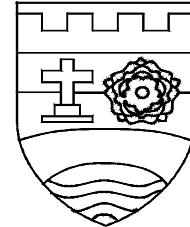


Croston Parish Council



Spring 2022

Welcome Back!

Welcome to our first newsletter since the Coronavirus restrictions began. For the safety of our residents, production of the newsletter was suspended but we are now looking forward to getting back to some form of normality, whatever this may look like.

Please continue to keep yourself and others safe - always follow the Government guidance in place at the time.

Croston Village Archive

Some good news!

Croston Village Archive is to open to the public the first Saturday every month from 1:00 to 4:00 pm starting from 5th March.

Situated on the first floor of the Old School, Church Street in the Belfry Room,

Visitors will be able to access all the information documents and photographs acquired over the past 19 years.

There is also access to MyHeritage website for anyone wishing to research their family tree.



Run by volunteers Kath Almond and Anne Sandwell, this will be a great asset to the village.



Croston Knitwits

As many of you will have seen, the members of Croston Knitwits were kept very busy last year knitting and crocheting over 800 squares which were then sewn together to make a Christmas Tree for the Village Green. This has been our biggest project to date and we should like to thank everyone for the very positive response we received.



We should also like to thank Croston Together for their grant, the Parish Council for allowing us to put our tree on the green, and John, Martin and Frank for their help in putting it up.

So what have we planned for 2022.....

Well, we are not currently working on any village projects at the moment - we are focusing on our own personal projects for a few months. Would you like to join us?



We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7.00pm for a drink and a natter! There's no charge and you can bring along your knitting or what ever else you're working on. A good sense of humour is useful but not essential! We're a very friendly bunch!

You can get in touch by calling Liz on 07928 625444 or sending a message through our Facebook page.

We start work after Easter on new projects for summer and autumn. Until then here are some photos of previous projects.



HOME TRUTHS

SALES AND LETTING AGENT



Maximise the value of your home in an optimum time frame with exceptional service.



Home Truths are a team of local estate agents, housing three family members and excellent colleagues working closely together and living in the locality. With everyone invested in the business, our clients benefit from an unrivalled level of service. Our award winning combination of Presentation, Exposure and Service is bound to get you the best for your home.

Scan here for further information and a valuation!



'Go with the best, not the biggest'

Eccleston: 01257 451673
Coppull: 01257 794588
office@hometruthslancs.co.uk



Croston Flower Produce and Craft Show

I am the organiser of the annual Croston Flower Produce and Craft show. The show will be returning in 2022 following the enforced break of two years. Is it possible to highlight the event in the March newsletter and social media?

Save the date - The 11th annual Croston Flower Produce and Craft show will take place on Saturday September 3rd. The show schedule will be published in June detailing the classes and entry instructions. Entries are invited for more than 70 classes of amazing home grown produce, home baking, various crafts and art works for adults and children. The show takes place in the Castle walks Community rooms. Judging takes place throughout the morning with the show opening to the public at 2:00 pm when prize cards will be on display and the trophies are awarded at 3:00pm.

Our 10th annual show (2019) attracted almost 300 exhibits from our community. So please get busy making, crafting and growing and I so much look forward to meeting at the show.

Contact - Ian Coggin 07966 487 886

iantcoggin@gmail.com

Croston Men's Shed

Meetings of the Men's Shed began in January with a couple of sessions to paint the inside walls of the Tennis Club Shed, which Croston Sports Club are kindly allowing us to use for weekday meetings.

A condition of this is that Men's Shed Members must join the Sports Club and adhere to Sports Club Rules. A benefit of this is that the Club will provide insurance, utilities and hygiene/cleaning materials.

A start up meeting provided an opportunity for introductions and chat over elevenses.

At the next meeting work station tables were assembled and the construction of wooden bird boxes and the re-erection of a freeby metal shed for material storage.

A constitution has been agreed and the formalities of registering members and constituting a committee are underway.

At present, the intention is to continue with Thursday morning meetings based mainly on opportunities to socialise and help with woodworking projects. As attendance approaches the capacity of the shed, it is anticipated that different days will be set aside for other activities.

The Steering Group are very appreciative of the help and very positive support provided by the Sports Club and Croston Together.

Croston St Michael's Scout Group



Croston Scout Group is bouncing back following the pandemic and we have lots of fun to catch up on.

After a disrupted year of zoom calls with our young people, our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are back to face to face meetings and we have lots of exciting events to look forward to this coming year.

To name a few events, our Beavers section will be holding a sleep-over, a Beaver picnic day at Bibby's Scout campsite, Target sport and lots of fun activities at meetings.

