040506
BREG - Bridport Renewable Energy Group	<a href="http://www.breg.org.uk">www.breg.org.uk</a>	
Highways Office		01305 221020
Highways Agency	<a href="http://www.highways.gov">www.highways.gov</a>	01203 358300

## Emergency numbers

Childline	Abuse, bullying, worries <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a>	0800 1111
Electricity	Western Power Distribution <a href="http://www.westernpower.co.uk">www.westernpower.co.uk</a>	0800 365 900
Floodline	Environment Agency <a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk">www.environment-agency.gov.uk</a>	0845 988 1188
NHS Direct	We're here 24 hours a day <a href="http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk">www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk</a>	0845 4647
RSPCA	Cruelty line <a href="http://www.rspca.org.uk">www.rspca.org.uk</a>	0300 1234 999
Local Hospitals	Axminster Bridport Community Crewkerne Dorset County	01297 630400 01308 422371 01460 72491 01305 251150
Samaritans	Talk To Someone <a href="http://www.samaritans.org">www.samaritans.org</a>	08457 909090
Women's Refuge	West Dorset <a href="http://www.womensaid.org">www.womensaid.org</a>	01305 262444

## **Your District Councillors**

Marshwood Vale	Mike Robinson	01308 868979 <a href="mailto:cllrm.robinson@westdorset-dc.gov.uk">cllrm.robinson@westdorset-dc.gov.uk</a>
Broadwindsor	Jacqui Sewell	01308 867145 <a href="mailto:cllrj.sewell@westdorset-dc.gov.ukk">cllrj.sewell@westdorset-dc.gov.ukk</a>

## **Your County Councillors**

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