Croston Parish Council Newsletter

June 2019



Meadow Lane Railway Bridge



Residents are invited to attend a meeting, arranged by the Parish Council, with representatives from Network Rail on 12 June 2019 at The Old School, Church Street, Croston commencing 6:30pm, to discuss issues which have been raised by local residents following the replacement of the bridge.

As mentioned in our March newsletter, Network Rail has offered to work with the local community to improve the bridge's appearance and residents attending the meeting will be given the opportunity to offer suggestions and ask questions of the representatives to try to arrive at an acceptable solution to the issues raised.

Chairman's Message

Would you be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?

We currently have two vacancies following the recently uncontested election which will be filled by co-option. Residents are always welcome to come and observe a council meeting to see what goes on before committing to applying for the vacant posts.

At our May meeting we welcomed Sam Myers as our newest Councillor joining myself and councillors Bruno Paillusson, Peter Fennemore, Keith Iddon, Kath Almond and Mark Cowley. Our contact details are included in this newsletter

The Railway Bridge on Meadow Lane is still causing concern to many residents and Network Rail have agreed to come and speak with residents to discuss these concerns and perhaps offer some resolution. The meeting will be prior to the next parish council meeting on Wednesday 12 June at 6.30pm and all residents are welcome to attend.

The recreation ground will be re-opening at the end of this month following extensive work to improve and greatly enhance the park. The Parish Council is very grateful to Neville Norcross and his small team of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to source grants and other funding to enable this project to be so successful.

Councillor Peter Fennemore is currently working with Chorley Council, LCC and several other interested parties to try to eradicate the Knotweed which is becoming quite a problem in some areas in and around the village. If you have any close to your home please let Peter know.

There are several annual events coming up in the village including 'Music in the Woods, Open Gardens and Coffee Day. Let's hope the weather is kind and we can all enjoy these events whilst raising money for excellent causes.

Anne Peet



Croston Scouts

All 4 sections of the Croston Scout Group go from strength to strength and are looking forward

to the summer term with camping and loads of outdoors activities. The Scout Group at all sections are looking for new leaders, helpers and committee member- would you be bale to spare a couple of hours a week helping us out? Anybody from any background can bring something new and fresh.

If you would like to find out more please contact croston_GSL@hotmail.com. Full training is given!

Computer Problems? Slow Broadband?

Call Technohow for local, reliable support with all aspects of your home and small business IT needs. Serving Mawdesley and the surrounding villages. Services include:

- Free home pickup and return as standard
- Broadband optimisation (up to 3mbps speed increase* on your existing service)
- Web Design and hosting
- PC tune-ups and repairs at competitive rates
- Virus and Malware removal
- Wireless and wired networking
- Hardware Installation / Upgrades
- Remote and/or on-site support
- Patient tuition
- Video to DVD transfers
- * speed increase depends on home phone line set up and router configuration

Contact Technohow:

Ansaphone: 01704 822874 Mobile: 07777 631689

Email: neil@technohow.co.uk Website: www.technohow.co.uk

Croston Coffee Day - 6th July 2019

Application has been made to Chorley Borough Council to allow the following road closures from 1.30pm until 4.00pm.

Station Road - in its entirety

Town Road - in its entirety

Westhead Road - in its entirety

Riverside Crescent - from its junction with Westhead Road to its junction with Westfields



If anyone has any queries or complaints regarding this application, please contact Legal Services, Chorley Borough Council, Town Hall, Chorley. PR7 1DP

Tots Group.... are you looking for somewhere to go on a Thursday morning with your toddler, baby? Like-minded mums/grandparents/childminders meet on Thursday morning from 9:00 - 11-30am in the Community Centre, Castle Walks. It's a great way to make new friends -we provide toys for the children to play with in a safe environment, snacks and that essential 'brew' for adults!