Our Cubs section have ten pin bowling, Lego Rover Moon Mission night and a hike up Rivington to look forward to. Our Scout section have a fundraising sleep out in cardboard boxes event, County Rally and a canal boat trip. All sections will also be attending Bibby's Blow Out and we will also be holding a family camp over summer. Watch this space.

Our Scout group has also had recent success when competing in Operation Moonlight, with our Solo Scout team (no leader) coming 3rd in the event out of 15 solo groups, having walked approximately 25 miles! Well done to all our young people that took part.

Date for your Diary - please come and join us at our annual presentation evening at 7pm on 28th March 2022 at Croston Community Centre, celebrating our successes and achievements. Wine, cheese and juice will be provided.

For more information about our Scout sections or helping at a meeting please contact our Group Scout Leader or Leaders contacts on the notice board at the Community Centre.



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COFFEE DAY

We're back
Saturday 2nd July 2022
Please keep it free in your diary, lots of exciting things.



Croston In Bloom

It's Gold Again!

We were very proud to receive another Gold Award in 2021 scoring 93 out of 100 points in RHS Northwest in Bloom competition. A copy of the full judges report can be seen on our Facebook page.



We are also proud to announce that we have been asked to represent the Northwest in the national competition this year. Having achieved Silver Gilt awards in our two previous entries, we are pulling out all the stops to try and achieve Gold this year.

In order to ensure we get off to a good start we are holding a public meeting on Wednesday 16 March at 7.00pm in The Old School, Church Street when we will be hoping to meet with representatives from all our local businesses, pubs, schools, clubs etc. and residents to explain the judging criteria and discuss how we can all help the village to achieve the Gold Award it deserves.

Towards the end of last year residents on two estates got together to improve their local environment.

On Orchard Mill residents decided the shrubberies on their road needed more colour throughout the year and have made a start by planting spring flowering bulbs and residents on Pear tree have taken on the care and maintenance of two new large planters and an existing planter on the entrance to The Orchard.



We will be supporting both these groups going forward and would love to hear from any similar groups of residents who have ideas/suggestions for their streets

Our Plans for 2022

With a busy year ahead our committee has put together an action plan which will include:

- A sale of plants - 13 May (subject to change) on the Village Green
- Open day and plant sales - 12 June (subject to change) at Yarrow House, Town Rd.



We have started weekly sessions working on the various projects we have around the village. Until late spring these will be daytime sessions and we always welcome new volunteers who are very welcome to come along and join us anytime they're free. Our session times and venues are posted on our Facebook page.

One thing all residents can do which will make a huge difference to our workload is to take a look outside their front garden wall (or door if you don't have one) and pull up any weeds on the pavement!

This simple task not only makes our streets look tidier but shows how proud we are to live here. It only takes a couple of minutes but will save our volunteers many hours of their valuable time.



If you'd like more information, have a question or would like to join us, please email: crostoninbloom@gmail.com or come and have a chat when you see us out and about in the village.



Local Clubs and Organisations

If you want to advertise an event or publicise your club/organisation in the quarterly newsletter (March, June, September and December) please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details on back page).

Croston Friends

You may remember the Covid 19 support group from 2019/20 which tried to keep in touch with vulnerable villagers and those with practical difficulties arising from the pandemic and lockdowns. The group was run down as we came out of regular restrictions and it achieved some real success during its life.

We are now beginning to hear of villagers who may be experiencing the effects of loneliness as a result of isolation over the past two years and we are proposing to setup a volunteer group for villagers to contact if they need a chatty phone call or maybe some practical assistance. We see this as a longer term group which would be available as long as there is a demand.

This message is for anyone willing to volunteer to help with this initiative and to anyone who would like to make use of the facility.

Either way please contact ;

Liz Brown on 07928625444 or lizbrown@outlook.com

Susan Twinn on 07749755910 or johntwinn@btinternet.com

CROSTON
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place
on Thursday 5th May at
7.00pm.

Please come along to
support your Village
Community Centre

Fashion Show
High Street Clothing at Affordable Prices
Organised By Venue
**CROSTON
COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

Day **SATURDAY**
Date **19TH MARCH**
Time **2pm**
Tickets Price £ **£5**
including a drink

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/CompleteClothingCompany email.Complete-clothing@hotmail.co.uk



We were so pleased to be able to run a successful Christmas Fair on December 5th after a gap in 2020 due to the pandemic restrictions.

Hopefully you will agree that holding the Fair and the Lights Switch on on the same day worked well.

We now start the process for 2022 and the date for the Fair is going to be Sunday December 4th.

