



# Blackawton Beacon

## October 2023

published jointly by the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council



### AUDITIONS

at 3.00 pm, Sunday 1st October

in the Village Hall

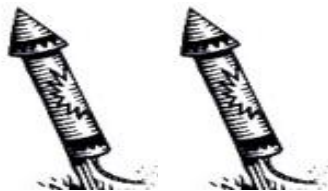


### for a Pantomime

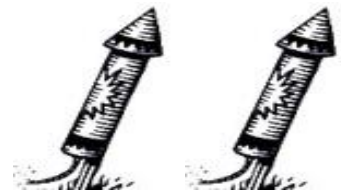
to be performed on

Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd February 2024

Please come along if you'd like to be involved in any capacity, on- or back-stage.  
If you'd like to be involved but are unable to attend the auditions, please contact  
Kate Janman [kate.janman@gmail.com](mailto:kate.janman@gmail.com) 01803 712362.



## Blackawton Fireworks



Saturday November 11th 2023

Procession starting from The George Inn 6.00 pm

We know you all love this extraordinary village extravaganza so we are doing it again !!!!  
We can only put this on because of the previous years donations although our funds are quite depleted so financing it this year will have to come from this years donations.  
As in previous years there will be the drinks trailer and the food team.

**Additional contributions and sponsorship will be greatly appreciated**

As well as the usual "crew" we are gathering names of new people to the village who want to get involved with either the preparation, the evening (food / drink / marshalling) or the clear down – or all of it !!!

If you want to join us please drop an email to [p.hathaway@live.co.uk](mailto:p.hathaway@live.co.uk).

And follow us on facebook – **blackawton fireworks**.

**Look forward to seeing you all there**

# St Michael's Church

## Services for October

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
Sunday 1st October	9. 30am	Holy Communion (by extension)
Wednesday 4th October	7.00 pm	Harvest Festival (followed by refreshments)
Sunday 8th October	9.30 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 15th October	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd October	9.30 am	Breakfast Church
Sunday 29th October	11.00 am	Holy Communion: United Benefice service <i>at St Michael's, Strete</i>

The Church will be decorated for Harvest Festival from 10.00 am on **Tuesday 3rd October**. Any produce, flowers or help would be very welcome.

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**.

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 **Jenny Harris**

Trees are fascinating and their functions are many. They absorb carbon dioxide, along with other polluting gases, storing the carbon while re-oxygenating the air. They also help prevent soil erosion, help to slow water evaporation, and more. Many trees are mentioned in the Bible, useful for their wood (such as the cedars of Lebanon) and their fruits such as the pomegranate, fig, palm and olive. The olive is a wonderful tree and was important in biblical times; its oil was used for eating, cooking, anointing in worship and as a healing balm; its leaves have medicinal properties. The palm tree also gives much: fruit, wine from the sap; leaf stems used to make ropes and rigging; leaves used for many different articles and to provide shade; tall straight trunks valuable for their timber. It is known as the tree of life by desert people.

When you next go for a walk, find a tree and just sit or stand beneath it, observe the canopy of branches that seasonally burst with buds, leaves, flowers and fruit; just marvel at its beauty. Thank God for trees which add such richness to his creation. In the Bible whilst resting under a fig tree Nathanael was seen and chosen by Jesus. Little Zachaeus sat among the branches of a sycamore tree and saw Jesus, who called him to God's service.

Reflect on the following verses from the Book of Psalms.

*Psalms 52, verse 3:* But I am like an olive tree, thriving in the house of God. I will always trust in God's unfailing love.

*Psalms 42, verse 12:* But the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. Peace and joy be with you all.

## Our church team

Churchwardens    Kate Janman   01803 712362  
                             Chris Janman   01803 712362

Lay Readers    Frank Robinson   01803 712249  
                             Lyn Robinson     01803 712249

## Blackawton WI

from **Sandra Tope**

We held our latest meeting in the Sportsmans Arms, due to the hall being out of action. Considering the horrendous weather that morning, we had a good turn out to hear the speaker, Daniella Hopkins from Children's Hospice South West. We were all spellbound listening to her, she was certainly very passionate about the charity and the people they help. They are on the lookout for a few younger fundraisers, so if you have any spare time, please give them a hand. A couple of our members are on the local committee in Dartmouth and many members knit items to be sold at their various sales throughout the year. We came away from the morning feeling grateful that we have never needed their services, but humbled at all they do. Daniella then judged the Bloom of the month and the competition (of a homemade toy to donate). Sue Taylor won the Bloom with a beautiful yellow Rose, and Marion Wreyford won the Competition with a knitted octopus Well done to both.