Croston Parish Council Annual Report 2018-2019

Following the replacement of the play equipment and safety surfacing during 2017-18, January 2019 saw the start of Phase 2 of the improvement scheme for the Recreation Ground (see centre pages), with huge amounts of assistance from Croston Together. This is reflected in the Financial Report for 2018 -19, with large amounts of income in the form of grants and expenditure specifically down to the improvements.

Grants were awarded to the Croft Field Volunteers, Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team, North West Air Ambulance, the Coffee Day Committee, Village Festivities Group and a Lego S.T.E.M. event.

The Council continues to employ our Village Lengthsman, Kevin Greenhalgh, who helps keep our village largely free of litter, and our Clerk, Alan Platt.

The Village again won the Gold Award in the RHS North West in Bloom Competition and the Black Horse received a Gold Medal in the Best Small Accommodation Category.

Croston Old School

Open for Life



The ideal venue for a family party, wedding reception, Christening gathering
We can offer tailor-made packages to suit every occasion

We also have a seminar room which is ideal for training, meetings, interviewing etc Book now for 2020!



Church Street, Croston, Leyland Lancashire PR26 9HA Tel: 01772 603600 email: crostonoldschool@tisccali.co.uk website: www.croston-old-school.org
Registered Charity No. 1074784 A company limited by guarantee Registered in England & Wales No.3686322

The Financial Report shows a continuation of last years increases in income and expenditure, almost entirely due to the Recreation Ground improvements. The spend of £69300 was largely offset by £57000 from funds raised by Croston Together, with the balance from Community Infrastructure Levy monies received from housing developers.

Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

Income

	2018/19 £	2017/18 £
Parish Precept Interest VAT Reclaimed	22600 59 153221	21710 97 817
Adverts Grants received Community Infrastructure Levy Total	1000 71655 1103 111949	1020 61430 11342 96416
Opening Balance Income Sub total Expenditure Closing Balance	15419 111949 127368 110220 17148	32137 96416 128553 113134 15419

Expenditure

	2018/19 £	2017/18 £
Staff Costs	12181	11818
Administration	906	949
Insurance	1284	1249
Audit fees	480	280
Christmas	560	385
Donations	1100	1700
Rec Project	69300	73515
Grounds Maintenance	3299	3195
Repairs & replacements	3810	1925
Newsletter	2073	2155
Sundries	749	431
VAT	14478	15532
Total	110220	113134



Chair: Richard Foulger
Vice Chair: Sam Myers
Secretary: Claire Bland
Treasurer: Louise Culshaw
Charity No: 1074784

W: crostonfestivities.co.uk E: crostonfestivities@gmail.com Facebook: Croston Festivities

Plans for Christmas in Croston - 2019

We know it's a bit early to be thinking about Christmas - we have the summer to enjoy yet - but CVFG have just formed the 2019 committee to plan our village Christmas fair on Sunday December 8th and the lights switch on ceremony on Sunday December 1st. We plan to keep you informed via the Parish Council Magazine as our plans develop and are confirmed.

This year, we are going to apply to Chorley Council for a slightly reduced road closure starting at the War Memorial but terminating at the phone box at the junction of Town Road and Westhead Road. This will allow a through route via Station Road in both directions. Croston Together have very kindly agreed to grant funding for 12 plastic road barriers to assist us with the road closure and these will be made available to any other village organisation. The first group to use these barriers will be the Coffee Day committee. If you can make use of the barriers please contact Richard Foulger or Dave Blackburn via our email address or Facebook page.

We will be running a stall at the Croston Country Market on June 15th so please come along to Hillocks Farmhouse and have a chat with us. We are in need of helpers as usual and have a list of tasks we need to undertake to ensure the smooth running of both Christmas events.

PLEASE let us know at the Country Market or via our website/Facebook page if you can spare any time, even half an hour, before or during our events. Every offer of help will mitigate towards us not being in the same position as last year when we were considering cancelling the Christmas events.

