

# Beneath the Vale

Supported by the Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council

Winter 2020: Issue 34



*Coral Senior of Holy Cow with one of their 24-hour milk vending machines.*

## Organic milk sold direct

**Dorset farmers are pioneering a new way of selling fresh milk to their customers and two varieties are available to delight buyers in the Vale. *Beneath the Vale* first tasted Liberty Dairy milk from Felicity's store at Morcombelake, when she placed a refrigerated unit vending full-fat milk, pasteurised and sold in litre glass bottles. But it was withdrawn.**

**Nothing wrong with the milk, but Dorset Council refused to licence this new method of milk vending in spite of the refrigeration. After many months, once South Somerset District Council had given it permission across the border, it received Dorset Council consent and is now back in the shop and in Bridget's Market in Bridport.**

*Cont. on page 2*

Marshwood, Stoke Abbott, Pilsdon and Bettiscombe

At about the same time Liberty milk appeared, a sign went up at John Bright Fencing store at Salwayash. A small, brightly painted hut was set up outside the gates. Inside were two card-operated vending machines, one for spare bottles, caps, cheese and dairy products, the other a card-controlled, refrigerated vending machine.

This new venture is called Holy Cow and comes from a farm in North Perrott, coincidentally very near to Liberty Dairy in Halstock. The whole process is entirely credit card operated. It is open far longer than Bright's main shop.

Both suppliers offer high quality, pasteurised, organic milk. It is not homogenised like standard supermarket milk. This allows a slight variation in milk makeup in the same way that the pasture the cows graze on affects the taste. The milk is usually less than 48 hours old, far newer than supermarket

milk which is usually upwards of a week old when it first goes on sale.

Coral and Matthew Senior of Holy Cow believe that selling direct is better for customer and cows. "Healthy cows are happy cows, and Happy cows make people happy too," says Coral.

Italy has long used direct sales from farm to customer and their system of milk sales has also become automated with the refrigerated vending machines available from that country. Small, organic farmers, responding to local customers and local markets lead this innovative market

Only one problem remains. All of the new glass bottle are 500ml or 1 litre.

Does this herald the demise of our Pinta? If so it will be a sad day. But it is certainly in the best possible taste.



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Our mailing list covers household addresses using information that is in the public domain. We use this list solely to send out copies of *Beneath the Vale* and associated information relating to the parishes. We do not share data with third parties.

To unsubscribe from the list, please contact Cllr Ali Cameron, who manages the data: ali.cameron@zen.co.uk Tel 01297 678 546. Printed by Creeds, Bridport.

## **Dorset Council reviews support for voluntary community sector organisations - add your views**

Dorset Council is conducting a review of how to financially support the voluntary community sector (VCS) after March 2021.

As part of the review, it is carrying out an online survey. The deadline for completing the survey is 11 March. It can be accessed at: [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/consultations/consultation.aspx](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/consultations/consultation.aspx)

The purpose of the review is to reconsider the amount of direct financial contributions offered to VCS organisations by the council, which includes the provision for information, advice and guidance that is currently provided by Citizen's Advice. It also aims to ensure that Dorset Council

is funding organisations which meet the council's priorities and supports those more disadvantaged communities.

The consultation survey is directed at all those who either work for or who benefit from any of Dorset's valued voluntary community sector organisations.

These are defined as organisations whose sole purpose is to enrich and benefit Dorset residents lives and which create 'social wealth' and who operate without support from central Government, and which all profits are put back into the community.

# Training session on new defib held at the Shave Cross Inn

Some 30 people attended a presentation at the Shave Cross Inn to learn about the new defibrillator installed there. The device has been purchased jointly with funds from the Shave Cross Mini Marathon Committee and the Marshwood Vale Young Farmers. Andy Young of Castle Builders donated the services of his company to fit the unit and to connect the electrical supply needed. Joe and Louise, the Shave Cross Inn landlords, allowed it to be fitted to the outside wall at the entrance to the car park and to cover the ongoing cost of the electricity.

