

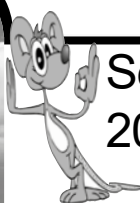
Newsletter

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



September
2021 Issue 74



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.

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 - Why care about the future of our County?

The latest consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 has now launched and runs until 8 October.

The Oxfordshire Plan will set the development framework for the county for the next generation. It will affect all Oxfordshire residents, either directly (through development) or indirectly (through impacts on services, infrastructure, our countryside and rural character).

CPRE Oxfordshire is fighting to make sure that the growth options are deliverable without undue damage to our countryside and some otherwise good policy proposals for getting to net zero and restoring nature. That means guiding development to the right places and building high-quality compact housing to make the best use of scarce land.

We urge you to respond to the consultation – it is our best chance of influencing both the outcomes of this Plan and the OxCam Arc proposals.

Have your say NOW – it's too late to act when the bulldozers arrive.

*Find more information on the CPRE Oxfordshire website
www.cpreoxon.org.uk/*

Have your say on Oxfordshire's future



The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is a long-term plan that will set a framework for future planning decisions.

We want your views on the policies we've suggested to help Oxfordshire:

- Address climate change
- Improve environmental quality
- Create strong and healthy communities
- Plan for sustainable travel and connectivity
- Create jobs and provide homes

The consultation is open until
Friday 8 October

www.oxfordshireopenthought.org

Printed copies are available from your local library or one of the following:

- Banbury Town Council,
- Bicester Town Council,
- Cherwell District Council – Bodicote House,
- Oxfordshire County Council – County Hall,
- South Oxfordshire District Council,
- Vale of White Horse District Council – Milton Park,
- West Oxfordshire District Council – Woodgreen and Elmfield offices,
- Witney Town Council,
- Carterton Town Council,
- Chipping Norton Town Council.

Please confirm with the location before visiting.



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Milcombe Parish Council

www.milcombecp.co.uk

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New Councillors – Four new Councillors attended their first meeting and were welcomed by the Chairman. The new Councillors are Ruth Dale, Nigel Davis, Bob Ottway and Tracey Scott.

Parish Council Meetings – It was hoped that the next Parish Council meeting in September 2021, could be held in person at the village hall.

Milcombe Newsletter – Thanks were passed to Mark Boardman for continuing to print the MNL on behalf of the village.

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.

Play Equipment – The contract for installing new play equipment in the village play area was awarded to Kompan and it was hoped installation would be undertaken later in the year, to avoid clashes with the school summer holidays. A quote would be obtained for cutting back the trees and bushes overhanging the boundary into the play area.

Church Clock – The Parish Council would be covering the cost of maintenance works to the Clock as its contribution to the village to mark HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

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.

Snow Warden/Grit Bins – If anyone in the village would like 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.

Register of Community Assets – Investigations would be made into registering community assets in the village, such as the Horse and Groom PH, Dovecote, village pump and the village shop.

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.

Planning – The Parish Council had no objections to the following planning applications: 21/01398/LB Mulberry Keytes, Main Road, Milcombe Replacement of timber window 21/01690/F Jasmine Cottage, Main Road, Milcombe Two storey front and rear extension and porch (renewal of 17/02082/F)

The Parish Council made observations on the following planning applications:

21/00890/F 1 Heath Close, Milcombe First floor extension over the existing ground floor and demolition of garage and rebuilding of ground floor extension (re-submission of 20/03421/F) 21/01520/REM Swerbrook Farm, Hook Norton Road, Wigginton Reserved matters application to 20/02389/OUT – landscaping 21/01506/OUT Swerbrook Farm, Hook Norton Road, Wigginton Variation of conditions 4 (plans), 5 (access and maneuvering areas), 7 (biodiversity method statement) & 9 (external lighting) of 20/02389/OUT - minor amendment to the approved plans and provide details to discharge the requirement of other conditions relating to ecology and external lighting

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/>

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 – It was hoped that all future meetings, starting at 8.00pm would be held in person and not on Zoom. However please check the agendas on the Parish Council web site the week prior to the meeting.

- Tuesday 7 September 2021
- Tuesday 2 November 2021

All welcome to attend!

Agendas and minutes are available on www.milcombe.com or please contact the Clerk,

Theresa Goss, at milcombecp@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 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

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE FIELDS ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH ARE NOT PART OF A CIRCULAR WALK

When dog walkers disobey requests from land owners or farmers, (tenant or not) we lose the pleasure of walking our dogs in the open. There was a well used circular walk around Bloxham that had to be closed due to the need to "kill" livestock following contamination of cattle food from dog excrement. The dog excrement contained pathogens that caused cows to miscarry.