Please let us know if you can help us with planning these events

CVFG is a not-for-profit organisation that exists solely to bring sparkle and good cheer to the village at Christmas time. It costs thousands of pounds to stage our two Christmas events. Our costs include the entertainers (the bands, dancers, magician, circus act etc.), land train, Santa's grotto, printing, insurance, road signage etc. In addition, CVFG supplies the festive decorations that light up the grounds of Croston Park and the banks of the river Yarrow, some of which had to be replaced last year. These are fixed costs so if one year the event were to be cancelled or we had poor attendance due to bad weather we would still have to meet these costs. Accordingly, we attempt to operate with sufficient financial reserves to cover the running costs for two years. This means that whilst we have some pennies in the bank we still need to keep actively fundraising and relying on the generosity of local people and businesses. It is hoped that your continued support will help us stage these community events for many years to come.

Finally, very many thanks to all our sponsors for December 2018 (full list on our media pages) and all of our volunteers who made last year's events such a great success and we look forward to another great year.

Richard Foulger (Chairman CVFG)

Councillor Vacancy

Interested in joining the Parish Council and serving your village?

Following the election in May we have vacancies which the Council will fill by co-option.

To qualify, you must be a British subject, aged over 18 years old and an elector, and must reside in, or within 3 miles of, the Croston Parish boundary or occupy as owner or tenant any land or premises therein, or have your principal place of work there.

For details of how to apply or, if you require further information on what is involved, please contact the Clerk to the Council: Alan Platt on 01257 234003 or

email: crostonpc@btinternet.com



WANTED: Banner carriers for Coffee Day July 6th.

Contact Byron Rimmer on 07598 798 510.

Date for your Diary:

Heritage Open Days 2019

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th of September, 1:00 - 5:00 pm at The Old School, Croston.

CROSTON IN BLOOM

Judging Day

This year's judging day for the RHS Northwest in Bloom Competition 2019 will be Tuesday 16 July and our judges will be Bill Blackledge and Jim Leek.

Sponsors

We would like to thank the following local businesses who have all offered sponsorship for planters etc

- G McGavock Limited, Back Drinhouse Lane, Croston
- John McDougal Electrical Services Ltd, Drinkhouse Road, Croston
- Hair 21, Town Road, Croston
- Feather & Twig, Town Road, Croston
- Nicholson Solicitors, Town Road, Croston
- Quantills Ltd, Lathom, Ormskirk

We still have a number of sponsorship opportunities which we are happy to discuss with any individual or business in the village.

If you would like more information please get in touch.

New Planters

The new planters funded by Chorley Council will soon be in place on Town Road and the Village Green.

War Memorial

Unfortunately our attempt to create a river of wild flowers in the verge opposite the War Memorial has been unsuccessful as the area is exceedingly wet even in dry spells. We will now relay the turf and replace the remains of the fallen tree stump with a large planter.







CROSTON IN BLOOM



Doorstep Challenge 2019

A reminder that we are simplifying entry to our annual competition by automatically entering every household and business in the village!



Our judging panel will tour the village between 1st and 5th July and draw up a short list of properties/businesses to be judged on finals day which will be Sunday 7 July!

We will be looking for any kind of floral display which is positioned on or immediately adjacent to your door and we will be using the RHS judging criteria which are as follows:

- Overall impression does the display work as a whole? How fine is the finish and attention to detail?
- Planting -t think colour, impact, composition, health.



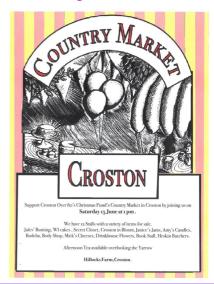
We will be judging in two categories - residential and business, and the winners will be announced via our Facebook page.

Time to get planting!

Come and support us!

We will be at two events this summer:

- Country Market on Sat. 15 June
 selling plants
- Open gardens Sunday 23 June gardening themed tombola



Recreation Ground

Work on site for the improvements on the Rec began in early January this year. Throughout the cold winter months, the team from The Potting Sheds installed a drainage system, cleared the brambles at the top end,

sculpted mounds and began the groundwork for the picnic area, gym, natural play area and kick about area, not to forget the 200m circular path.

