

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

June 2012

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Albert Barnes	451636
John Cannon	451482
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

website:

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.

Millennium Green

The Open Spaces Committee is drawing a new schedule of works for this year to continue with the improvements to the Millennium Green.

We will be aiming to provide seating for users of the area, new signage and looking at what can be done to improve the pond area and possibly provide access for nature/educational purposes. We are currently seeking advice from conservation bodies to try to make sure any work carried out will be in the best interests of the pond and its wildlife.

One of the major concerns, that of inconsiderate dog owners, will be high on the agenda for this year. The Committee would like the assistance of dog owners in keeping their animals under control and picking up dog fouling, which has been a major issue for other users of the area.

Hopefully, if dog owners act responsibly, there will be no need for any further preventative action.

We would just ask ALL dog owners to bear in mind that children do play on the Millennium Green and to act responsibly.

Dog Owners

Whilst on the subject of dog fouling, inconsiderate dog owners should be aware Chorley Council Neighbourhood Officers and our local Neighbourhood Policing Team are keeping a sharp lookout for dog owners who fail to pick up their dog's mess.

Chorley Council has recently reviewed the fines applicable and we are aware of at least one owner who has recently been the recipient of a fixed penalty, which was issued on Bradley Lane.

Sport Bus

Coming soon from Chorley Council, the Sport Bus - offering FREE transport to local leisure centres and activity for 14-17 years old - starts late July.

For more information contact Chorley Council, Sport, Play & Physical Activity Team on 01257 515151 or e-mail contact@chorley.gov.uk

Councillor News

A warm welcome to new Councillor, John Cannon, who was co-opted at the May meeting to replace Joan Delve.

DARRENS FRESH FISH

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Eccleston Parish Council Annual Report 2011 - 2012

The cost of the Parish Precept to residents for 2011 - 2012 was reduced by around 5% and further careful budgeting and prudent financial management enabled the Parish Council to set the Precept for 2012 - 2013 with no increase. The cost of the Parish Precept to Eccleston residents is virtually the same as it was in 2003!

The year's largest single item of expenditure saw £13,000 spent replacing the safety tiles on the Recreation Ground Play Area with a new surface. A Chorley Council Play and Recreation Fund grant of £9,300, received over this, and the previous financial year, made a huge contribution to the costs.

Grants were awarded to enable PCSO Fetherstone to provide safety equipment for our young cyclists and the Parish Council again supported village activities, including Apple Day, the Older People's Christmas Party and the Christmas Carol Singing.

During the year we said goodbye to Councillors Phil Ascroft, Helen Bradley, Jim Haines, Andy Love and Joyce Morris, who decided not to stand at the May election. We would like to offer thanks for their service to the village. We welcomed, in their places, Councillors Joan Delve, Steve Harris, Bryan Harrison, Danny Holborn and Charles Lilley who were co-opted onto the Council.

The Parish Council has continued in its efforts to attend to years of neglect on the Millennium Green, with the entrance gates replaced with bollards, missing hedging being replanted, and other tree works to improve the area. Thanks go to the members of the Open Spaces Committee, Councillors Barnes, Frost, Miller and Monks, for their efforts. Further improvements will be carried out over the next year.

The year also saw the Diamond Jubilee Committee take on the arrangements for the Big Picnic Event and, again, thanks go to the members, Councillors Armstrong, Delve, Holborn, Miller and Monks for their efforts.

The Council continues to employ the Clerk, Alan Platt, who provides advice and support to the Council and Village Caretaker, Mike Marsh, and Lengthsman, Malc Hayes, continued to provide excellent service, which residents seem to appreciate. During the year we also began a contract litter picking service to Ulnes Walton Parish Council.

Bill Mason

Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2012

Income (£'s)	2011/12	2010/11	Expenditure (£'s)	2011/12	2010/11
Parish Precept	41260	43240	Staff Costs	20225	19509
Interest	80	61	Administration	1772	1578
Changing Rooms	2000	2035	Insurance	2082	1816
Adverts	450	435	Donations	546	1208
Sundries	16	225	Grounds Maintenance	4689	4815
Grant	6217	4497	Newsletter	1361	1042
Contract Work	577	0	Play Area	13235	2634
VAT Reclaimed	3100	2284	Repairs/replacements	816	497
Total	53700	52777	Changing Rooms	4599	5979
Opening Balance	42783	38183	Loan repayments	2479	2479
Income	53700	52777	Millennium Green	2483	2832
Sub total	96482	90960	Village Activities	1627	1224
Expenditure	61051	48177	Sundries	693	1147
Closing Balance	35433	42783	VAT	4444	1417
			Total	61051	48177

Eccleston Cricket Club

The new cricket season is already upon us, and all the members and committee of the cricket club have been eagerly preparing for another successful season.