The presentation was given by Ann-Marie Chapman from Marshwood, who is a paramedic with the South West Ambulance Service. Ann-Marie divided the presentation into two parts.

The first part explained the importance of carrying out chest compressions, referred to as CPR, in the event of a cardiac arrest. In the UK every year over 30,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest out of hospital with fewer than one in ten surviving. Eighty per cent of these attacks occur in the home. In Norway, where CPR is taught to all pupils at school, one in four people survive.

The second part explained the purpose and workings of the defibrillator. Anne-Marie made clear that the device automatically checks if it should operate and is self-analysing. Nobody should be scared or worried about using a defib as it will never shock a healthy heart. The defibrillator

talks you through every stage of CPR, for example, checking the patient, calling for help, where to apply the pads and doing chest compressions.

The enclosure housing the defibrillator is not locked but will emit a piercing alarm when the cover is opened. This should be ignored if the device is needed as it is intended to deter tampering.

Ann-Marie stressed that the defibrillator should be used in conjunction with CPR. The most important action in the event of a cardiac arrest is to apply CPR until such time as the defibrillator can be used. Any attempt to apply CPR even if it is not perfect is much better than nothing at all.

If anyone wants to organise a similar event, Ann-Marie would be happy to make the same presentation and can be contacted on 01297 678579. George Rendell, chairman of the Marathon committee, is the point of contact for any matters relating to the installed device. He can be reached on 01308 868332.

On behalf of those attending, BTV would like to thank Ann-Marie for an excellent, informative presentation and the Marathon committee for arranging the event.

Remember, we have a second defib on the wall of Marshwood garage.

# Parish council meeting: Nov

Rather than starting this report with comments on the meteorology of this late November evening, the 9 councillors present pondered over tree felling as a planning concern.

Chairman Matthew Bowditch kicked off the meeting at 7.30 according to the now corrected Bettiscombe hall clock, moving swiftly onto the newly extended Minutes from the clerk, John Vanderwolfe.

Two members of the public (council speak for parishioners) were seated in front of the council but they declined an invitation say anything at this point. Unfortunately, our representative on Dorset Council, Cllr Simon Christopher was not able to attend and had submitted a report. This was regrettable as many councillors wanted to enquire as to progress on issues involving Dorset Council.

The new budget set out by John Vanderwolfe was rapidly accepted as our two fiscally-competent councillors nodded wisely. Then followed a debate on ash trees.

## **Applications to fell trees**

Perhaps as a result of *Beneath the Vale's* article on ash dieback, an outbreak of proposals to fell or trim trees in Stoke Abbott seemed to favour the ash in four of the six proposals. This targeting was widely criticised by councillors, who also opposed the proposal to fell a slow-growing oak at Anchor House for its 'excessive shading and low amenity value'.

Plans approved by Dorset Council were as follows: one below Lambert's Castle, two in Stoke Abbott and a revised application for a change of use at Marshwood Post Office. Development of the Old Bakery, Marshwood, was rejected.

## **Shave Cross noticeboard**

A slew of reports confirmed that our councillors are active in the wider community. Closer to home, a complaint concerning the state of the Shave Cross notice board was examined by Cllr Chris Rabbetts to determine if it is still required and who owns it. Chris reported that it can be remedied with the addition of a screw, although the doors are somewhat stiff. He will keep it supplied with council messages.

## **Bottle Inn owner 'has many plans'**

Councillors heard that Paul Richards, new owner of The Bottle Inn, spoke to Neighbourhood Plan chairman Charles Somers and said he has many plans for his new acquisition, which is now open.

A member of the Char Valley public reported large quantities of builders' rubbish dumped on a bridleway above Prime Coppice. John Vandewolfe told the council that it should be reported to the Dorset for You website, which it appears, has been done, though it is not clear what, if any, action is being taken. The matter has also been reported to the Environment Agency.

# Delays on the A35 road: who needs to know?

The A35 volunteer group is now being notified by the Highways Agency of any incidents that cause diversions in our area.