As the ground begun to warm in the Spring sunshine the central ring of fourteen common Alder trees, and a



central ornamental apple 'Malus Everest' as a remembrance tree, were

planted. This area is going to be lovely as the trees establish providing an area to relax, reflect, read a book on one of the benches or take shade from the sun.



LANCASHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL FUND The Natural play area was the next area to be transformed as the team from The Potting Sheds twisted and intertwined the willow to create three large willow nests for the young children to play in and a wonderful willow dome with two tunnels. However, the work here was not vet complete with the arrival of large tree trunks several providing the raw material for



John the wood carver to transform into a beautifully crafted train. The transformation does not stop there, in the coming weeks work will continue with the installation of the long awaited outdoor gym, comprising of six pieces of equipment for both cardio and strength building workouts. The picnic area too will soon take shape with recycled plastic benches. The usable kick about area will have two goal ends on a marked out 5 aside pitch, perfect for the summer months. Biodiverse planting along the ditch will attract the wildlife and planting to the rest of the site will ensure the Rec is transformed into a site for all to visit.

Many areas have now been seeded and turfed, may we take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in keeping off the site until it opens in June.





Funding for Phase 2 of the improvements has been provided by the Lancashire Environmental Fund, the National Lottery, the People's Postcode Lottery Croston Together and the Parish Council.



NATIONAL OTTERY FUNDED

The Parish Council would like to thank Neville Norcross and Hannah Rooke for the hard work they have put into fund raising and managing the project.

For the scheduled opening in later in June, the area will be re-christened Croston Recreation Park, but will always be 'The Rec' to everyone who knows it.



English Country Music Weekend Coming to Croston 28th-30th June

The nationally admired **English Country Music Weekend** is coming to Croston. Players of all instruments or accompanying traditional English folk dance and song are welcome.

The event brings top rate musicians to lead a variety of informal music sessions and workshops

throughout the village, and an evening ceilidh dance.

Musicians can book full weekend tickets, Friday evening to Sunday pm, or day tickets for either Saturday or Sunday, and spend their time at any of a large variety of sessions all lead by experts in their field.



Anyone, musician or not, might enjoy the Ceilidh on Sat evening, with Sid Calderbank, local caller/historian/dialect expert, and the exciting 'Union Street Country Dance and Ceilidh Band', or one may happen across traditional music, dance, song and entertainment in many areas of the village.

History

ECMW's began in 1977 in the small historic town of Cricklade, Wilts. Members of 'The Old Swan Band' & 'Flowers and Frolics' and friends met to socialise and share their favourite English country dance tunes.



Enjoyed by participants and townspeople alike, it was a great success, and returned the following year. Then each year until 1986 similar gatherings were organised, but at different venues around the country.

Revived in 1995, they have continued around England with increasing success, and a simple formula - run two years in one place, then move. Fresh organisers,

new ideas, local history, tunes, and facilities. Some musicians return every year, from all over the country. Others, taking advantage when it is nearby, come less frequently, or just to try it out. One thing is certain, it's a different event every time, but always great fun, lots to be shared, lots of traditional music, songs, dances and local history to be enjoyed.

2019, 2020 - It's West Lancashire's turn

Croston's organising team includes several people living right in the village, the others live nearby. The facilities to be used, and to benefit from the income generated, include the Old School, the Community Centre, the Sports Club and local pubs, shops, cafe's and restaurants. Participants are booked into local B&B's, hotels and campsites. The warm welcome and co-operation



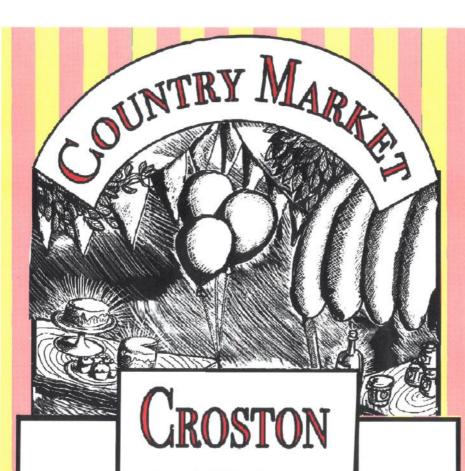
offered by Croston to its visitors is well attested by it's history of awards, and the organisers say that, even before ECMW starts, they have found these qualities in abundance. National and local musicians, and local residents alike can expect a great weekend.

