

# Eccleston Parish Council

## Newsletter

December 2011

### PARISH COUNCILLORS

	Tel
Bill Mason (Chairman)	452061
Les Armstrong (Vice Chair)	453314
Albert Barnes	451636
Joan Delve	452517
Mark Frost	450727
Steve Harris	450273
Bryan Harrison 07850	708135
Danny Holborn 07770	364364
Charles Lilley	452344
Janice Lilley	452344
Mike Miller	452662
Rosina Monks	451166

Alan Platt (Clerk to the Council)

can be contacted at:

9 Ambleside Avenue  
Euxton  
Chorley  
PR7 6NX

Tel: 01257 234003

e-mail:

[ecclestonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:ecclestonpc@btinternet.com)

website:

[www.ecclestonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.ecclestonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Parish Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, commencing at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

A part of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues - come along and have your say!

### Noticeboards

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities. Noticeboards are located inside the Carrington Centre by POA and on the path by the Changing Rooms, off Drapers Avenue.

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

Eccleston Parish Council does not accept any responsibility for items contributed by third parties.

# Diamond Jubilee

The Parish Council is hoping to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, with an event proposed for Saturday June 2 2012 on the Recreation Fields.

The event will be based on a 1950's themed 'Big Picnic', and will offer everyone the opportunity to celebrate the occasion. One of the aims is to encourage people who would, or would not, have attended either Street Parties, or their own garden parties, to bring their own party to a larger, village event.

To date, ideas for the event include a live band that could feature as the main attraction, singing appropriate songs live, from the 50's, with additional attractions including a Children's Entertainer/Punch and Judy show.

The Parish Council would like to hear from other organisations within the village who may be interested in joining in with the event eg you might want to display memorabilia or organisational records from the 50's.

Further suggestions for discussion include for the Council to consider the renaming of Bradley Lane field as 'The Queen Elizabeth II Field' and for this ceremony to take place in line with the event occurring to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. Also to see whether a long term scheme to develop a path around the Recreation Fields or, alternatively a 'Diamond Walk' path for able bodied and less able people to be able to access the wooded areas, might be completed in time to coincide with the event.

If anyone is organising their own events please make sure you look into the legal and health and safety aspects - you might need to arrange for a road closure if you're having a street party and possibly a music licence and/or a licence if alcohol is to be sold at your event.

## Carol Singing

Come along and join in with members of the Parish Council at the Carol Concert, around the Christmas tree on the Village Green, on Tuesday 20 December 2011 between 6.30pm and 7.15pm.

This will be the fifth year the Carol Singing, arranged by the Parish Council, has taken place and the number of residents attending seems to grow each year.

Musical accompaniment will be provided by members of Eccleston Brass Band and we are hoping to avoid a repeat of last year's Siberian winter conditions which froze the instruments for a while.

As per usual, due to the lack of available parking in the vicinity, residents are asked, wherever possible, not to come in cars.



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## **Chairman's Message**

Looking back at the Chairman's Report that I wrote this time a year ago I was surprised to see that I wrote "It has been a fairly quiet summer for the Parish Council". This year has been anything but with standing room only at many of the Council's monthly meetings. Many young people attended to express their concerns about proposed changes to the Youth Services in the village and, of course, the proposed Carrington Centre re-development has provided much lively debate from both residents and tenants of the shops.

Members of the Parish Council recently attended the Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church where I had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

A year ago the Parish Council finally become the sole Trustee of the Millennium Green. The Open Spaces Committee of the Parish Council has worked hard to establish a programme of work to bring the Millennium Green back to a high standard and also to try to reduce the mindless vandalism. The outcome of these efforts should be very noticeable during 2012. The Parish Council will also be arranging a spectacular event to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2nd 2012.

The Carol Concert will be held on the Village Green (opposite St Mary's School) on Tuesday 20th December at 6.30pm with Eccleston Brass Band in attendance. A warm welcome is assured to any residents who would like to attend and I hope that the weather will be warmer than last year when it was so cold that some of the Band's instruments actually froze up.

Finally, on behalf of all members of the Parish Council may I wish all of our residents a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Bill Mason*

## **Eccleston Library News**

We have a great stock of fiction and non-fiction books for adults and children, we also have DVDs to hire at £2 per week and talking books on cassette and CD – great for long car journeys.

You can use our **free** broadband computers to log on to the Internet and surf the web - or keep in touch with family and friends. The full range of Microsoft software is also installed to help with documents like CVs and letters, spreadsheets and presentations. A volunteer is available on Mondays, 10.00 - 12.00, if you need any help with using the computer, emails, family history, job searching, etc. Please ring for details.

Children aged 4 - 11 can join in with our exciting new reading challenge - the Lancashire Trail. Call in to find out more!

Two regular weekly activities are provided for young children, term-time only:

Storytime session for pre-school children on Mondays, 2.15 - 2.45. Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions on Fridays, 9.30 - 10.00.

Why not come along and join in with your child or grandchild - that's all **free** as well!

