



Blackawton Beacon

April 2023

published jointly by the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council

Wormcharming

from Chris Oughton

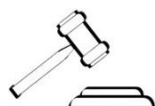
The 37th Blackawton International Festival of Wormcharming will be held on



Sunday 30th April 2023

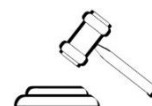
Festivities start at 10.00 am at The George Inn
Registrations for teams close at 12.00 noon
Activities in the Secret Field and the Village Hall
Music from 2.00 pm at The George Inn
Hail the Great Worm!

Blackawton Wormcharming Charity Auction



Sunday 30th April at 7.00 pm

The George Inn



All proceeds going to Devon Air Ambulance and local charities

Hosted by the (in)famous Ash Stevens

Lots include vouchers for local hotels and restaurants, original artworks, golf experiences, and the chance to own the famous **tin of spam**.

Could you donate something we could auction? It could be an event, an experience, a treat, or anything you think someone else would pay good money for! We can come and collect from you. If you have anything you would be prepared to give or any ideas of generous businesses we could approach, please contact aspinzoe@gmail.com or call **07912 044330**. Many thanks in advance.

Wormcharming Fun Dog Show

from Carey Burton

Sunday 30th April

In the secret field, immediately following Wormcharming

£1.00 cash per dog per class –pay on entry

(Dog available to hire for those who don't have a dog)



Wonderful ears
Most joyful dog
Smart paws
Excellent coat

Coronation dog (fancy dress)
Beautiful eyes
Partnership between handler and dog
Best in Show. Open for winners, free with donations please.

Blackawton welcomes thoughtful dog handlers. Please pick up after your dog.

For more information on the dog show please contact Carey **01803 712215**.

Plant pots wanted

from Betty Pengelly

Blackawton Allotment Association need empty plant pots of all sizes for plants to sell at Wormcharming. If you have any to spare please take them to Betty at **23, The Grove** or Liz at **Lighthouse, Park Lane** or Laura at **Heyes, Main Street**. Thank you.

St Michael's Church

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
Sunday 2nd April Palm Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion (United Benefice) with Rt Revd James Grier, Bishop of Plymouth <i>at St Peter's, Stoke Fleming</i>
Monday 3rd April Tuesday 4th April Wednesday 5th April	7.00 pm	Night Prayer for Holy Week
Thursday 6th April Maundy Thursday	7.00 pm	Holy Communion (by extension) and Watch (United Benefice)
Friday 7th April Good Friday	11.00 am	Reflective Service (United Benefice) <i>at St Peter's, Stoke Fleming</i>
Saturday 8th April	10.00 am	Decorate the church for Easter
Sunday 9th April Easter Day	7.30 am 9.30 am	Vigil and Service of Light followed by breakfast Holy Communion
Sunday 16th April	9.30 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 23rd April	9.30 am	Pet Service
Sunday 30th April	11.00 am	Holy Communion (United Benefice) <i>at St Andrew's, East Allington</i>

The services above are correct at time of going to press. Please see weekly pew sheet, gate notices or “A Church Near You” website for the latest information. We will also email any changes or additions to our mailing list – if you’re not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send an email saying “subscribe” with “Blackawton Church News” as the subject to chris.janman@gmail.com.

Advance Notice of Coronation celebration activities

Sunday 7th May 10.00 am Special service for the Coronation weekend
 12.00 noon Bring-and-Share “Big Lunch” in the churchyard

There is still a Mini Food Bank in the Church porch, open 24 hours a day, every day. **Please give what you can and take what you need.**

The Community Library is inside the Church, usually open during the day.

Reader's Corner

from **Peter Barker**

Easter! Jesus Christ is risen today – Alleluia! Such a joyful, confident assertion seems in rather strong contrast to the initial doubt and outright scepticism of Jesus’ followers. Jesus had told them he would rise again, but they were slow to understand. At first they dismissed the women’s news about the empty tomb as ‘an idle tale’. And no wonder: if the dead don’t stay dead, what can be comfortably predictable? If we don’t find resurrection at least a little hard to believe, we probably aren’t taking it very seriously. Resurrection is not mere resuscitation, a temporary restoration of the old mortal life; nor is it a sort of shorthand for an ongoing life after death, or for our souls going to heaven. The idea of a disembodied soul escaping the contagion of physicality is Greek, not Jewish or Christian. Resurrection is about a new form of physical, bodily existence, one which shows both continuity with the former existence, and discontinuity: like Jesus’ resurrection body, the same yet different; able to be seen and heard and touched, yet also able to come and go at will; not always recognisable at first, yet always unmistakable on closer acquaintance.

Despite their understandable doubts the first disciples quickly came to believe that Jesus had indeed been raised to new life. So have countless Christians down through the ages. Famously 'Frank Morison' set out to prove the resurrection to be a myth; but his examination of the evidence, detailed in his classic book 'Who Moved the Stone' convinced him of its historicity. And for me too, Jesus' resurrection is the very lynch-pin of my faith.

