

The Pilot

January 2023



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PEOPLE ARE THE PILOT

Happy New Year to all our readers

The Pilot is **OUR FREE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE**. It is run by the community for the community. Delivered to 1650 households every month, it not only informs us but acts as an indispensable directory of organisations and local business. In this age of social media and online services it is still valued as a trustworthy source of information and community news.

At the heart of the organisation is our **Editorial Team**; Claire Horne and Mel Rose. Together they give their time to compile each edition, making it colourful, relevant and interesting. They rely on our **Contributors**, many are regular, some occasional, but there are never enough! If you have a story to tell or a receipt to share, or a photo to show it will be welcomed at editor@charpilot.com!

Our loyal **Advertisers** provide the bulk of the funds necessary to pay for the printing. Many have been with us for a long time, and we are always welcoming new clients; they publicise their services in The Pilot because it pays, and you, **Our Readers**, use them.

Getting 1650 copies to you each month is done by our valiant **Distributors** and **Deliverers**. Each month a Distributor is nominated to accept the magazines from Shelleys our printer. They then deliver Bulk

copies to the Stinsford and Charlton Down Distributors, and then split the Charminster copies into rounds for our 27 **Deliverers**. All this is done so you get your copy by the end of the month no matter what the weather! Huge thanks to them all. Michael Clarke co-ordinates this logistical feat. He is also our **Treasurer** receiving funds, managing the bank account, paying tax, and submitting our annual accounts to Companies House. **The Pilot** is a not-for-profit limited company, and is backed by **Stinsford and Charminster Parish Councils** and **Parochial Church Councils** to whom we are grateful for their financial support.

So, without the hard work of all the volunteers in **The Pilot Team** we wouldn't be able to publish, but of course, the most important people of all are you, **Our Readers!** If you have ideas, suggestions, or comments let us know at editor@charpilot.com. or by text on 07740045558 or by letter to Charminster House, East Hill DT2 9QL.

We are always looking for help, whether it is as distributors, deliverers, contributors, advertisers or managers. If you would like to be part of **The Pilot Team** e-mail us at editor@charpilot.com, or call or text me on 07740045558. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tim Yarker (in charge of advertising)



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Planning Update – 07.12.2022

Strawberry Field, Charminster

The way in which the planning appeal is to be determined has now changed from written representations to a public hearing. The appeal has been submitted by the landowners against the Council's refusal for the outline planning application to erect up to 80 houses on the top half of the Strawberry Field. The date [for submitting new or additional comments has now passed.](#)

The date for the commencement of the hearing has been set by the Planning Inspectorate as **5th January 2023**. The venue for this is likely to be Committee Room 1 at County Hall and this will be confirmed in writing by the Council shortly to everyone who has written in. It would be good if as many villagers as possible attend the hearing to demonstrate the village's continued opposition to this proposed development (it is not known yet how long the hearing will last).

Land North-West of Herrison Road, Charlton Down

The applicant submitted an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate on the basis that Dorset Council had not determined the outline planning application (for up to 50 houses) in time. The appeal is to proceed on the basis of written representations. The date for submitting new or additional comments has now passed.

Land at North of Wanchard Lane, Charminster

Wyatt Homes amended full planning application for 30 houses (reduced from 41) remains ongoing and is awaiting a decision from Dorset Council planners.

Dorset Council Local Plan

As stated in the last planning update Dorset Council are delaying the new Local Plan by two years until 2026 for further reviews/consultations. How this will be affected by the very latest Government announcement, that they have dropped plans for compulsory housing targets and are replacing them with **advisory** ones, remains to be seen. This would appear, on the face of it, to give more power back to local authorities in deciding how much and where new housing should be built and not be held to fixed housing targets determined by central Government.

David Shaw

1st December 2022

Update from Dorchester & Sherborne offices of Central Dorset Citizens Advice

As an older person could Pension Credit boost your pension income?

In these difficult financial times the Government is concerned that around 2 million older people could boost their income by claiming Pension Credit (PC) but have not done so! Perhaps you know an older family relative or friend who could be eligible?

