



Blackawton Beacon

February 2023

published jointly by the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council

Blackawton Community presents



LOUNGE

ADULTS ONLY



Saturday 11th February – 7 pm til 10 pm

Blackawton Village Hall

Please bring your own drinks, etc.

Entry is FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

Dust off those dancing shoes, get ready to throw some shapes and party like it's 1999!
Please come along, the music sounds better with yo'

Blackawton School Community Lunches



Every Thursday during term-time at 12.00 noon
Starting on 2nd February 2023

Hot lunch with vegetables and vegetarian option, plus dessert

2nd February menu is minced beef pie or vegetable pie with Christmas pudding

*Usually £5.00 per person – but until Easter it will be by **donation only***

To Book for the Community Lunch please telephone the School Office on **01803 712363**
or email **admin@blackawtonprimary.org.uk** by the day before.

Calling All Entertainers!

from **Scott Wilson**



Open Mic Night at The George Inn

Saturday 25th February from 8.00 pm



Are you a musician, comedian, poet or entertainer? Would you be interested in sharing your talents with our village? If so, please come down to The George Inn on Saturday 2nd July from 8.00 pm.

This event is getting bigger and more popular every time. Why not come along and support what great talent we have in our village.

Contact Scott, **scottyrocks@hotmail.co.uk**, with any enquiries.

St Michael's Church

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
Sunday 5th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion (by extension)
Sunday 12th February	6. 30 pm	Plough Service (see below)
Sunday 19th February	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 22nd February Ash Wednesday	7.00 pm	Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes <i>United Benefice service</i>
Sunday 26th February	9.30 am	Breakfast Church

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**.

Why Plough Sunday?

Plough Monday, the first Monday after the Epiphany, goes back to Medieval times. It was when everyone returned to work after the Christmas holiday. At this time, farm workers went round begging for money and asking for work. They took a plough with them, and, if they were not given money or work it is said that they ploughed a furrow across the person’s garden! An ancient kind of “Trick or Treat.”

Today, Plough Sunday is when we ask God’s blessing on the plough, the tool that cuts into the earth (unless you’re practising a “no plough” method of cultivation), opening the soil to receive the seed that will produce new growth. The working plough symbolizes the start of the farming year, and heralds a new cycle of nature. In our Service, we will ask the Lord of creation for his blessing on those who work on the land in our own country, and we will remember the millions who live in places in our world where poverty and starvation are rife.

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.

The Reverend Ronald White

from **Polly Morrow**

Those of us in the parish who remember Rev. Ron, as he was often known, were very sad to hear that he died just before Christmas, at home, in the village of Hemyock where he was born and brought up. He was Vicar of Blackawton and Rector of Stoke Fleming from 1988 until 2000, and was a very popular incumbent.

Having been brought up on his family's farm, and having been a teacher for quite a few years, he was immediately at home in our farming community, and also made himself very welcome in our school. He was as skilled at playing his beloved piano accordion as he was playing a piano or organ, and equally at home as a choir master. He and John Donaldson, choir master and organist in church when Ron arrived, enjoyed working together very much, and he often acted in the village pantomime, relishing every minute of silliness.

In church, his sermons were concise and very worth listening to, but often with his sense of humour apparent then too. At that time, there were quite a few children of a wide age range in the church choir, and they played an elaborate game throughout his sermons, which involved listening for a word beginning with each letter of the alphabet in turn – at Q they could drop their hymn books; at Z they could walk out. Ron was well aware of this (after all, it made them pay very close attention to his words!) and once devised a sermon to make sure they got both Q and Z. But he hadn't realised that the words had to come in order, and was bemused to find them still sitting in their pews, delighted to have outwitted him. He was as pleased as they were.

He was in school regularly, taking assemblies - often with his accordion, and he wholeheartedly welcomed all age groups into church for Harvest and Christmas. He never lost sight of his East Devon farming roots and Plough Sunday, with a group of Young Farmers taking part each year, was very important to him.

The words most often used to describe him since the news of his death filtered through to those who remember him here have been 'he was a lovely man'. He was – and his wife Val, and daughters Jackie and Alison, will miss him a great deal.

