

Newsletter Autumn 2017

Litterpicks

The next town centre litterpick will be on **Saturday 30th September**, to get the place at its best for the Independent Market on Sunday. We meet at 10am, between the entrance to the Cheese and Grain and the river (find us by our flag shown on the right). We hope to be finished by midday.

Usual dress code: boots or robust shoes, clothing that you don't mind getting muddy or snagged on brambles, and if possible some tough gloves. We provide everything else.

Children are welcome, but they must be supervised by a responsible adult.

Frome Market Yard Offices.

Mendip Distric Council (MDC) has lodged an application (2017/2307/RE3 in the Planning section of their website) to install offices based in twenty shipping containers in the Market Yard, between the Cheese and Grain and the river. There is no doubt they will dominate this section of the riverbank, possibly for decades. MDC says that they need to make up a shortfall in income, and that there is a shortage of office space within Frome, leading to businesses moving out of the town.

Frome dog poo questionnaire: a message from Adam Baylis



“We would like to reduce the amount of dog poo in public areas around Frome. So, this autumn we will be carrying out a campaign that focuses on education, celebrating considerate dog owners and making it easy for people to do the right thing. Even better, it’s a campaign that everyone can get involved in, starting right now.”

“Our questionnaire is just four really easy questions. Find it at: <https://goo.gl/forms/VXKsKRsQJiumSVRj1> ”

Wallbridge Flood Prevention Management

Persimmon, who are building houses at Southfields Farm, will be providing £425,000 under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act. S106 money is used for the benefit of the community, either in providing amenity, or to protect or enhance the environment. In this instance, the money was earmarked in the planning approval to be used to improve flood prevention for the Wallbridge area.



Friends of the Somerset River Frome

GO
for the
FLOW!

A blue wavy line graphic representing water, located below the 'GO for the FLOW!' text.

There is general agreement between local bodies that a wider and sustainable approach to managing the river would be more beneficial than heavy engineering in the Southfields or Wallbridge areas. Rather than localised 'bank grading' works, which is one option open to the Environment Agency, it would be better to work further upstream, recreating water meadows and other features that would slow the flow of the river.

At a meeting on 26th August, interested parties* established what would be needed to convince the Environment Agency and Persimmon that the sustainable option would work, and indeed offer better value for money. One essential requirement would be a feasibility study, championed by Frome Town Council.

A second meeting will be held on September 26th, just too late for me to get this newsletter out on time. I will report on it in the next issue.

* Interested parties include Frome Town Council, Friends of the River Frome, Bristol Avon Rivers Trust.

Victoria Hillman's Crowdfunder Project

And now something about wildlife. Victoria wants to publish a book, and mount an exhibition, entitled 'Forgotten Little Creatures of Somerset and Wiltshire'. All the subject matter has been drawn from within a 40-mile radius of her home in Frome. More details from <http://www.vikspics.com>

She is raising funds by means of a Crowdfunder project: <http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/forgotten-little-creatures>

Talking of little creatures...

...the "otter" featured in the last issue was an American mink. Sorry about that.



The Persimmon site at Southfields.



The Market Yard, proposed site for container offices.