

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

June 2013

Ball Court

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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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!

Behind the scenes work has continued and recently a tendering process has been completed, with a preferred Contractor being selected from five tenders received. The Contractor will be working with the Council on a planning application and the Council, together with Members of the Youth Centre, who have put in a lot of work in inspecting other sites for ideas and researching the various options available, will be looking to secure the necessary funding.

The facility will be located by the Band Hut close to the boundary with the Carrington Centre site and will be available for use in all weathers to discourage playing football etc on the car park areas. It is intended to be lit in the early evening, with the lights on a timer which will switch off to prevent late use.

All Change

At the May Annual Council Meeting Bill Mason decided to stand down from the position of Chairman after 5 years. The Councillors offered Bill a vote of thanks for his efforts on behalf of the Parish Council.

Former Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee, Mark Frost, was elected Chairman with Kate Brown taking over as Vice Chairman.

Local Business Success

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

C Wilson Solicitors at 215 The Green has secured membership to the Law Society's Conveyancing Quality Scheme - the mark of excellence for the home buying process.

C Wilson Solicitors, who are now in their tenth year of trading in Eccleston, underwent rigorous assessment by the Law Society in order to secure CQS status, which marks the firm out as meeting high standards in the residential conveyancing process.

The scheme requires practices to undergo a strict assessment, compulsory training, self reporting, random audits and annual reviews in order to maintain CQS status. It is open only to members of the Law Society who meet the demanding standards set by the scheme and has the support of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, the Building Societies Association, Legal Ombudsman and the Association of British Insurers.

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.

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Eccleston Parish Council Annual Report 2012 - 2013

The cost of the Parish Precept to residents for 2012 - 2013 was held at the previous year's level and further careful budgeting and prudent financial management enabled the Parish Council to set the Precept for 2013 - 2014 again with no increase. The cost of the Parish Precept to Eccleston residents remains virtually the same as it was in 2003!

June 2012 saw the first major event arranged by the Council's Events Committee. The Big Picnic Event was held on the Recreation Ground to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM the Queen and music and entertainment was arranged by the Committee. The event was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. This was followed by the Village Cycle Ride, which the Committee also assisted with. Thanks go to the Committee, Councillors Armstrong, Delve, Holborn, Miller and Monks for their hard work in seeing these events to fruition. The Committee is now working on other events and a Funfair has been arranged for the 20th - 23 June. Suggestions for other events from residents would be welcome.

Grants were awarded to local groups and organisations including St Mary's PCC towards upkeep of the Churchyard, Eccleston Brass Band towards the costs of safety improvements to the Band Hut and Eccleston Scouts were sponsored for a sleep out, which had the added benefit of providing 'security' for the marquee hired in for the Diamond Jubilee. The Parish Council also supported village activities, including the Village Cycle Ride and the annual Christmas Carol Singing.

During the year we said goodbye to Councillors Joan Delve, Rosina Monks, Steve Harris and Janice Lilley. We would like to offer thanks for their service to the village. We welcomed, in their places, Councillors Dianne Bonney, Kate Brown, John Cannon and Henry Counce who were co-opted onto the Council.

Following an initial purge on the years of neglect on the Millennium Green, the area has been given a chance to settle and further improvements will be carried out this coming year.

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 is much appreciated by residents.

Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2013

Income (£'s)	2012/13	2011/12	Expenditure (£'s)	2012/13	2011/12
Parish Precept	41310	41260	Staff Costs	21690	20225
Interest	86	80	Administration	1201	1297
Changing Rooms	2000	2000	Insurance	2110	2082
Adverts	330	450	Donations	600	546
Sundries	10	16	Grounds Maintenance	6142	7172
Grants	13711	6217	Newsletter	1200	1361
Contract Work	1017	577	Play Area	135	13235
VAT Reclaimed	1417	3100	Repairs/replacements	185	816
Total	59881	53700	Changing Rooms	6210	7078
Opening Balance	35433	42783	Audit Fees	475	475
Income	59881	53700	Christmas	656	1320
Sub total	95314	96482	Village Activities	2304	307
Expenditure	44891	61051	Sundries	189	693
Closing Balance	50423	35433	VAT	1794	4444
			Total	44891	61051

Open Gardens

Eccleston Open Gardens takes place on Sunday 21st July from 1.00 to 6:00 pm. Cost £3 per programme - on sale mid June from Eccleston Post Office.