Reader's Ramblings

from **Frank Robinson**

Lyn and I have been married now for fifty years, give or take ... but not to each other! After celebrating twenty five years of happy marriage both of our partners went down with cancer in the same year and died within months of each other. A devastating blow for us and our respective children.

As it turned out we had mutual friends. I was invited to practice for a charity concert we were doing with the husband. Afterwards his wife started chatting to me. "Have you ever thought of remarrying?" - not what I wanted to hear. "And, if you did, what sort of woman would you be looking for" - gets worse doesn't it? Well, I had recently heard a radio programme in which a panel of four men were asked what their ideal woman was - can you believe it! Three answered, doing their utmost to sound clever. The fourth, Frank Muir, I think, listened to all this and then said "a rich nymphomaniac with a flat above a brewery". So this was my answer - not quite what one Christian should say to another.

I was convinced that was the end of another fine friendship! However sometime later I was invited to supper, and Lyn was also there. We found we had a mutual attraction, though I couldn't understand what she saw in me! Our relationship progressed rapidly. And this February we will be celebrating 25 years of very happy marriage to each other. (I could of course write a book about the early difficulties for our children, but that's another story - happily resolved). So we have been married for 50 years!

And what's the point of me telling you all this? There are people who think that being a Christian means a life of unending joy and happiness. Well, becoming a Christian gives you a tremendous sense of peace and joy, but the Bible doesn't say anything about unending happiness. We are not protected from suffering. When, in the Merchant of Venice, Shylock was describing being a Jew, he said "If you prick me will I not bleed?" If you prick me I, too, will bleed.

Lyn and I have, like many of you, faced pain and suffering but we know our union was God-given. In the Bible we read "I know the plans I have for you, plans for good ..." In ways that we sometimes don't even recognise ourselves, God is in this with us. Sometimes He is so close we can almost touch Him. We hope that whatever your story is in 2023 you will not be walking alone.

Happy New Year, God bless you all.

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 Warm Space

from **Alan Mallyon**, Blackawton Parish Council

Unfortunately, due to a lack of support for the **Warm Space**, offered by the George Inn, funded by the community shop and run by volunteers, it has been decided to cease opening as from **Friday 27th January**.



JUMBLE SALE



Saturday 4th March 2023 at 2.00 pm
Blackawton Village Hall
Hall open from 10.00 am for donations
Bric-a-brac, clothes, books, toys etc.
50p entry Please note this is a cash only sale.

Blackawton WI

from **Sandra Tope**

Our first meeting of the year saw a depleted attendance due to the icy weather that morning. This was a shame as we had a very interesting talk by one of our members, all about the Workhouse in Totnes. Opened in the 1830s, it was at the site of Broomborough Hospital which is now housing. If you were unfortunate to end up living there, men, women and children all had separate wards, and were not allowed to socialise. Upon entry, all your possessions were removed from you and your house let to someone else. Once there, you were there for life! This seems very harsh to us these days. The children were given an education which was probably better than the children outside the workhouse. The teacher was a Mrs Tope, and I'm interested to know if this is any relation to my husband's family, so more research is needed I think! The bloom of the month was won by Christine Bond with a very early Camelia. The competition was for a trio of homemade biscuits, and this was won by Marion Wreyford with her jammy dodgers.

We are having a **jumble sale** on **March 4th** at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall. As usual the hall will be open from 10.00 am in the morning for your donations. We hope to see many of you back again in the afternoon, where there will be all the usual stalls, bric-a-brac, clothing, books, toys as well as a raffle and teas. Entry is 50p, and please note this is a **cash only** sale.

Our book club read *Persuasion* by Jane Austin over Christmas. Some of us found it a little hard going, although luckily the film was on television over the Christmas period, and the book was also discussed on the radio, so that helped. As usual there many differing opinions and these were discussed at length before tea and cake were provided! Our next book is *1984* by George Orwell, another challenging book to read.