Fields around Milcombe with your dogs excrement left on the grass are harvested to become part of the winter food given to local cattle and livestock. Faeces can cause cysts in livestock grazing these fields. If the carcasses that contain cysts are missed by the meat health inspectors in the abattoir, this contaminated meat will end up in the food chain and be a danger to human health.

The responsible dog owner will always pick up after their dog and place into a dog bin, however wandering over the fields rather than keeping to the designated path/route enables dogs to run free and defecate where and when they like often not noticed by the owner or a blind eye is turned, this has now got to stop around Milcombe. The alternative could be to fence off and make it a much restricted walk for dogs and public alike.



MILCOMBE PLAY AREA

As residents are aware, the Parish Council is planning to spend over £67,000 on new play equipment for the village.

This will involve removing the current equipment and replacing it with brand new, modern equipment. The Play Area Project Team, which includes two residents, has been working on this project for sometime and grant funding has recently been released which will enable it to progress.

There has been a lot of vandalism at the play area recently, which is causing the Parish Council some concern, given the investment we are planning to make in new play equipment. Significant damage has been caused to the multi play unit so it has had to be removed for safety reasons.

The Parish Council and the Project Team would like nothing more than see this project come to fruition, but to ensure this happens, we need support from the community.

The Play Area is overseen by the Parish Council and contact is via the Clerk, Theresa Goss, milcombecp@gmail.com

There is a separate item regarding the vandalism which recently took place in the Play Area resulting in the multi-use wooden item having to be demolished as it was unsafe. The RoSPA annual safety inspection was carried out on the equipment in July which is a legal requirement and was still necessary despite the hopes for new equipment in the near future.

At their July meeting, Parish Councillors (in conjunction with the two residents who have been working on the Play project) agreed to accept the quotation from Kompan Ltd. of Milton Keynes at a total cost of just under £84,000 including VAT which the PC is able to re-claim. With most of the funding in place, it is hoped that the work will

If you see anti-social behaviour happening, please ring 101 and report it to the Police and if you have older children, please remind them to look after and respect their environment which we all share. The Parish Council would not encourage residents to approach those involved and causing this damage, please leave that to the Police.

There have been suggestions about installing CCTV, which long term could be a solution, but initially we need quick, effective and practical solutions to ensure that the project can go ahead as planned and is not delayed.

The Parish Council hopes that residents understand these concerns and will support the project to improve the play area.

be carried out later in the year when the Play Area will obviously need to be closed.

We trust that with a Play Area of brand new equipment, it will be respected.

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

Despite some easing of restrictions, previous rules still apply. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to bring hand sanitiser or wipes to clean their children's hands. Children need to be reminded 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 at the present time.

MILCOMBE VILLAGE HALL villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com

Grateful thanks are extended to Rob Paul who has agreed to take over as Treasurer for Milcombe Charities. Rob is in the process of updating the Bank mandates with Barclays Bank for the new signatories. Hopefully the Bank will process these changes as soon as possible and then the Village Hall can re-open for bookings in September. However, the Committee requests that anybody using the Hall should be cautious, still wearing face masks, using hand sanitiser and socially distancing as far as is possible. Private

hirers will be expected to bear in mind that they will also need to be cautious. The Hall was last cleaned by Bill and Kay Garrett after the elections in May and a further clean will be requested before opening. Also, it will be imperative that the toys on the stage are not handled at the present time. The Village Hall Committee (Milcombe Charities Trustees) is overseen by Rev. Dale Gingrich (Chairman – office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk), Marlene Cowell (Minute Secretary – marlene.cowell@milcombe.com), Amy Jackson (Bookings), Sally Ashmole, Sacha Cowley, Raychel Pomroy, Suzette Watson and Rob Paul (Treasurer – robertjohnpaul@gmail.com).

All members can be reached on the following email: villagehallmilcombe@outlook.com

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CHURCH NOTES SERVICES IN ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH

these vary between 8.00am and 11.15am.

The Church is open every day for quiet prayer and reflection. Apologies that there were some changes to Services during August which may have caused some confusion.

Please note that the JOINT SERVICE WITH SOUTH NEWINGTON ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 29TH, AT 11.15am WILL NOW BE IN ST. LAURENCE'S.

There will no longer be 8am Holy Communion Services in St. Laurence's as these were not well attended.

THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE SERVICE IN ST. LAURENCE'S DURING SEPTEMBER.