For those who have reached State Pension age, PC tops up your weekly income to £182.60 if you are single, and £278.70 if you have a partner, There are some circumstances where PC can still be paid if your income is higher, or you have some savings.

Eligibility for PC can be complicated;

- some key points are: no National Insurance payments record is required
- you can still be working and claim PC if your income is not high any savings over £10,000 will affect the amount of PC paid



- any savings over £10,000 will affect the amount of PC paid
- If you receive other benefits such as PIP, Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance the weekly Guarantee Credit amount can pay more than the minimum income threshold of £182.60
- PC can be backdated 3 months provided entitlement conditions were met throughout that time
- PC is also important as it is a passport to other benefits, including free TV licence

For more information, please go to Citizen Advice website: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/pension-credit/before-you-claim-pension-credit/check-if-you-can-get-pension-credit/s> that includes a calculator and information how to claim PC online or by phone.

If you would like help and advice with this or another problem that is bothering you, telephone our freephone Dorset Adviceline number on **0800 144 88 48** between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday, or check our local offices opening times on: www.centraldorsetca.org.uk



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Would you like to join a long-established Dorchester-based congenial group of retired or semi-retired men for occasional social meetings? We usually meet for lunch once a month in a pleasant environment where we can chat and put the world to rights. We also aim to meet up with wives and partners every few weeks for a modest walk and/or a Pie & Pint lunch, and once or twice a year for a special meal and/or outing to places of interest. There is a modest joining fee, but we try to keep all subsequent costs as low as is consistent with agreeable standards.

For further details please phone our President Ian Blaby on 01305 753566 or Secretary Francis Copeman on 01305 848 499.



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A Brownie Guide thinks of others before herself and does a good turn every day

We have had a great term working on unit meeting activities for our theme awards. For firework craft we tried to make foam pictures using shaving foam and food colouring—swirling it about, then putting the paper on and lifting it to see our colourful creations! It was a lot of fun, but the best part was playing with the foam afterwards! They cleaned up brilliantly with a luxury added scent of the shaving foam. We designed uniforms from the future and worked on rule makers, which all fitted in with Parliament Week, discussing and debating uniforms and who makes the rules and why! We talked and debated lots of arguments for and against.

We completed the parliament week gaining a certificate. After all this hard work, we had a 'bring a friend' evening and decorated glass jars with T lights.

It's been such a lovely term and watching the girls develop their skills is so rewarding,

Our Brownies are always showing us how clever they are and are so willing to try all the activities that the programme challenges them to.





Charminster guides also had a great term!

Completing their 'Be Well' theme award was a bit of a challenge, but was well worth the effort! So, with having completed their 'Whittling' badge earlier in the term, we took a gap to join in Parliament Week. We spent a bit of time this term with debates and played the Parliament Game and tried to learn what are better ways to cheer people on and encourage team building. We had a go at mastering the moves of Taekwondo martial arts too! The guides have been presented with their 2 badges and certificate at the end of term. All in all a lovely term!

If you have a daughter wishing to be part of guiding, or even yourself! just log on to:-

girlguiding.org.uk and add or go onto Join us

Alli and the Charminster Guiding team 07483429596

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- ☐ A Guide respects all living things and takes care of the world around her.





Dorchester Trefoil

Our speakers in November were from the Hearing Dogs charity and were so interesting, their talk lasted 1 ½ hours instead of one hour. We had so many questions. (They have been to Charminster WI too). It was interesting to find that most of us came into the category of being 'deaf' - you don't have to be unable to hear to be deaf - just suffer some hearing loss. Our next meeting is the Christmas one and we will be entertained by a local ukulele band who will lead a Christmas singalong, followed by mince pies.

After trying a few cafes (after Relax closed), we have settled on the United Church 'coffee shop' as this supports the church and is central for our members. The coffee was cheap and tasted OK too. Our Knit and Natter group has met and we're looking forward to our Christmas lunch at the Hendover café.

If you would like more information about afternoon or evening Trefoil, please contact me. Visitors are always welcome.

Afternoon Trefoil meets in St George's Hall at 2.30pm on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month and Evening Trefoil is the 2nd Wednesday evening, meeting place depending on activity, so it's best to check.