Outings this month have included a walk around Stokenham, and a bus trip to Dartmoor, with lunch at Widdecombe-in-the-Moor. As it was still in the school summer holidays we were able to hire the West Dart Bus for the day. It was a beautiful summer's day and the heather and gorse were out in flower, making for stunning scenery.

Our October meeting is an all day craft one, where members will be able to make a pewter picture frame or coaster before lunch, and a Xmas tree decoration afterwards. Again, the meeting will be held at **Sportsmans Arms**, at 10.30 am, on **October 18th**. As usual there will be the Bloom of the Month, and the competition is for a Handmade Christmas Card.

Widen your horizons and get more out of life – Join the WI! Whether you live in Blackawton or nearby, the Women's Institute has something to offer you. WI members are everyday women of all ages and backgrounds involved in extraordinary activities from local campaigns to national issues. The WI gives women like you an opportunity to change the world around you alongside craft and cooking, reading and walking, laughter and friendship. Would you like to learn or develop new skills? The WI will enable you to do that – you choose the way that suits your circumstances. The WI is not a single-issue organisation; through the years it has helped thousands of women turn their concerns into campaigns and their hobbies into much more. Should you wish to join or to find out more, please contact Sue on **01803 712145**, or Sandra **01803 712622**.

### Dog sitter wanted from **Jill Kelly**

We are Blackawton residents seeking someone to look after our 14-year-old springer spaniel in sitter's home while we are on holiday. Reasonable fee will be paid. Or, looking for a local dog owner to exchange dog sitting with.

Please contact Jill on **07879 494914**

### Missing cat from **Jude Robshaw**

Rosie is a one--year-old white and tortoiseshell cat with a small scar on her nose; she is microchipped.

Rosie has been missing since 1st September and was last seen in French Furze Road. There is a **£50 reward** for information leading to her recovery.

Please call or text **07791 932179**



## Blackawton Amateur Dramatic Society

from **Tony Everett**

There will be a play reading of a comedy on **14th October**. If you would like to take part, please contact Tony Everett on **01803 712456**.

### Grand piano for sale from **Bob Barsby** **£2500 ono**

**Young Chang** 5'9" boudoir size, G-175 G033528  
Owned by professional musician from new (1980s), regularly maintained, excellent condition, immaculate mahogany case. Can arrange delivery.

**01803 712154 barsbybob@gmail.com**

### Wooden cot from **Adrian Kyte**

Grandchildren now using beds so the wooden cot (can be stored flat) is now redundant. It comes with a little-used mattress and 2 fitted sheets.

**Free to whoever collects it first**

9 Higher Island **01803 712159**

## Energise your Home for the Future

from Ruth Coe

### Solar Panels, Heat Pumps and Insulation Kingsbridge Area Sustainability and Climate Action

Save the date: **18th November 2023**

Time Slot	Harbour House	Care Hub
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Opening/welcome by Mayor</b>	
10.30 - 11.15	Presentation by Solar PV Co + Q&A	4 x Stands/Tables by SDCE and householders own projects/experiences
11.30 - 12.15	Presentation by Heat Pump Co + Q&A	
13.30 - 14.15	Presentation by Solar PV Co + Q&A (Repeat)	4 x Stands/Tables by SDCE and householders own projects/experiences
14.30 - 15.15	Presentation by Heat Pump Co + Q&A (Repeat)	
<b>15.30 - 15.45</b>	<b>Big thankyou to all participants</b>	

#### Notes:

Presentations will be approx. half hour with 15 mins for questions, same in pm as in am.

Mole Energy re PV and AN Other re ASHP (morning and afternoon).

SDCE all day plus 3 x residents am and same or different 3 x residents pm at Care Hub.

PLUS possible other supplier stall(s) on Market Square (Farmers Market Day).

## Blackawton Ball

from Shirley Smith

Because of the work on the Village Hall roof the Blackawton Ball will now be on

**Saturday 10th Feb 2023**

More details to follow soon. Also, a New Years Eve party is booked to be held in the Village Hall. Again, details to follow once we know the roof is finished.

