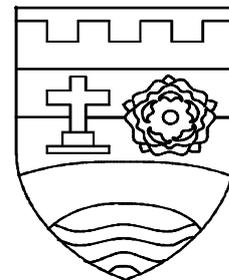


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



December 2009

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Tel

Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Beryl Thompson (Vice-Chairman)	600900
Kath Almond	600368
Robert Baker	600482
John Forrest	601216
Chris Gibbons	601962
John Kearton	600766
Stefan Mosalski	601300
Stephen Parkinson	601025

Alan Platt (Clerk to the Council)
can be contacted at:

9 Ambleside Avenue
Euxton
Chorley
PR7 6NX

Tel: 01257 234003

e-mail:

crostonpc@btinternet.com

website:

www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Council Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month in The Old School commencing at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Noticeboards

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities. The noticeboards are located on the Village Green, outside the Co-op and in front of the Police Station.

Local non-for-profit organisations wishing to include A4 sized posters to publicise forthcoming events etc should contact the Clerk.

Advertisements

The Parish Council does not endorse or recommend any of the advertisers contained in this publication.

Blooming Marvellous

Croston was placed joint second in this year's Large Village Category in the North West in Bloom Competition. The Village also picked up the Tidy Britain 'Clean Sweep' Award which is awarded to the cleanest area in the Competition - a testimony to the hard work of our Village Lengthsman, Kevin, and the efforts of residents.

In the 'Neighbourhood Awards' the village picked up 2 further awards - Church Street



(l-r) Kath Almond, Beryl Williams, David Sandwell and Anne Peet with the North West in Bloom Certificates and Trophy

was awarded an 'Outstanding' certificate (meaning it picked up more than 180 points out of a possible 200) and 10 - 14 The Orchard was awarded a 'Certificate of Merit', the equivalent of 2nd place. Trinity and St Michaels School received an Environmental Award for Schools, for the work the School is doing to raise awareness of environmental issues.

In the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition, Croston was placed 4th overall in the Champion Village Class. The Friends of Croston Station's Noticeboard took the award for Best Noticeboard and the Old School, both Jubilee and St Michaels Terrace Almshouses, Croston Corn Mill and the Cricket Ground all received 'Highly Commended' Certificates in their respective categories.

The Trophy and Certificates will be on display in the window of 'Favourites' on Town Road for a few weeks, and we thank Kate for allowing this.

We would also like to thank the members of Croston in Bloom and Croston Residents Environmental Workforce for their efforts.



Headteacher Suzanne Dixon and Anne Peet with the Young Environmentalists

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Chairman's Report

May I start by welcoming Robert Baker on to the Parish Council. Robert has been co-opted to fill the vacancy left following the resignation of Sally Thompson. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sally for her work on the council.

On 8 November I attended the village Remembrance service alongside fellow councillors, the Deputy Mayor of Chorley and his wife, a large contingency of Cubs & Scouts and many members of the public. This year's service was well attended which is perhaps a reflection on the situation in Afghanistan.

The service was preceded by the investiture of several new Cubs and it was very pleasing to see that this once struggling group is flourishing again.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, the village has received several awards in both The Lancashire Best kept Village and the North West in Bloom competitions. I would like to add my personal thanks to everyone who contributed to the 'Croston in Bloom' group. I would also like to thank Kate Borresen from 'Favourites' for allowing me to hijack one of her shop windows for a few weeks to display our trophies.

Christmas will soon be upon us and the members of the Croston Festivities group are hard at work putting the final touches to the Festivities Day. Let's hope the weather is kind to us so we can all enjoy this wonderful event.

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Anne Peet

Pedestrian Safety

Following the Parish Council's request Lancashire County Council has installed bollards at the end of Out Lane to protect pedestrians from motorists mounting and driving along the pavement on Town Road.

The requested bollards outside the Bank's entrance and Cashpoint are the subject of a consultation following representations from the security company.

The Parish Council will continue to press for these bollards in the interests of both pedestrian and bank customers safety.

Temporary Road Closure

Moor Road (B5249) will be closed from its junction with Highfield Road to no 281 between Friday 8 - Friday 15 January 2010 for resurfacing works. Access will be maintained to affected properties.

Recreation Ground

Details of our initial ideas for the revamping of the Recreation Ground have been displayed on the noticeboards. The plans are available to view on the website, visit www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk

Residents views on the initial proposals, which have also been on display in the Council's noticeboards during November, are invited.

Town Twinning

Croston and Azay le Rideau Twinning Organisation featured on Radio Lancashire recently. It's a great way to make new friends and we are looking at new ways of getting more people involved - one is a family exchange. We have successful adult exchanges every year.