We are a very lively and busy group and would love to get some more members, so if you would like to join us please get in touch with either Christine **01803 712271**, or Sandra **01803 712622**.

Blackawton Nursery

STAY & PLAY

Every Wednesday from 9.30 – 11.00 am in the Nursery Hut

If you have a child aged from birth to 3 years come along and meet other parents whilst your child plays. For more information about the session or about our Nursery please phone **01803 712363**.

Make Do and Mend

from **Lesley Mallyon and Andrea Scott**

Thank you to everyone who attended our first **Make Do and Mend** meeting at the Village Hall on January 14th, and made it the fantastic success it was. We are proposing to make it a bi-monthly meeting in the future. The next dates will be:

February 4th followed by February 18th
Village Hall 10.30 am - 1.00 pm

Again there will be options like **knitting, stitching, patching** and **repairing** but also a chance to get help with small domestic and garden **machinery repairs, computing problems** and maybe an opportunity to get creative with the assistance of one of our many multi-talented residents.

Come along and see what's on offer month by month.

For more information please contact:

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



Sustainable Blackawton

from **Laura Perry**

The darkest, coldest and wettest days of January that make hibernation feel like a really great idea are behind us and we hope February means spring will be not far away?!

The project to improve biodiversity in the churchyard of St Michaels church has started with sowing yellow rattle seeds to reduce the vigour of the grass, and the planting of three apple trees. Mini wild flower

meadows are planned and are the next step, do join us if you would like to. An ash tree suffering from dieback was recently removed from the churchyard, and we plan to replace this with two rowan trees.

The Devon Composting Network (check out DCCN website) plan to publish helpful information for three levels of garden waste composting (at home for one or a few householders, a larger scheme for such as allotments, schools etc and a regulated scheme for a community composting site). All of these may be applicable to Blackawton, and their experts (Nicky Scott and Ben Bryant) are willing to advise. Sustainable Blackawton is also keen to help and may arrange a visit from DCCN folk to speak about the many, varied benefits of composting – watch this space!

Four more fruit trees have been planted in our community orchard in an attempt to increase the diversity of fruit. Provided by Devon Wildlife Trust, we now have two plum trees and two cherry trees.

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 14th February** at 11.55 am, at the bus shelter.

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

Wormcharming

from **Chris Oughton**

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

Sunday 30th April 2023

Registration for teams closes at 12.00 noon

We're still looking for volunteers to help with organisation and on the day. If you can help, please come to our next meeting at 7.30 pm on

Thursday 2nd February at The George Inn.

Finally, we want your old crockery and china – please drop off outside the village shop, or contact **aspinzoe@gmail.com**.



West Dart Community Bus



Travel on the West Dart Bus to Dartmouth, Totnes, Newton Abbot or The Willows, Torquay. Save on fuel and parking, sit back and enjoy the ride. Great views, meet people and help save the planet!

Travel is free! Donations are very welcome.

Timetable for February:

Wednesday 1st February	The Willows, Torquay via Totnes
Friday 3rd February	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 10th February	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 17th February	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Wednesday 22nd February	Newton Abbot via Totnes
Friday 24th February	Dartmouth via Dittisham

Departing from Blackawton Bus Shelter at 9.30 am and arriving back at approximately 1.00 pm. If you can't get to the bus stop just call to book in advance and we will pick you up.

To book or hire the bus, or volunteer, email info@ringandrider.net or call 01752 690444.

We are still looking for school bus driver(s).

Interested? Call **01752 690444** or email **info@ringandrider.net**.

Your local co-ordinator is Claudia Benzies **07849 142455** (leave a message).



Henry Richards' Dog Walking Service

Tel: **07562 321233** or enquire at The Old Shop,
Ruby House for rates and times.
Blackawton village only
(free for short-term unplanned emergency needs)



Community Shop

from **Kate Purver**

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

Opening times

Shop:	Monday to Friday	8.30 am – 5.00 pm	
	Saturday	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	afternoon: closed
	Sunday	10.00 am – 12.00 noon	afternoon: closed

Post Office: Monday to Saturday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm



The shop has expanded its **value range** of **price marked** items – we now have over 20 of these products, including tinned and frozen goods and lots of household basics.