## Gardentime 20th Anniversary

from Alicia Holden

Since its launch in 2003, Gardentime, which is based between Totnes and Dartmouth in south Devon, has evolved from a modest garden shop to a flourishing garden centre, cafe and farm shop at the heart of the community. The lifelong vision of husband-and-wife owners Chris and Philly Varlow has made this one of the best loved garden centres in Devon. They live on site and know many of their customers personally.

Hands on owners, the pair have dedicated their lives to a business and an industry they love, growing things modestly but steadily. In 2016 the couple added a charming farm shop which stocks a curated selection of fresh produce, baked breads and larder goods sourced locally and from Italy - a reflection of their love of good food. Alongside the shop is The Glasshouse Cafe, a light-filled and informal space at the heart of the centre which is open for breakfast, lunch, drinks and delicious cakes and gives visitors a place to relax and socialise amongst nature. In 2019 they extended the covered area, so that they can offer a more comprehensive selection of plants which would rival any national chain, including classic perennials, shrubs, fruit trees and climbers to more exotic varieties including majestic olives sourced from Italy.

"Our promise is to keep gardening at the core of our business. Our point of difference is our knowledge, passion and access to the very best plants. Our focus every day is keeping our fantastic customers happy, giving them great value and encouraging more people into gardening" said Chris.

Gardentime is open from Monday - Saturday 9.00 am - 5.30 pm and 10.00 am - 4.00 pm on Sundays. To receive your free Loyalty Card and Garden Club membership visit the centre today or sign up online.

## Wildlife study

from Laura Howell

We're doing a project investigating what wildlife we share this beautiful part of the world with and will be putting up a trail camera in various locations around Blackawton. This is a personal interest project only, please contact me on **01803 712358** if you have any concerns.

## 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 24th October** at 11.55 am, at the bus shelter.

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

## West Dart Community Bus



The bus is **available for hire** to local community groups and residents for only £55 + fuel. Maybe there are other events people in Blackawton would like to attend. Let us know in advance and we will try to organise a bus service. How about the Dittisham and Dartmouth Regattas and the Kingsbridge Show? Call Claudia Benzies on **07712 210300** or Dave Hawkes **07803 017521**.

### Regular services

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** or email **info@ringandride.net**.

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 October:

Wednesday 4th	The Willows, Torquay via Totnes
Friday 6th	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 13th	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Friday 20th	Dartmouth via Dittisham
Wednesday 25th	Newton Abbot via Totnes
Friday 27th	Dartmouth via Dittisham

All trips depart from Blackawton Village Hall at 9.25 am, Blackawton Bus Shelter at 9.30 am. Return trips depart at 12.30 pm and arrive in Blackawton about 1.00 pm.

# Village Hall

## Blackawton Horticultural Show

The show was held on a sunny afternoon in early September and a good crowd admired the wonderful veg, flowers and many other entries - including Lyn Sleep's wonderful knitted farm and even John Yunnies's interesting all-day-breakfast cake.

The committee was pleased with the large number of entrants – including many for the first time – and more than three-quarters of them won a prize. Many congratulations to all the cup winners: Sid Rowdon, Liz Yunnies, Pete and Maggie Boote, Emma Higgins, Sarah Rowdon, Laura Howell, Rosemary URen, Michelle Rowdon and Somer Howell. A good year for the Rowdon family!

Two glass flower vases were left in the hall; a small rectangular green one and a clear round one with a narrow neck; also a jar of pickled cucumber. They can be collected from 9 Higher Island but give me a call before coming to make sure that I'm in – **01803 712159**.

## Roof Repairs

The Village Hall is likely to remain closed for the rest of 2023, bookings from January can be made as normal. The Village Hall committee apologise for any inconvenience that the prolonged closure causes.

If you are planning an event, or have a regular booking which you think would fit into church, ask Kate Janman (ring **01803 712362** or email **kate.janman@gmail.com**). Or if you think the school hall would be more suitable, contact Helen Hurrell (**helen.hurrell@educationsouthwest.org.uk**) who deals with out-of-school-hours bookings.

## Booking the Village Hall

As noted above, the hall is closed for the rest of 2023. You can make bookings for January onwards.

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**.

