

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

March 2012

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Tel: 01257 234003

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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.

Diamond Jubilee

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be celebrated with an event on Saturday June 2nd 2012 on the Recreation Fields and everyone is invited to attend.

The Event will be based on a 1950's themed 'Big Picnic', and will offer everyone the opportunity to celebrate the occasion.

Come along, bring your picnic and enjoy the free, live entertainment featuring a Compere and Dance Group singing and dancing to songs from the 50's, with additional attractions including a Children's Entertainer, Punch and Judy show, Swingboats, Coconut Shy, and candy floss. There will also be craft stalls and we are working hard to try to add even more attractions during the run up to the Event.

Everything starts at 11:00am, with the entertainment between 12:00 and 3:00pm.

Any organisations within the village who would like to join in please contact the Clerk (details on this page).

We'd also love to hear from local businesses who might be interested in taking part or sponsoring the Event, again please contact the Clerk.

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Council Tax

The Parish Council's budget for the next financial year has been set with no increase in the cost of the Parish Precept to residents. The cost of the Parish Precept to Eccleston residents remains virtually the same as it was in 2003!

All services currently provided by the Council will be unaffected and funds have been added for the Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Services provided by the Parish Council include the Village Caretaker, who looks after the play areas and our other open spaces, and attends to minor repairs to council property, and the Village Lengthsman, who picks litter from the major routes and estate roads.

The Council is also responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the Recreation Fields and Changing Rooms, the Drapers Avenue Play Area, Skate Park and car parks, the Millennium Green, Hawthorns Play Area and the Village Green. Mowing of the entrance to The Hawthorns is also carried out by the Parish Council. The Council also provides the Christmas Tree and lights, lighting for the path between Drapers Avenue and Richmond Road, wayside seats, emptying of dog waste bins and the relevant insurance cover.

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Chairman's Message

The Parish Council met on twelve occasions during 2011 to discuss matters relating to the village of Eccleston.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and our Clerk, Alan Platt, for their support and assistance throughout the year. Also to thank our Parish Caretaker, Mike Marsh, and Parish Lengthsman, Malcolm Hayes for their sterling work in all weathers. Our village is certainly a more pleasant place due to their efforts and this was reflected in the 'Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition' Judge's comments.

Our finances remain strong to meet the further needs of the village. As such Eccleston Parish Council has decided that there will be no increase in the cost of the Parish Precept to residents for the next financial year. Robust financial management and careful budgeting has allowed this freeze, with no loss in the services provided to residents by the Parish Council. The Parish Council was very keen, given the current financial climate, to do what it could to make sure the burden on council tax payers would not be increased this year.

Planning continues to be the most controversial subject discussed by the Parish Council. Whilst decisions are made by Chorley Borough Council, the Parish Council endeavours to promote the views of local residents to the Planning Committee. The proposed re-development of the Carrington Centre has created much controversy in our village and it is expected that the Planning Inspector will have reached a decision on Northern Trust's appeal by the time that residents read this Newsletter.

On Saturday June 2nd the Parish council will be hosting a Diamond Jubilee Celebration on the Playing Fields and all residents are assured of a warm welcome, whatever the weather.

Bill Mason

Youth Centre

In response to rumours circulating and causing unnecessary concern to younger residents, Lancashire County Council Young People's Service (YPS) has kindly provided clarification regarding the future of Eccleston Youth Centre.

The Centre is firmly part of plans to deliver services as an important satellite centre in the borough.

The Centre is not, and never has been, under threat and is actually going to be re-opening a second night in April.

The YPS is happy to have other groups hire the building as long as it is not being used by YPS.

Information supplied by LCC

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

Headstones

Regular visitors to the churchyard will know that an annual inspection of memorials is carried out to check on their safety. Any found to be immediately dangerous are laid down, whilst others have warning notices attached. However, you may not know that the care and maintenance of headstones etc is the responsibility of family members.

Rules and regulations concerning the churchyard are on display in the church porch. Any remedial work should be carried out by an approved stonemason.

Eccleston St Mary's PCC

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.

Village Issues

Someone has taken to regularly fly tipping rubbish outside the electricity sub station on Lawrence Lane. The fly tipping seems to happen over the weekend and we would ask anyone with any idea who might be responsible to contact Chorley Council 01257 515151.

Once again, the unpleasant issue of dog fouling rears its ugly head. We have recently received a number of complaints, particularly concerning Doctors Lane and The Green and Chorley Council's Neighbourhood Officers have been asked to target these areas.

Dog owners are reminded that dog waste bags, provided they are tied, may be deposited in any Chorley Council litter bin.