The pattern of Services is as follows:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th (Trinity 14) HOLY COMMUNION at 11.15am IN ST. LAURENCE'S

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th (Trinity 15) UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE IN ST MARY'S AT 9.30am CELEBRATING THEIR PATRONAL (No Service in St. Laurence's)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th (Trinity 16) – NO SERVICE IN ST. LAURENCE'S (There is an 11.15am Service in SN)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th (Trinity 17) ECUMENICAL OUTDOOR SERVICE WITH THE BAPTISTS AND BOYS/GIRLS BRIGADE at 10.30am AT THE WARRINER SCHOOL. (No Service in St. Laurence's)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd (Trinity 18) - We are hoping to hold a HARVEST CELEBRATION but this is still to be confirmed.

We regret that we are not yet able to offer refreshments after Services or to gather socially in the Church. However, we are now allowed to SING HYMNS. It is advisable to continue wearing masks and to socially distance where possible. Also please continue to use the hand gel provided on the table as you enter.

CHORAL EVENSONG IS NOW BACK ON THE 4th SUNDAY AT 6.00pm in St. Mary's.

ZOOM SERVICES continue each Sunday at 6.00pm. See details on the Weekly Sheet which you can pick up from the Church. Susan Richardson and Marlene Cowell will be standing down as Churchwardens when Michael Haynes and Suzette Watson are sworn in at the Visitation in Deddington Church at 7.30pm on Tuesday, September 21st.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME – As everybody will appreciate, there has been very little income from Service collections over the past 18 months or so due to Covid and lockdown. However, in order to keep our Church open, it is imperative that we pay our insurance (over £1500 pa) otherwise the Church would remain locked and also to pay as much of our Parish Share as we are able (over £5000). At the same time, the PCC has to continue with the upkeep both of the Church building and the Churchyard. At the present time there is a section of the Churchyard boundary stone wall to the east of the Tower which has collapsed and in need of repair, we are awaiting a full electrical inspection which is a legal requirement, and the lightning conductor is in need of updating. Therefore, the PCC is asking if you will consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme which is a monthly amount of whatever you can afford paid by Direct Debit from your Bank and gift aid can be claimed where applicable. One off donations are also very acceptable if you feel unable to make a regular monthly donation. Please contact Rev. Dale Gingrich at St. Mary's Vicarage on 01295 720252 or email office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk or Susan Richardson (current CW) on 01295 721667 email sujerich@yahoo.co.uk. Rob Paul

is the Church Treasurer email robertjohnpaul@gmail.com. The PCC thanks you for your support as we know that St. Laurence's Church means a lot to a lot of people in Milcombe.

BUMPS AND BABIES IS STARTING UP AGAIN ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th both inside and outside the Parish Rooms. If you wish to become a helper or need more information, please contact Olwen Smith on 721709 email smitholwen@btinternet.com. Olwen will be standing down shortly and I think all of those parents/carers who have been involved with B&B would like to pass on a huge "thank you" to Olwen.

TEA AND TOAST IS CONTINUING AS A ZOOM MEETING FOR THE PRESENT ON FRIDAY MORNINGS FROM 9.30am onwards.

The contact is Jan Ogilvy 720054 and Zoom details (same every week) MEETING ID: 710054 0468 PASSWORD: bla8ta

BLOXHAM MOTHER'S UNION is open to all. Contact Pat Smith on 01295 816866 or 0797 160 467

MESSY CHURCH – Please contact the Benefice office for details. office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk

PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR WASTE IN THE CORRECT BINS – NO PLASTIC IN THE BROWN BINS.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY CANS AS WE HAVE NOBODY TO TAKE ON THIS PROJECT AT THE PRESENT TIME.

CHURCH TOWER CLOCK has been running 10 minutes slow for several weeks now, but is due to be repaired at the end of August. (Please note that any work on the Tower clock is the responsibility of the Parish Council who pay for the annual maintenance contract. Regrettably there is an additional charge for call-outs.)

PLEASE START SAVING YOUR USED STAMPS AND CARTRIDGES AGAIN. These can be left in the Church now that it is open every day. Tony and Joan Stickings take them to the Redwing Horse Sanctuary near Stratford.

DOG BAGS are available in the Church porch or at the back of the organ.

Contact details for St. Laurence's are Rev. Dale Gingrich 01295 720252 or email office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk.