## Shop opening times

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

Post Office: Monday to Saturday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm



It was good to see everyone who came to the community shop AGM. It's good to be able to report that the shop has held up well over the past year, despite inflation and the rising cost of living. Although turnover isn't doing more than keeping up with inflation, we're hanging on in there and indeed doing our best to keep on improving - supported by all our customers, our kind and wonderful band of volunteers and our ever-dynamic manager! Thank you to all of you!

As reported at the AGM, the vital nature of volunteers in keeping community shops alive has now been recognised by the tax authorities in monetary terms, via a precedent elsewhere. So we should now be able to take into account a value for volunteer hours in our tax returns; this should mean largely eliminating any corporation tax liability (unless we make implausibly large profits!) - so there will be more to reinvest in your shop and community. So we hope to continue to donate funds to local projects when they are needed, as we did last year.

We've also recently taken on an assistant manager; Kaede will help Helen out with the widening array of tasks needed for the shop to run successfully. Kaede is part of Redhill Market Garden, whose fantastic produce has been selling like hot cakes (or perhaps I should say – like fresh greens) all summer. I'm also delighted to say we have a new committee member – thank you and welcome to Jill.

## Wine of the Month

Versare Cabernet Sauvignon, Italy (12% ABV)

**£7.00 per bottle**

This red wine is rich, elegant and very full-bodied. There are hints of blackberries and blackcurrants as well as oakiness, and a very smooth finish. Ideal with red meats, grills and robust casseroles; perfect for autumn drinking.



As autumn set in, a reminder that the shop is here for you, to meet as much demand as we can: basics or treats, fresh and frozen produce, eco-refills... Let us know if there's something you'd like us to stock.

# Parish Council

## Registration of The George Inn as an Asset of Community Value

The George Inn has a central place in the community of Blackawton. The Parish Council is proposing to make an application to register it with the District Council as an 'asset of community value'. We would like to know if there is support in the Parish for such an application.

If approved, registration would give the community more time (up to six months) to buy The George Inn if it came up for sale on the open market. The owner is not required to sell to a community group. ([www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3851/Assets-of-Community-Value](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3851/Assets-of-Community-Value)).

The District Council needs to know whether residents support the registration, what residents value in The George Inn, and whether there is a realistic possibility, if The George Inn were to come up for sale in future,

of a group in the community coming up with the funds to buy it and ensure that it then remains open: whether that means it is run directly by the community or via third party management.

**We need as many parishioners as possible to respond. Please complete and return a questionnaire. They are available in the Community Shop, The George Inn, and on [www.blackawtoncommunity.com](http://www.blackawtoncommunity.com).**

Please respond by **Friday 20 October 2023**.

## The Thoughts of Chairman Rake

from **Simon Rake**

You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone

As the autumn rains begin (did they ever stop?), it would take a stony heart not to feel sympathy for those affected by the flash floods in Libya. Extremely heavy rain caused two dams to collapse, releasing some 30 million cubic metres of water into already inundated areas of the city of Derna, destroying a quarter of the city and taking several thousand lives. In the aftermath, we have representative after representative of major NGOs bemoaning the fact that it has been hard to get aid to the affected areas because of the breakdown in Libya's 'civil society'. As a result the effects of the original disaster have been exacerbated, with food, shelter and medical treatment slow to reach the people that needed them.

Hearing this at first, I nodded sagely, taking it at face value. But then I got to thinking. What exactly is this civil society that has broken down? What is missing; how would things have been different if civil society had been strong and flourishing?

I think that answer is a big difference in a lot of small ways. For starters, the dams that failed would have been inspected and repaired. Downstream, the risk of dam failure might have been considered, with mitigation measures put in place against the possibility of catastrophic failure. Of course, none of this would have stopped the storm, but it might have given the dams a better chance of holding and reduced the damage even if they had failed. Bad things can still happen though, and then dozens of different factors would have come into play: a proper register of inhabitants (with the particularly vulnerable identified appropriately), properly maintained roads and teams of officials available to assist the aid efforts by drawing on their detailed local knowledge... the list goes on.

That's the thing about civil society: it consists of lots of small components often working unseen in the background. Taken together though, they have an essential role in ensuring the proper functioning of many aspects of everyday life as well as providing a basis from which things can be stepped up should an emergency arise.