If you do happen to spot anyone not picking their dogs mess please pass on the details to Chorley Council (the time of day and a description of the dog and owner may prove useful).

Finally, we're also looking for information to identify the mindless idiots who vandalised the Christmas Tree and lights over the Christmas period. The top of the Tree was completely broken off and several sets of lights destroyed or stolen.

Whilst these tiny minded individuals might find this entertaining, unfortunately the cost of replacing the lights will come from resident's council tax.

If you have any idea who was responsible please contact the Police on the new non emergency telephone number of 101.

Food Waste

Chorley Council has introduced food waste collections to all properties who currently receive recycling collections.

Leftovers, out-of-date food and vegetable peelings will be just some of the food waste that

people will be able to recycle as we look to boost our already high recycling rate.

Food waste accounts for up to a third of what we throw away in the green bins so it will help us turn more of our waste into compost - and it could save pounds on your shopping bill too! You can visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com for lots of tips on saving money and using food wisely.

How does it work? - Residents who currently have a brown bin will simply be asked to put their food waste in their brown bin with their garden waste. You can wrap it in newspaper, if you wish, or simply put it straight in with your garden waste.

What is classed as food waste? - any raw or cooked food you have at home such as:

- out of date food
- meat, fish and chicken bones
- tea bags
- bread and pastries
- cheese
- leftovers

Please note all food must be taken out of its packaging before it is placed in your brown bin.

Supplied by Chorley Council

Villages in Partnership

VIP is a local Charity based in Croston that was set up in 2005 to work with the community, for the community.

If you are a local community group that would like some help searching out possible funders or help with completing funding application forms, please give us a call. For a small fee, we can help you to submit bids for funding for your projects.

If you would like to volunteer at one of our charity shops in either Eccleston, Longton or Hesketh Bank, please contact the office on 01772 603591 or email to vip@villagesinpartnership.org.uk

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and

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References available on request

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So who are technohow?

Lukas and Neil are local IT and datacoms specialists, who between them, have thirty years professional experience.

Contact Technohow:

Ansaphone: 01704 822874

Mobile: 07777 631689

email: neil@technohow.co.uk

Nicholsons

Ligan House, 32 Town Road, Croston

Tel: 01772 601700

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- Transportation & errands
- Meal preparation
- Light housekeeping
- Help with washing, dressing & personal care
- Medication reminders
- Holiday & respite cover
- Specialist dementia care

For further information please call Sue Woods on 01772 437232 or email to sue.woods@rightathome.co.uk

Right at Home is registered with the Care Quality Commission

Lancashire Constabulary

Ecclestone has again seen a fall in crimes and anti-social behaviour, however people must be aware that crimes such as burglaries are on an increase nationally. We can help prevent ourselves becoming victims by doing a few simple things not to advertise we have desirable items in our homes and outbuildings. Don't put packing from electrical items out for recycling - if possible take it to the tip. When retiring to bed in the evening close all the blinds and curtains. Please don't leave insecure windows and doors.

Thefts of garden wall coping stones and pillar caps are on the increase in rural areas. If you see someone removing or messing about with your neighbour's walls and you are not aware of any work being carried out, contact the police on 101, or 999, if a crime is in progress. As the weather improves keep garages and outbuildings secure.

All these measures will help to keep crime down in your village.

I now carry out Home Fire Safety Checks and fit free smoke alarms where needed for Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. If any residents would like a visit from me or have any other issues or queries please e-mail me at andrew.catterall@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

If you would like to speak to a member of your Policing Team at Coppull call 01257 246103 or 101.

PCSO Andy Catterall

Local Funding Opportunity

Local charity, Villages in Partnership (VIP), is giving away individual grants of up to £500 each to community groups in the area.

In order to be eligible to apply your group must be based and/or work in one of the villages we cover (see our website or phone the office for a detailed list).

Your project or activity must make a positive contribution to the community, improve people's quality of life or promote health and wellbeing.

To obtain an application form or find out more, please contact VIP on 01772 603591 or email vip@villagesinpartnership.org.uk

Closing date for completed applications is Monday 30th April 2012.

To find out more about VIP, visit our website at:

www.villagesinpartnership.org.uk

If you contact advertisers in this newsletter please tell them where you saw their ad.



Wedding Fayre

Back for a second year, St Mary's Wedding Fayre is on Sunday 13 May 2012 from 2:00pm - 5:00pm.

Catwalk show by Brides Gallery at 3.30pm, with the usual stands.

Entry is just £1 (includes free tea/coffee served in the Parish Centre)

A warm welcome to all

Think Wedding - Think Church

For further information call Rosina on 01257 451166

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