

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

Ball Court

December 2012

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Alan Platt (Clerk to the Council)

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Tel: 01257 234003

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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.

Members of the Youth Centre have approached the Council to assist with the provision of an all weather ball court. The young people have put in a lot of work in inspecting other sites for ideas and researching the various options available. The Parish Council will now look to obtaining any planning permissions necessary and securing the necessary funding.

The intention is to provide a facility which can be used in all weathers to discourage playing football etc on the car park areas. It is intended to be lit in the early evening, with a timer for the lights.

The Ball Court would also be available for Chorley Council's Play Rangers who, on several occasions during our 'summer', came along to provide organised sports and activities for young people only to find the fields too wet to use.

Best Kept Village

Unfortunately, this year, the village did not win any awards in the Champion Village Category of the Competition however the Judges "found the general appearance of Eccleston to be attractive, clean and litter free. The majority of both private and commercial properties were well maintained and there were some delightful floral displays at private properties."

The Judges also praised the Bowling Green and Cricket Club and St Mary's Church was described as being "well cared for, no easy task with such an old building and an uneven graveyard".

Councillor Vacancy

Welcome to Kate Brown, who was co-opted onto the Council at the October meeting.

We now have one remaining vacancy. Anyone wishing to join the Council should contact the Clerk (details to left) for information.

Carol Singing

Come along and join members of the Parish Council, with musical accompaniment provided by Eccleston Brass Band at the Carol Concert, around the Christmas tree on the Village Green, on Tuesday 18 December 2012 between 6.30pm and 7.15pm.

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



Eccleston Parish Council wishes all residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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Chairman's Message

Firstly I would like to welcome two new Councillors, Kate Brown and John Cannon, who are each bringing a new perspective to the Parish Council. We still have one outstanding vacancy on the Parish Council, so if you are passionate about our village of Eccleston, perhaps you might consider applying for co-option. If so, please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt.

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.

It is now two years since the Parish Council became 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 2013.

The Annual Carol Concert will be held on the Village Green (opposite St Mary's School) on Tuesday 18th December at 6.30pm with Eccleston Brass Band in attendance. A warm welcome is assured to any residents who would like to attend.

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

Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner

Following the election on 15 November, Clive Grunshaw has been elected as Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Lancashire, replacing the current Police Authority. The PCC will hold the Chief Constable to account and be the voice of the County when it comes to issues of crime and policing.

For up to date information and news and to sign up for newsletters from the Police and Crime Commissioner, visit the website:

www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk

Recycling Collection Calendars

Chorley Council will shortly be delivering the new Recycling Collection Calendars for 2013 along with your recycle collection.

If you haven't received one before Christmas contact Chorley Council on 01257 515151 or email chorley.gov.uk

Free Support from Age UK Lancashire

If you, or someone you know, has recently been ill, come home from hospital, had a fall, been bereaved, feeling lonely or isolated, or are finding daily tasks a struggle, Age UK Lancashire may be able to help. Offering FREE short term support to older people in Chorley, Age UK Lancashire can help get you back on your feet, regain your confidence and retain your independence.

Age UK Lancashire can offer both practical and emotional support. Help offered may include assistance with shopping and light housework, health appointments, home safety checks and information and advice.

To find out if we can help call
01257 479024

email chorley@ageuklancs.org.uk

or call at local rate on
0300 303 1234

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 Gorrick, came to visit us and all the children produced excellent artwork titled "The Queen" for our competition in school.

In July we invited all preschool children to our annual teddy bears picnic and they all had a very enjoyable time.

The beginning of the new academic year has already been very busy. All our new children have settled into school really well. We started the year celebrating 'Eccleston.' In between the rainy days the children from all around school have enjoyed visiting different parts of the village, including the library, medical centre and St. Mary's Church. If you visit the medical centre you will have the opportunity to see the lovely artwork produced by our children on display there.

In December, as last year, members of our Choir are hoping to sing carols at the Christmas Lunch in the centre on The Fields.

Anne Johnson

Remember to Recycle

With Christmas approaching we would, once again, ask everyone to recycle as much as they possibly can.

The cardboard packaging from presents will be collected by Chorley Council as part of your normal recycling collection, as will the empty wine, spirit and beer bottles, any other glass bottles and jars, cans, foil and paper and, don't forget, many supermarkets offer Christmas card recycling facilities.

Here is a quick guide (not a comprehensive list so check packaging for the recyclable sign). Lancashire currently has facilities for recycling clear plastic bottles made from the following categories of plastics:



PET/PETE (polyethylene terephthalate) - drinks bottles.



HDPE (high density polyethylene) - milk/washing-up liquids

If you're thinking "why recycle?", just remember that (amongst other things) recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to power a colour TV for around 15 minutes, 70% less energy is required to recycle paper than making it from raw materials, the energy saved by recycling one plastic bottle will power a 60W light bulb for six hours, if all the aluminium cans sold in the UK were recycled, there would be 14 million fewer full dustbins each year and it takes just 25 two litre drink bottles to make one adult size fleece (source uk energysaving.com). If you're still not convinced just ask yourself where all the rubbish will go if we don't recycle?

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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

With the dark nights well and truly taking their toll, it is vital to make sure all windows and doors are shut and locked whenever possible. Around the Chorley Borough, we have been running Operation Cannon which is targeting unlocked vehicles and properties. Our findings were alarming. Criminals look for these easy opportunities and it can so easily be prevented by making sure all windows and doors are locked when you leave the house.

It is also getting to that time of year again where a lot of us will be rushing around to buy presents. The last thing anybody wants is for any of these items to go missing, especially with all the thought behind these gifts. Keep them secure by not leaving anything on display in vehicles or your home.

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
Chorley Rural West/Eccleston*

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service Winter Safety

With the winter fast approaching, many of us are spending more time indoors, tucked away from the cold trying to keep our homes warm and cosy. However, winter can bring along many risks and often leads to an increase in accidental house fires. We regularly see an increase of fires in the home caused by unsafe heating, open fires, blocked chimneys, candles and overloaded electrical sockets caused by extra appliances and Christmas decorations used during the winter period.

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service aims to reduce the amount of fires and resulting injuries and will provide information on how to keep you and your home safer this winter. Our FREE home fire safety visits offer help and advice on how to prevent fires from occurring, it also provides life saving information of what to do if a fire does occur. During our visit we will also fit 10 year smoke alarms FREE of charge if required.

Please also take the time this winter to think of the safety of your neighbours, particularly the elderly who may not be able to get out of the house in poor weather or who are using unsafe methods to heat their homes. Are they safe? Do they have smoke alarms? If not we can help!

To request your free home fire safety check please call Sandra Alty on 01257 266844 or 07920 291867 quoting reference SA053. All visits are completed by Fire Service Personnel who will show ID cards on arrival.

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service

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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)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency
Floodline 0845 988 1188