We saw this during the pandemic, when the machinery of civil society creaked into action to provide testing, vaccination, support for vulnerable individuals and much more besides. I hesitated before using the word 'creaked' in that last sentence, but unfortunately I think it is appropriate. Obviously some parts of civil society, most notably the emergency services, are regularly 'stress tested' in the normal course of their activities, but other smaller components have to rely on self-assessed readiness and their own evaluations of risk. We know that many of the components – healthcare, roads, sewage – are under considerable strain even before emergency strikes. No wonder it creaked.

I realise that this is all rather gloomy; perhaps it is the persistent autumnal drizzle that has dampened my mood. The brief shaft of sunlight comes from the fact that our experience has also shown that when the chips are down our communities stand forward. In other words, the smallest components of all – the network of relationships between individuals – are often also the strongest and most resilient. If we are to protect and rebuild our civil society, and in so doing prevent emergency turning into disaster, I think these smallest parts of the fabric would be the right place to start.

## Blackawton Parish Council meeting

from **Annette Thom**, Parish Clerk

Notes of the Meetings of Blackawton Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7.30 pm in Blackawton Village Hall. Complete minutes can be read at [www.blackawtoncommunity.com](http://www.blackawtoncommunity.com) or the parish noticeboard.

### Open Forum

Airband Community Liaison Officer. The Airband Community Liaison Officer attended to discuss the project. Airband is working for Connecting Devon and Somerset to install fibre broadband connections to outlying residences. Broadband speeds will be up to 900 Mbps. To access the connections residences will contract with Airband. Work is scheduled to start at the end of 2023 and to be completed autumn 2024. Airband will use existing infrastructure 70 to 80 percent of the time. It will be installing some new poles. The Officer said that Airband is preparing an updated map of the planned distribution sites. The Airband Officer said that to help the process residents can go on the Airband website, put in their postcode, and



register an interest. The Sales team will contact them at a later date. Expressing interest does not commit residents to using the service.

Public Open Forum. No matters raised.

Present: Parish Cllrs Oughton (Vice-Chair & meeting Chair), Coe, Hadow, and Thomas were present, as was Devon County Cllr Brazil (for his report), and A Thom (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

### **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish & South Hams District Cllr Rake & BPC Cllr Mardon.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Coe and Oughton declared an Other Registerable Interest in the Village Hall planning application. Cllr Coe declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in The George Inn.

### **Report from South Hams District Council Councillor**

Cllr Rake's written report was read. Apart from dealing with concerns raised by various residents across our ward, August was a quiet month, as is usual for the District Council. Work continues in the background, however, and the autumn should bring the beginning of a shift to a new set of policies for SHDC. In addition, we expect all households to finally come under the same waste collection regime. The systems are in place, but a last-minute hold up with the licensing of collection vehicles by DVLA means that the start date for the unified service is still not known. I think that a lot of lessons have been learned from the mistakes of the past few years, and I hope that the introduction of the service will be smoother than the last time it was attempted!

### **Report from Devon County Council Councillor**

Devon County Cllr Brazil reported that the target date to provide all residents with the same collection service has been put back to February because of a DVLA issue with the new vehicles. After that SHDC can develop more bespoke solutions for local areas. Cllr Brazil attended a Children's Services meeting this morning, there are full Council and Cabinet meetings next week, and the revenue budget monitoring report is due. DCC's financial position is getting worse less quickly. If the Slapton Line needed to close the sandbank would remain. There is an economic impact assessment being done.

### **Planning Applications**

SHDC Planning Decisions. The following decisions were noted:

- 1960/23/AGR Valley View Blackawton TQ9 7DH. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed general purpose agricultural building measuring 18.2 mtrs (length) x 13.7 mtrs (breadth) x 6.41 mtrs (height to ridge). **Ag Determination details required.**
- 1181/23/HHO & 1182/23/LBC Clyston Barton Blackawton TQ9 7AB. Householder application & Listed building consent for proposed alterations to include new artist's studio, replacement veranda and energy efficiency measures including solar panels to garage roof and rear garden, air source heat pump and replacement windows. **Conditional Approval.**
- 1677/23/HHO 3 Greenslade Road Blackawton TQ9 7BP. Householder application for external landscaping works including extended balcony area, new balcony balustrading & ramped access from rear elevation. **Conditional Approval.**
- 2229/23/PAA Valley View Blackawton TQ9 7DH. Prior Approval Application for proposed general purpose agricultural building following planning application 1960/23/AGR. **Prior Approval Given.**
- 1998/23/HHO Oakleigh Cottage Main Street Blackawton TQ9 7BG. Householder application for demolition of an existing outbuilding & construct a new outbuilding with ancillary accommodation along with landscaping to the garden. **Conditional Approval.**
- 1789/23/HHO Woodcott Blackawton TQ9 7AA. Householder application for demolition of lean-to, erection of kitchen, dinning room & living extension. **Refusal.**
- 2373/23/ARC Balsam Farm Vicarage Road Blackawton TQ9 7AY. Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 5 (Window Frames including Roof Lights), 6 (Site Levels & Site Boundary Treatments) & 14 (Solar Panels) of planning consent 3855/22/FUL. **Discharge of Conditions - Split Decision.**

