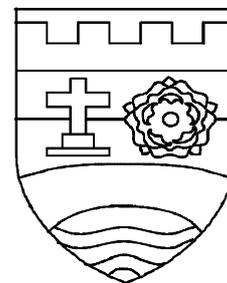


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



March 2012

Councillors

	Tel
Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Stephen Parkinson (Vice-Chairman)	601025
Kath Almond	600368
Robert Baker	600482
Peter Fenemore	600572
Keith Iddon	07787 005663
Bruno Paillusson	603427
Gill Stubbs	07905 452160
Paul Walmsley	07545 641052

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

Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except August), in The Old School, Church Street, Croston.

All residents are welcome to attend and a section of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues.

Noticeboards

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

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

Diamond Jubilee

Residents, representatives of local organisations and Parish Councillors met on 15th February to discuss ideas to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Sunday 3rd June 2012 was chosen as the date for a Picnic in the Woods which will, hopefully, take place in the grounds of St Michael's Church and will include games and other entertainment and any local businesses wishing to provide sponsorship for the event should contact Members of the Parish Council or the Clerk (details to left of this article).

Monday 4th June will see a Jubilee Exhibition at The Old School between 1:00pm and 5:00pm.

A further meeting, to continue with the planning of the celebrations, has been arranged for 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd March 2012 at The Old School and everyone, representatives of organisations or residents, is invited.

Keep an eye on the Parish Council's noticeboards for announcements nearer the time.

Council Tax 2012-13

The Parish Council is to hold the cost of the Parish Precept to residents for the next financial year.

Services provided by the Parish Council will be unaffected. These include our Village Lengthsman, who picks litter from the major routes through the village, maintenance of the Recreation Ground and Play Area and the Village Green, mowing of the Recreation Field and the Village Green and grass verges throughout the village. The Council also provides the Christmas lights on the Village Green, spring and summer planting of the tubs and beds around the village, wayside seats, the Speed Indicator Device, emptying of dog waste bins and the requisite insurance cover.

Village Issues

Dog fouling has recently become a horrible problem again, especially on Station Road. The only way to stop this is to report the offender, but as this is usually done under the cover of darkness, it is not always possible. However, to stop people walking in the dog fouling once it is there, carry some chalk and chalk a big circle round it. Report offenders to Chorley Council on 01257 515151.

Mindless vandalism continues. The perspex in the Parish Council's noticeboards outside the Co-op and the Police Station smashed. The cost of repairs will, once again, be met from council tax.

Croston Acorns Nursery Ltd

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01772 601074

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 References available on request 

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email: emp_burridge@hotmail.co.uk

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appointments can be arranged**

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Chairman's Report

I would like to begin by welcoming Bruno Paillusson who was co-opted on to the Council at our January meeting. At that meeting we set the precept for the coming year and I am very pleased that there is to be no increase this year.

The newly formed 'Friends of Croston Recreation Ground' are moving forward with their plans to consult the village with regards to the plans to refurbish the play area. Please take time to complete and return the consultation form when you receive it.

The recent Flood Planning meeting has resulted in the formation of a working group of Parish Councillors, lead by Peter Fenemore, who will now look to put a system in place designed to help in the rare event that the village should suffer the type of severe flooding which we last witnessed in 1987.

The first weekend in June will see the village celebrating 2 major events. The Olympic Torch Relay will come through the village on Friday 1 June and we are working closely with colleagues at Chorley Council with regards to the arrangements for this. We will then go on to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee for which several events are being planned. Please check the notice boards for more details nearer the time.

Anne Peet

Croston Community Flood Plan

We have set up a Group to try to establish a Croston Community Emergency Flood Plan. The aim is to liaise with the Environment Agency and Local Authorities and to seek local volunteers to coordinate and implement a plan to prepare for severe flood disasters affecting Croston.

The initial steps are to:

1. clarify insurance and indemnity issues for the Parish Council and the volunteers.
2. agree an action plan flow chart with the Environment Agency and local authorities.
3. identify zones in Croston most at risk from flooding and seek volunteers for each local zone.
4. seek volunteers for overall coordination/liaison with authorities/emergency services and specific tasks (traffic control, sandbags, help vulnerable people to safe places and help move furniture etc upstairs/other safer places, local pumping to reduce run off build up).

