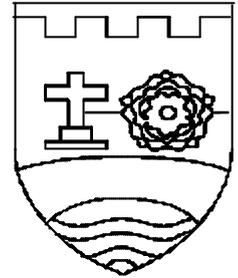


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



September 2009

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Tel

Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Beryl Thompson (Vice-Chairman)	600900
Kath Almond	600368
John Forrest	601216
Chris Gibbons	601962
John Kearton	600766
Stefan Mosalski	601300
Stephen Parkinson	601025
Sally Thompson	600625

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.

In the Finals - 2009

The Village, and The Orchard and Church Street, have been nominated to receive awards in their respective categories of the North West in Bloom 2009 Competition. The final results will be announced at the Awards Ceremony held on 22 and 23 October 2009. The Awards Ceremony is a little like the Oscars as, until awards are announced, participants are unaware as to who has won.

The Village was also announced as one of the finalists in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2009. The Old School, Community Centre, Almshouses, Croston Corn Mill, Subscription Bowling Green, Cricket Ground and village notice boards were also nominated as finalists in their own sections.

A second round of judging was carried out in mid - August and the results will be announced in September. The Parish Council would like to thank all residents who assisted by keeping the area tidy.

Our thanks go to all residents who assisted with both competition entries, and all the members of Croston in Bloom and Croston Residents Environmental Workforce.

The Parish Councils special thanks go to John and Annabel Pearson, Kath Almond, Anne and Martin Peet, Beryl Williams and David Sandwell for all their work with the planting etc.

Recreation Ground

Having attended to the Village Green seating areas we now intend to move on to our next project - to completely revamp the Recreation Ground area.

On the Young Childrens Play Area we plan to renovate the equipment and fence, and resurface the area, repaint the Youth Shelter and resite it on a solid base with the entrance facing Station Road, provide a Multi-Use Games Area and install 4 low energy lighting columns, which would direct light downwards to cover both Areas and the Youth Shelter.

We also intend to re-establish the hedge to the north boundary, the footpath behind the properties on Station Road, and provide a picnic area on part of what is now the football pitch, which will be replaced with a smaller pitch.

All Residents are invited to comment on our initial proposals, which will be displayed in the Council's noticeboards on the Village Green, and outside the Co-op and Police Station, during late October/early November. Additionally we will have drawings available for inspection, from 7.00pm, prior to the Council meeting on 12 November 2009.

Croston Acorns Nursery

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www.crostonacornsnursery.co.uk

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Chairman's Report

As yet another rather damp summer comes to a close; it is pleasing to hear that the village and several of its buildings and amenities have reached the finals of the Best Kept Village Competition. Let's hope we have a similar success in the North West in Bloom competition. Keep an eye on the Parish Council Notice Boards for the results of both competitions.

On 19 August I attended the official opening of the new fish pass at Mill Coe. This project, undertaken by the Friends of the River Yarrow, has taken 7 years to complete and the committee are to be commended for their hard work and endurance.

Sadly, the grounds of the church have been subjected to two burglaries in recent weeks. Following the theft of 24 York stone flags from the rear of The Old School, the garden store alongside the public footpath was broken into and tools to the value of £2,000 have been taken. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the local Police.

On a happier note, I am pleased to report Councillor John Kearton is making good progress following his recent hip replacement. On behalf of the Council I would like to wish John a speedy recovery and we look forward to his return to Council meetings.

Anne Peet

Pedestrian Safety

The Parish Council's requests, from the Lancashire Highways Allocation Budget 2009, for bollards on the pavement on Town Road, outside the Bank and at the junction with Out Lane have been granted by the Lancashire Local.

The bollards were requested to protect pedestrians from motorists mounting the pavements, which have seen several near misses.

We look forward to the work being carried out and the pavements in these areas becoming safer for pedestrians.

110 Bus Service

As a result of lobbying by residents, and Croston and Bretherton Parish Councils, a Monday's-only bus service between Leyland and Southport has been reinstated on a trial basis until 26 October 2009.

The trial will ascertain whether there is sufficient demand for the service to reinstate it on a permanent basis so it may well be yet another case of 'use it or lose it'.

Anyone for Coffee?

Croston Old School will be the venue for The World's Largest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses on Friday 25 September from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Come along for tea/coffee and cakes and help raise much needed funds for this wonderful organisation. There will also be a cake stall, tombola, book stall and raffle.

Croston Acorns Nursery

This year we were fortunate to secure an Early Years Capital Grant for our Nursery.

This grant, for £20,000, was to be spent on all areas within the nursery that would improve the quality of the learning environment and help us deliver the EYFS Curriculum.

We have now reached completion of the project and would like to thank Lancashire County Council, Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Service, and all our Staff and contractors who have helped us with the project.

Poppy Appeal

Recent news reports of the casualties in Afghanistan should serve to remind us of the sacrifices made by the Members of the Armed Forces and their families.



Last year's Poppy Appeal in the village raised just over £1350 - an increase of around 30% on the 2007 figure!!!

On behalf of the beneficiaries of the appeal thanks go to everyone who contributed, all the Village businesses who allowed a poppy tray and collection box on their premises, with special thanks to our Door-to-Door Collector.