Judy Thompson. E-mail:- jct231@outlook.com (01305 263783)

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Stinsford News

Early December at the moment I write and we are now feeling and seeing the temperature drop with promised Artic winds next week.

The Christmas Fayre on 26th November went well with hot drinks, mince pies and two kinds of excellent soup and much chat in the church. The numbers improved with a constant flow through the door until it started to rain at 2.00 p.m. We took a little short of £800, a pleasing return when you appreciate the time and effort put into making events happen and the gift of time and energy by those giving and manning all stalls. So pleasing to see people sit and talk and buy much of those items for sale. Holly was available from the Rangers and their volunteers of Thorncombe Wood with plenty of berries. A good quantity was purchased and as ever the balance of the greenery will be used to decorate the church and we will again make a donation to Puddletown's Middle School Benevolent Fund.

It was pleasing to see when going to remove the Christmas Fayre Banner this week a member of the public was litter picking from the top of Stinsford Hill to Grey's Bridge.

The first Sunday of Advent, the following day 27th saw our first 4.00 p.m. Evensong with Rob van der Hart taking the service with an excellent sermon. As we left the church the dark evenings were noticeably drawing in.

Sunday 4th and it is Christingle today and no doubt Shirley Churchill will be readily prepared with oranges and candles for the congregation to participate in making the Christingles. Leila will be taking the service. The Christmas Tree will be up in the nave in readiness for the event.

As we approach the Carol Service decorating the church in full becomes a priority with holly and ivy and various other flora collected from the hedgerows. We have yet to clean and cut the old candles to go in place for the windows. All our flower arrangers have been asked to begin the decoration to fill with greenery, flowers and lights. The service of the Lessons and Carols with all the favourites being played by Malcolm and sung most heartily and enjoyed by all followed by refreshments and the Grand Draw.

No "Going the Rounds" this year this bi-ennial event will take place in 2023.

We are looking forward to our 8.00 o'clock Christmas Mass on Saturday 24th with the Rev'd Bruce Dixon and the following morning the **10am Christmas Day** service with Rob van der Hart. Let's hope the weather holds and we can all enjoy some delightful walks after lunch.

January will bring our interviews for a new Rector following the final date for applications in mid-December.

January will also bring the laying of a wreath in Poet's Corner on Thomas Hardy's memorial stone as ever to contain Stinsford Yew.

Our congratulations to Shirley Churchill on her licencing as a Lay Reader by the Bishop of Sherborne, Karen Gorham along with others at St Nicholas Church, Sydling..

Finally, in addition our congratulations to Derek Pride for the trophies he won and presented at the Bockhampton & District Horticultural Association's AGM. We would like to add our best wishes to Sue Grenville-Jones for her special award at this event for all the fund raising she had done throughout the year for the Association.

Good Wishes to one and all for a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2023

Michael Clarke



News from Stinsford Parish Council

I would like to suggest a date for everyone's diaries. On 2nd February 2023 between 7 and 9 pm we have arranged an event to launch the Stinsford Parish Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy. This will be an excellent opportunity to explain what we are doing to residents and importantly to obtain residents' views and ideas on how this essential work can be best progressed. We will also be interested to hear from anyone who can volunteer any time, skills or knowledge towards developing the strategy or any potential projects within its remit.

We are working alongside Kingston Maurward College who will also be present on the evening to explain their own approach to tackling climate change and reaching net zero carbon emissions. The College has kindly provided their University Business Hub (photo below) for the event. This is the new state-of-the-art eco-friendly building at Stinsford that many of you will have seen in the process of construction. There will also be an opportunity to explore the building. Tea and coffee will be provided.

The Stinsford Parish Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy was first adopted by the council in October 2021 and updated in August 2022. Its primary aim is for the parish to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040. While Stinsford has many opportunities presented by its woodlands, water meadows and downland, we have to be realistic about what we can achieve. There are issues, such as the A35 cutting through the centre of the Parish, that we can do little about. The strategy covers the whole of the parish. Effectively three villages and a scattering of hamlets and isolated dwellings alongside large tracts of agricultural land, two small industrial estates and Kingston Maurward College. One of our big strengths is the large amount of woodland in the parish.