Does it actually matter whether or not Jesus was raised bodily from the dead? It makes all the difference. If Jesus had not been raised, then evil and death would have won, and that would be that. Jesus endured the worst that evil could inflict, and he emerged victorious when God brought him back to life. Because of that, evil is fundamentally defeated, however much it still flaunts itself. Christ's victorious resurrection has given us the chance of receiving God's forgiveness. Christ's resurrection means the past put behind us. Because Jesus is alive and ascended with the Father he is able to send his Holy Spirit to be with each one of us, to guide, enable and transform every believer. Help indeed for the present! And Easter is also about the future. God has promised that one day the whole of creation will be renewed. Easter is God's pledge for the future resurrection of all his people. Easter is the guarantee of Christian hope.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter season.

Our church team

Churchwardens Kate Janman 01803 712362
Chris Janman 01803 712362

Lay Readers Frank Robinson 01803 712249
Lyn Robinson 01803 712249

Village Life

Blackawton WI

from **Sandra Tope**

We held our annual Jumble Sale earlier this month, and must thank everyone who donated jumble, gave help on the day, and most importantly came and bought from us. Due to a tremendous effort we raised just shy of £400, and this will be used to keep us solvent for another 12 months.

At our meeting this month, details were given out for our Lunch Club, Book Club, an Easter walk and outings to Heron Valley and Great Ambrook Gardens as well as Craft club, where we will be knitting and crocheting blankets for the Ukrainians. It is still very cold out there, but the blankets are also needed to wrap items such as generators, to disguise them.

Our speaker this month was Judy Thomson from Prickles in a Pickle. Her talk and slideshow were fascinating, and we were all mesmerised for the 45 minutes she spoke. They can treat up to 170 hedgehogs at any one time, and she gave us advice on what to do if we find one. Apparently all hedgehogs look different and she names each one and can tell you its back story. Most are released, as near as possible to where it was found, or into a secure garden to be looked after. They do a brilliant job, and a donation was given. This month's competition was a 'Hedgehog ornament' (obviously!) and was won by Frances Wood with a knitted hedgehog tea cosy which she made herself, finishing late into the night the day before! The bloom of the month was won by Valerie Harding with a beautiful Hellebore. Well done to both.

Next month's meeting is on April 19th, at 10.30 am in the Village Hall, and our speaker is Julia Fox, from The Totnes Costume Museum, with the competition 'A dressed doll', as well as the bloom of the month.

We are always needing new members, so if you fancy coming along to see what we are all about, please feel free to join us at the hall, you are assured of a warm welcome. For more information, call Christine on **01803 712271**, or Sandra on **01803 712622**.

Make Do and Mend

from **Lesley Mallyon and Andrea Scott**

Our recent meeting introduced a couple of new elements to the mix. Ginny from Hutterleigh came with a lampshade she is recovering, interesting to see the bare bones of that and certainly look forward to the next stage. Jan repaired a couple of china figurines and lovely Finn was in attendance doing sterling service for we older members of the community struggling with the increasingly challenging software updates on computers and mobile phones. There was a central table of enthusiastic darners working on various projects. Claudia with her 'rag heart' and Angus joined us towards the end with his on-going creative repairs to a sweater.

Our dates for **April** are the **8th** and the **29th**. Hope to see lots of you at one or other.

For more information please contact Lesley at **lesleymallyon@mac.com** or **01803 712846** or **07973 558090** or Andrea at **andrea.devon@btinternet.com** or **01803 712753** or **07572 579256**.

Blackawton Amateur Dramatic Society

from **Chris Janman**

Advance notice of the BADS AGM – to be confirmed, but probably **Thursday 25th May** at 8.00 pm in the George Inn. Check next month's Beacon in case we have to change this.

If you are interested in the organisation of BADS or have ideas for the future, please come along. It has been suggested that we restart play readings. Monthly? Which plays? When? If you have any suggestions, let me know or come along to the AGM and we'll talk about it then.

For any suggestions or queries please email chris.janman@gmail.com.



Blackawton Playing Fields needs your help!

from **Jenny Wilson**

You may or may not know that Blackawton Playpark and other facilities are owned by the village and managed by a team of volunteers. You may have seen that we've been making some running repairs recently to keep it safe. We have just kicked off our major Playpark Refurbishment Project to ensure the play equipment is safe and fun for another 10 years.

Come and add your voice and time to help with the Project (replacement of equipment will be grant funded) and other regular maintenance tasks. We have little tasks suitable for a variety of skillsets (or full training provided if necessary) and would welcome you to join us. We meet in the pub once a quarter and our next meeting will be posted on our Facebook page – Blackawton Playing Fields Committee – please check it out.

We are having a **Playpark Tidy Up Day** on **Saturday 15th April** – please come and help out with some bramble clearing, fence maintenance and other little jobs.