Please contact Graeme White on 01257 462529 for details.

Poppy Appeal

This year's collection looks set to top the total of £1357.59 raised in 2008.

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Thanks go to all contributors, and the Village businesses who allowed a poppy tray and collection box on their premises. A very special thank you to our Door-to-Door Collector and the Ladies from the Royal Bank of Scotland for counting the collection boxes.

Where is Croston Bank?

Not many people will know the answer. Perhaps a few in Jubilee Way or Moor Road. The pillars at the entrance to Jubilee Way state 'Croston Bank' and 'A Fairclough Homes Development' (plus graffiti). The company is not in existence, and there never was a Croston Bank here. This was originally Jubilee Mill, a cotton mill built in the year of Queen Victoria's jubilee and only closing in the late 1950's. It was then let as industrial units until 2002 when the development took place.

The pillars themselves have caused some controversy with many residents feeling they cut off their estate from the older, main body of the village and something softer would be more appropriate.

As Chorley Council is about to adopt the entrance next to the older house could residents put forward their views on whether the entrance would look better without the pillars to the Clerk (contact details on p1) before our meeting on Wednesday 13 January 2010.

Kath Almond

Village Festivities

The Croston Village Festivities Group now has a website - visit us at:

www.crostonfestivities.co.uk

Croston Scout Group

Thanks to everyone who supported us at the Music Festival in August. The money raised (£240) will go towards our family camp next year.

All our Sections are running full, fun - packed programmes and we recently invested a new Cub Scout Leader (new Leaders always welcome).

In the sections we have 1 scout who's completed his Chief Scout Gold award, 5 Cub Scouts have gained their Chief Scout Silver awards & 5 Beaver Scouts their Chief Scout Bronze Awards. These awards are the top badges in their sections. Well done!

Come along & see us at the Christmas Fayre.

If you need any information about Scouts, or if you'd like to help out in any way, please call Susan on 601321.

Croston Over 60's

Some of our members have just come back from a very nice break in Scarborough and we are now busy planning our Christmas activities.

New company is always welcome - we meet between 2.00 - 4pm on Wednesdays in the Community Centre, Castle Walks. Transport can be arranged.

Croston Tots

We also meet in the Community Centre on Tuesday & Thursday mornings 9-30 - 11-30am.

It's a relaxed setting where mums/dads/carers can meet up with friends and have a chat whilst the children play.

We have to say a big thank you to the Parish Council for a generous donation which enabled us to purchase play pens & soft play equipment for our smaller babies.

Croston Old School

Community Resource Centre
Church Street, Croston

01772 603600

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www.crostonoldschool.org

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Second Time Around

Christmas opening in Eccleston Monday - Saturday from 10.00am - 4.00pm (until 8.00pm on Thursday's in December).

Lots of Christmas ideas, gifts and stocking fillers are now in stock, all for just £1.00, along with a variety of Christmas cards.

Lancashire Constabulary

It has been another quiet time on the crime front for the area but there has been a slight increase in reports from elderly residents regarding 'Cold Callers' and 'Bogus Officials'. Companies are offering to fit aerials at astronomical prices, prior to the digital switchover. If you have any concerns regarding the 'Digital Switchover' please contact Villages in Partnership on 01772 603591 for relevant advice and practical solutions.

The other word of warning is regarding bogus officials, the latest ploy involved two Eastern European females who called at an address for directions, and whilst they kept the occupant talking, two further offenders entered the house via the back door and stole property. Please be very wary of strangers at your door.

We seem to have an issue with cyclists (both children and adults) riding around the village with no lights. Please ensure that your bikes are road worthy and have lights to the front and rear.

Please be extra vigilant leading up to Christmas with security not only to your houses but also your vehicles. Do not leave presents on show and ensure your properties and vehicles are secure. If you have any queries with regards to this article or any problems please do not hesitate to contact us on 0845 1 25 35 45 or by e-mail at

carolineplummer@
lancashire.pnn.police.uk

maria.fetherstone@
lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Crimestoppers can be contacted on: 0800 555111

*Caroline Plummer &
Maria Fetherstone*

Villages in Partnership

VIP has raised sufficient funding for at least another 12 months. Unfortunately we are unable to host events, as previously, due to the financial restrictions which we face with our present funder.

We are available to help local groups to seek grant funding and to assist with project ideas in any way we can.

Our Health Trainer, Frances, is now fully qualified and has started work in our local communities. Call 01772 603591 for details.



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