Since March last year, the Croston Flooding Overview Study

has been looking into the various sources of flooding in Croston (river, sewage, and local run off) and investigating preliminary schemes to try to reduce flood risks. They are producing a report outlining their work and listing conclusions and priorities for the next year. One of these is to continue to identify areas flooded in the 1987 and 2008 floods and to try to identify flood depths and origins of the flood water. The intent is to assist emergency flood planners to identify priorities to protect life and property in the event of a future flood and to help clarify priorities for infrastructure improvements and locations where local pumping may prevent or reduce flooding of properties.

So far flood areas noted include Grape Lane, Highfield Road, Town Road, Church Street, Out Lane, Westhead Road, Yarrow Close and Little Lane. Information about any other areas flooded since 1987 would be welcome - Please advise Alan Platt (details on p1) and he will get one of the volunteers to contact you.

Peter Fenemore



Friends of Croston Recreation Ground

Thank you to everyone who responded to the last article in the newsletter. We now have a number of enthusiastic people

involved or interested in receiving further information about the new plans for the Recreation Ground.

By now, everyone in the village should have received a copy of our Community Consultation Questionnaire. This is your chance to tell us what you think the Recreation Ground needs and what you want to see change. If you haven't received a copy please email at the contact details below and we can send one to you.

Last month we had a visit from a playground equipment supplier just to start to scope out what can be done to the children's play area and we are looking forward to receiving an outline proposed plan so the team can start to gather an idea of what the fundraising target might be for the entire project, which we hope might consist of a new and improved play area, multi-use training area and community gardens.

If you are interested in getting involved in fundraising, planning, building or volunteering please let us know everyone is welcome!

Contact Emma Blackman for more details on 07540726107 or email to emma@verynicethings.co.uk

Croston Pre-school

What a fantastic year 2011 turned out to be for Croston Pre-School!

December saw the achievement of 'Good' with several outstanding features in the Ofsted inspection. With this great result, Croston Pre-School becomes one of only two pre-schools in the area awarded so many outstanding features.



In September the Pre-school received the 'Step into Quality Award' from Lancashire County Council. The award is part of a scheme to help childcare providers across Lancashire demonstrate best practice and develop high quality services for children and their parents. In consultation with the pre-school's parental committee, the staff are continuing their work in this area and are now working towards the 'Lancashire Quality Award'.



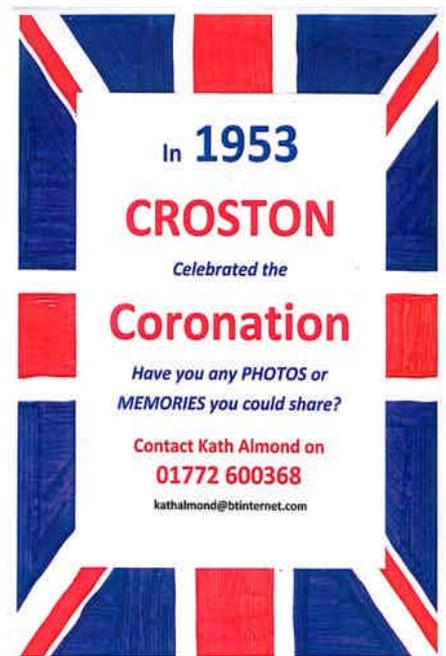
On Friday April 27th we are holding an Open Afternoon. It will be an excellent opportunity for anyone who wishes to see what we have to offer or ask any

questions. Come along and visit us, details to follow soon at www.crostonpreschool.org or look out for the posters in the village.

We can be contacted during term time at: Croston Old School, Church Street, Croston. Tel: 01772 601241 or email: crostonpre-school@tiscali.co.uk



Croston Pre-school is a Registered Charity Number: 1100800



Come and take part in planning for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd March 2012, at The Old School (see full article on page 1).

All residents and organisations are welcome.

Palm Sunday on the Village Green

Sunday 1st April

Gather at St. Michael's or Trinity Churches at 10.15am.