Sustainable Blackawton: Community Growing

from **Ruth Coe**



The idea of a community composting scheme has been discussed in the parish for a while. There are now opportunities to set up a facility whereby residents can deliver garden material, and collect finished compost, within the village. Saving carbon, increasing soil fertility and preventing SHDC driving miles to collect and transport our garden cuttings. If this is of interest PLEASE complete the few questions in the survey form at the end of this month's Beacon.

The first Energy Local Club in the South Hams is officially launched in Totnes on Thursday 23rd March. A pilot scheme to generate electricity locally and provide this to local consumers at a better price than the big national companies, also paying a realistic price per unit to the generator. This is a scheme which we hope to imitate later, provided the hoped-for benefits are realised and any initial issues resolved. TRESOC have expressed a willingness to help roll out the Energy Local Club model in conjunction with Green Energy UK.

Sustainable South Hams, partner and mentor in all things sustainable for many local parishes, organised a second "Assembly" in March, this time with the sole focus on the health and accessibility of Devon's rivers. Many organisations and delegates attended including South West Water and the Environment Agency. Talks by South Devon AONB, Yealm Estuary to Moor project, Aune Fishing Association, West Country Rivers Trust provided an insight to some of the work (and there is a lot!) going on around us. There were also many other organisations (the list is too long to note here!) present, all happy to talk individually with us on the activities, current and planned, to improve the health of our rivers.

The reintroduction of water voles to our own local river the Gara was on the agenda, with an opportunity to "Sponsor a Vole", as was a suggestion that a new initiative "GASP" Gara against Sewage Pollution be started to increase the capacity of our local sewage treatment plant and prevent the almost daily visits by large lorries to empty it, and the too frequent spillage of sewage into the Gara.

Devon Citizen Science provides an opportunity to help measure the health of our rivers with regular sampling of river water by local people. If you would like to join us in this important task for the Gara please contact me ruth@blackawtoncommunity.com. We were recommended to watch the Paul Whitehouse programmes "Rivers in trouble" on BBC iPlayer – please do this, it is so very troubling and only emphasises the urgent need to act. If you are at all interested in improving our beautiful, but damaged, rivers there is much information on the Sustainable South Hams website – www.sussh.org including more of the work they are coordinating across the parishes within South Hams. The website is worth a look for anyone that cares about the environment and the many, many issues that affect us all today.

Sorry for the length of this note, thanks for reading it, I am grateful for a chance to share this inspiring day with more people who were not able to attend!

20 Years of Gardentime!

from **Chris Varlow**

As part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations at Gardentime, we have launched a new loyalty card for our Garden Club members. To thank you all for your custom over the last two decades, you can now collect points when you spend. The cards are free, and available instore now. Club members not only accumulate points on their purchases but receive regular informative emails highlighting exclusive offers, gardening tips and updates on all things Gardentime! If you would like to join our club, pop into the store, sign up and start saving.

We have also set up our informative 'Grow Greener' campaign. Around the garden centre you'll find our 'Grow Greener' logo, highlighting environmentally friendly options as you shop. Letting us help you to meet your gardening goals in a more responsible, eco-conscious and planet-positive way. So, if you are resolving to turn over a new leaf this year, Gardentime can help to show you the way! Find out more by visiting us soon and looking out for the 'Grow Greener' logo.

You will notice a change around our plant area too. We have been busy creating a new section where you can browse our beautiful plants by new categories, such as 'scented flowers', 'ground cover plants' and 'plants for coastal gardens'. Helping you find the right plant for the right place in your garden.

Our Café continues to make and bake fresh produce here at Gardentime, for our famous breakfasts, delicious lunches, and Devon cream teas. You can use your loyalty card through the café, farm shop and garden centre, which are all open 7 days a week.

Plea for rented accommodation in Blackawton

from **Ruth Coe**

There is a need for one-bedroom accommodation in Blackawton, possibly an annex that is currently unused. The rent to be paid is likely to be in region of £450 per month, ie. £103.56 weekly. The potential tenant is independent, fairly physical fit and will be allocated by SHDC an enabler to assist his living alone.

If you know of any suitable accommodation in the village please contact me in confidence by email or telephone **ruth@blackawtoncommunity.com 01803 712131**.

West Dart Community Bus



We want more passengers!

Journeys are free (and donations welcome). Sit back, enjoy the views, save on fuel, parking & frayed nerves. Please book to ensure the bus does come for you; call **01752 690444** at least 24 hrs prior to journey.

Where possible, passengers can be picked up/dropped off elsewhere on the route by request. (eg. outlying hamlets, Totnes, Paignton, Torbay Hospital, Newton Abbot Hospital, Newton Abbot Station)

Timetable for April:

Wednesday 5th April	The Willows, Torquay via Totnes
Friday 7th April	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 14th April	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 21st April	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Wednesday 26th April	Newton Abbot via Totnes
Friday 28th April	Dartmouth via Dittisham

All trips depart from Blackawton Village Hall at 9.25 am, Blackawton Bus Shelter at 9.30 am. Return trips depart from towns/shopping centres at 12.30 pm.

