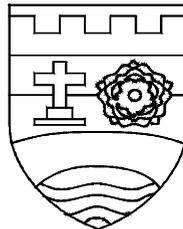


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



December 2019

Gold Again!

In this year's Britain in Bloom North West Competition, Croston in Bloom received a Gold Award in the Large Village Category and also took the award for the Best Large Village (see centre pages for more details). The Best Large Village Award means Croston will be representing the north west in next year's Britain in Bloom Competition.



The Railway Station received an 'Outstanding' Award - a testament to all the hard work put in by the Friends of Croston

Station.

As always, the Parish Council's thanks go to the members of Croston in Bloom, for their efforts tidying and planting around the village, all the residents and businesses who joined in and provided floral displays and kept the village clean and tidy and the Friends of Croston Station for their work.

**Croston Parish Council would like to wish everyone
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

Chairman's Message

At our September meeting we welcomed Robert Baker as our newest councillor.

Sadly the problem of nuisance vandalism is continuing. This weekend alone the flower barrel on Turflands was up ended with its contents strewn around, the children's bench which has sat outside Croston Pre-school for many years was thrown in the river and sustained irreparable damage and Croston Station's platform was left covered in litter and other detritus. All these mindless acts have caused anger and frustration to the volunteers who look after and care for them. We all need to be vigilant and report to the police any concerns we have.

On a happier note the work of the many volunteer groups in the village and its residents and businesses was acknowledged by the RHS judges in the Northwest in Bloom competition this year when Croston in Bloom was awarded a gold medal and won the Large Village Category. Croston will also be representing the Northwest in next year's National competition which will be great honour.

As I write the Volunteers from the Christmas Festivities group have almost completed the setting up of this year's Christmas lights around the village. The Parish Council has given a well-deserved grant of £500 towards the cost of providing this wonderful spectacle which is so enjoyed by all and we would like to thank the group for their work on the lights and the organisation of the Christmas Market.

With the festive season almost upon us, on behalf of the Parish Council may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2020!

Anne Peet



Exciting News

The Committee are about to submit a planning application to Chorley Borough Council for an extension along the rear of the Main Hall. The proposals include a cleaner's cupboard, a fully fitted access for all WC with a baby changing area, two store rooms for the user groups to use, a decking along the remainder of the Hall complete with new French Windows for access.

The Plans are on display in The Centre.

FUND RAISING HAS BEGUN !!!!

Computer Problems? Slow Broadband?

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* speed increase depends on home phone line set up and router configuration



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An infographic from the Met Office titled 'ARE YOU WEATHER READY?'. It features a winter scene with houses, a car, and people. Various callout boxes provide safety tips. The Met Office logo and HM Government logo are in the top left. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and a green car on a road.

Met Office | HM Government

ARE YOU WEATHER READY?

- Get your flu jab
- Check your heating – your home should be heated to at least 18 °C
- Check your pipes are insulated and know where your stop tap is
- Have basic supplies and documents in a bag in case a storm takes out power, water and phonelines
- Think about what may be impacted by strong winds or floods – in your garden or on your house
- Consider alternative commuting plans for severe weather and childcare plans if schools are closed
- Top up screen wash, check your tyres and think about winter kit for your car

www.metoffice.gov.uk/WeatherReady

Are your friends and neighbours Weather Ready? Share this checklist and see if you can help them to prepare #WeatherReady

Croston Remembers Project



Last year, to mark the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI, posts were placed outside the homes of the 36 Croston men who lost their lives. This year marks the 80th Anniversary of the start of WWII, in which Croston lost a further 12 men.

Small plaques (8 x 15cm) are to be made which, with the houseowner's consent, can be fixed to the house to provide a permanent reminder of the sacrifice of all 48 men.

The total cost will be in the region of approximately £1200. Anyone wishing to contribute, please make cheques payable to Croston Together, who will be dealing with the finance. If applicable, donations can be gift-aided.

Please contact Kath Almond for details on 01772 600368 / 07904 118361 kathalmond@btinternet.com or Anne Sandwell on 01772 601273.

Croston Remembers US Pilot Kenneth V Burnett

In addition to the Croston Remembers plaques, the village wishes to remember the US Pilot Kenneth V Burnett, aged 22, who was killed when his P-38 plane crashed down Meadow Lane in January 1943. The Parish Council has agreed for a plaque to be placed on the wall of our War Memorial in his memory.



