

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

September 2012

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Vacancy

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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.

Local Hero

Eccleston has been well and truly put on the map recently, featuring in national and local newspapers, magazines and on local TV. All this is courtesy of local resident, Bradley Wiggins CBE, who claimed an outstanding seventh Olympic medal with a sensational Gold in the Men's Time Trial to compliment his marvellous success in winning the Tour de France.

The village has been awash with visitors, many from the cycling fraternity, mainly looking for Eccleston's very own Golden Post Box or looking to follow in Bradley's wheel tracks on the lanes in and around the village.

Following his success, Bradley has publicly sought to encourage the wearing of protective helmets by cyclists - a sentiment echoed by the Parish Council which, last year, provided financial assistance to PCSO Maria Fetherstone's initiative to provide helmets and hi-vis equipment for young cyclists in the village.

The Parish Council would like to offer its congratulations to Bradley on his fantastic achievements. We will be looking at some form of recognition for Bradley in the village and suggestions from residents will be most welcome.

Another Winner

The Parish Council offers its wholehearted congratulations to another success story from the Village.

Local business, J & A Rigbye and Son, has won the Citroen La Passion Du Client 2012, for the third successive year, awarded to the top Citroen Dealership in the whole of the UK for Excellence in Customer Satisfaction. This is in addition to winning the National Area Award for customer satisfaction for the past 12 years!

Additionally the Accident Repair Bodyshop was a finalist in the CUK Body of the Year Award.

The seal on an excellent 2012 was for John Rigbye to be awarded the Best Dealer Principle of the Year.

J & A Rigbye and Sons is a family business and almost all the workforce are local people.

Councillor Vacancies

Following the resignations of Councillors Rosina Monks and Steve Harris there are two vacancies to be filled by co-option.

The Parish Council would like to thank both for their efforts.

Anyone who might be interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the Clerk (details to left) for information.

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Chairman's Message

I have now lived in Eccleston for a little over 40 years after moving to Lancashire from Warwickshire with my work in 1970. At the time there was a folk tale that 'one had to live in Eccleston for 25 years before you were accepted as a local'. However, I can honestly say that I have found nothing but friendship both in the village and wider Lancashire.

It has thus given me great pleasure to see Eccleston in the national news for all the right reasons. Another of our adopted sons, Bradley Wiggins, has achieved fame by becoming the first Briton to win the classic Tour de France cycle race, closely followed by a Gold Medal at the London Olympics. The golden post-box in the Carrington Centre has become a 'must see' attraction for many, especially cyclists. The Parish Council is considering some form of permanent recognition of Bradley's feats and would welcome suggestions from residents.

In business, our local car dealership, J & A Rigbye and Sons continues to excel, having again won the award as the top Citroen Dealership in the UK. It is wonderful to see businesses which employ local people doing so well on the national stage. A business upon which we all rely is our local Post Office where Lisa Jackson has just celebrated 25 years as Postmistress - well done.

Our 'new boy' PCSO Jordan Talbot-Carabini is now an established sight walking around the village on patrol. If you have not yet met Jordan, please introduce yourself to him.

Finally, to get back to the Parish Council, I would like to publicly thank former Councillor Rosina Monks for her years of tireless service to the community of Eccleston.

Bill Mason

Dog Control Orders

Chorley Council has recently introduced three new Dog Control Orders for dogs in public areas within the borough:

The Dogs on Leads Order requires dogs to be on leads on adopted roads with a speed limit of less than 40mph, adopted footpaths and associated verges, on any public open space when any organised activity is in progress eg football game, car boot sale, educational activities etc, bus or rail stations and cemeteries/ memorial grounds.

The Dogs on Leads by Direction Order gives Chorley Council Officers powers to direct someone to place their dog on a lead in any public open space if the dog is causing a nuisance to other users of that space. The Order applies to all open air land throughout the Borough to which the public are allowed access with or without payment.

The Dogs Exclusion Order under which dogs are banned from certain areas applies only to Chorley Council owned land and includes play facilities and cemeteries.

A £75 fixed penalty will be issued for breaching any of the above Orders and anyone failing to pay the Fixed Penalty within 14 days will be liable, upon prosecution, to a maximum fine of £1000.

There are exemptions for guide dogs, hearing dogs and dogs for the disabled.

The Orders can be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Town Hall Market Street Chorley or can be viewed online on Chorley Council's website at www.chorley.gov.uk

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

Eccleston Primary School

Since our last entry to the newsletter school has been as busy as ever, but we have held several of special events which we have shared with the community.

In March we held a Waste Week, where classes made large scale models of endangered animals. These were exhibited around the school grounds on Friday afternoon; our Eco-team charged a nominal entry fee, and the money raised has enabled us to adopt two endangered animals - a panda and a snow leopard.

Also in March, the School council organised an event for everyone to join in running the Sports Relief Mile. Through this and other fund raising, we donated almost £1600 to the charity.