If you can spare time over a couple of weeks between 24 October and 7 November for Door-to-Door Collecting, or you have a business and are willing to have a poppy tray and collection box please contact Alan on 01257 234003.

Community Centre News

Lancashire College can offer the Community Centre a wide range of courses including:

- T'ai chi
- Aromatherapy
- Watercolour painting
- Card making
- Numeracy & Literacy
- Italian & Spanish
- Creative Writing

A full list is available on the Community Centre notice board in Castle Walks. Please ring 603591 to tell us if you are interested.

Local Businesses

Reach around 1300 homes within the village by advertising in this newsletter. For details of current prices etc contact the Clerk (details on page 1).

Croston Scout Group

Scouts are back after their summer break and already into full, fun-packed programmes. The Scouts and Cubs have already been to Great Towers camp site for their water/activity weekends this September and the Beavers are looking forward to a sleep-over in the Fire Brigade Training Centre.

If you need any information about Scouts, whether it's to join Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts, or if you'd like to help out in any way, the number to ring is 601321 and speak to Susan.

Digital Switchover

The Digital Switchover in the Granada TV region begins on 4 November 2009, when the analogue BBC2 signal will cease. On 2 December the remaining analogue channels will also be switched off.

Residents with Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to re-install/ retune their receivers on both dates.

All non digital TV's will need a digibox to receive the channels and these can be obtained for around £20 from most major supermarkets or electrical retailers.

Most homes will not need replacement aerials so don't fall for any sharp sales practice from TV aerial suppliers.

If you've not yet 'gone digital' don't worry - call Villages in Partnership on 01772 603591 for free advice and assistance.

Christmas Festivities

The Croston Village Festivities Group will be holding the Christmas Fayre on Sunday December 13 .

A little nearer the time we will be asking for volunteers to help us run the day.

Croston Old School

Community Resource Centre
Church Street, Croston

01772 603600

Rooms available to hire for meetings, seminars, conferences, special occasions

See our website for further information
www.crostonoldschool.org

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Sky Blue Pro Sports Agency

Stephen Bentley (Sports Co-ordinator)

Tel: 01772 601809

Mobile: 07709 772242

e-mail: info.skybluelifestyle@btinternet.com

CRB Enhanced & UK Sports Coach Certified in Child Protection

Has your child got what it takes to be the next professional sports star?

Sky Blue Agency will help your child with all aspects of their lives and sporting talents

Join us in giving them the best possible chance of succeeding in the world of sport

Passionate to see your child turn professional?

1. Free consultation and skills assessment
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3. Personal sports co-ordinator to research all your child's individual coaching needs
4. Advice and help with contracts and personal guidance on short and long term sponsorship deals
5. Advice on health and nutritional consumption for your child's body
6. Personal conditioner and weekly training programmes.

Want real success for your child?

Our agency is looking to help talented children to achieve professional status in their chosen sport as well as helping them to become fantastic role models for other children to look up to.



Lancashire Constabulary

It has been a fairly busy summer on the crime front with 2 crimes against St Michaels & All Angels Church and several cars damaged by 2 local youths. We continue to be targets for travelling criminals and we ask that if you see anything suspicious, please contact the Police on the numbers below .

SAS Alarms are again targeting the area. SAS is a genuine company but offer the lure of an alarm system for free but, using 'Hard sell' tactics they encourage you to sign a contract resulting in you being charged over £8,000. If you require any security advice please contact us on the numbers below and we can arrange for a Crime Prevention Officer to visit your homes.

Computer Problems?

Call **technohow** for local, reliable support with all aspects of your home and small business IT needs.

Services include:

- Website design & maintenance
- PC tune-ups, repairs, upgrades
- Home entertainment systems
- Wireless & wired networking
- Support contracts
- Video to DVD transfers



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 Contact **technohow: 01704 822874**
 Mobile: **07777 631689**
 email:
lukas@technoforananswer.com
neil@technoforananswer.com

PESTFORCE

ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PESTS A PROBLEM FOR YOU?

- Rats ✕ Mice ✕ Wasps ✕ Bees
- Ants ✕ Fleas ✕ Rabbits
- Moles ✕ Birds ✕ Foxes

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Tel: 01257 795746

Mobile: 07990 552326

email: preston@pestforce.co.uk
www.pest-force.co.uk

We have recently altered the way we run our PACT meetings in the area, alternating venues around the ward. Dates of the next few meetings are:

7.00pm, Monday 12 October at The Old School, Ulmes Walton Lane, Ulmes Walton.

7.30pm, Monday 2 November at Bretherton Endowed Primary School on South Road.

7.00pm, Wednesday 9 December Croston Old School

We have submitted a bid for funding for a vehicle, which has got through the first stage of bidding, but requires community support to succeed. We ask that as many people as possible visit cjsonline.gov.uk, click on the 'community cashback' link, double click on 'Project', then click on 'Have your say'. This will register a vote for the project. Multiple votes can be made but no more than 1 every 24 hours.

We are still having problems with contact numbers for us when on duty. Please use only the following:

Caroline Plummer 07595 074897
Maria Fetherstone 07912 051837

Non emergency calls:

08451 253545 or 01257 246103

If you have a mobile number beginning with 07891 for Caroline **please delete it** as it is a personal number and should not be used for Police business.

PC Caroline Plummer and PCSO Maria Fetherstone

!Relax!

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