

Eccleston Parish Council

Newsletter

December 2013

Ball Court

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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www.ecclestonparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Council Meetings are held on the second 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!

At the time of going to press the planning application for the all weather ball court had been submitted to Chorley Council and we are hoping for an early Christmas present, namely the permission from Chorley to proceed with construction.

Funding for the project has been approved by Chorley Council from the developer's contribution from the Sagar House site and the facility will be provided at very little cost to the Parish Council.

The court will be lit until 10:00pm each evening, with timer controlled lighting.

The construction will mean a small diversion of the existing path and, once the Ball Court has been built, we will be in a position to look at another project to lay a crushed stone path around the Recreation Ground.

Meals on Wheels

Chorley Council is piloting a new meals on wheels service in Eccleston and the surrounding area this winter.

Working in partnership with locally based Lancashire Fayre, the service will deliver a hot meal (main meal and dessert) for £2.75, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until 31 March 2014.

There is a wide range of meals on the menu to choose from which will suit all dietary requirements. There are certain eligibility criteria to meet to qualify for the subsidised service which can be clarified by contacting Lancashire Fayre or Chorley Council.

If you would like to try a sample meal or discuss the service contact Lancashire Fayre on 01254 447331 or, if you'd prefer to speak to Chorley Council first, contact them on 01257 515151.

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 Wednesday 18 December 2013 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.

Noticeboard

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities. The Noticeboard is located 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.



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



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Chairman's Message

The last three months has seen the Carrington Centre re-development gather pace. A number of retailers are now operating from the new units, with the Sainsbury's convenience store expected to open early in 2014. It is inevitable that there is a level of disruption during such a re-development; hopefully normal service will be resumed very quickly for both residents and retailers alike.

In September John Cannon stepped down as a councillor, and Valerie Counce was co-opted on to the Council to replace John. I would like to thank John for his contribution to council business, and welcome Valerie to the team.

The Open Spaces Committee has decided to refurbish the skate park. The park is very well-used facility; as a result the existing surface has become very worn and now needs replacing. In addition the ramps would also benefit from some TLC. Orders have been sent out to contractors and, subject to reasonable weather conditions, the work is expected to commence shortly. With regard to the proposed all weather ball court, we are now waiting to see if planning permission will be granted by the Borough Council. With a little luck we will have some good news just in time for Christmas, enabling the facility to be installed near to the Band Hut in time for spring / early summer.

Councillors attended this year's Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, where a wreath was laid on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Carol Concert will take place on the Village Green on Wed 18th December, starting at 6:30pm, with music provided by members of Eccleston Brass Band - please do join us for some early Christmas cheer. With a little luck it will be warmer than the cold snap we had to endure through the second half of November.

Finally on behalf of all the members of the Parish Council I would like to wish a very happy Christmas to all of our residents.

Mark Frost

Frozen Pipes can ruin your Christmas

United Utilities has launched new campaign to help homeowners this winter. New research from UU has revealed that fixing damage caused by frozen household pipes that have burst, has cost North West homeowners around £578 million. The average repair bill of an individual incident is an estimated £525, but it's a problem that is easily avoided.

Although not responsible for water pipes within domestic properties, UU is keen to help homeowners avoid any problems this winter and the Winter Wise campaign is designed to advise people of some simple steps they can take to avoid the financial impact (and general hassle) of frozen/burst household pipes this winter.

The three main steps are:

- Find out where your stop tap is and label it
- Use lagging to stop your pipes from freezing
- Keep your heating on low and time it to come on if you're going away
- Keep the phone number of a plumber handy

For more winter advice visit unitedutilities.com/winterwise

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ViP Shop

Villages in Partnership's new shop is now open at 265 The Green (previously the Bridal shop).

The shop is open Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 4.30pm.

Call the ViP shop on 01257 453134 for further information.

Carrington Centre Update

The Parish Council is in regular contact with Northern Trust and we have been advised they are very hopeful that they will meet the target of having the independent units open for trading by Christmas as envisaged.

Eccleston Library

The staff of Eccleston Library look forward to welcoming you all to the new library in The Carrington Centre.

We will be offering you a great new space where we will be able to hold events, as well as our usual activities like Baby Bounce and Rhyme, Storytime, book clubs, Knit and Natter and author visits.

There will be 6 PCs for public use, and we offer a simple course to get you started if you need it.

Our opening hours are as before:

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

Contact us by email

ecclestonlibrary@lancashire.gov.uk or by phone on 0845 053 0005 or visit the website at

lancashire.gov.uk/libraries

Eccleston Brass Band

Would you like to learn to play a brass instrument?

Are you free on Wednesdays?

Would you like to join a group of all ages and all abilities to learn and have fun together?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, why not come and take part in Eccleston Brass Band's Brass Training Programme?

For only £1.50 per rehearsal, you will be given top class tuition from a local top quality player and teacher. You will be given the loan of an instrument to use both in rehearsals and at home to do personal practice.

If you are interested, please either go to our website www.ecclestonbrass.co.uk and click on the Brass Training Programme page or contact Daniel Brooks on 01772 586721/ ecclestonband-webmaster@hotmail.com for more information.

Rehearsals are held at the Band Room, Drapers Avenue, Eccleston on Wednesdays from 4.00pm - 4.30pm.

Over 60s

Eccleston Over 60's meet every Tuesday at Bateman Hall, Sagar Street from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. We are also open to residents from the outlying villages.

Dominoes and Bingo are played on Tuesday with tea/coffee and biscuits served.

Annual membership is £10 and entitles members to subsidised trips, Christmas meal etc.

The club welcomes new members. Please do not be put off by the name - 55s and over can join.

New ideas always welcome.

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Email: neil@technohow.co.uk

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

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Lancashire Constabulary



In the run up to Christmas please make sure you do not leave presents on display in the car or in view from a window at home. Don't leave cars unattended on drives or roads whilst defrosting.

If you see anyone behaving suspiciously contact the Police on 101.

A safe and Happy Christmas and New Year to everyone from your Eccleston Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is alive and well in Eccleston. Whilst times have changed with cutbacks in Police funding, NHW continues to function with the massive support of our volunteers. Chorley and the surrounding villages are supported by the Chorley & District Neighbourhood Watch Association (CADNWA).

NHW Coordinators are volunteers providing the link between NHW/Police and the local Watch members. The Coordinator is the most important person in any group because it is his/her task to manage its activities - you do not need any particular qualifications, but you do need commitment.

The role of a coordinator can be outlined as follows:

Keeping members interested in Neighbourhood Watch

Informing members about local crime, but not becoming a vigilante

Liaising with Police

Organising local meetings, if and when necessary

Responding to Police requests for help.

If you are interested to know if there is an established Watch local to where you live, wish to know more about NHW or would like to set up a new Watch, please contact Lynn Wareing on 01257246384 or by email to lynn.wareing@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Free Pruning Course

Join Steve Edwards (Lancashire County Council) to learn to prune your apple and pear trees properly and gain the skills required to get better results from your own trees.

Arranged by the Parish Council, the course will be held on the Millennium Green, Red House Lane, on Sunday 26th January 2014, 10:00am start.

Bring your own secateurs and pruning saws, if you have good quality ones. We shall be on site in the afternoon, if you cannot make the morning. Numbers are limited.

Contact Steve to book a place on **07771 988903** or email to:

steve.edwards@lancashire.gov.uk

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