In May we organised a number of events for our children and those in neighbouring schools, to give them the opportunity to mix with others. We were able to fund this through a successful bid for a Lottery grant.

Some Key stage 2 children from both Eccleston schools enjoyed an activity day with a vast range of activities not usually on offer in school, including a climbing wall and Zorbing - the children climb inside a large inflatable ball and manoeuvre it around, rather like a hamster in a ball!

The schools' Olympic torch was carried on our leg of the relay by our girls' and boys' teams who won the two inter schools cross country competitions recently.

We celebrated the Diamond Jubilee with a traditional street party and an afternoon of traditional playground games and a treasure hunt. The Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire, Mr J Gorrick, came to visit us and all the children produced excellent artwork titled "The Queen" for our competition in school.

Council Tax 'Scam'

Residents are warned to be aware of companies which offer to obtain Council Tax refunds for them, but charge an upfront fee to do so. The companies advise residents they can appeal against their Council Tax banding and may get a refund.

This is, in fact, true - anyone can appeal their Council Tax banding and, if the banding is reduced, they may receive a refund. What is wrong is the charging of an upfront fee when residents can do this for themselves at no cost by simply contacting the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) directly.

For more information on the free service that the Valuation Office Agency provides visit the website at www.voa.gov.uk or you can call them on 03000 501 501. Alternatively you can write to them at 104 Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 1LX.

Changes to Private Sewers

In October 2011, the Government introduced new legislation in England and Wales which meant that the water companies took over responsibility for many sewer and drain pipes which were previously in private ownership.

The decision to do this was made to remove the burden from customers of complicated and costly repairs to these pipes when something went wrong. In the North West, United Utilities took ownership of more than 32,000km of extra wastewater pipes.

For further information contact United Utilities on 0845 746 2200 or visit www.unitedutilities.com

Remembrance Day

All residents are invited to this year's Parade, Wreath Laying Ceremony and Service on Sunday 11 November 2012.

Meeting at 9.15am, the Parade will leave Eccleston Primary School, Doctors Lane at 9.30am and walk to St Mary's Church for the Service of Remembrance.

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Housing Associations with properties in Chorley, Preston and South Ribble advertise vacancies weekly on the Select Move website.

If you don't have a computer at home you can use the computers in public libraries.

If you need help or advice phone 0800 655 6578

Unify Credit Union

has arrived in Chorley and residents can now access low interest loans.

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For details contact
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For more information visit our website at www.unifycu.org

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Local Businesses

Do you want to reach around 1800 properties in the village?

Contact the Clerk (details on page 1) for information on advertising in the Parish Council newsletter.

Prices are £15.00 for a small ad and £30.00 for a large ad, with reductions for annual bookings

Lancashire Constabulary

I have had a very enjoyable first few months working in Eccleston. The people of the village has made it this way for me. People are already recognising me, not just as the local PCSO but as a friendly face that they can talk. If you haven't already met me, I'm sure you will have seen me walking around the village. Don't hesitate to say hello, I would like to meet you too and introduce myself

Although the summer months are slowly coming to an end, the warm weather seems to be staying with us. Make sure that when you leave your home all windows and doors are locked and secure, this includes vehicles. PCSO Andy Catterall and myself took a walk around the village recently and the number of properties and vehicles that had windows open but nobody inside the house was alarming. If you are aware of anybody leaving their home for the day but leaving the windows open, make them aware of this.

If you would like to contact myself or any of the other neighbourhood policing team at Coppull call 101 or 01257 246103.

PCSO 7331 Jordan Talbot-Carabini



20's Plenty

Lancashire County Council is proposing a 20mph speed limit on roads to the east of The Green between Parr Lane and Bradley Lane, including estate roads. The limit will apply on Parr Lane from its junction with Towngate, as far as Moons Cottage, Bradley Lane from its junction with The Green to the School playing field and on estate roads off Parr Lane, Bradley Lane and Lawrence Lane.

There are no proposals to install traffic calming measures similar to those on roads on the opposite side of The Green which resulted in a number of complaints from residents.

The Parish Council welcomes any measures which may make our roads safer.

Village Events

A number of residents attending the Diamond Jubilee Celebration Event on 2 June mentioned to Councillors that they would like to see regular events in the village. The Parish Council has appointed a Villages Activities Committee to look into the possibility of further events.

If anyone has any suggestions please pass them on to the Clerk (details on front page).

CHORLEY ELECTORAL REGISTER

Annual canvass forms are being delivered to every property within the borough - make sure you return your details to us.

If you aren't on the register you won't be able to vote and you could have difficulties getting credit including mortgages, loans and mobile phones.

**REMEMBER
NO VOTE = NO SAY**

Don't delay, register today and have your say in forthcoming elections.

For more information call 01257 515132 or visit www.chorley.gov.uk

Chorley
Council

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non emergency): 101
Police (Coppull) : 01257 246103
Crimestoppers 0800 555111
Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151
Report any problems with roads and pavements, including street lighting and obstructions, to Lancashire County Council on
0845 0530011
National Grid (gas leaks)
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