Under 32 headings, these reports detail as much information as could easily be assimilated by even the most avid of news-hounds and are distributed to the responsible operators.

Not only are these reports very full but they are often repeated or updated, giving an valuable way of seeing how the incident is

progressing and how long it will take to clear.

The idea behind these reports is that sufficient information is included for the individual organisations to easily assess if the incident requires action from their team. But a wider distribution could well be beneficial.

As a result of Sir Oliver Letwin's efforts and the work by the A35 group chairman Chris Noon, an e-mail system is now being tried which automatically copies these messages to individuals in our communities who need to know of problems with the main road.

We are considering who else could usefully be included in this email list. At present it covers the following:

- Parish/town council clerks all along the A35 and its diversion route.
- Major retailers on the A35 and on diversion routes, eg Morrisons and Waitrose in Bridport, Tesco in Axminster, B&Q in Chard.
- Business distribution list. Should this include farmers and transport operators?
- Named individuals – suggestions please.
- Local information websites.

Other suggestions welcomed. Contact Cllr Ali Cameron (details at the back of this newsletter).

**Stephen Lee**  
**Landscape Gardening**  
1 Vale View, Salwayash,  
Bridport, DT6 5JB

Hi,  
My team and I do most kinds of gardening from clearing overgrown acres to fixing fences, planning patios and paddocks to looking after your lawn and maintaining landscapes.

Oh yes! We are also the parish lengthsman so we fend off floods by clearing ditches, placing storage bins and looking after public places for your parish council.

So if you have a garden problem, why not give us a call? **07971 116660**

**Stephen Lee: [stephen@stephen-lee.co.uk](mailto:stephen@stephen-lee.co.uk)**

# Parish council meeting: Jan

Thursday 16th of January was never going to be a key date for Upper Marshwood Vale councillors and clerk, John Vanderwolfe's agenda hinted at this conclusion. However 11 of these folk turned out to discuss council matters and events with only one member laid low with a nasty cold.

Chairman Matthew Bowditch and all other councillors had received their agenda by email and several minor comments and amendments immediately came to light. A missing grit bin stolen from Pilsdon is to be replaced and a spare ordered for the parish, each costing about £120.

## Noisy dogs

Dorset councillor, Simon Christopher said he would look into issues of noise caused by dogs at Templeman's Ash.

With the council benefiting from greater financial skills from two members, these passed without serious comment so leading us towards the Dorset Council report from Cllr Christopher.

Throughout the meeting, he promised to act on emails to him on various subjects by reporting to the relevant council officer, occasionally involving the Dorset Council leader, Spencer Flowers. It is to be hoped that in this endeavour he will be more successful and enjoy better outcomes than his predecessor, now representing Lyme Regis.

One concern was registered when he predicted a council tax rise, blaming the

excessive costs of adult council care – a problem familiar to our councillors – and various issue facing the new audit committee.

He did however bring us all up-to-date on progress on years overdue enforcement of Willow Farm, Stoke Abbott. Here progress has at last been made even though matters have stalled regarding bats claimed to be resident in the property ordered to be demolished.

In other matters, workaday solutions to a minor highways problems became apparent, we heard that the council is to re-apply for The Bottle Inn to be listed as a Community Asset once again; there was no progress on action following the council's declaration of a climate emergency; and that the Neighbourhood Plan deciding referendum will take place on 13 February (see full story on page 10).

Your reporter told the council members of the two recent raves at Lambert's Castle. (See separate report on page 15). This included an update in that a message had been passed to the organisers that the Marshwood community has had enough of night-time noise and we should be allowed to sleep well in future. Considerable puzzlement was felt about the sound coverage of the high-powered speakers that perturbed some sleepers but allowed others to sleep though.

With that this short but hard-working council meeting was over and members departed for a good night's sleep.