The present Churchwardens are Susan Richardson 721667 sujerich@yahoo.co.uk and Marlene Cowell 720750 marlenecowell196@gmail.com

Contact details for new Churchwardens will be published next month.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE – OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Is there anybody who would be willing to organise the Christmas Shoeboxes this year for children in deprived countries? These Christmas shoeboxes filled with small gifts bring much joy to children and, for many, is the only gift that they will receive. St. Laurence's Church has supported this project over many years. You can get help if you are willing to take this on. Please contact euniceharradine@btinternet.com who is the local organiser for this area or speak to Marlene Cowell who has been organising the project almost from the beginning, but no longer able to do so.

OXFORDSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST RIDE/STRIDE TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th.

If you wish to take part and collect sponsorships, then please pick up a leaflet from the Church. Any money raised is divided between OHCT and your local Church. Michael Haynes is going to cycle on behalf of St. Laurence's and hopes that you will sponsor him. Last year he raised over £400 of which just over £200 came back to St. Laurence's. ~ ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH WILL BE OPEN ALL DAY TO WELCOME VISITORS

THE CHERRY TREE CENTRE

THE CHERRY TREE CENTRE SHOULD RE-OPEN WHEN THE NEW SCHOOL TERM BEGINS

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£8 extra for each additional colour
Ombre £50
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FREE Adverts for local business



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

BUMPS AND BABIES

We are a drop-in café for mums, carers and babies with baby toys, group singing and homemade cakes!

BUMPS AND BABIES IS RE-OPENING ON SEPTEMBER 13th.

Contact office@bloxhambenefice.co.uk or Olwen Smith smitholwen@btinternet.com

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ST MARY'S THURSDAY CLUB IS HOPING TO OPEN UP VERY SOON



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BE A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER

There is a supply of free CDC dog bags available from the Church porch or inside the Church behind the organ, so please make sure you take a bag with you to clean up after your dog, particularly along the footpaths, Low field and Paradise field. There is a penalty if you are caught allowing your dog to foul public footpaths or other land and not picking it up. There are plenty of dog bins around the village for you to use or take it home and place in your green bin. Thank you.



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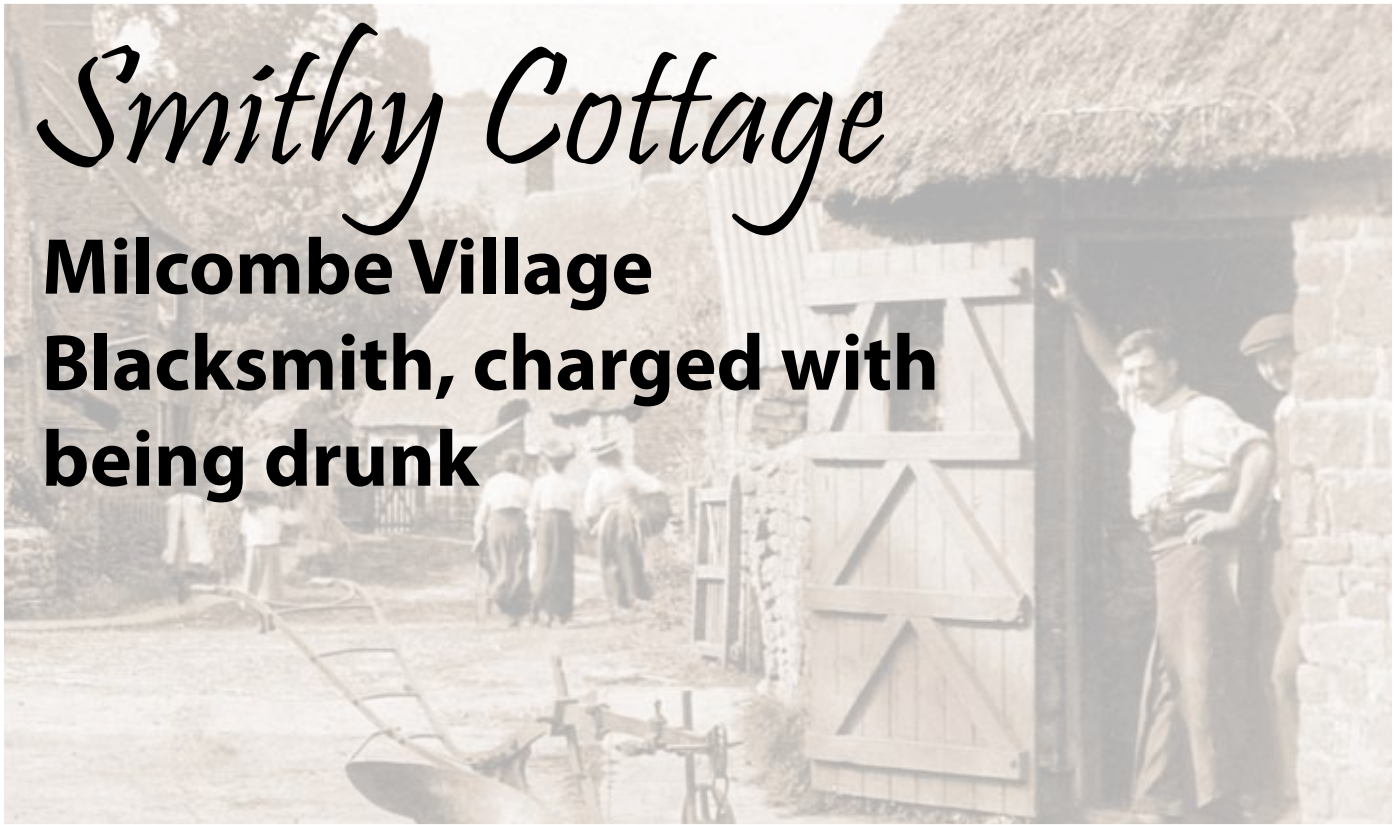
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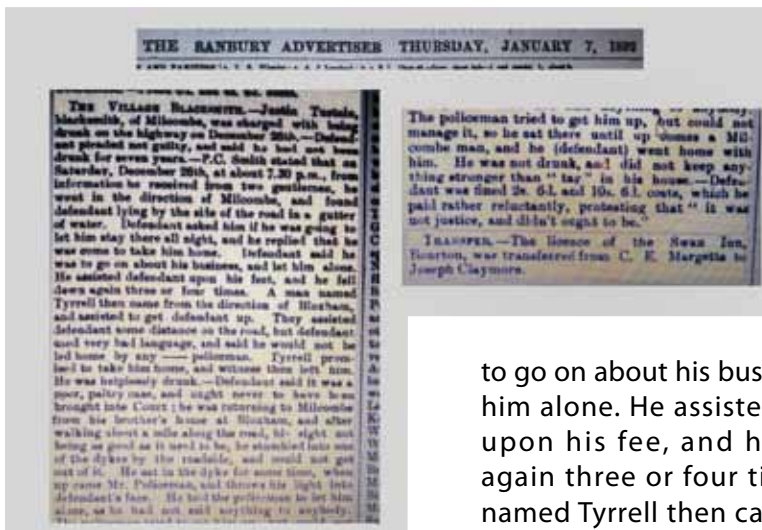
Smithy Cottage