We offer **refills** for Faith in Nature shampoo, conditioner and shower gel plus a range of soap bars. It's **cheaper** to refill, and uses **less plastic**.

We support **local businesses** and are always interested in finding out about new products to sell in the village shop. We currently stock the following local products:

Kindling and logs from the Raleigh Estate

South Hams farm fresh meat from **Durants Butchers, Stokeley**

Hallett's the Bakers fresh breads, pastries and buns delivered daily

A range of **local artists gift cards**

Aune Valley frozen meats

Sharpham cheeses and wines, including a pink fizz and the estate white

Ever popular **Heat and Eat** frozen meals including a range of meat, fish and plant main courses, plus apple crumble and sticky toffee puddings

Rich Chicks eggs

Organic vegetables from **Venn Farm**

Tubs of ice cream and sorbets from **Dartmouth Ice Cream**

Hunts ciders - scrumpy made using apples from the farm in Stoke Gabriel

Trewithen Dairy milk, butter and yoghurt

... and the list goes on! ...

Pop in to have a browse. Stay for a free cup of tea or coffee and find out more about your community shop. We are here for you.



February's Wine of the Month Anakena Cabernet Sauvignon, Chile **£6.95 per bottle or two for £13**

A rich, full-bodied red from the slopes of the Chilean Andes. It is packed with plum, blackcurrant, bramble and dark fruit flavours, with a rich palate of juicy fruit and a long lingering finish. Ideal with a warming winter casserole.

Community fund

We have had a couple of requests from local organisations for funding from the sum we set aside from 2021-22 profit (requests which hopefully by the time you read this will have been responded to positively). If your organisation has another project which will benefit the community and which needs some funds, please email us soon at **blackawtonshop@gmail.com**. Otherwise, we'll donate any non-allocated funds from the "pot" to local charities before the end of this financial year (31st March).

Village Hall

Hall Cleaner Required

2 hours most weeks with 3 hours one week per month, possibly not in August depending on bookings. Hourly rate and timing negotiable. Email application to **villagehall@blackawtoncommunity.com** or phone **07890 392444** for more details.

February events at the Village Hall

Make Do and Mend Saturday 4th at 10.30 am

Blackawton Parish Council meeting Tuesday 7th at 7.30 pm.

Disco Lounge 2 (adults only) Saturday 11th at 7.00 pm.

Blackawton WI meeting Wednesday 15th at 10.30 am

Make Do and Mend Saturday 18th at 10.30 am

Weekly classes

Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class with Hannah Roberts (07951 079608)

Tuesday 7th, 21st and 28th, 5.45 – 7.15 pm.

Wednesday 1st, 8th and 22nd, 9.00 - 10.15 am.

Seated Yoga: Wednesday 1st, 8th and 22nd, 10.15 - 11.30 am.

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

Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd, 6.00 - 7.00 pm.

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

Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd, 7.30 – 8.30 pm.

Thursday 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, 6.00 - 6.50 pm.

Dance With Flavia (info@flaviacacace.com)

Thursday 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, 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**.

Parish Council

Blackawton Parish Council Contracts

We invite applications for two contracts:

Parish Lengthsman To supplement Devon County Council's work and keep clear the drainage holes which take water off the lanes in the Parish.

Maintenance To remove vegetation from and monitor St Michael's churchyard walls and to do ad-hoc maintenance work for the Parish Council.

For further information please contact the Clerk to Blackawton Parish Council:

01803 722417 or **parishclerk@blackawtoncommunity.com**

Closing date: **Thursday 23rd February 2023**

The Thoughts of Chairman Rake

from **Simon Rake**

Money and votes

One of the first things one learns as a new councillor is that Parish Councils have an unlimited power of taxation. Whereas our friends in District and County Councils have caps on the amount by which they can increase their tax charges, the humble Parish Council faces no such restrictions. Although being given access to such power has a certain thrill initially, reality soon kicks in as the consequences of slapping a massive tax bill on parishioners (and of course on oneself) become clear.