# Chicken curry and ice-cream bombe

## Simple Chicken Curry (serves 2)

**Ideal for meat left over from a roast chicken. This sauce can also be used for prawn curry.**

**Leftover roast chicken pieces**

**An onion**

**One finger chilli**

**Curry paste**

**Tin of coconut milk**

**Chopped coriander to taste**

**Handful of sultanas**

**Basmati rice**

**Fry a chopped or sliced onion and a chopped chilli to taste with a sliced courgette in oil.**

**Add one tablespoon of curry paste and fry until sizzling.**

**Add a tin of coconut milk and simmer until smooth.**

**Add cooked chopped chicken meat and heat through. Stir in chopped coriander and/or a handful of sultanas if wished. As this will only take about 15 minutes to prepare, the accompanying rice can be cooked at the same time.**

**Serve with the rice, mango chutney and poppadoms if wished.**

*'I made this curry and it was fantastic.'*

*Cllr Jaqui Sewell*

## Ice Cream Bombe

**This can be served either scooped from the pot or from an upturned pudding basin for a more grand effect.**

**500ml tub vanilla ice cream**

**140g fruitcake or leftover Christmas pudding**

**1tsp mixed spice**

**6 tbsp dark rum**

**100g raisins**

**300g caramel or toffee sauce**

**Brush a pudding basin with a little sunflower oil, then line with cling film. Spoon the ice cream into a food processor (or a bowl if you have a handheld blender). Crumble in the cake or pudding, add the mixed spice and 4 tbsp of the rum, and whizz together until nearly smooth. Stir in the raisins.**

**Scrape the ice cream mixture into the basin and smooth the top. Cover with cling film and freeze overnight until solid.**

**Take the pudding basin out of the freezer 15 minutes before serving. Turn the pudding out onto a serving plate and peel off the cling film. Mix the caramel sauce and remaining 2 tbsp rum together and warm gently, if you like (it's still lovely cold). Serve with the ice cream bombe.**

*Joy McClellan*



*Your local sweep: Glyn Yorke*

# Chimney Sweep Services

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# Shop and community hub allocated for Colmer site

The Neighbourhood Plan includes an allocation on the Colmer site, opposite the Marshwood church, for a new 30-space car park at the edge of which a new community centre and shop could be sited. A public meeting in late 2018 supported the idea of having a car park there (and possibly also a shop, the closure having just been announced of the previous Marshwood shop) in return for the allocation of some housing. A shop committee was subsequently formed and has worked since then to investigate possible sites for a shop and community hub. Having looked at other locations, the Colmer site was chosen given its central position, good car park space and vicinity to the school and church.

The present plan is to erect a building to be owned by the Marshwood Community Land Trust (CLT) on the Colmer site and to rent out the shop area to be run commercially, with possible local volunteer support.

A new village shop and community hub could facilitate additional postal outreach services (currently held at the church for one

afternoon a week but depends on church volunteers). It would also provide a room to be used by the local police for a monthly surgery to meet villagers, (this used to take place at the village shop), a meeting room for the CLT and other organisations, and a space for artists to meet or exhibit.

The advantages of this site are that it's near the main population centre of Marshwood with good parking and delivery facilities and would be a facility owned by the local community. Traffic flow is good with about 1,850 vehicles passing daily as well as use by local residents and school/church users. There would be a twice-daily flow of potential customers from parents picking up and dropping off children at school. This really is significant, think of all those last-minute extra purchases, eg milk and bread, potatoes for tea, snacks for the kids.

There's also potential for small-volume catering especially during the summer months, perhaps icecream and teas with a few tables and chairs outside.

The Colmer site owner has agreed to provide free-of-charge a completed and fenced 30-space car park, plus an area at the side on which a combined community hub/shop building could be placed. Overall site ownership would be transferred to the parish council, which has agreed to be responsible for ongoing site maintenance.

*Marshwood Shop Committee*

## **Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council meeting dates**

**19 March  
21 May**

Meetings start at 7.30pm in Bettiscombe Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

# NP referendum date is set for 13th February: have your say

Following a lengthy public consultation process, and an examination by an official inspector, the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood Plan (NP) will be submitted to a referendum of all registered voters on 13 February.