Although the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy does not have a statutory basis this is in some ways what makes it so exciting - for once we can really think what would make the Parish a better place to live and work, and how we can develop an exemplary approach. Within this work there is a lot that could be done in our own small way towards saving the planet and supporting all that we value about the parish.

We believe that the Parish Councils strategy offers a wide and flexible range of approaches based on what residents told us during the consultations for the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy comes in the form of three documents; an overview; the strategy

itself and a delivery plan, all of which are available on the Parish web-site (<http://www.stinsford.org.uk/community/stinsford-parish-council-7769/climate-emergency/>).

Areas that we have looked at include energy, the economy, transport, tourism, housing, land management, waste, food and drink, health and well-being, ecology and the community. Each field lists potential projects but stresses that these are suggestions and that, ultimately, we hope that residents will help to prioritise these. We will be discussing some of these issues at the launch in February but even if you cannot make it on the night, please look at the documents on web-site, and let councillors or the parish clerk know your views and if you would be willing to get involved. You are invited to explore any of the potentials projects or suggest other ones.

I hope to see as many of you as possible in February. In the meantime I would like, on behalf of Stinsford Parish Council, to wish you all the best for 2023.

Sarah Pattison— Chair—Stinsford. Parish Council

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SATURDAY 18 MARCH.**

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The Gamekeeper would like to open from Wednesday to Sunday 12noon – close commencing from Thursday 1 December 2022 for those who wish to have a warm space for Chat, Drink, Coffee, Tea and / or a Meal.

We are also looking at holding a Ladies Afternoon Tea once a month from January 2023, dates and cost to be advised. For further information please contact Kim and Sharon at the Gamekeeper look forward to welcoming you in these unprecedented times on 01305 – 459349.



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January Quiz

(answers on p39)

There's a New Year's feel to this month's quiz, but one or two local questions too.

- 1) Who was the Scottish poet who wrote the words of Auld Lang Syne?
- 2) Name of Captain Cook's favourite ship in which he made his second and third voyages of discovery.
- 3) What is first footing?
- 4) Which Abba song opens with the words: "No more champagne, And the fireworks are through?"
- 5) Which Little Mix singer is a former pupil of Radipole Primary School?
- 6) Which member of Deep Purple was also patron of the Marine Theatre in Lyme Regis?
- 7) January Jones is an actress best known for portraying Betty Draper in which American series?
- 8) Which world city's name means "River of January"?
- 9) On the 17th of January in which year did Captain Robert Falcon Scott reach the South Pole?
- 10) Which famous English writer started his diary on January 1, 1660?

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CHARMINSTER WI

We are looking forward to our next meeting on 13th December, when we will be celebrating Christmas with a Victorian theme. The New Hardy Players will be coming to entertain us for the evening with prose, poetry and music, and we're hoping that members will be entering into the spirit of the event by dressing up in Victorian costume! Our report of the meeting will be in the next edition of the Pilot.

Our members have been busy over the last couple of months making a multitude of decorations for our tree which will be part of the Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's. By the time you read this, it will have taken place and we hope that this venture will be a success for the Church and enjoyed by those who visit to view the trees.

On Saturday 3rd December, we held another of our 'Make & Take' coffee mornings in the Community Hall. It was well-attended and enjoyed by young & old alike, who had the opportunity to make Christmas decorations, cards, etc. Thanks are due to all who helped make it a success by baking delicious cakes, helping with refreshments, and supervising the craft sessions on the day. We couldn't have done it without our band of willing helpers, so thank you all. We also want to say a big thank you to Mary Hayes who prepared the materials and had the ideas for all the different crafts projects that were offered. She's a very talented lady!

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2023, at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Community Hall. Visitors are welcome to join us.