Fresh from winning the award of Lancashire's Best Kept Cricket Ground for 2 years running (and 5 times in total since 1998), the club house has had a touch-up, and will be open to welcome all spectators on match days.

Once again, the club has 2 Senior Teams, along with Junior Teams at Under 10, 11, 13 and 15 level, all competing in the Palace Shield Competition.

If you're interested in joining, just contact the secretary, Tony Moon on 450562, or via e-mail at:

tony.moon99@yahoo.com

All new members can be sure of a warm welcome.

In the meantime, feel free to have a look around our website, at

<http://eccleston.play-cricket.com/home/home.asp>

We look forward to seeing you.

Home Library Service

Do you enjoy reading or listening to talking books?

Do you find it difficult to visit the library, possibly because of mobility problems or poor health, or have no-one to visit the library for you?

The Home Library Service can help. One of our Library Volunteers could deliver the service to you.

Also available - Large Print books, books on Cassette or CD and DVDs.

The service is free - for more information please contact the Home Library Service on 01257 239461 or Eccleston Library on 01257 451825.

Eccleston Scout Group

Since the Scout Group reformed in 2005 we have gone from strength to strength with full and varied programs running in Beavers (6 - 8), Cubs (8 - 10½), Scout (10½ - 14) and Explorer Scouts (14 - 18)

This term the Beavers are working towards their fitness challenge badge, including taking part in our mini Olympics, nature walk, making fruit kebabs, healthy sandwiches along with team and cooperation games.

Next year is looking to be a very exciting year for the Group with our first International Camp. We are taking the Scout and Explorers to Kandersteg International Scout Camp in Switzerland. We'll be riding on cable cars, swimming in alpine lakes, rock climbing and meeting Scouts from many different countries.



For further information please contact Alison on:

01257 452907 or 07817 768782

Get more out of life online

Online basics is a free, easy to use course that will help you get started using computers and the internet.

The course is held Monday mornings 10:00am - 12:00 at Eccleston Library.

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Mobile: **07777 631689**

email: neil@technohow.co.uk

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For further information please call Sue Woods on 01772 437232 or email to

sue.woods@rightathome.co.uk

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Lancashire Constabulary



There has been a spate of vehicles being taken due to the owners leaving the keys in. Twice vans have been found on The Hawthorns left locked, with the keys nowhere to be found. There were also two vans taken from Mawdesley, again with the keys left in. Residents are urged to be careful as, in addition to the inconvenience, your insurance will be invalid.

The village has also seen an increase of criminal damage by mindless persons who seem to think that damaging people's properties and street furniture is a harmless pastime. Lancashire Police see the impact of crimes of criminal damage on the community and will deal with the offenders accordingly.

The Ecclestone Neighbourhood Policing Team now comprises of Sgt Andy Bramhall, PC Loz Elphick, PCSO Andy Catterall and our new PCSO Jordan Talbot-Carabini. Jordan will be working in the rural areas and concentrating on any area where a presence is required. Jordan has already spent time familiarising himself with the village with PCSO Catterall. He will become a familiar figure outside the schools and at community events. If you see him walking around the village, please introduce yourself to him as he is very much looking forward to working and meeting with the residents of Ecclestone and interacting with the community.

Finally, just a reminder that the new non-emergency contact number for the Police is 101.

PCSO Andy Catterall

Sky Ride - City Centre, Parks and Guild Wheel, Preston

A prestigious biking event is coming to Preston. Sky Ride takes place on Sunday June 17 in the city and Town Hall bosses are urging people to sign up.

In partnership with British Cycling and Preston Council, Sky has chosen Preston as one of 19 host cities for Sky Rides in 2012.

Up to 8,000 people are expected to take part in the event around the city centre, parks and a section of the new Guild Wheel.

Sky Ride Preston is part of a calendar of events in Guild year.

Roads around the city centre and Avenham and Miller Parks will be closed. Anyone on bikes and trikes, adaptive bikes, wheelchairs or mobility scooters can take part. Registration is free and people of all abilities can take part.

Visit <http://www.goskyride.com>

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

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