So in fact, the Parish Council's annual budget process tends to be a very sober, restrained affair. We review expenditure over the past year, and the levels of reserves we hold against future spending needs. We then try to estimate what expenditure we will make over the coming year and assess whether we need to add to our reserves. The total we come up with (the precept) is then split between all the homes in the Parish, according to their Council Tax band, and included in your Council Tax bill.

In both absolute and relative terms, the sums involved are really quite small. For a Band D property, the share of your Council Tax that comes to the Parish Council is around 2% of the total bill (so, a week's worth of the full year payment) for a total last year of £42.86 for a Band D property. The remaining £2,050 or so goes to District and County Councils and the Police and Fire services.

However, last year our income only barely covered our expenditure – everything is getting more expensive for councils too – and we need to increase some of our reserves to cover unexpected events. As a result we have a proposed increase in our precept to £53.22 for a Band D property, or a little over £1 per week for properties in this band (I say proposed, as the final decision will be taken shortly after the Beacon deadline). Any decision to increase the precept, particularly at a time when there are so many factors pressing on people's finances, is a hard one to take. That said, I hope you will agree that at around £1 a week per household, your contribution to the Parish Council represents reasonable value for money.

Which, in a roundabout way, brings us on to votes. There will be elections for Parish and District Councils this coming May. This will give you a chance not only to vote, but also to stand for election. At the last Parish Council elections in 2019 Blackawton had only six candidates, for seven positions. As a result all six were 'elected' unopposed and one of our first tasks was to co-opt a seventh member (the unelected choosing the unelected). Far healthier for democracy would be to have more than seven candidates, so that an actual election would take place, and people could make their choice.

So if you are at all interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, if you think you have something to offer our community, if you are horrified by our profligate budgeting or if you support what we are doing and would like to join in, I would urge you to get in touch with me, or any of my fellow Councillors, to discuss what the role entails. Who knows, maybe you too could experience the brief tingle of excitement at being told you have unlimited powers when it comes to taxation, followed by the dawning of a more sober reality.

Blackawton Parish Council meeting

from **Annette Thom**, Parish Clerk

Notes of the Monthly Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.30 pm in Blackawton Village Hall. Complete minutes can be read at **www.blackawtoncommunity.com** or the parish noticeboard.

Open Forum

TQ6 Community Partnership. Invited guests representing the TQ6 Community Partnership discussed its community-led approach, evolution, and activities and successes. They are willing to support Blackawton Parish Council and Blackawton as requested by BPC.

Present: Councillors Thomas (meeting Chair), Coe, Mallyon, and Oughton were present, as were South Hams District Cllr Reeve, Devon County Cllr Brazil (for his report), and A Thom (Clerk).

Election of Chair

It was unanimously resolved to elect Cllr Thomas to be the Chair of the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Rake and Mewes.

Report from South Hams District Council Councillor

To guarantee garden waste collection from April the deadline to submit a request to SHDC is 22 January. Households can request two bins, both would be paid for. Please give SHDC feedback if you are aware of difficulties with waste collection from your household, to help SHDC to prepare.

Cllr Reeve has been in touch with SHDC's Officer for the French Furze Business Units and with the Section 106 Officer. A site meeting at the Business Units is to be arranged for the near future. Cllr Reeve is not aware of any progress with the MUGA. Cllr Oughton reported that there is a new School Lane gate, a barrier on the footpath to Main Street, and that the new waste bin has been emptied.

Report from Devon County Council Councillor

Cllr Brazil said he was disappointed to report that a motion to support pedestrian and cyclist transport over cars was not carried. Children's Services still needs improvement; a decision might be taken in the next few months to take it off DCC. Cllr Brazil said that DCC's budget is perilous and residents should expect that the full 5% increase permitted will be collected in 23/24. Cllr Brazil has been contacted by a resident regarding multiple potholes on the road between Bow and Millcombe. Cllr Mallyon noted a fairly recent repair by DCC of some of this area and that the first 50 metres of that route are affected by farmers vehicles. HATOC will meet on 3 February.