To book please call **01752 690444** or email **info@ringandride.net**.

West Dart Bus is **available for hire** to local community groups & residents for only £55 + fuel. We have 6 trained volunteers to drive your party to lunch, the cinema, theatre, garden centre, beach etc.

For other inquiries call Claudia Benzie on **07712 210300**.

Mobile Library

from **Heidi McCoy**, Libraries Unlimited

Libraries Unlimited operates a mobile library service which brings books for you to borrow to the village every 4 weeks. The new mobile library van makes 80 stops around the South Hams and West Devon each week, joining the four others in the Libraries Unlimited fleet. Mobile libraries were always important, but the pandemic has shown how vital a connection they are to so many people.

The next visit to Blackawton will be on **Tuesday 11th April** at 11.55 am, at the bus shelter.

For further information and full contact details please visit our web page **librariesunlimited.org.uk**.

Village Hall

Stop Press: Wi-fi is now available at the Village Hall.

April events at the Village Hall

Blackawton Parish Council meeting Tuesday 4th at 7.30 pm.

Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 18th at 7.30 pm.

WI meeting Wednesday 19th at 10.30 am.

Make Do and Mend Saturday 8th and Saturday 29th at 10.30 am.

Wormcharming Sunday 30th from 12.00 noon.

Weekly classes

Hatha Yoga Class with Hannah Roberts (07951 079608)

Tuesday 18th and 25th, 6.00 – 7.15 pm.

Wednesday 19th, and 26th, 9.00 – 10.15 am.

Seated Yoga: Wednesday 19th, and 26th, 10.30 – 11.30 am.

Keep Fit Class with Antonia Bastin (tonibastin@live.co.uk or 07943 966988)

Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, 6.15 – 7.00 pm.

DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry (info@flaviacacace.com)

Thursday 13th, 20th, and 27th, 6.00 – 6.50 pm.

Saturday 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th, 9.00 – 10.00 am.

Dance With Flavia (info@flaviacacace.com)

Thursday 13th, 20th, and 27th, 7.00 – 8.00 pm.

Booking the Village Hall

The best way to check availability and make a provisional booking of the Village Hall is to use the interactive calendar at the bottom of the page on the community website; the address is **blackawtoncommunity.com/community-page/blackawton-village-hall**. This page also gives an overview of our facilities as well as a link to the Conditions of Hire. All bookings require a security deposit.

If you don't have internet access, please phone **07890 392444**.

Village Hall **furniture, glasses, crockery and cutlery** hire: details of what is available are on the hall website. Requests should be made to **villagehall@blackawtoncommunity.com**.

Community Shop

from **Kate Purver**

Shop telephone: **01803 712157**. Email: **blackawtonshop@gmail.com**.

Easter opening times

Good Friday 7th April	10.00 am – 12.00 noon	PO closed
Saturday 8th April	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	PO open
Easter Sunday 9th April	10.00 am – 12.00 noon	PO closed
Easter Monday 10th April	10.00 am – 12.00 noon	PO closed

Usual opening times

Shop:	Monday to Friday	8.30 am – 5.00 pm
	Saturday	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
	Sunday and bank holidays	10.00 am – 12.00 noon
Post Office:	Monday to Saturday	9.00 am – 1.00 pm

On offer this month: **Glebe Farm Barista Oat Milk, £1.75 per litre (usual price £2.10)**

Glebe Farm is a family business growing and milling pure British oats and offering delicious cereals, flours, and plant based milks. Their products are 100% gluten free too.

Do you have any of the shop's fabric shopping bags? A while ago, a collection of bags were kindly made by Val, for you to use when you don't have a shopping bag to hand, and bring back on your next visit. But we don't have as many as we did! If you have one of these hanging around at home, please could you bring it back to the shop?





Wine of the Month

Choza Rioja Tempranillo, Spain

£7.50 per bottle or two for £14.50

Lively, crisp, clean bright red which highlights the flavours of freshly harvested fruit. Intense and perfumed with a violet hue. Perfect with your Easter Sunday roast, and also with cheese.



Electric bike hire from the shop – would you use it?

We're looking into the idea of the shop buying a couple of **electric bikes**, for loan/hire to residents and/or hire to holidaymakers. But we need to understand whether this would be practical and financially viable for the shop. (We'd need to look not just at up-front costs but secure storage, maintenance & management, insurance...) Before going further we need to have an idea of what likely demand would be. So -

If you think you would make use of such a scheme, please would you complete our short survey?

You can: Fill in a paper copy at the shop; or

Print or copy this page, fill in on paper and leave it at the shop; or

Email us your responses, at blackawtonshop@gmail.com ; or

Answer the questions on-line at <https://forms.gle/XFx72CesqurkS82k9> - find the link also on the shop's Facebook & Instagram pages.