The first action for us is to hold our Annual General Meeting where we appoint our committee and officers to run the 2022 event. This will take place on Thursday March 31st in the Yarrow suite, Croston Sports Club at 8pm. Our thanks again to Lisa for allowing us to use the club facilities.

Everyone is welcome to come along and have your say about what we do, maybe join the organising group or just find out what is going on. If you want any information please email us at the address below.

Information is available on our website:: crostonvillagefestivities.com

Facebook: [@crostonvillagefestivities](https://www.facebook.com/crostonvillagefestivities)

or contact us via email on crostonfestivities@hotmail.com

Are you interested in becoming a '**Friend of Eccleston Library**'?

Friends Groups are open to anyone who wants to get Involved and support their library and make a positive difference. Please speak to a member of staff if you are interested in or would like to know more about:

- supporting your local library and the services it offers
- helping to raise money by fundraising and applying for grant funding
- enhancing the programme of library events and activities
- and promoting the library service within the community

The '**Friends of Eccleston Library**' group is open to everyone, so get in touch today!



St Michael and All Angels Croston

Owing to ill health and advancing years, several members of the team that maintain the Church grounds and Cemetery have unfortunately been forced to retire.

As a result, volunteers are urgently required to join the team in order to continue this work, so ensuring that the current high standards and presentation of a central village feature are retained and which have in the past no doubt contributed to Croston's success in the local and national villages competitions.

If you are able to spare a few hours each week or, alternatively, you require further information on what tasks are required, please contact Derek Alty:- Tel: 01772 600584 or email: derek_alty@sky.com

Friends of Croston Cemetery

Since the late 1800's Croston Cemetery has been and remains a place where family and friends from Croston are laid to rest, where we can visit and recall happy memories of times we've shared with those we love but are no longer here with us.

Thanks to a willing band of helpers the grounds have always been well cared for but it's no easy task due to the size of the cemetery. We are therefore keen to find people who would be interested in forming a group called '**Friends of Croston Cemetery**'.

Over the last couple of years we have been making a photographic record of all headstones and completing an index of all surnames recorded on the headstones to help descendants or friends find the graves of loved ones. We are also trying to complete an index of people who have an interest in individual graves so we can contact them without delay if there are any concerns about headstones.

With headstones and monuments dating back over 100 years there is a great deal of the social history of the village to see and we would like people from the village to be actively involved in the group which will work with the church to maintain it for future generations to visit.

Anyone wishing to become involved in the Friends of Croston Cemetery please contact

Stan Hazlewood on s.hazlewood@sky.com
or Derek Alty on derek_alty@sky.com



Are you aware of Lancashire Talking? It is a major initiative that aims to understand the needs of our local communities. A key priority enables you to share any concerns with our officers. You will also get text messages regarding crimes in your local area.



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

You can sign up at www.stayintheknow.co.uk/LancashireTalking

We are again seeing an increase in car thefts. Cars with keyless entry are particularly vulnerable. Please keep your keys in a Faraday Pouch or box (you can buy these online), or as far as possible from the car so the key signal cannot be cloned. Always make sure your vehicle is locked and secured.

PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone

Village Green Flagpole

We would like to inform residents that the Cross of St George will be displayed throughout the year, with the Union Flag flown during the period of Remembrance.

Requests for the flying of any other flag will be considered as an agenda item at the first available Council meeting following receipt of the request, provided the flag is listed within categories 1 and 2 of the HM Government guidance "Flying Flags: a plain English guide".

This is to give residents the opportunity to voice their opinions to the Councillors before a decision is made.

Tots Group

Looking for somewhere to go with your toddler/baby?

Like-minded mums/grandparents/childminders meet on Tuesday mornings 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! £2.50 per session.

Want to try Yoga but don't know where to start?

Classes for beginners 7:00pm every Thursday at Croston Methodist Church.

For information contact Dominika

Tel: 07919 5513456

email: dominikasyoga@gmail.com

Businesses

If you would like to advertise in the quarterly newsletter please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details on back page) for details for advertising rates.

Contact Details

Councillors

Tel

Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Kath Almond	600368
Robert Baker	07963 820393
Peter Fenemore	600572
Keith Iddon	07787 005663
Sam Myers	07966 674392
Bruno Paillusson	603427
Gill Stubbs	07905 452160
Nathan Woodcock	603841

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

facebook: @crostonparishcouncil

website: www.crostonpc.org

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

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

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

National Grid (gas leaks)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency Floodline
0845 988 1188

Flood Action Group

Kath Almond: 01772 600368,

Richard Guinness 01772 600957

Dave Massam 01772 601077

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

County Councillor

Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151

Borough Councillors

Martin Boardman

Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Alan Platt 07960 003401

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 McColls 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.

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