We will then process to the Green for a short service of Hymns & Prayers (*beginning at 10.30 am*) to celebrate the beginning of Holy Week.

Everyone is welcome to join with us.

Refreshments in the Community Centre afterwards.

Churches Together in Croston



Cllr John Walker (Executive Member - People & Places), Volunteer Walk Leader Eileen Entwisle and local residents on the first Croston Walk in January

Find Your Feet

Meet every Wednesday at 10:45am on the Car Park on Out Lane (next to the Doctor's Surgery) for walks around the historic village of Croston and surrounding farmland. Return around 11:45am. Join walkers for refreshments after the walk. Suitable for all abilities.

Find your Feet is a health walk scheme co-ordinated by Chorley Council. Walks are led by Chorley Council Rangers and Find your Feet volunteer walk leaders

All walks are free of charge and there is no need to book, just come along on the day.

Please contact Sarah Leach, Parks and Open Spaces Officer (Scheme Co-ordinator) on 01257 515148 or see our website www.chorley.gov.uk if you need any more information or have any questions.

Croston Christmas Fair 2011

On Sunday 11th December 2011 the village was buzzing with residents and visitors who all came to support and enjoy the festivities. It was a fantastic day with entertainment for all generations and more stalls than ever before.

Special thanks must go to all the volunteers of Croston Village Festivities Group who organise and manage the event. The Group thanks all the local sponsors, whose donations, help and support allow the event to take place.

The Group really needs more volunteers to help on the day with the organisation and if you are willing to help for any amount of time please contact the group either by email at enquiries@crostonfestivities.co.uk or telephone 01772 601804.



He's here! Santa on his way through the village

For more information please visit our website at www.crostonfestivities.co.uk

The AGM of the Croston Village Festivities Group, takes place on Monday 12th March at 7.30 in the Old School. A warm invitation is extended to all residents of Croston to attend.

Please come along and let us know what you thought about the event last year and how we can improve it this year. Our 2012 Christmas Fair will be held on Sunday 9th December, and we do need help on the day to ensure another successful event.

If you would like to join our planning group that would be even better; we need all the help we can get. We meet on the second Monday of the month, at 7.30 pm.

For further information please contact Brenda, our secretary, on 01772 601363

Tree Spree

In the December edition we reported that a grant application had been made to the National Lottery for the village to run a Tree Spree - we are almost there. An offer has been made to the Parish Council for £10,000 towards the Tree Spree.

Our Tree Spree is a celebration of village trees and the outdoor environment, with two main aims. The first is to run a year long programme of tree related events, activities and celebrations. The events programme will feed directly into the second aim which is to plant trees across the parish.

One of the most exciting part of the planting work is that we are going to be targeting front gardens, where the trees planted will be seen and enjoyed by the maximum number of people, and of course we will be selecting suitable varieties for suitable sized gardens! If you have the space what about an Oak, or if you have a more modest garden what about a more compact Mountain Ash or Maple variety? The sites are not fixed, the key criteria is that the trees will be seen and enjoyed. Request leaflets will be available later in the year.

We must not get too excited until we get the final offer, but in the meantime the project team are expanding the group of volunteers who will deliver leaflets, run events, encourage neighbours to plant and will be trained in tree identification and planting techniques - if you'd like to be involved ring Tim on 603339 or stick a note though the letter box at 7 Out Lane (red door).

Tim Blyth

Local Funding Opportunity

Local charity, Villages in Partnership (VIP), is giving away individual grants of up to £500 each to community groups in the area.

In order to be eligible to apply your group must be based and/or work in one of the villages we cover (see our website or phone the office for a detailed list).

Your project or activity must make a positive contribution to the community, improve people's quality of life or promote health and wellbeing.

To obtain an application form or find out more, please contact VIP on 01772 603591 or email vip@villagesinpartnership.org.uk

Closing date for completed applications is Monday 30th April 2012.

To find out more about VIP, visit our website at: www.villagesinpartnership.org.uk

An Invitation to Ringing

Do you enjoy hearing the Church Bells? Why not come along and have a go? We welcome anyone who wants to try and sample ringing on the second Monday of the month from 7.30 until 8.00pm at the Parish Church.