### **Review of New Applications**

- 2714/23/FUL Balsam Farm Vicarage Road Blackawton TQ9 7AY. Application to convert an outbuilding to ancillary living accommodation, revised proposal to application 3855/22/FUL to replace obscured glazed windows proposed to South elevation with timber boarded windows & reduce level of excavation at rear to form access to the garden. **Support.**



2729/23/FUL Blackawton Village Hall Vicarage Road Blackawton TQ9 7AY. Replacement roof. Written requests for dispensations to speak and vote were received from Cllrs Coe and Oughton to enable the meeting to be quorate to make decision. It was resolved to authorise the dispensations. **Support.**

### **Tree Applications**

2778/23/TPO Wadstray House Blackawton TQ9 7DE. T1: Ash - fell due to evidence of dieback - due to proximity to house. **Support.**

### **Consultations**

- Devon Housing Commission, Short Survey. No response by BPC.
- A379 Slapton Line Economic Impact Assessment by SHDC. To consider requesting the inclusion of Blackawton. The Clerk was asked to contact the consultants to investigate further whether Blackawton should be included. If the Slapton Line needed to close Blackawton would be affected by a change in the volume of traffic and an increase in time taken to travel to some locations.
- Housing Needs Survey by SHDC in September 2023. The planned Survey was noted. There will be Community Drop-in sessions: 28 September, Blackawton Church 1.00pm-3.00pm & East Allington Village Hall 3.30pm-5.30 pm.

### **Avenue of Cherry Trees in the Churchyard Management Consultation**

The options suggested in the 18 survey responses received were noted: 13 prefer felling all cherry trees at the same time and 13 a single species being planted. A proposals document will be prepared by BPC taking into account the survey responses, information about what trees will succeed in that site, Devon Wildlife Trust report (pending), and the Diocese's churchyard planting plan and guidance. The Clerk and Cllr Haddow will start to write the proposals document.

### **Registration of The George Inn with SHDC as an 'Asset of Community Value'**

Cllr Thomas and the Clerk will prepare the community consultation to seek evidence of support for the registration and that if it was to come up for sale in the future the asset could continue to be run by the community to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community. A petition, web-form, and Beacon article were proposed.

### **"20's Plenty" Campaign**

It was resolved to write to notify DCC that BPC has voted to support the 20's Plenty for Devon Campaign.

### **'Blackawton' Sign**

The small metal sign will be installed on the horizontal front beam of the Normandy Cross bus shelter using tamper proof screws.

### **Yew Tree in the Churchyard**

Cllr Coe will lead on work to fertilise and clear the yew tree in the cemetery, which is not thriving.

### **Order of Use, Marking, and Layout of Lawn Cemetery Grave Plots**

It was agreed that the additional five grave plot locations identified in the sections G and H of the lawn cemetery would be used and that the next area will be marked using eight foot by four foot plots. Netting pegs are being trialled to mark out the plots' locations.

### **Cemetery Temporary Soil Storage Area Marker Posts**

It was confirmed that the Maintenance Contractor will be asked to install the posts.

### **Repair of the Churchyard Gates**

The project to repair and maintain the four churchyard gates was discussed. The report about the work required will be sent to the PCC. It was suggested to confirm whether the lychgate needs to be fixed in place. BPC has received legal advice that BPC has no legal responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard. Starting the gates project was deferred until the PCC has decided how it will proceed.

### **Cemetery Charges Review**

It was resolved to agree a project to review the schedule of charges.

### **Finance**

Update on Current Financial Position. The Reports, which showed a total balance of £52,342.73 and an unearmarked general fund of £8,650.84 on 1 September 2023, were noted.

Payments and receipts. It was resolved to authorise the following payments.