- 1 Would you like the use of
 - ☐ one bike
 - ☐ two bikes?
- 2 Do you think you'd want to use them
 - ☐ Twice per month or more, for regular trips
 - ☐ Once every month or two
 - ☐ Less often, maybe once or twice a year
- 3 And (tick all that apply)
 - ☐ Just for a few hours
 - ☐ For a day
 - ☐ Over a weekend
 - ☐ For 2+ days at a time
 - ☐ Only when the sun's shining!
 - ☐ Whenever I need to get somewhere
- 4 We'd aim to have a membership scheme so that local residents would pay an affordable rate (less than the tourist rate). Commercial e-bike hire elsewhere in the South Hams typically costs around £40/day. How much would you be willing & able to pay?
 - ☐ Could only use it if it was free
 - ☐ Up to £10/day
 - ☐ Up to £15/day
 - ☐ £16 - £25/day
 - ☐ Up to £40/day
- 5 Any other comments?

Community fund: We've been pleased to be able to support local organisations from the shop's 2021-22 profit. With the dramatic rise in costs which we've all seen over the past year, it remains to be seen whether there will be any profit to distribute this year! However, from our £2,000 fund, we've now allocated contributions to the village fireworks committee, the Playing Fields committee, Sustainable Blackawton, and the Habitat Group. We plan to donate remaining funds to Dartmouth Caring, who support a sizeable number of people in Blackawton.

Parish Council

Local Council Elections Thursday 4th May 2023

Voter Identification

For the first time you will need accepted photo ID to vote in person.

If you don't have accepted photo ID you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate.

Important Deadlines

Last Date to Register to Vote:	Monday 17 April 2023
Receipt of Postal Vote Applications by Elections Office:	5:00 pm Tuesday 18 April 2023
Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications by Elections Office:	5:00 pm Tuesday 25 April 2023
Receipt of Voter Authority Certificate Applications:	5:00 pm Tuesday 25 April 2023
Detailed Elections information and Forms: www.southhams.gov.uk/elections .	

The Thoughts of Chairman Rake

from **Simon Rake**

Please vote, and dates for your diaries

Hopefully by now you are aware (if only by dint of me banging on about it for the last few months) that there are local council elections on 4 May. These will be for both Parish and District Councils (although see below). Democracy is a precious thing that we perhaps risk taking for granted. The right to vote has been hard won, and requires constant protection. Although local elections might seem less important than general elections, they nevertheless affect many aspects of our daily lives from rubbish collection and recycling to planning decisions via housing, car parks, streetsweeping and leisure centres. So I thought it would be useful to give you the key dates for the forthcoming elections.

- To vote in person in these elections, you will need to take photo ID with you. This can be a passport, photo driving licence, blue badge or ID card with the PASS hologram on it. It doesn't matter if the document in question has expired, so long as it is still an accurate likeness.
- Alternatively you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. The last date to do so is **25th April**.
- You may find it easier to apply for a postal vote, which again you can do on-line or by post. The deadline for applying for a postal vote is **18th April**.
- Lastly, if you know you are going to be away when postal votes are sent out (about a week before the elections) you can apply for a proxy vote from South Hams District Council. This will allow somebody else to vote on your behalf. The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is **25th April**.

More information is available from the South Hams, government and Electoral Commission websites, where you can also download the relevant forms. Postal vote, proxy vote and Voter Authority Certificate forms will also be available in the Community Shop.

I'm sorry if all of that is a bit much to digest. The right to vote is incredibly important to me, and the new ID rules seem like a bad solution to a problem that didn't really exist. Under the old arrangements there were very few cases of personation (pretending to be someone else when you vote) in elections – indeed our first-past-the-post voting system means that it would take a massive effort for any such misbehaviour to have any effect on the outcome of a vote. So, given that this was a non-problem, I will leave you to decide why this new law was brought in, and to ponder the sorts of people who might be discouraged or even prevented from voting.

In short, please make sure you have a vote and please make sure you use it!

Of course the flip side of the right to vote is having people to vote for! At the time of writing (and remembering that people can change their minds) and as far as I know, at least two of your current Parish Councillors will not be standing for re-election. This means that for there to be any Parish Council election at all we need at least three candidates to come forward. Unless this happens, anybody who is nominated as a candidate will automatically become a Councillor, with no vote taking place. The only people who can stop this happening are you! Being a Parish Councillor is a great way to help nurture the type of community you would like to live in. Of course it can be dull and tedious at times, perhaps even onerous, and the prospect of going to a meeting on a dark midwinter Tuesday rarely sets the pulse racing. But on the whole I think that the Council has long managed to work by consensus to facilitate some interesting and valuable projects and incorporate a range of interests and opinions from councillors. Ultimately what you would end up doing as a Parish Councillor would depend on you, your priorities and your circumstances. If you would like to discuss becoming a Councillor please contact any current incumbent, or Annette, our wonderful Parish Clerk. If you just want to go straight for it, then you can get nomination papers by asking for them from elections@southhams.gov.uk, who will send them to you either by post or email. Nominations close at 4pm on 4 April.

Which leaves the best diary date for last. Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 April at 7.30 pm. We have a couple of interesting guest speakers lined up, and refreshments will be served. All welcome. See you there.

Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 18 April, 7.30 pm ~ Blackawton Village Hall

Guest Speakers: Devon Living Churchyards ~ Dartmouth Caring

You are invited to join the Parish Council in celebrating another amazing year of life and community in Blackawton. The meeting will be followed by **drinks and nibbles**.

Blackawton Parish Council meeting

from **Annette Thom**, Parish Clerk

Notes of the Monthly Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7.30 pm in Blackawton Village Hall. Complete minutes can be read at www.blackawtoncommunity.com or the parish noticeboard.

Carbon Savers Course

Module 1 – Calculate your Carbon Footprint. The video was stopped because of a technical issue with the quality of the sound. Deferred to the 4 April meeting.

Open Forum

No members of the public present.

Present: Councillors Rake (Chair), Coe, Curry, Mallyon, Oughton, and Thomas were present, as were South Hams District Cllr Reeve, Devon County Cllr Brazil (for his report), and A Thom (Clerk). No members of the public.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mewes.

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Rake declared that the vendor for the labelled wooden Cemetery post option (Agenda item 23) is a family friend.

Report from South Hams District Council Councillor

Councillor Reeve said that brown bin garden waste collections start this week. The sticker provided by SHDC must be fixed to the outside of the lid or to the front of your bin so that the sticker is clearly visible. SHDC has located compost bins at a good price and a second bin can be purchased at half price, for example share the order with a neighbour: getcomposting.com

Photo ID will be required to vote in the May elections. Cllr Reeve's Locality grant budget is fully spent on projects within or to benefit Blackawton.

SHDC is arranging an internal meeting of Officers to review the outstanding issues at French Furze and their management. That meeting will be followed by a site meeting, which Cllr Rake requested to attend if possible. The business units, playground, MUGA, and car park are currently owned by the developer.

Report from Devon County Council Councillor

Devon County Council Councillor Brazil reported that DCC has held a meeting to approve its 23/24 Budget. DCC's component of Council Tax will increase by 5%. Cllr Brazil said that DCC is consulting on cuts which will be made to non-statutory services, for example cutting its homelessness service. There is a large off-

books Special Educational Needs deficit. The sale of the farms estate has been discussed. There has been a meeting about the management of the Slapton Line.

Planning Applications

SHDC Planning Decisions

- 0054/23/ARC Watsons Farm Blackawton TQ9 7AZ. Application for approval of details reserved by condition 9 (Surface Water Drainage) of planning consent 1709/22/FUL. **Discharge of condition approved.**
- 0149/23/AGR Land at SX 81747 50945 Blackawton. Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed 10m x 4.26m propagation polytunnel & a 50m x 4.26m caterpillar tunnel. **Ag determination details not required.**
- 0309/23/COM Middle Wadstray Farm Blackawton. Notice of Intent to Install Electronic Communication Apparatus Comprising existing EE/H3G 3 No. 4-Port CV65BSX-2X2 Antenna on 2.2m long support poles & Z-brackets fixed to headframe corners to be removed & replaced with 3 x panel antennas mounted on 3 x new MAFI 2.5m long 46.1x2.5mm CHS poles mounted to headframe corners using 6 new MAFI 3274 universal pole mounts, existing 3 x 2100 MHAS installed behind Antennas to be removed & replaced with 3 active routers & 3 x active routers & 3 DTMSD installed new MAFI CHS pole using standard pole fixings & associated internal equipment upgrades. **Permitted development.**

Review of New Applications

0020/23/HHO Heyes Main Street Blackawton TQ9 7BG. Householder application for a single storey extension to side/rear of the property to replace current shed/workshop. **Support.**

Variation to the premises licence of Dartmouth Wine Company, 6 Duke Street, Dartmouth, TQ6 9PZ. No comment is being made by BPC.

Consultations

- National Planning Policy Framework Consultation, Closes 2 March 2023.
- Devon Association of Local Councils & Devon Communities Together, Survey on what resources councils would find helpful in an emergency toward a community support plan for Devon. Closes 8 March 2023. Cllrs may comment as individuals.
- South West Water, Draft Water Resources Management Plan. Closes 9 May 2023.
- There is a Sustainable South Hams Assembly on 18 March to discuss Rivers. How to comment on this consultation will be reviewed following that Assembly, on the 4 April meeting's Agenda.
- SHDC, South Hams Electric Vehicle Strategy. Closes 17 March 2023. Cllrs may choose to comment as individuals.

Action available to BPC regarding completion and transfer of Playground, MUGA, and Car Park in French Furze

This matter was addressed above by SHDC Cllr Reeve.

Community Network Project

Cllrs Thomas and Coe continue to work on this project and no new actions were suggested by the meeting.

Management of Trees in St Michael's Churchyard and in Blackawton Cemetery

The Tree Risk Survey Report was received by BPC today therefore there has been very little time for its review before the meeting. The Report will be passed on to the Village Hall and the Playing Fields Committees. The works described in the Report for the avenue of cherry trees in the Churchyard are advisory therefore any works agreed would be done after the nesting season.