Eight varied gardens on show, with plant and cake sales, afternoon teas and refreshments.

See Church Notice board or the Post Office for a map of the location of the gardens.

Contact Gill (451863) or Joyce (451164) for details.

Garden Competition

Chorley Council

Chorley Council has joined forces with Birkacre Nurseries and Chorley & District Gardening Society to find the best kept front gardens in the borough.

You can nominate your own garden, a neighbour's garden or a garden you have seen in the borough but you must have the homeowners permission first.

Gardens and displays can be of any design or size but MUST be visible from the road or pavement. There will be 9 prizes of vouchers to the value of £80, £50 and £30 for the three categories of small, medium and large gardens.

Closing date for entries is Friday 26 July.

For an entry form call Chorley Council on 01257 515151.

Mega Swing

The Mega Swing, paid for by Chorley Council from funds collected from the developers of the Church Hall site, has arrived on the Recreation Ground and, from what we've seen, seems to be a hit with the young people.

The Parish Council would like to thank Lindsey Blackstock of Chorley Council, for her help in securing the funds.

Funfair

The Parish Council, in conjunction with North West Funfairs, has arranged a Funfair on the Bradley Lane field between Thursday 20 June and Sunday 23 June.

The Funfair will start at 4:30pm on Thursday 20 June and posters showing the opening times will be displayed around the village.

Eccleston Library

During the redevelopment of the Carrington Centre, Eccleston Library has been temporarily relocated around the corner into the shopping mall, next door to the flower shop. Even though this is a much smaller space, we have managed to fit in the majority of the books from the old building - including DVDs for children and adults, and talking books. We also have two computers for public use with free internet access and scanning/printing facilities.

As we wait for our new library to be built, we are still running our Storytime and Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions in Eccleston Primary School, Doctors Lane. We are most grateful to the head Mrs Fletcher, for the use of their space.

Storytime is on Mondays, term-time only 2.15 - 2.45. Baby Bounce and Rhyme is on Fridays, term-time only 9.30 - 10.00.

So come along and continue to use your library - we have extended our opening hours to open earlier and now including Thursday mornings. You can phone us on 01257 451825 if you require any more information.

Mon 9.30 - 12.30, 1.30 - 7.00

Tues closed

Wed 9.30 - 12.30, 1.30 - 5.00

Thurs 9.30 - 12.30

Fri 9.30 - 12.30, 1.30 - 7.00

Sat 9.30 - 12.30

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C. Wilson Solicitors

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Lancashire Constabulary

Operation CANNON was carried out in Ecclestone on the afternoon of 10 April 2013 with local Councillors.

Chorley Neighbourhood Policing Team went out in force to Ecclestone checking for insecure houses, garages and vehicles. In total 48 vehicles, 19 garages, 20 houses and 1 bicycle were found to be left insecure.

Residents, possibly complacent whilst living in a village, were given crime prevention advice and they provided a positive response to the operation and this may reduce the risk of further crime.

PCSO 7028 Andy Catterall, Ecclestone NHPT

Neighbourhood Policing Team Coppull call 101 or 01257 246103



Football Tournament

Ecclestone and Heskin FC is holding its Annual Tournament on Saturday 15 June at Bradley Lane Playing Fields.

The day starts at 10:00 am with the under 7's and 8's, then afternoon games start at 2:00pm with under 9's, 10's and 11's.

There will be side stalls, beat the goalie, crossbar challenge, inflatable bouncy castle and slides and a BBQ.

- The Club is being more proactive than in previous years and has prepared carefully to minimise traffic disruption. This includes:
- The Tournament will be held on the one day rather than over two days.
- Discussions with local Police, who will be assisting on the day.
- Improved signage to the free tournament car park, off Bradley Lane.
- Letters will be sent to local residents close to the pitch in Bradley Lane and Draper Ave.

All residents are welcome to come along.

Steve Moores

Tournament Administrator

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