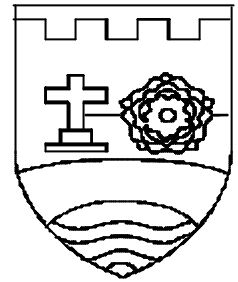


# Croston Parish Council Newsletter



June 2009

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

|                                   | Tel    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Anne Peet<br>(Chairman)           | 600012 |
| Beryl Thompson<br>(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.

## Village Green



The project to improve the seating and noticeboard areas on the Village Green is now virtually complete.

LOTTERY FUNDED

The old concrete slabs for the seating area at the front of The Green have been replaced with Indian stone, and all that remains is for a couple of seats to be added. A block paved path has been laid to the seating area



at the rear of The Green. The work, with a total cost of £6600, was part funded by a grant of £3600 from Awards for All, for which we are extremely grateful and our thanks also go to Steve Wignall and his workers for an excellent job.



Sadly the new seating areas have, at times, attracted groups of young (and not so young) adults at rather unsociable times of the night. Our local Community Policing

Team will be monitoring the area closely.

## Competition Entries

The Council has, once again, entered the village into the 2009 North West in Bloom and Lancashire Best Kept Village competitions.

Following an article in the March newsletter inviting residents to join a 'Croston in Bloom Group' to plan and oversee this year's entry a number of residents attended an initial meeting on April 1st 2009. A group of volunteers has been formed to help improve the appearance of the village and, hopefully, increase our chances of winning the North West in Bloom Competition this year. Croston Residents Environment Workforce (CREW) are looking at parts of the village which need a bit of TLC.

If you'd like to get involved, contact Kath Almond on 600368 or Anne Peet on 600012.

Everglades Plant Centre on Southport Road in Ulnes Walton has kindly agreed to help our entry by offering a discount on bedding plants and compost for displays (see ad on page 4)

## Croston Acorns Nursery

6B Station Road  
Croston  
01772 601074

www.crostonacornsnursery.co.uk

Nursery places available for  
Birth to Pre-school.

Open 8.00 am to 6.00pm  
51 weeks a year

Excellent relationships with  
Trinity & St. Michaels School  
and  
Bretherton Endowed Primary  
School

All staff fully qualified.

Outdoor Play Area.

Free Sessions Available for  
3 - 4 year olds

Please ring and make an  
appointment to look round  
and pick up a prospectus.

## PAT TESTING

(Portable Appliance Testing)

### Competitive Rates

Ensure your workplace is safe and  
compliant with the regulations!

Call us today for a quotation.

Tel: 01772 601669  
Mobile: 07785 971951  
Email: mail@sparxsound.co.uk

## Nicholsons

Friendly Village Solicitors

32 Town Road  
Croston  
PR26 9RB

Tel: 01772 601700

Conveyancing, Matrimonial,  
Wills and Probate and other  
works undertaken

Call now for more information

## Annual Report of Croston Parish Council

The main role of the Parish Council is to support the residents of Croston by raising a variety of issues with the relevant authorities. To further these links the Chairman and Clerk have attended Lancashire Local meetings and Borough/Parish Liaison meetings.

We have continued to deploy the Speed Indicator Device (SpID), bought in partnership with Heskin and Bretherton Parish Councils, at our 3 sites around the village on a rota basis.

With the help of a grant of £3,600 from Awards for All, works to improve the Village Green have been undertaken to improve access to the seating areas.

The Parish Council received several requests for grant funding during the year and was pleased to support the Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team, North West Air Ambulance, Victim Support Lancashire, Croston Village Festivities Group, Croston Community Centre and Croston Old School.

Once again the Council entered the village in 2 competitions, Lancashire Best Kept Village and North West in Bloom, in which we were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in our category. The Council would like to express their thanks to all residents who voluntarily help with the care and maintenance of the floral displays around the village and John and Annabelle Pearson who have, once again, secured a wonderful donation of plants from Michael Coxhead (Coxhead Nurseries) for the river wall on Town Road. .