It was agreed that two proposals will be prepared for the avenue of cherry trees – one to carry out the advisory works and one to remove the trees. Parishioners can be consulted about the two proposals. BPC will research whether there are fruiting cherry trees of the size required for the avenue.

Councillors will meet in the Cemetery at 4.15 pm on Friday to determine the preferred site for the landmark silver birch to be planted, and to consider the possible planting of replacement trees on the northern side of the lawn cemetery area.

St Michael's Churchyard

The proposal in Living Churchyards' Draft Action Plan to plant a boundary hedge on the southern border/Main Street edge of the Churchyard where there is a considerable drop to the road beneath was discussed. It was resolved unanimously not to plant a hedge in that location. Issues discussed included visual impact and the safe management of planting and maintaining the hedge.

Moles in the Cemetery

Mole hills have again been noted in the Cemetery this year. It was agreed that Cllr Coe will occasionally rake them. They are not considered to be creating a hazard to members of the public.

Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 18 April at 7.30 pm.

The guest speakers from Dartmouth Caring and from Living Churchyards have been confirmed. Cllr Rake will report on the Parish Council's activities. Cllr Coe will liaise with the Community Shop for it to provide the refreshments with an upper budget of 1.5 times the cost for the 2022 Parish Meeting.

Finance

Update on Current Financial Position. The Reports showed a total balance of £52,199.73 and an unearmarked general fund of £11,793.34.

Payments & Receipts. It was resolved to authorise the following payments:

Maintenance Contractor, War Memorial clean up and remove vegetation	£48.00
Clerk, February expenses reimbursement	£18.79
Scribe, Annual Subscription Cemetery & Accounting	£446.40
Advanced Arboriculture, Tree Risk Assessment Survey	£420.00+VAT

The following payments made since the February Meeting were noted:

Clerk, February Salary	£510.22
HMRC, February	£131.60
NEST Pensions, February	£46.06

Hedgehog Highway Project

The local Habitat Group is working on a hedgehog highway project and information about this national initiative (to purchase hole surrounds, information leaflets, display box, and window sticker kits) has been passed on to the Group.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted.

- 24/2/23 Parent Primary School, Request for playground and basketball court to be opened. BPC responded to say they are owned by the developer.
- Keep Britain Tidy, Great British Spring Clean 17 March to 2 April.
- South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership, Invitation to annual forum Wednesday 22nd March 2023, 09.15-13.00 on Teams. Councillors may choose to arrange individually to attend.

Closure of the Meeting

It was resolved in accordance with the 1960 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act to exclude the public and press during consideration of the following item(s) because of the commercial-in-confidence nature of the business.

Parish Lengthsman Contract

It was resolved to accept the application from the current Parish Lengthsman.

BPC Maintenance Contractor Contract

It was resolved that the quote submitted by the 2020-23 contractor is acceptable and to delegate the Clerk authority in consultation with the Chair, Cllr Rake, to make arrangements to ensure that the insurance and highway safety awareness components of the specifications are met. BPC values the work done in the role. If the insurance and highway safety awareness components are met BPC will enter into a new contract, as per the specifications, with the 2020-23 contractor.

Cemetery Waste Management Plan

Cllr Rake described the quoted labelled sustainably sourced oak post proposal and left the meeting. The alternative considered was 7.5 cm round posts with an aluminium sign.

It was resolved to purchase two labelled 8cmx8cmx140cm oak posts at a cost of £90 each and that the exact location for the site to temporarily store excess soil will be considered in the site meeting in the Cemetery on Friday 9 March. The final wording on the posts also needs to be determined. Cllr Rake returned to the meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 4th April 2023** at 7.30 pm.

Council contacts

Cllr Ruth Coe	01803 712131	ruth@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Sol Curry	07941 103308	sol@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Alan Mallyon	01803 712799	alan@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Robin Mewes, Vice-chair	07733 097551	robin@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Chris Oughton	01803 302487	chriso@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Simon Rake, Chair	01803 712103	simon@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Steve Thomas	01803 712840	steve@blackawtoncommunity.com
Annette Thom, Parish Clerk	01803 722417	parishclerk@blackawtoncommunity.com

Tree Warden, Bob Harvey 01803 712662 clyston23@gmail.com
Parish Lengthsman, Ian Cumberlidge 07773 691260

Other contacts

Police non-urgent reporting 101 dartmouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
or 101@dc.police.uk or www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-area/teams/Dartmouth/Contact
South Hams Cllr Helen Reeve 01548 821306 Cllr.Helen.Reeve@southhams.gov.uk
South Hams District Council 01803 861234 customer.services@southhams.gov.uk
SHDC emergency out of hours 01803 867034
Devon County Cllr Julian Brazil 01548 511109 julian.brazil@devon.gov.uk
or 07970 971140
Devon County Council 0845 155 1015 customer@devon.gov.uk
or 0345 155 1015

There are **Report It** buttons on www.blackawtoncommunity.com to report problems to DCC (eg. highway issues such as potholes and flooding) and SHDC (eg. planning enforcement, missed waste collection, fly tipping, and abandoned vehicles).

the Wider Community

CHSW Easter Fair

from Sue Tweed

There will be an Easter Fair in aid of **Children's Hospice South West** on

Saturday 1st April from 10 am to 3 pm

at The Old Market in Dartmouth

There will be a prize for the best Easter hat and stalls will be selling lovely crafts, books, jewellery, cakes, gifts and much more. All proceeds from this event will help CHSW to provide essential specialist care and support for over 550 families with life-limited children in the South West. All stalls are now sold.