- * Full details of all the events: englishcountrymusicweekend.org.uk Tickets can be booked online.
- Details of the Saturday Ceilidh also available on local notice boards, and tickets from 'Favourites' 66 Town Road, tel 01772 600142
- * or Brian, tel 01695 228218



What's On.....

Monday Evening Beavers & Scouts
Tuesday Evening Cubs & Explorers
Wednesday Afternoon The Over 60's Club
Thursday Morning The Tots Group
Thursday Evening Adult Table Tennis
Friday Morning (1st & 3rd of month) Pop Up Café
Friday Evening (Last in the month) Family Bingo
Saturday Morning Jujitsu
Rooms available for Hire
Tel 601321 or 601216



Support Croston Over 80's Christmas Fund's Country Market in Croston by joining us on **Saturday 15 June at 1 pm**.

We have 12 Stalls with a variety of items for sale.

Jules' Bunting, WI cakes, Secret Closet, Croston in Bloom, Janice's Jams, Amy's Candles,
Budelia, Body Shop, Mick's Cheeses, Drinkhouse Flowers, Book Stall, Heskin Butchers.

Afternoon Tea available overlooking the Yarrow

Hillocks Farm, Croston.

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

Croston Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items provided by third party contributors.



Croston Pre-School Nursery

Nurturing The Future

Registered Charity no:1100800 Registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 4805524

Are you looking for high quality, affordable childcare provided by highly experienced, professional and caring staff?

Places available from September and we welcome visitors any time - every day is an open day!



For children aged 2 - 5 years - Established over 45 years 9.00am - 4.00pm Mon to Fri - term time

staff qualified to Level 3 or higher - led by specialist Fa

All staff qualified to Level 3 or higher - led by specialist Early Years

Teacher

Every child is valued as an individual at our tranquil riverside setting 2 & 3yr funded places available - Terms apply

'Stay & Play' session (Term time)

Wednesdays 9.30am - 11.30 am in The Old School Hall for parents/carers accompanying children aged 4 and under

Croston Old School, Church St, Croston Tel: 01772 601241

Email: crostonpre-school@tiscali.co.uk www.crostonpreschool.org

Priority Services Register

We all need a little bit of extra help at some stage in our lives. This could be due to age, ill health, a disability, mental health problems, financial worries or even language barriers.



By registering for our **free Priority Services scheme**, customers could benefit from **additional free services** from us, to support their particular needs, including:

- A free phone number connecting them to a dedicated, externally trained team, to listen, help and support
- Nominate a carer, family member or even a friend to speak to us on their behalf
- A knock and wait service, so if they have mobility needs we'll always wait, allowing them enough time to answer the door
- We'll notify them of any planned interruptions to their water supply
- Bills and letters could be printed in braille, large print or even on coloured paper
- Add a password to their account as added protection from bogus callers
- Translation services if English isn't their first language
- Help and advice if they're struggling to pay their water bill

For customers with internet access, there's even an **online accessibility tool**, changing the look of our website to suit their needs. All they have to do is click on the '**Accessibility Help**' button on the bottom right of each page of our website.

You don't even have to be the account holder to join and registration really couldn't be easier. You can either:

- Visit our website unitedutilities.com/priorityservices and complete a simple online form
- Call our friendly Priority Services team direct on 0345 072 6093

Also, when someone registers with us, with their consent, we could also add their details to a similar free scheme with Electricity North West (who manage the electricity network in our region). If eligible, this would provide additional support if there was ever a loss of power too.