Planning Applications

SHDC Planning Decisions

095/21/CLP Greenslade House Greenslade Road TQ9 7BP. Certificate of Lawfulness for commencement of planning permission 2531/18/FUL. **Cert of Lawfulness (Proposed) Certified.**

- 4166/22/ARC Woodfin Cottage Blackawton TQ9 7BW. Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 (schedule of materials) of planning consent 2099/22/HHO. **Discharge of condition Approved.**
- 3592/22/HHO 11 Cheavestone Lea Blackawton TQ9 7AU. Householder application for single storey rear dining & utility room extension with associated internal alterations & external works. **Conditional Approval.**
- 3172/22/TPO Wadstray House Blackawton TQ9 7DE. T1: Beech - remove to prevent tree failure onto property due to Ganoderma, T2: Beech - pollard to 10m from ground level to prevent tree failure onto road due to Ganoderma. **Tree Works Allowed.**
- 3533/22/PDM Higher Pasture Farm East Allington TQ9 7QA. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of 3 agricultural buildings to 5 dwellinghouses (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q (a+b)). **Withdrawn.**

Review of New Applications

- 3929/22/FUL & 3930/22/LBC: Larcombe Farm East Allington TQ9 7QB. Application for listed building consent for planning approval and listed building consent for conversion of existing listed barn (part of which was historically built as a house) into additional self contained domestic accommodation ancillary to the existing farmhouse to which it is attached. Along with erection of an outbuilding for storage and bat roost. It was resolved to **Support**.
- 2927/22/FUL Neighbouring parish: Halwell Business Park Halwell TQ9 7LQ. Provision of a new industrial warehouse building. It was resolved to **Support** on the condition that solar panels are installed on the roof.

Consultations

- DCC, Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Organisations' work, Closes 13/1/23
 - Devon and Severn IFCA, Proposed new Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw 2022. Closes 20/01/23
- No comment will be made by BPC on the consultations above.

Cost of Living – 'Warm Place' in The George Inn

Cllr Coe commended the resource folder put together by Cllr Thomas. The 'Warm Place' events are not being used. They will run to the end of January 2023. It is expected that community lunches will take place weekly in the School from 2 February. It was resolved to grant £200 to support a trial to the end of March 2023 offering the community lunches funded by donation.

Blackawton 'Community Natter' Event

It was agreed that Cllrs Coe and Thomas will start a working group and will invite members of other groups in the Parish to join. They will feedback to BPC and the TQ6 Partnership is very willing to support the group.

Home Energy Efficiency

Cllr Coe will provide an information pack to homes with a published energy efficiency rating of 'F'.

Grounds Management in the Churchyard

A draft Action Plan has been circulated. Yellow rattle seed has been sown and three apples planted in the area approved by the Diocese. One proposal is for kerbed graves to be planted to create a mini flower meadow. Bulbs will be planted around the porch to the left of the entrance and next to paths. Cllr Coe will also plant two rowans to replace the ash removed recently. The management of the avenue of cherry trees is to be discussed by the February meeting.

Lengthsman Hours

It was resolved to allocate an additional ten hours in 22/23.

Clerk's Role

The Clerk said a review will be done of the role's priorities, and jobs which can be done differently or stopped. It was agreed subscription emails will be forwarded automatically.

Carbon Savvy Course

The action from Module 1 is to calculate a carbon footprint – which shows where the biggest gains are to be found. The resources show how to do this – there are three options which take around 5 mins, the Taster (1 min) or Full calculator (45 mins). The Clerk will advertise the Module 1 resources. Module 2 – Home Energy - will be screened at the start of the 7 February meeting of BPC (a 15 minute video).

Finance

Update on Current Financial Position. The financial reports were noted. They showed a total balance of £54,693.48, unearmarked general fund of £13,664.59, and reconciled.