The Council continues to employ the Clerk, Alan Platt, who provides valuable advice and supports the council through his diligent work. Kevin Greenhalgh has also continued to work conscientiously as the Village Lengthsman.

Thanks go to Clive Barbour who, with his co-workers, has maintained the Village Green and several other grass areas to a high standard.

The quarterly newsletter produced by the Parish Council has continued to keep residents informed on matters of relevance to the village.

### Parish Council Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2008

| Income                 | £            | Expenditure   | £            |
|------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| Parish Precept         | 21890        | Staff Costs   | 8591         |
| Interest               | 421          | Administration  | 1217         |
| VAT Reclaimed          | 620          | Insurance   | 1053         |
| Adverts                | 360          | Donations   | 3100         |
| Grant received         | 3600         | Grounds Maintenance   | 1886         |
| Donation               | 200          | Repairs & replacements  | 1741         |
| Sundries               | 220          | Newsletter  | 1006         |
|                        |              | Sundries  | 362          |
|                        |              | VAT   | 358          |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>27311</b> | <b>Total</b>  | <b>19314</b> |
| <b>Opening Balance</b> | <b>11124</b> | Croston Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items published which are directly attributed to named contributors. |              |
| Income                 | 27311        |   |              |
| Sub total              | 38435        |   |              |
| Expenditure            | 19314        |   |              |
| <b>Closing Balance</b> | <b>19121</b> |   |              |

## Heritage Weekend 2009

The Old School will be open to the public Saturday and Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

There will be an exhibition of photographs of Croston past and present, so if you are new to our village come and look what it used to be like.

Have you any photos or memorabilia of Croston we could display? We still haven't got a photo of Wright's Bakery which was on Town Road in the '60s. Or the Cross which was originally placed in the Jubilee Mill Development of 2002.

For information contact Kath Almond on 01772 600368.

## Croston Scouts

Our Scouts this year are colour party for Chorley District, their 1st 'duty' was to carry the district flags out of St. George's Church on the St George's Day Parade. We had lots of compliments on how smart they all looked and how well they read in Church.

The Scout Section also helped out on the opening day of Croston Community Centre and did a great job.

## Bastille Bay

Croston Twinning Association are holding the Annual Bastille Day Fair on the Village Green on July 11th.

## The Little Orphans Grave

Following discussions with Cllr Kath Almond local Chorley stonemasons, Rawcliffes, have completely renovated the cross on the grave, including re-carving the wording.

Our thanks go to Michael Rawcliffe, who would not accept any payment for the work, for his kind gesture.

## Blue Bin

The blue bins should, by now, be with us and it seems like a good opportunity to remind residents of what to place in them - glass bottles and jars (all colours), empty plastic bottles like pop, water, milk, shampoo, household cleaning products, **(the type of plastic we can recycle is usually marked with a recycle logo and numbers 1, 2 or 3)** and all metal food and drink cans, and metal foil. Please rinse out bottles and cans (you can leave labels on) and squash them if you're short of space.

## Community Centre

The Committee would like to thank the Scouts for their help on the Opening Day.

Tots on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.30-11.30am in Croston Community Centre, Castle Walks. All Tot's & adults welcome to come along have a play/meet up with friends old and new.

The Over 60's meet every Wednesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm. All are welcome.

## Vandalism

**Mindless vandalism continues to be a problem in the village.**

The perspex sheet on the new noticeboard outside the Police Station was smashed within 2 weeks of it being put up and both the other noticeboards on the Village Green and on the Co-op have suffered similar damage. Also 2 more litter bins have been stolen from the Recreation Ground Play Area. These costs are paid direct from the Council's precept. It is the residents of the village who pick up the bill via council tax.

Please contact the Police if you have any information. Calls will be treated in confidence.