Croston Open Gardens

Sunday 23rd June 2019 llam-4pm

crostonopengardens@gmail.com

£5 for adults

Children free

Cash Only Event

Sadly No Dogs



TICKETS AVAILABLE

in advance from The Potting Sheds, Cedar Farm, Mawdesley, L40 3SY

Feather & Twigs Town Road, Croston, PR26 9RA

or in the village on the day

IN THE VILLAGE

Enchanting Gardens Tea, Cake and Prosecco Flower and plant stalls Raffle Live Music Food Vans Heritage Exhibition Grand Opening of

The Recreation Ground



All proceeds are going to Croston Together, charity no. 1166190







Clear Care

Choice • Support • Wellbeing

Contact us to see how we can help you

01704 823 462

We are an experienced, understanding, friendly provider of care services for older people and other adults

- Offering flexible, responsive, personalised care.
- Supporting you in everyday living, personal care, health and wellbeing.
- Helping you to get the best out of life, through companionship for interests and hobbies.
- Providing reassurance for you and your family.
- Supporting people with dementia or long term conditions.
- We are reliable, friendly and compassionate.

4 City Studios, Hall Lane, Mawdesley, L40 2QY e-mail: info@clearcareltd.co.uk

Visit our website

www.clearcareltd.co.uk

We are regulated by the Care Quality Commission

Following on from a spate of both vehicle and property thefts, can I remind you all to make sure your cars and house /garage / sheds are all kept locked and secure. Apart from invalidating your insurance if left



unlocked, you are also making it easy for thieves to target you.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind Parents/Guardians of the laws surrounding Child Car Seats and their use? A child up to the age of 12 or under 4'5" tall must be in a Car Seat. Too often, I am seeing children unrestrained in vehicles being transported. This is putting their lives at risk

With the recent spells of dry, hot weather, we have been receiving more calls about children playing around and in open water, such as quarries and rivers. Cold water shock can kill. Please speak to your children about the dangers of this, and remind them of the importance of their safety.

Please continue to be vigilant, and if you see anything suspicious, please report it, at the time it's happening, by ringing 101, or 999 if it's an emergency. Chorley Rural West, which includes Croston, now has a new Community Beat Manager, PC 4211 Dave Kinsley, as well as your

PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone. You can email us, using our collar numbers (4211 or 7932) @lancashire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone

Local Clubs and **Organisations**

As you will see elsewhere in this issue, the Parish Council is happy to include articles and notices of local events in the newsletter free of charge (subject to availability of space).

If you have an event or want to publicise your organisation in the newsletter quarterly (March. June, September and December) please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details overleaf).

Eccleston Office 01257 451 673 Coppull Office 01257 794 588



Find Your Perfect Home



www.hometruthslancs.co.uk 00



Contact Details

Councillors Tel

Anne Peet (Chairman) 600012

Kath Almond 600368
Mark Cowley 07545 976151
Peter Fenemore 600572
Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Sam Myers 07966 674392 Bruno Paillusson 603427

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), commencing at 7:30pm, in The Old School, Church Street, Croston. Details of the meetings are placed in the notice boards prior to the meetings.

Residents are always welcome to attend and part of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non-emergency): 101

Coppull Police Station 01257 246103

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

British Transport Police (Station and car park): 0800 405040

Chorley Borough Council 01257 515151

Lancashire County Council (roads and pavements, including street lighting): 0300 123 6780

National Grid (gas leaks) 0800 111999

United Utilities (Water) Leakline 0800 330033

Flood Action Group Kath Almond: 01772 600368, Richard Guinness 01772 600957 Dave Massam 01772 601077,

Environment Agency Floodline 0845 988 1188

Notice boards

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

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

Published by Alan Platt, 9 Ambleside Avenue, Euxton, Chorley. PR7 6NX Printed by Printwise, Clarke Street, Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 8JR. Tel: 01253 885142