Lastly, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Judy Bird

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2023

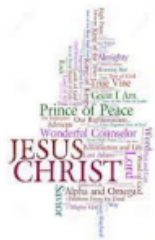
St Mary's Church, Charminster

For more information see: www.stmarys-charminster.org.uk

1st January 2023 - Christmas 2 – (Naming and Circumcision of Christ)

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)



8th January 2023 - Epiphany

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00 am Café Church

Tuesday, 10th January 2023 - 9 am – 12 noon T&SM – Tea, Coffee and Cake

15th January 2023 - Epiphany 2

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
----------	---------------------

4.00 pm Evensong (BCP)



Tuesday, 17th January 2023 - 9 am – 12 noon T&SM

22nd January 2023 - Epiphany 3 – Week of prayer for Christian Unity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

4.00 pm Messy Church

Tuesday, 24th January 2023 - 9 am – 12 noon T&SM

29th January 2023 - Candlemas

11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

Tuesday, 31st January 2023 - 9 am – 12 noon T&SM



CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2023

St Michael's Church, Stinsford

1st January 2023 - Christmas 2 – (Naming and Circumcision of Christ)

11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

8th January 2023 - Epiphany

11.00 am Matins

Jesus
Name Above All Names

15th January 2023 - Epiphany 2

11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

22nd January 2023 - Epiphany 3 – Week of prayer for Christian Unity

4.00 pm Evensong (BCP)

29th January 2023 - Candlemas

4.00 pm Evensong (BCP)



Bockhampton & District Horticultural Association

After a gentle relaunch in 2022, BDHA has put together a full programme of events for 2023, starting at 7.30 on Friday 24 February with a bread-making demonstration in West Stafford Village Hall. There will be something for members every month thereafter, with the spring show in March, a discount buying afternoon at Castle Gardens in April, BDHA's own plant sale in May as well as a guided tour of the gardens at Kingston Maurward College with the head gardener, Nigel Hewish. We continue with a masterclass in preparing exhibits for a show in July, and demonstrations on creating hanging baskets and seasonal wreaths towards the end of the year. Our Summer show is in August, and we have two informal get-togethers for members in June and November.

We also have new ideas that we will be taking forward – a seed swap, visits to members' gardens and a new Junior Gardeners section for younger children to encourage them to get sowing and growing. Membership for those aged 16 and under is free of charge.

We want to emphasise that we are more than a gardening club and that our events are fuelled by conversation, cake, coffee or something stronger. Knowledge of gardening is not necessary, though it's a great way to learn more about growing flowers, vegetables and fruit.

We welcome new members from Stinsford, Bockhampton and beyond, and would be delighted to see former members re-joining us. The annual membership fee for 2023 is £7.50 per person. This covers entrance to all the events shown on our 2023 calendar, and booking is not required. For a small charge, members can bring guests to all the demonstrations and talks. For more information, please contact our Membership Secretary, Linda Kemp, on 01305 753639 / lindakemp6251@hotmail.co.uk.

Existing members may know that we are looking for volunteers to join our organising committee or, for those who want to help in a less formal way, to become “Friends of BDHA” on whom we can call for a bit of assistance (maybe moving tables, or making a cake, or helping with a raffle). If you are interested, have a word with our President Pat Cosgrove at Bridge Cottage or email her on mephcos@waitrose.com.

In the meantime, we wanted to share a photo of Derek Pride from our AGM, collecting cups and trophies that he won during the year. Tony Paull also won a cup for his art entry in the summer show. Congratulations to them both. If you enjoy photography, flower arranging, making jam or bakery, or grow beautiful plants, we’d love you to join us.



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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHARMINSTER

Churchwarden	Andrew Morgan	259664
PCC Secretary	Jean Garrard	259083
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Jones	264316

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Churchwardens	Shirley Churchill	260159
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Contact the Administrator for the Parish of St Mary's Charminster and St Michael's Stinsford, Jean Garrard stmaryschurchcharminster@outlook.com

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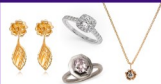
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Charlton Down Cricket Club

Happy New Year everybody. 2023 is going to be a big year for Charlton Down Cricket Club as it is the 20th Anniversary of our formation. It feels like we have come a long way from the club who played a handful of friendly games in 2003 and, looking back, it is remarkable how much has been achieved over this time. Recently, I was sorting through some boxes of old paperwork and stumbled upon an early Development Plan written by the committee at the time. It was heartening to see that many of objectives identified at the time have been well and truly met – creating a grass square, establishing a youth section, building practice nets, sightscreens, boundary fence and acquiring the machinery for us to become self-sufficient in terms of grounds upkeep. Looking at our current Development Plan, all of these things are still on the list, but now the emphasis is on their maintenance and improvement. What is also striking is that the list now includes creating a Women's cricket team, expanding our social calendar and finding ways to integrate more fully with the local community, which speaks to the expanding horizons of the club.