## Croston Old School

Church Street, Croston  
01772 603600

We have a variety of rooms available for hire

### The Old School Hall

Ideal for parties, conferences, etc

For up to 100 guests with fully equipped kitchen facilities

### The Yarrow Room

Ideal for meetings, seminars etc for up to 24 people with drinks facilities

Hiring rates available on request

Generous discounts available to local charitable organisations

Registered Charity No. 1074784  
Registered as a company in England & Wales

## Cottage Curtains

### Bespoke Curtain Service

**Grape Cottage  
52 Grape Lane  
Croston  
Lancs  
PR26 9HB**

**Tel: 01772 601187**

**Mobile: 07748 788501**

e-mail: joanlockwood@btinternet.com

**Alteration Work Also Undertaken**

## SJM Driver Training

Learning to drive should be enjoyable

High quality, 1-2-1 professional driving tuition with a reliable, friendly, patient instructor

A more personal level of service and customer care than a national company

Call us today and talk to our instructor for friendly advice and a highly competitive quote

Block booking discount

Pass Plus registered

Approved driving instructor

We do not employ trainee instructors

**Tel: 07850 229780**

**for further details or visit**

**www.sjmdriving.com**

Safe Driving - an investment for life

## Lancashire Constabulary

There has been an increase in push bike thefts in the area, some have been left unattended and insecure and some have been stolen from garages and sheds. Please ensure your bike is secure and has adequate markings to identify it should it be stolen. If you require your bikes to be cycle coded, please contact us on the numbers below.

We seem to have an even bigger problem with double parking throughout the village. Unfortunately the roads of Croston were not designed for the amount of traffic that now uses them and there is no longer a right to park outside your own house. If there is no space available then you will have to find somewhere else - please do not block the pavements or double park. If the problem continues then we will have no option than to issue penalty notices and, in some circumstances, have the vehicles removed.

There has been a small improvement with dog fouling through the village but it continues to be a problem. Extra patrols with the Police and Council will continue in an effort to clean up the village and people found to be committing offences will be issued with £75 fines.

There is also some confusion with contact numbers for the Police, there are now several ways to contact us and they are as follows: In an emergency dial 999, for non-emergency incidents where you require police attendance dial 0845 1 253545. Coppull Neighbourhood Team 01257 246103.

PC Caroline Plummer Mobile 07595 074897. (email: caroline.plummer@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)  
PCSO Maria Fetherstone Mobile 07912 051837. (maria.fetherstone@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

If you wish to speak to either Caroline or Maria and they are not on duty their mobile numbers will automatically divert to the Coppull Neighbourhood Team number, which is regularly monitored by members of the Team.



### Respect our Villages!

The Parish Council is to join forces with our neighbours at Euxton and Eccleston Parish Councils in a campaign against litter and dog fouling in our villages.

We are currently seeking assistance and grant funding from various bodies to help publicise our campaign, and Chorley Council has provided dog waste labels for litter bins.



#### Everglades Plant Centre Southport Road Ulnes Walton

Tel. 01772 600283

has kindly agreed to assist us in our entry in North West in Bloom.

For all residents and businesses in Croston, Everglades will supply a **SPECIAL DISCOUNT RATE** for all bedding plants and compost for BRITAIN IN BLOOM displays.

See Dan or Aggie at Everglades and mention Croston in Bloom!

Open 7 days a week

**Support local suppliers!**

### Croston Cricket Club needs YOU!

Fancy a day out in the sun during the summer and earn £30 to boot!

Then why not try your hand at umpiring a cricket match, no previous experience is required as basic training will be provided, although some knowledge of the game would be an advantage.

So if you are interested, or know someone who maybe, please call either Dave below and we would be happy to explain further:

David Tomlinson - 07717 652462  
David Counce - 07973 956797

### Advertisers

Anyone wishing to advertise in the newsletter should contact the Clerk or Councillors for details. A half column ad costs £30 per and a quarter column £15.

### Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (Coppull)  
01257 246103

Police (non-emergency)  
0845 1 25 35 45

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

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

0161 228 5685

and acts of vandalism on:

0800 405040

Chorley Borough Council  
01257 515151

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

0845 0530011

Transco (gas leaks)  
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)  
Leakline 0800 330033  
Environment Agency  
Floodline 0845 9881188