Be part of a tradition going back over 200 years, any age from 9 to 90! You do not necessarily need to be young to learn, many take up the art later in life as a new found interest.

Once learnt you will have the opportunity of joining other ringers in this hobby all over the UK and abroad! We look forward to seeing you. For further information contact Robert Hough (Tower Captain) on 01772 814337.

Internet

Sonic Internet is a new internet service provider providing high speed internet to rural areas. Sonic is now live in Croston and already provides the Community Centre with free internet.

Sonic internet offers a GUARANTEED 5mb connection, wherever you are.

For further information visit <http://www.sonicinternet.co.uk>

Croston Old School

Community Resource Centre
Church Street, Croston

01772 603600

Coming Soon

see website for details of tickets etc

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Friday 13 April 2012

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Friday 18 May 2012

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So who are technohow?

Lukas and Neil are local IT and datacoms specialists, who between them, have thirty years professional experience.

Contact **Technohow**:

Ansaphone: 01704 822874

Mobile: 07777 631689

email: neil@technohow.co.uk



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Saturday 8.30am - 3.00pm

Tel: Ian (01772)

601272

21 Town Road, Croston

Lancashire Constabulary

There has been a recent sharp increase in the theft of stone, such as coping stone and pillar caps. All residents need to be vigilant to any suspicious activity that they may see, and contact the police on the new non-emergency phone number of 101.

Car owners should make sure their vehicles are locked and secure at all times. There has been a huge rise in stealing from motor vehicles, and 17% of car crime was from cars left insecure.

I still have a limited number of free, medium, cycle helmets available. Anyone interested should contact me at Coppull Police Station on 01257 246103.

PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone



Yoga Classes

Are you looking for a way to energise, strengthen and relax your body and calm your mind?

Gentle flowing **yoga, meditation** and **relaxation** classes for all ages and abilities (it is a myth that you need to be flexible to do yoga!)

Mondays 10.00am - 11.30am
Thursdays 10.00am - 11.30am
8.00pm - 9.30pm

Venue: Croston Methodist Church Hall

Call Claire Everitt for further details

07984 553465

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www.chorley-shukokai-karate.co.uk

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visit www.meditateinlancs.org.uk for
more details or call

07767 651234

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Croston welcomes the Olympic Torch

The Olympic Torch will be coming to Croston on Friday 1st June 2012!

This will be a momentous occasion for Croston as the Olympic Torch makes its way across the Borough on the way to its final destination, the Olympic Stadium, in London, on Friday 27th July.

Seeing the Olympic Torch pass through Croston is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and you can take part by lining the route, creating costumes, dressing in appropriate fancy dress, making banners, or creating Olympic and Paralympic Games-themed displays.

The time and route the Torch will pass through Croston will be confirmed by the London 2012 Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and Chorley Council in the local press and on the Chorley Council website www.chorley.gov.uk/olympictorch as soon as the information is available.

For now, general information on the Olympic Torch Relay is available at www.london2012.com

Croston Parish Council is working with Chorley Council to help plan the event and ensure as many local people as possible can see the Olympic Torch and Chorley Council is preparing to dress the streets that the Olympic Torchbearers will run through.

There will be some small delays on the roads in the area as the Olympic Torch passes and information on this will be available in the next few months.

This is Croston's moment to shine and it would be great if people from across the area came together to celebrate.

Local Businesses

If you would like to reach around 1250 households in the village via the Parish Council newsletter contact the Clerk (details on p1).

We can offer **full colour** ads in the colour insert. A half column ad costs £30 (£45 colour) and a quarter column £15 (£22.50).

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non-emergency) 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Report problems regarding the Station and station car park area to British Transport Police on: 0800 405040

Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151

Report problems with roads and pavements, including street lighting, to Lancashire County Council on:

0845 0530011

National Grid (gas leaks)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency
Floodline 0845 988 1188

Published by Alan Platt, 9 Ambleside Avenue, Euxton, Chorley. PR7 6NX

Printed by Minuteman Press, 2B Fox Industrial Estate, Holyoake Avenue, Blackpool FY1 3ND Tel: 01253 592244