ARCCAS, Churchyard frequent cuts 11/8 & 22/8	£96.00	each
ARCCAS, Cemetery frequent cuts 11/8 & 22/8	£108.00	each
Clerk Expenses Reimbursement July & August	£80.09	

The following receipt was noted:

Resident, additional memorial inscription	£40.00
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The following payments made since the last meeting were noted:

DALC Being a Good Councillor #4 & Chairing Local Council Meetings	£54.00
Devon Association of Local Councils BAGC #2	£18.00
ARCCAS, Frequent St Michaels Churchyard 13/6/23 & 27/6/23	£96.00 each
ARCCAS, Frequent Cemetery 13/6/23 & 27/6/23	£108.00 each
ARCCAS, Frequent St Michaels Churchyard 11/7/23 & 25/7/23	£96.00 each
ARCCAS, Frequent Cemetery 11/7/23 & 25/7/23	£108.00 each
Parish Lengthsman April	£287.50
Parish Lengthsman January to March	£319.00

### Reporting Salary Payments

The advice that the payments do not have to be reported in the Minutes was noted.

### Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

- AONB Farming in Protected Landscapes grant scheme. Extended until March 2025.
- Regen, Community Energy Training: Planning for onshore wind and other renewables, 19/10/23 10:00 – 12:30. Cllr Hadow will attend.
- 31/8/23, Introductory email from new Stakeholder Liaison Team, DCC Highways.
- South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership, Let's Talk Teenagers and Let's Talk Pre-Teens, Support sessions for parents in September & October.
- 9/8/23, Stagecoach Bus service changes from Sunday 3 September 2023.
- Scribefest, 21/09/23, (Online), Free.
- DALC AGM Conference and Exhibition, 27/09/23, Exeter Race Course. £45/attendee.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3rd October 2023** at 7.30 pm. If the Hall is closed for works to the roof the meeting will be in **St Michael's Church Blackawton**. 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 Sue Hadow	07306 007681	sue@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Charli Mardon		charli@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Chris Oughton, Vice chair	01803 302487	chriso@blackawtoncommunity.com
Cllr Simon Rake, Chair	01803 861129	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

South Hams Cllr Simon Rake	01803 861129	Cllr.Simon.Rake@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
	07970 971140	
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	customer@devon.gov.uk
	0345 155 1015	
Police non-urgent reporting	101	

or online form at [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-area/teams/Dartmouth/Contact](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-area/teams/Dartmouth/Contact)

There are **Report It** buttons on [www.blackawtoncommunity.com](http://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

**The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming & District**

from **Peter Hales**

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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 11.00 am and on the first meeting of the month we also have lunch at 12.30 pm.

Please call Peter Hales on **01803 770739** or email **peterhales21@gmail.com** for more information and to arrange to be welcomed to a trial meeting.

Our meetings in October are:

Wednesday 11th lunch The Machine Gun Corps, aka the Suicide Club: Martin Farrant

Wednesday 25th coffee The Trials and Tribulations of Running a Small Farm: Janet East

## from the Editor

Please send your Beacon contributions by email to **beacon@blackawtoncommunity.com**. Contributions on paper can be posted to or dropped off at 1 The Cross, Park Lane, Blackawton, TQ9 7BD.

The deadline for the November edition is **Monday 23rd October**.

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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## Parish Diary

### October 2023

Sunday 1st	3.00 pm	BADS Pantomime auditions	Village Hall
Tuesday 3rd	10.00 am	Decorate Church for Harvest Festival	Church
	7.30 pm	Blackawton Parish Council meeting	Village Hall or Church
Wednesday 4th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to The Willows via Totnes	Bus shelter
Friday 6th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Friday 13th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
Saturday 14th		BADS play reading	
Wednesday 18th	10.30 am	Blackawton WI meeting	Sportsmans Arms
Friday 20th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter
		Respond to The George Inn enquiry	
Monday 23rd		Deadline for November Beacon	
Tuesday 24th	11.55 am	Mobile library	Bus shelter
Wednesday 25th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Newton Abbot via Totnes	Bus shelter
Friday 27th	9.30 am	West Dart Bus to Dartmouth	Bus shelter

### November 2023

Saturday 11th	6.00 pm	Blackawton Fireworks	The George Inn
Saturday 18th	10.00	Kingsbridge Area Sustainability and Climate Action	Harbour House, Kingsbridge