Milcombe Village Blacksmith, charged with being drunk



The Banbury Advertiser, Thursday, January 7th 1892

Picture is of Horace Tibbett 1910 much after this event by some 18 years outside the Forge at Smithy Cottage and not the person in this report.



The Village Blacksmith. – Justin Tustain, blacksmith, of Milcombe, was charged with being drunk on the highway on December 26th. – Defendant pleaded not guilty, and said he had not been drunk for seven years. – P.C. Smith stated that on Saturday, December 26th, at about 7,30pm., from information he received from two gentlemen, he went in the direction of Milcombe, and found defendant lying by the side of the road in a gutter of water. Defendant asked him if he was going to let him stay there all night, and he replied that he was come to take him home. Defendant said he was

to go on about his business, and let him alone. He assisted defendant upon his feet, and he fell down again three or four times. A man named Tyrrell then came from the direction of Bloxham, and assisted to get defendant up. They assisted defendant some distance on the road, but defendant used very bad language, and said he would not be led home by any - policeman. Tyrrell promised to take him home, and witness, then left him. He was helplessly drunk. – Defendant said it was a poor, paltry case, and ought never to have been brought into Court; he was returning to Milcombe from his brother's house at Bloxham, and after walking about a mile along the road, his sight not being as good as it used to be, he stumbled into one of the dykes by the roadside, and could not get out of it. He sat in the

dyke for some time, when up came Mr. Policeman, and throws his light into defendant's face. He told the policeman to let him alone, as he had not said anything to anybody. The policeman tried to get him up, but could not manage it, so he sat there until up comes a Milcombe man, and he (defendant) went home with him. He was not drunk, and did not keep anything stronger then "tay" in his house. – Defendant was fined 2s 6d. and 10s. 6d. costs, which he paid rather reluctantly, protesting that "it was not justice, and didn't ought to be."

If you have a story about life in Milcombe and would like to share it please email Milcombepc@gmail.com. We can help to put it together for you.