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

ARCCAS, Churchyard frequent maintenance zones, 5/10/22 & 2/11/22 £180.00

Parish Lengthsman, 22/10-21/11	£473.00
KD Plant Hire, Digger work to grave in Cemetery	£350.00 +VAT
Clerk, December 2022 Expenses reimbursement	£17.29

The following payments made since the December meeting were noted:

Clerk, December Salary	£527.45
HMRC, December	£136.20
NEST Pensions, December	£47.66

2023/24 Budget

A Zoom discussion on Wednesday 18 January at 2pm and an extraordinary meeting to decide 23/24 budget on Wednesday 25 January at 2 pm were provisionally scheduled.

Correspondence

The following invitation was noted: South Devon AONB 2023 Partners Conference, 25/1/23 Moreleigh Hall. The Clerk will share a map showing the part of Blackawton which is in the AONB.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 7th February 2023** at 7.30 pm. You are most welcome to join the meeting and to raise any issues which may be of concern to you.

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	clyston@waitrose.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

Dartmouth Art Society

from **Sue Tweed**

Need a bit of New Year motivation to develop and continue with your love of painting? It's a very relaxing hobby and Dartmouth Art Society welcomes everyone, either novice or seasoned painter.

We hold our weekly meetings on **Thursdays** at Townstal Hall in Dartmouth from 1.30 to 4.30 pm. Why not come along to see what we do? We offer a friendly and casual atmosphere and help is always available to develop your skills. Throughout the year we offer demos and workshops for our members. Car parking and refreshments are available.

For more information, have a look at our website **dartartsociety.wixsite.com/townstal** or phone Sue Tweed on **01803 770730**, or why not just pop along to see us?

Where friendliness matters above all else.

New members needed!

Are you sociable? Do you enjoy male company and getting out of the house in the day to meet new friends? Stoke Fleming and District Probus Club is actively recruiting new members for our regular meetings at the Stoke Lodge Hotel. We are a mixed group of friendly chaps who meet on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings of each month. We always have interesting talks from diverse expert speakers on many varied subjects. After the talk, we adjourn to the bar for a drink and a chat, and at one meeting each month we have lunch together at the Hotel.

Does that sound interesting? - Come and give us a try.

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 February are:

February 8th	Lunch	Brian Golding	The History of Weather Forecasting
February 22nd	Coffee	Jeremy Wilson	History of Tea

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 March edition is **Monday 20th February**.

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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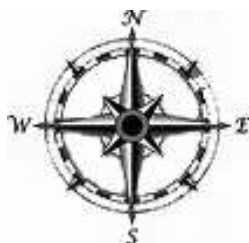


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Parish Diary

February 2023

every Thursday	12.00	Blackawton School Community Lunch	School
Wednesday 1st	9.00 am	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to The Willows via Totnes	Bus shelter
	10.15 am	Hartspace Hatha Seated Yoga	Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
Thursday 2nd	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Wormcharming meeting	The George Inn
Friday 3rd	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 4th	10.30 am	Make Do and Mend	Village Hall
Tuesday 7th	5.45 pm	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Blackawton Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Wednesday 8th	9.00 am	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	10.15 am	Hartspace Hatha Seated Yoga	Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
Thursday 9th	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 10th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 11th	7.00 pm	Disco Lounge 2	Village Hall
Tuesday 14th	11.55 am	Mobile library	Bus shelter
Wednesday 15th	10.30 am	WI meeting	Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
Thursday 16th	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 17th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 18th	10.30 am	Make Do and Mend	Village Hall
Monday 20th		Deadline for March Beacon	
Tuesday 21st	5.45 pm	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
Wednesday 22nd	9.00 am	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall
	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Newton Abbot via Totnes	Bus shelter
	10.15 am	Hartspace Hatha Seated Yoga	Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Keep Fit Class	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
Thursday 23rd	6.00 pm	DanceHiiT with Flavia Cacace-Mistry	Village Hall
	7.00 pm	Dance with Flavia	Village Hall
Friday 24th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 25th	8.00 pm	Open Mic Night	The George Inn
Tuesday 28th	5.45 pm	Hartspace Hatha Yoga Class	Village Hall

March 2023

Saturday 4th	2.00 pm	Blackawton WI jumble sale	Village Hall
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