

# Newsletter

Milcombe Newsletter will be produced each month and will be available from the New Road Shop only while Covid-19 restrictions remain in place

**The Milcombe Newsletter is funded by the Milcombe Parish Council**



April 2021  
Issue 70



Contributions, by email (Microsoft Word 2010 compatible), to be received by 18th of month prior to publication to [milcombepc@gmail.com](mailto:milcombepc@gmail.com) or [marlene.cowell@milcombe.co.uk](mailto:marlene.cowell@milcombe.co.uk)  
All contributions are published 'as recieved' and do not necessarily represent the views of the Parish Council.

Milcombe Parish Council  
[www.milcombepc.co.uk](http://www.milcombepc.co.uk)

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2 March 2021



**Councillor Peter Booth** – The Chairman reported that Pete had resigned from the Parish Council and she thanked him for his hard work in the village over many years.

**Beryl Whing** – The Chairman reported that Beryl had passed away in January 2021. The Chairman paid tribute to her and all of her hard work and involvement in many village organisations over a number of years, including as a Parish Councillor.

**Vacancies** – Due to resignations, there are three vacancies on the Parish Council. The role entails attending a Parish Council meeting every other month, for around 2 hours and you can put in, as much or as little time as you have available, in-between the meetings. If you would like any further information, please contact the Clerk on 01295 710965 or email [milcombepc@gmail.com](mailto:milcombepc@gmail.com)

**Elections** – The next local elections are being held on 6 May 2021, however the next Parish Council elections will be held in May 2022.

**Census** – Census day was 21 March 2021 and information could be completed on-line. <https://census.gov.uk/>

**Assets of Community Value** – Registration of the village hall, Horse and Groom, Dovecote, Paradise Lane field and the village shop would be investigated.

**Supporting Communities** Through Covid-19 - Funding Available 'Comf' Fund - In recognising the vital contribution that community and voluntary groups continue to make in the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, Supporting Communities Through COVID-19 is open to funding applications from small informal groups as well as established organisations to enable them to deliver activities that will help to reduce COVID-19 outbreaks and the spread of infection. Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) and Community First Oxfordshire (CFO) are managing this grant scheme on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council.

You can apply for a maximum of £10,000 for community action projects and a maximum of £50,000 for collaborative, broad reach projects. If you would like to make an application, please follow this link. <https://www.community-firstoxon.org/supporting.../>

If you require any further guidance about completing the application form or wish to ask any questions about this grant scheme please contact [communications@ocva.org.uk](mailto:communications@ocva.org.uk)

Grant applications must be received by 10am, Friday 26 March 2021.

**Footpaths in Bloxham** - Walkers going over Hobb Hill will notice posts and string at the gates and on the footpath. The farmer is using these to guide users to the location of the Public Right of Way. The farmer will be making hay in the field this year. If the ground becomes compacted it becomes unusable. Walkers should try to keep to the right, close to the hedge on the way up from Courtington Lane and at the top, walk straight down to the kissing gate at the bottom on Ells Lane. Please keep to the paths and enjoy your walks up Hobb Hill...a good pair of wellies / boots always helps.

**Wheelie Bins** – Residents are kindly requested not to block the footpaths with their wheelie bins, where possible. If they could also be collected back in as soon as they had been emptied, this would avoid the footpaths being blocked for those pedestrians with pushchairs or wheelchair users.

**Road Closure** - Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Temporary Road Closure at 6 Church Lane, Milcombe - A request has been received by the County Council from KCD/Thames Water for a temporary road closure to apply to a section of Church Lane whilst Thames Water service pipe relay works are carried out. The temporary closures will operate from the 29/03/2021 to and including the 31/03/2021 (full closure 24hrs each day). For more details, please visit the PC web site. <https://www.milcombepc.co.uk/news-story.php?newsid=28>

**Snow Warden/Grit Bins** – If anyone in the village would to volunteer to be a Snow Warden to help clear the footpaths in adverse weather conditions, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council. Grit bins are all full and grit may be used on slippery public footpaths and roads only. It should not be used for private property use.

## Planning

20/03609/F, Land North of The Green and Adj To, Oak Farm Drive, Milcombe Application for an additional four dwellings to be reviewed in conjunction with previous planning approval 19/00046/REM approved 22nd January 2020.

## Objection

20/03610/F, Land North of The Green and Adj To, Oak Farm Drive, Milcombe Variation

Continued over ►



**THE HORSE & GROOM PUB AND KITCHEN IS STILL CLOSED**

**THEY DO NOT YET HAVE A DATE FOR RE-OPENING. Please support them when they are allowed to re-open.**

**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION:**  
[horseandgroominn.co.uk](http://horseandgroominn.co.uk)

**Email: [horseandgroominn@gmail.com](mailto:horseandgroominn@gmail.com)**

**Tel: 01295 722142**

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of Condition 1 (plans) of 19/00046/REM - plot substitutions, along with alterations to approved planning layout.

#### Objection

21/00474/F, Horse and Groom Inn, Main Road, Milcombe Replacement kitchen extract system on rear single storey extension - re-submission of 20/02050/F  
No objection

**Highways** - Repairs which were required to potholes should be reported to the County Council's Fix My Street web site. <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> New road markings had been painted on the road by the junction at the Horse and Groom.

**Trees/Bushes/Hedges** - Residents were reminded that trees/bushes/hedges should not be causing an obstruction because they were overhanging a boundary onto a footpath or road. If an obstruction was occurring in the village, it should be reported to <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

**Covid-19** - The latest guidance on the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

#### Adverse Weather:

Oxfordshire County Council works closely with all its partners to monitor the weather and as a reminder there are some numbers that you can call to report weather related issues if you become aware of them:

- To report fallen trees or other debris which pose a risk to your safety or the safety of others, please call 999
- To report fallen trees or other debris which doesn't pose such a high risk but still needs to be dealt with, please call 101

- If you lose power or can see that a power line has come down please report it by calling 105
- If you are concerned about flooding, you should visit the Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit online - <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com> - and I will summarise the key numbers to call below:
- If you have a flooding emergency which is a threat to someone's life, contact Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service on 999
- To report flooding relating to a highway such as blocked ditches, blocked drains or flooding on a road call Oxfordshire County Council Floodline on 0345 310 1111
- To report flooding from a main river contact the Environment Agency through the Floodline (Tel: 0345 988 1188 or 0800 80 70 60) or visit their website
- If your property is at immediate risk of surface water flooding please contact Thames Valley Police on 101

**Planning applications** and comments could be viewed on Cherwell District Council's web site at: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as>

**Meeting Dates** - Future meetings, all starting at 8.00pm would be held on Zoom, until further notice. Please contact the Clerk for the details to join the Parish Council meetings.  
• Tuesday 4 May 2021  
• Tuesday 11 May 2021 (Milcombe Annual Parish Meeting)

**All welcome to attend!**

**Agendas and minutes** are available on [www.milcombe.com](http://www.milcombe.com) or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, at [milcombepc@gmail.com](mailto:milcombepc@gmail.com) or ring 01295 710965 during normal office hours.

## WINTER SUPPORT GRANTS AVAILABLE TO HELP PEOPLE FINANCIALLY HIT BY THE PANDEMIC

Financial help is available for people struggling to feed their families or heat their homes this winter as a result of the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Please see the OCC website <https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/winter-grants>  
Oxfordshire was awarded £400,000 by the Government and claims must be made by 31 March 2021.

Households with children can claim up to £350 and those without children can receive up to £175.

Support teams provide funding through supermarket vouchers, costs for pre-payment meters or make sure that a heating or water bill is paid.

Those living in the Cherwell District should visit [www.cherwell.gov.uk/wintergrant](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/wintergrant) or you can phone 01865 323870.

Although many people do not like asking for help, if you are struggling to pay for essentials, then do get in touch to find out if you are eligible.

## Shut off the Lay-by to stop littering

Should we ask for the unofficial lay-by near the allotments (New road) to be closed off? Though this would be an inconvenience to the farmer it may push away the never ending dumping of rubbish.

Both our Council Recycling Centres are open, so we should assume this is a regular dumper of house - clearance / builders rubbish and general waste.



Fly-tipping damages the environment. Cherwell District Council investigates all fly-tipping reports and operates a zero tolerance on environmental crime. If you see fly-tipped rubbish, please report it on 01295 227007 and help keep Cherwell tidy.

## Reminders

**Roads** (including potholes)/footpaths/street lighting/overhanging trees/hedges: Report to Oxfordshire County Council <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

**Faulty Street Lights:** Report on freephone 0800 317802 giving exact destination and pole number if possible.

**Dog Bags:** These are available from New Road Stores and in the Church porch. Please clear up after your dog - it is an offence not to.

**Electricity:** SSE 0800 294 3259 or text phone 0800 316 5457, UK Power Networks - 0800 169 9970, Western Power Distribution - 0800 096 3080

**Water:** Thames Water 0800 009 3652 or text phone 0800 316 6899, Anglian Water 03457 91 91 55

**Power failure:** If there's a power cut call the free number 105 to check what's happening with your local provider



## MILCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

[villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com](mailto:villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com)

### THE VILLAGE HALL REMAINS CLOSED.

It is to be re-opened following a clean on May 6th for local elections. (Note: These are not elections to Milcombe Parish Council which take place in 2022.)

Hopefully it will be available for use after that date but will, of course, depend on Government regulations.

**THANK YOU** to Nigel Davis and John Ellison who have kindly offered to remove the old Noticeboard at the front of the Hall and to install the new one. We continue our thanks to Raychel Pomroy for her weekly checks.

**THE VILLAGE HALL STILL DESPERATELY NEEDS A TREASURER**, despite the fact that the Trustees have been advertising for the past 6 months or so, nobody in the village has come forward. Once the Hall re-opens, we cannot work without a Treasurer.

**The Village Hall Committee** (Milcombe Charities Trustees) is overseen by the following members: Rev. Dale Gingrich (Chairman - [office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk](mailto:office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk)), Marlene Cowell (Minute Secretary - [marlene.cowell@milcombe.com](mailto:marlene.cowell@milcombe.com)), Amy Jackson (Bookings), Sally Ashmole, Sacha Cowley, Raychel Pomroy and Suzette Watson.

All members can be reached on the following email: [villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com](mailto:villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com)

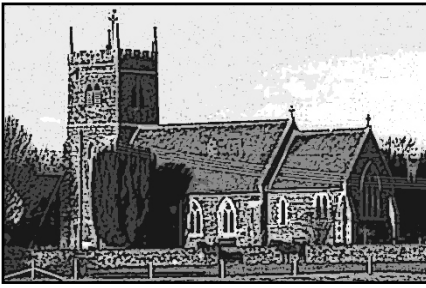
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# CHURCH NOTES

## SERVICES IN ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH

these vary between 8.00am and 11.15am.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 4th** – EASTER DAY HOLY COMMUNION AT 11.15am with music. SN 8.00am

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11th** (Easter 2) HOLY COMMUNION AT 8.00am. SN 11.15am

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18th** (Easter 3) HOLY COMMUNION AT 8.00am. SN 11.15am

**SUNDAY, APRIL 25th** (Easter 4) HOLY COMMUNION AT 11.15am. SN 8.00am

**There will be a Service in St. Mary's every Sunday at 9.30am and a 6.00pm Service via Zoom.** Please see the Weekly Sheet for details. Copies are in all 3 Churches, so please pick one up for the latest details.

**ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH IS OPEN EVERY SUNDAY MORNING FROM 8.00am-2.00pm AND EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON FROM 2.00pm-5.00pm FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AND REFLECTION. PLEASE COME ALONG AND SIT AND ENJOY THE QUIET PEACE.**

**PLEASE KEEP TO THE 2 METRE DISTANCING IF THERE IS ANYBODY ELSE IN THE CHURCH AND ALWAYS WEAR A FACE MASK IN THE BUILDING.**

**YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO VISIT THE CHURCHYARD TO TEND GRAVES OR JUST TO SIT ON THE SEATS AND ENJOY THE PEACEFUL SURROUNDINGS NOW THAT THE WEATHER IS A BIT MORE SPRING LIKE.**

### SERVICES WILL BE HELD DURING HOLY WEEK THROUGHOUT THE BENEFICE.

**Maundy Thursday, April 1st** – 7.30pm Service (Last Supper and Stripping of Altar) in St. Laurence's

**Good Friday, April 2nd** – No Service in St. Laurence's  
ST. MARY'S HAS A DRAMATIZED READING OF THE BOOK "THE NAIL" BY STEPHEN COTTRELL, ARCHBISHOP OF YORK from 1.30pm-3.00pm. Full details will be found in the Weekly Sheet.

**SUSPENSION OF CAN COLLECTIONS** – It would be appreciated if these are no longer left by the Church porch. The wheely bin has been removed for the time being. It could start up again if there are any volunteers to take it on as it was a great help to Church funds.

**DOG BAGS** are available once more in the Church porch. Please only take what you need.

**TEA AND TOAST** is being held via Zoom hosted by Jan Ogilvy on Friday mornings from 9.30am onwards. Contact Jan on 720054. Joining details are the same each week. MEETING ID: 710 054 0468 PASSWORD: bla8ta

**BLOXHAM MOTHERS' UNION** also meets via Zoom. Contact Pat Smith on 816866 or 0797 180467

**MESSY CHURCH** also meets via Zoom and has a Facebook page. Contact the Benefice office.

*The Vicar and Churchwardens* urge everybody to abide by the Government guidelines which change frequently. It is for your own as well as everybody else's safety.

If you have a problem or need a query answered, please contact the Vicar or Churchwardens direct. We will all do our best to help. Rev. Dale Gingrich 01295 720252 or email office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk The Churchwardens are Susan Richardson 721667 sujerich@yahoo.co.uk and Marlene Cowell 720750 marlenecowell196@gmail.com Please join one of the Benefice Churches for an Easter Service, enjoy your Easter break and STAY SAFE

Dear Friends,

### DO YOU VALUE ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH?

The pandemic has forced St. Laurence's to close for much of the last year but it will, we hope, fully reopen soon.

It is essential that the Church is here for parishioners when needed for baptisms, weddings and funerals. It is also a place for village gatherings at Easter, Harvest, Christmas, etc. And in any case, the building and Churchyard are an important sight in our village as well as a place for quiet prayer and reflection.

We would love you to join us for worship for the Church Sunday Services at either 8.00am or 11.15am. We would also love to hear from you if you have any ideas and would like to get more involved.

However, keeping the Church open costs money and there is a danger that we don't have enough to cover our outgoings. Even during lockdown things like the insurance (well over £1500 p.a.), servicing and maintenance of fire extinguishers, parish share, organ tuning, etc. all still have to be paid. You will appreciate that as there have been very few Services and no fundraising, there has been very little income apart from the few who regularly donate on a monthly Direct Debit.

#### WILL YOU HELP TO KEEP THE CHURCH OPEN?

You could help by joining the Parish Giving Scheme and donating whatever amount you can afford once a month by Standing Order. Gift Aid can be collected on donations where applicable.

If you are interested in keeping your Church open, please contact either of us and we can drop you in a form.

Rev. Dale Gingrich, St. Mary's Vicarage, Bloxham. 01295 720252 email: office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk  
Susan Richardson, Churchwarden 01295 721667 email: sujerich@yahoo.co.uk





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**THURSDAY**

ST. MARY'S  
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TILL FURTHER NOTICE

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# MILCOMBE PLAY AREA

**THE PLAY AREA IS OPEN** and the same rules apply as in previous months.

Children should be accompanied by a parent/guardian who are encouraged to bring hand sanitiser gel or wipes to clean their children's hands. Parents should remind children NOT to touch their faces, to cough or sneeze into a tissue or arm if tissue not available, and NOT to put their mouths on the equipment or their hands in their mouths. Food or drink are NOT allowed in the Play Area.

**ALLOWING CHILDREN INTO THE PLAY AREA AND ON THE EQUIPMENT IS ENTIRELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS.**

(See Covid-19 Guidance for Managing Playgrounds and Outdoor Gyms issued by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government.)



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TILL FURTHER NOTICE

**MILCOMBE SENIORS CLUB**

**TEA AND TOAST**

ZOOM MEETINGS

Hosted by Jan Ogilvy from 9.30am onwards every Friday morning. Joining details are the same each week. Open to anyone who would like to join for a chat whilst drinking your own coffee!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7100540468?pwd=ZipMTY3RHhXZC91MHBbWS9vYUswUT09>  
Meeting ID: 710 054 0468  
Password: b1a8ta  
Contact Jan Ogilvy 720054 if you have any problems

**THE CHERRY TREE CENTRE**

THE CHERRY TREE...  
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TILL FURTHER NOTICE

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