Haven't found us yet? We are right in the heart of the Carrington Centre - just follow the signs.

Opening hours:

Monday  
10.00-12.30, 1.30-7.00

Wednesday  
10.00-12.30, 1.30-5.00

Friday  
10.00-12.30, 1.30-7.00

Saturday  
10.00-12.30

Tel: 01257 451825 for information.

## Safer Streets at 20mph

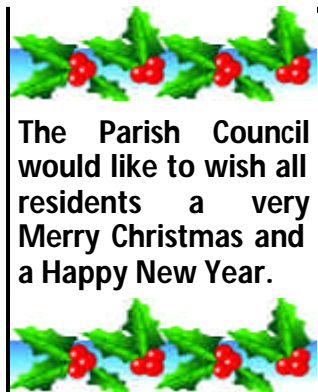
Lancashire County Council is committed to making Lancashire safer through the introduction of 20mph sign only schemes in all residential areas and outside every school in Lancashire by the end of 2013.

This long-term approach aims to encourage drivers to reduce their speed and accept 20mph limits in residential areas and roads surrounding schools as a normal part of community life. Commuter routes, trunk and main roads will be largely unaffected.

Road casualties damage lives and communities and children face the greatest dangers. Studies show that even slight reductions in speed result in quite significant reductions in accident rates.

Road safety, particularly the safety of children and young people, is one of the key priorities highlighted in the Local Transport Plan, with the roll out of 20mph speed limit areas as one major way to manage the speed of drivers and riders to safer levels.

Changing drivers' attitudes and influencing positive behavioural change will not happen overnight. Implementation will be followed up with education, community engagement and enforcement activity. With support from and working with Lancashire Constabulary, initiatives such as community road watch and targeted enforcement of speed limits will work to make speeding in residential areas and outside schools socially unacceptable in the longer term.



For individual schemes, localised consultation will be carried out with residents, County Council and District Council members, Parish Councils and other representative groups in the local community. As part of the legal process residents will be informed of proposals in the local area on a scheme by scheme basis.

*Information supplied by LCC*

Further details will be provided by the Parish Council as and when they become available.

## Eccleston Brass Band

At the prestigious contest at Fleetwood Marine Hall in October the band gained second place in the contest for Second Section Bands. This is an excellent achievement and the Band under Musical Director, Danny Brooks, deserve many congratulations.

After a busy autumn the Band is geared up for the tremendous effort they put in every December to help spread the festive spirit and raise funds for charities and churches throughout the area. The Band is looking forward to their Annual Christmas Concert for Eccleston at St. Mary's Church on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are available from the Church.

The training band has progressed to such an extent that another group especially for beginners has now been formed which meets on Tuesdays. Contact details are on the website and from Band Secretary Carolyn Musgrave on 01772 424487.

[www.ecclestonbrass.co.uk](http://www.ecclestonbrass.co.uk)

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## Lancashire Constabulary



Your local Neighbourhood Policing Team asks that residents in the village be extra vigilant at this time of year, to prevent themselves becoming victims of crime. We are asking you not to leave presents on display through house windows and in vehicles and, when you have purchased or received expensive items, for example TV's, computers, bikes etc, only put the packaging out on the morning of the refuse collection. For everyone who receives bikes, scooters etc for Christmas please keep them secure when not in use.

When using bikes at night please remember to have working lights. Also, ideally, wear a helmet for safety reasons. PCSO Maria Fetherstone has a limited number of free cycle helmets available in the run up to Christmas. Anyone interested should contact Maria at Coppull Police Station on 01257 246103.

For the people who have bikes and scooters, in the New Year we will hold a cycle coding event in the village.

With the cold weather in mind and whilst defrosting your vehicles, please do not leave your engine running when you are not with the vehicle - opportunist thieves love this time of year because you warm your car up for them to jump into and drive off. Should this happen your insurance will not pay out!

Drink driving ruins lives and throughout December and over the Xmas period drivers should expect to be stopped and tested.

*PCSO Andy Catterall*

## Handyperson Service

**Chorley Council is delighted to announce the formation of a new partnership with Preston Care and Repair to provide a handyperson service to vulnerable people.**

The Council is committed to ensuring that residents in need of a little extra help with the repair and maintenance of their homes receive a prompt, reliable and value for money service.

The handyperson technicians will tackle any job that can be considered within the definition of "DIY" - from changing light bulbs to joinery, cutting back shrubs or power washing drives. Gas and electrical work is not included in their remit, and jobs should normally not take more than two hours to complete.

Clients pay only a £10 per hour contribution, plus the cost of any materials needed, and they are advised on any costs before the work commences.

The service is available to older and/or disabled homeowners or private tenants in the borough.

To find out more about the service and to book a handyperson appointment customers should contact: Preston Care and Repair on: 01772 204096

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Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Chorley Borough Council  
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Report any problems with roads and pavements, including street lighting and obstructions, to Lancashire County Council on  
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National Grid (gas leaks)  
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