None of this has happened by accident. I reckon it has taken thousands of hours from dozens of individuals over the 20 years to translate a lot of Big Talk into something that is clearly evident on the ground in front of us. All of this time has been given up for free and much of the work behind the scenes goes by unnoticed. So this seems like a good opportunity to say a massive Thank You to all of those, who at one time or another, have helped make the club what it is today. It hasn't all been plain sailing either, both on and off the pitch there have been ups and downs. Various challenges have been thrown at us - burst water pipes, Storm Eunice, thieves, vandals, badgers! On the whole though, the good times have out-

Charlton Down Cricket Club continued ...

Our anniversary year seems like a good excuse to reunite as many of our past members as possible, look back at the good old days and raise a glass to the future. Plans are under way to have a proper knees-up at the village hall on Saturday 3rd June, followed by a very gentle game of cricket on the Sunday, hopefully coaxing a few past players out of retirement in the process. More details will be posted through the year, but all those who have had an association with the club are invited to the weekend's activities – drop me a line if you'd like more info james.pretty@charltondowncc.co.uk

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Jan

Quiz Answers

1. Robert Burns
2. HMS Resolution
3. The Scottish Hogmanay tradition of welcoming your first visitor after midnight. Normally they will bring gifts including a lump of coal and whiskey.
4. Happy New Year
5. Perrie Edwards
6. Lead singer Ian Gillan
7. Mad Men
8. Rio de Janeiro
9. 1912
10. Samuel Pepys

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CHARMINSTER CONTACTS

Parish Council	Chairman: Mark Simons	260055
	Vice chair: Carol Matthews	751535
	Parish Clerk: Sarah Davies	819429
Flood Warden	Tim Yarker	265942
St Mary's School	Headteacher: Suzanne Garner	263880
	Caretaker: Belinda Bessant	266598
Pre-School	Vanessa Thomas	251512
Village Hall	Bookings: Sarah Bird sarah345bird@aol.com	266478
WI	Judy Thompson	263783
Bell Ringers	Captain: Chris White	07783555199
Girl Guides	Alison Barlow	07483429596
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Scottish Country Dancing	Val Scriven	265177
Charminsters Stores	Louise Christopher	264312
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CHARLTON DOWN CONTACTS

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Charlton Down Cricket	Peter(Tommy) Tucker	07810275847
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	James Pretty: booking/hire	07810275847

STINSFORD CONTACTS

Stinsford Parish Council	Parish Clerk: Kirsty Rigler	268818
	stinsfordclerk@googlemail.com	

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To start this process, we would like to hear your views, opinions, and ideas.

Working with consultants NEW Masterplanning and Sustainable Street Design, the Parish Council is holding a drop-in event at the Charminster Community Hall on **Thursday 19th January 2023** between 2pm and 8pm where you can come in at any time to share your thoughts and understand more about the project.

Please contact clerk@charminster.info for more information.

Ahead of this first event, we would be grateful if you could complete the following short survey to help start the discussions:

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South Ward (Charminster village)

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Peter Dangerfield	260543
Richard East	264724
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Mark Simons (Chairman)	260055
Tim Yarker	265942
Louisa Swabey-Payne	TBC

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Geri Brown	07789 756610
Susan Frazer	269255
Julie Jackson	0771 4433174
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Contact: Parish Clerk (Sarah Davies) c/o Community Hall, Weir View, Charminster, DT2 9QY or phone 01305 819429 or email clerk@charminster.info
For Community Hall Enquiries please call 07947 622326

Please see our website or contact the clerk for details of any forthcoming meetings

www.charminster.info

Charminster Parish Council