Contact Sue Tweed on **01803 770730** or **tweed833@btinternet.com** for further details.

The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming & District

from John Light

Where friendliness matters above all else.

The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming and District has been in existence since 1984. We meet fortnightly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The meetings start at 10.30 am with coffee followed by a speaker at 11 am and on the first meeting of the month we also have lunch at 12.30 pm.

Please call John Light on **01803 834861** or email **johnlight1@gmail.com** for more information and to arrange to be welcomed to a trial meeting.

Our meeting in April are:

April 12th	Lunch	David Ramsden	Climate and Ecological Crisis. What's all the fuss?
April 26th	Coffee	Mark Cooper	Royal Navy Submarines

from the Editor

Please send your Beacon contributions by email to **beacon@blackawtoncommunity.com**. Contributions on paper can be dropped off at 1 The Cross, Park Lane. The deadline for the May edition is **Friday 21st April**.

If you would like to make a donation, please put **Beacon** on the outside of the envelope and put it in the Church's donation box beside the visitors book, or drop it off at 1, The Cross, Park Lane. Please note that cheques must be payable to **Blackawton Parish Church**. Thank you.

Andrew Morrow



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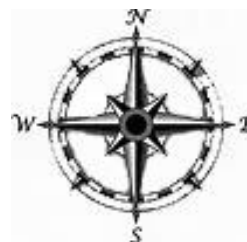
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Parish Diary

April 2023

every Thursday	12.00	Blackawton School Community Lunch	School
Saturday 1st	10.00 am	Children's Hospice South West Easter Fair	Dartmouth Market
Tuesday 4th	7.30 pm	Blackawton Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Wednesday 5th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to The Willows via Totnes	Bus shelter
	6.15 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
Friday 7th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 8th	9.00 am	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	10.30 am	Make Do and Mend	Village Hall
Tuesday 11th	11.55 am	Mobile library	Bus shelter
Wednesday 12th	6.15 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
Thursday 13th	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 14th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 15th	9.00 am	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
		Playpark Tidy Up Day	Playpark
Tuesday 18th	6.00 pm	Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall
Wednesday 19th	9.00 am	Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	10.30 am	WI meeting	Village Hall
	6.15 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
Thursday 20th	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 21st	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
		Deadline for May Beacon	
Saturday 22nd	9.00 am	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
Tuesday 25th	6.00 pm	Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
Wednesday 26th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Newton Abbot via Totnes	Bus shelter
	6.15 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
Thursday 27th	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 28th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 29th	9.00 am	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	10.30 am	Make Do and Mend	Village Hall
Sunday 30th	10.00 am	37th Blackawton International Festival of Wormcharming	
	2.00 pm?	Wormcharming Fun Dog Show	The secret field
	7.00 pm	Wormcharming Charity Auction	The George Inn



May 2023

Thursday 4th		Local Council elections	Village Hall
Sunday 7th	12.00 am	Bring-and-Share Big Lunch	Churchyard
Saturday 20th	2.00 pm	Christian Aid Jumble Sale	Village Hall



Blackawton Community Growing

Garden waste is a valuable resource and we should promote its conversion locally to a readily available compost to maintain soil fertility

Please circle your response

1. Are you a Blackawton resident? ... YES / NO
2. Do you think a community compost scheme is a good idea? ... YES / NO

IF you have answered YES to the above please continue:-

3. Do you purchase compost? ... YES / NO
4. Would you be happy to bring your material to a site? ... YES / NO
5. Would you prefer a call-&-collect scheme? ... YES / NO
6. Do you think both should be available? ... YES / NO
7. Would you be prepared to volunteer a little time/some skills? ... YES / NO
8. Do you have any relevant equipment you might lend? ... YES / NO
9. Could you suggest an appropriate site within the village? ... YES / NO
10. Do you compost garden material at home? ... YES / NO
11. If you don't compost at home would you like to learn how? ... YES / NO
12. Would you like to be kept informed of any developments? ... YES / NO

Thanks so much for completing this survey. Please return it to **Blackawton Community Shop**.
Phone for a chat about composting, **01803 712131**.

Be assured that if you fill in any of your details they will ONLY be used in connection with Blackawton Community Growing and will NOT be passed on to any third party.

Name:

Phone:

Email: