

Newsletter

Milcombe Newsletter will be produced each month and will be available New Road Shop only while restrictions remain in place

The Milcombe Newsletter is funded by the Milcombe Parish Council



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

Milcombe Parish Council

June 2020 www.milcombepc.co.uk

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Vacancies – Due to resignations, there are two 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

Parish Council Chairman 2020/2021 & Vice-Chairman 2020/2021 – Councillor Marlene Cowell has been appointed as Chairman and Mandie McCullagh as Vice-Chairman for 2020/2021.

Councillor Pete Booth – The Parish Council send their best wishes to Councillor Booth for his on-going recovery.

Covid-19 Community Support – The Parish Council thanks Sam Hughes and all the volunteers providing the village with support during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Grit Bin – A new grit bin would be installed on Wigginton Heath Road, opposite the entrance to Heath Close.

Bonfires – Advice had been issued by Cherwell District Council, asking that bonfires and fire pits were not lit during the Covid-19 Pandemic because of the effect on those with respiratory issues.

Litter Pick – The village litter pick would hopefully be rearranged for later in the year, possibly September 2020.

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.

Flag Flying – Councillor Myra Peters had taken over responsibility for flying the flag in the village on the appropriate days, such as the Birthdays of members of the Royal Family.

Milcombe Newsletter – 100 copies of the this are delivered to the village shop. The July and August editions would be combined.

Dog Fouling – Residents are asked to ensure that they clean up after their dogs because a lot of mess had not been picked up, especially along Main Street. Dog waste bags are available from New Road Stores and the Church porch.

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/>

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/>

Village Hall – The village hall is currently closed, as are all public buildings at this time.

Play Area – The proposals for new play equipment is under review and thanks to Councillor Myra Peters who took over the play area inspections. However please note that the play area is still closed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Annual Parish Meeting 2020 – The meeting had been cancelled this year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, however the standard documents, including the Chairman's report, were available on PC web site.

Defibrillator – Church House at Kidlington was currently closed and all staff were working from home. However, the Diocesan Advisory Committee would consider the request for a faculty for the location of a defibrillator in the Church porch after the lockdown had been relaxed.

Grants – The Parish Council has awarded a grant of £500.00 to the Cherry Tree Centre in Bloxham and £100 to the St Mary's Thursday Club.

Adverse Weather:

Oxfordshire County Council worked 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 if the details to join the Parish Council meetings.

- Tuesday 7 July 2020
- Tuesday 1 September 2020
- Tuesday 3 November 2020

All welcome to attend!

Agendas and minutes are available on www.milcombe.com or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, at milcombepc@gmail.com or ring 01295 710965 during normal office hours.

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 at the back of the Church behind the organ. 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

Dog Bags: These are available from New Road Stores and at the back of the Church behind the organ. Please clear up after your dog - it is an offence not to.





MILCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting of Milcombe Charities (Village Hall Committee) took place on Wednesday 10th June where a report of the activities of the past year was provided by the outgoing Chairperson, Caroline Willoughby, and the 2019/20 Financial Accounts were presented by the outgoing Treasurer, Richard Hazel.

The following were re-elected to the committee for the coming year:- Sally Bird; Marlene Cowell (Parish Council representative); Sacha Cowley; Dale Gingrich (St Lawrence's Church representative); Raychel Pomroy; Suzette Watson. This leaves spaces for up to three additional committee members and if anyone is interested please contact Richard Hazel at richard_hazel@outlook.com or at Farnell Fields, Paradise Lane.

This is a good time to be part of the Village Hall Committee to further build on the great community spirit that has built up during the Covid-19 pandemic and ideas such as a fete, street party etc have tentatively been proposed for the coming year. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st September at 1900-1940 where committee roles will be agreed – the roles of Chairperson, Treasurer, Bookings Secretary, and Secretary are all currently up for grabs!



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May 2020

Digital Update

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CHURCH NOTES

SERVICES IN ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH

OUR USUAL SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES ARE CANCELLED AND OUR CHURCH REMAINS FIRMLY LOCKED AS DO ALL PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

From Government guidelines, Churches will be allowed to open at specific times for private prayer. However, there will be strict guidelines on this and will vary from Church to Church. It is possible that only parts of the Church may be open with social distancing being observed. Hand sanitiser will need to be used before entering and on leaving. Notices will be placed giving instructions. Please do not touch any books or kneelers and regrettably it will not be possible to write your own personal prayers in the Prayer Book.

We are sorry that we do not yet have an exact date when it will be possible to re-open St. Laurence's, but please check the Noticeboards as the PCC hopes to open for personal prayer only on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons in the near future.

At the present time bells are still not allowed to be rung and there is no singing/ organ music.

You can get full information on the Oxford Diocesan website www.oxford.anglican.org

People are encouraged to visit the Churchyard to tend graves or to sit on the seats for moments of prayer and reflection. It is advisable to wear gloves if touching gravestones or wooden benches and to observe social distancing.

In conjunction with the Parish Council, the Churchyard is mowed every 3 to 4 weeks. For the sake of safety and in their own interest, it is best that people do not enter the Churchyard whilst mowing is in progress. Also, take care if you are a hay fever sufferer.

The Vicar is emailing the Weekly Sheet. If you don't receive a copy and you would like to, then please email him at office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk

There are opportunities to join Services online. Check the C of E website www.churchofengland.org or the Diocesan website www.oxford.anglican.org/livestream

You can join Dale and members of the Benefice at 6.00pm on Sunday evenings

via Zoom. The Weekly Sheet gives full details on how you can do this.

Bishop Steven of Oxford is encouraging everybody to pause at 11.00am each day (if their work permits) to say the Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm which is very comforting in these stressful times.

Last month we reported the annual insurance on the Church building and contents as being over £1000. The actual figure for 2020/21 is £1551.51. A full electrical inspection has to be carried out every 5 years and the lightning conductor needs to be brought up to date to make it compliant. With very little income – and we do know how much St. Laurence's Church means to residents – we are again appealing for some assistance. If you do feel able to make a donation, please drop your cheque into The Vicarage, next to the museum in Bloxham, or to Susan Richardson at 16 Church Lane. The collecting tin is still available in New Road Stores for your loose change and we thank the proprietors for allowing this. **THANK YOU** if you feel able to help.

You can still SAVE YOUR USED STAMPS AND PRINTER CARTRIDGES – but please keep them at home until it is possible to re-open the Church.

At the present time IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO RECYCLE USED CANS FOR CHURCH FUNDS, so please recycle them in the normal way. Hopefully we shall be able to start up this project again in the not too distant future as it has been a significant help with Church funds.

DOG BAGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH PORCH. Please only take what you need.

Once again, Dale and the Churchwardens would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Sam Hughes and her team of volunteers who are helping the vulnerable and elderly by shopping and collecting prescriptions, etc. Sometimes just a wave through the window is enough to let people know that they are not forgotten. Please keep a look out for your elderly neighbours and we remind everybody that they should only deal with people they know and can trust.

ST. LAURENCE'S DAY IS CELEBRATED ON AUGUST 10th and we should be holding our Patronal celebrations on August 9th. At this time, it is highly unlikely that we shall be able to get together to worship and celebrate but it would be good to set aside some time on this day to remember the celebrations we have enjoyed in the past – teddies parachuting down the Tower or gliding down a zip wire – and to pray for our community. Perhaps a quiet moment of prayer in the Churchyard for reflection.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS TO BE A FINAL CLAP AT 8.00pm ON SUNDAY, JULY 5th, BUT KEEP PRAYING AS BOTH ARE IMPORTANT.

Rev. Dale Gingrich can be contacted on 01295 720252 or email office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk

St. Laurence's Churchwardens are Susan Richardson 721667 sujerich@yahoo.co.uk and Marlene Cowell 720750 marlenecowell196@gmail.com



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Struggling with feeling low or anxious?
Need help with finding your confidence or motivation?
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Barking Mad

Happy Dog. Happy Holiday.
Happy You.



TEA AND TOAST

Now meeting at 9.00am on Friday mornings via ZOOM.

Pat Smith is hosting and it is for anyone whether they have been to T & T before or not and will be an opportunity to have a chat whilst drinking your own cuppa and even eating your own toast! Joining details are the same each time

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/76201675295?pwd=ajRSdSjRQTFUzQUJaWmo3WERpTmpeUT09>

MEETING ID 762 0167 5295
PASSWORD 6exbnZ

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THE CHERRY TREE CENTRE
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VISITORS ARE REMINDED TO KEEP TO SOCIAL DISTANCING

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