Voting will be at polling stations in the village halls at Bettiscombe and Stoke Abbott, which will be open from 7am to 10pm.

Full details and related documents are available on our NP website [uppermarshwoodvale.org/home/neighbourhood-plan](http://uppermarshwoodvale.org/home/neighbourhood-plan) and also on the Dorsetforyou website where the result of the referendum will also be published.

Plans for the shop are also available on the NP website.

A few paper copies of the final NP will be available to consult at the garage, school and church in Marshwood and at the Shave Cross and New Inn pubs.

If the majority of people who vote are in favour of the plan, Dorset Council will 'make' the plan so that it can be used in future planning decisions.

We have worked long and hard on this plan, so please have your say by taking part in this referendum. Our plan can only be made part of Dorset planning law if we vote for it



**LYME REGIS**  
**MUSEUM**

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- ⇒ Give support to a local organisation

If you enjoy meeting people and would like to find out more then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Contact Cara Jenkins T: 01297 443370 E: [cjenkins@lymeregismuseum.co.uk](mailto:cjenkins@lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 1041201

## Marshwood Community Land Trust: Officers

Chairman	Rob England rob@thequester.co.uk	01297 678 548
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	Sonia Yorke	01297 678549
	Jacqui Sewell jacquisewell@me.com	01308 867 145

### Marshwood Shop sub-committee

Chairman	Helen Golding (marshwoodsc@gmail.com)
Vice-chair	(Currently vacant)
Treasurer	John Piper

**Community Land Trust website: [www.marshwoodclt.org.uk](http://www.marshwoodclt.org.uk)**

**Facebook Page: Marshwood CLT**

### **Interested in renting affordable housing?**

Are you registered with Dorset Home Choice?

Would you, or someone you know, be interested in moving into one of the houses at Bramblehay, Marshwood, should a property become available? Allocation of these properties, and similar schemes in neighbouring villages, is handled by Dorset Home Choice. To be considered as a tenant, you need to be on the housing register. Be prepared by registering now at [www.dorsethomechoice.org](http://www.dorsethomechoice.org)

When registering, please make sure you put the following statement on your application to show you qualify for Marshwood CLT housing:

**'Have local connection required to qualify for CLT housing'**

These houses are for those in our community. Please register, even if Dorset Home Choice would normally regard you as adequately housed.

# Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee: Members

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# Drumbeats at Lambert's

We first heard the distant drumbeats at about 4am on a Sunday as 2019 staggered towards its close. A persistent rhythm slowly wakened us both, making further sleep impractical.

A couple of hours later, after an early breakfast, I visited the site. Also present were half a dozen young folk. As I parked, one young guy wanted to speak to me. So I opened the window. What he said completely shocked my preconceptions: 'Could you move as you've driven over some rubbish and I'm clearing it up.'

I moved the car, he put the detritus into a bin bag, while another younger man grabbed at an escaping red balloon, retrieving it from a bush into the same bin bag. Other youngsters, by now looking somewhat sleep deprived, joined the conversation, claiming: 'We always clear up afterwards!'

Lambert's Castle is in the middle of being

'upgraded' by Dorset Council and as a result is both muddy and untidy. If anything it was an improvement after the young folk had danced their night away.

Profuse apologies were proffered by each and every teenager and 20-year-old for any overnight disturbances; instead my wife and I were invited to future events: we will probably decline.

To our surprise, a second party took place at Lambert's Castle a fortnight later, causing nocturnal nuisance to the Marshwood community. With two such events within a short space of time, this event flagged up the concern of locals to avoid encouraging the use of the site for frequent raves. Word has been passed on to the youngsters and our parish council has requested council environmental officers plus noise level recording equipment to be on standby in the event of further raves in the near future.

*Ali Cameron*





# GIRLING & BOWDITCH

## Veterinary Surgeons

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