Subject to Lancashire County Council's agreement, it is hoped that a stone could be placed in Meadow Lane, close to where the accident happened. The cost of this has been offered by a resident who was eight years old at the time, and remembers being taken to look where it happened.

Kath Almond has been in touch with Lieutenant Kenneth Burnett's relative in Kansas, and will keep her informed of developments.

Croston Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items provided by third party contributors.

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

Croston Christmas Gifts for 'Over 80's'

Many years ago the 'Meals on Wheels' ladies (Members of the WRVS) gave their clients a little gift and the idea grew.....

Anne Marsh was the organiser for many years and has passed on this good cause to us. (Liz Brown, Janet Maggs & Viki Taylor - The Committee.)

The little gifts are for older people and those who have serious disabilities, even if younger - just to make them aware that they are not forgotten by the village...As a 'bench mark' we try to include anyone who lives in Croston who is 80 years old or more.



In December 2018 we (a team of 15 helpers) delivered 103 gifts to people in their own homes

These gifts are **not** church funded, nor regularly funded by any other club or society. In 2017 'Croston Together' gave us some cash, in 2018 'Croston United Charities' helped. This year we held a Country Market at The Hillocks to raise funds. (Thanks to Sandie & Richard Guinness)

How can you help?

Make sure we know about the Crostoner in your family who is 80 years old or more.

Tell us about a neighbour – in case their family hasn't read this.

Ring 01772 603336 – leave a message.

The little Christmas gifts will not change people's lives, relieve poverty, nor promote world peace!

But they do bring a smile to people's faces.

This is just a little way to affirm worth and status in our community.



Croston Old School

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Email:crostonoldschool@tiscali.co.uk



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Lower Yarrow Flood Action Group

Croston Dam in use

The Croston Flood Risk Management Scheme, now referred to by the Environment Agency as the Croston Dam, was used “in anger” for the first time over the weekend 28/29 September. Following heavy rainfall the river level at Castle Bridge rose to the Dam’s first “trigger “point at around midday on the Saturday and the Dam continued in use, we believe, until the following Monday evening. Happily no homes were flooded and, as such, the Dam clearly operated successfully and achieved its stated objective.



The Croston Dam in operation. Water from the River Yarrow held on fields in Eccleston.

However, although no homes were flooded, - a great achievement in itself - we believe the river rose higher than the EA’s designers expected and as a result gardens and some out buildings including the Sports Club’s Tennis Pavilion were flooded.

And there was a good deal of disruption caused by flooded roads, particularly in Carvers Brow. (continued on facing page)

And further we believe that flooding was avoided in homes in parts of Grape Lane and Church Street because the Croston Pump, situated behind the Old School, worked effectively throughout, being assisted by a pump operated by the Fire Service at the most critical time on the Sunday afternoon. We are most grateful to the Fire Service for this help.

As a way of reducing this flooding in future flood events, we have asked the Environment Agency to consider lowering the trigger points at which the Dam is brought into use. The downside of such a change would be that more of the Dam's capacity to impound water would be used up but our view is that there is scope to do this as the Dam's maximum capacity was never remotely approached over this weekend.

For its part the EA has told us that they are in the process of reviewing all that happened over this weekend with the Dam's control software designers. So we wait patiently for the outcome of that review.

Kath Almond LYFAG



CROSTON
SPORTS CLUB

We have a busy few months leading up to Christmas, with a wide variety of events for all the family, including:

8th December - Christmas Fair from 1:00pm including Father Christmas

15th December - Kids Christmas Party 2:00 to 5:00pm

27th December - Christmas Quiz from 7:00pm

31st December - New Years Eve Party 7:00pm 'til late

For more information, please either pop into the club or give Lisa a call on 07989 401771

Finally, a huge thank you to Croston Together for paying to clean up the tennis courts after the flooding.

Tots Group

Looking for somewhere to go with your toddler/baby? Like-minded mums/grandparents/childminders meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:30am in the Community Centre, Castle Walks. It's a great way to make new friends - we provide toys for the children to play with in a safe environment, snacks and that essential 'brew' for adults!

CROSTON IN BLOOM



Croston in Bloom Chair Anne Peet and Secretary Karen Yates were delighted to receive the Best Large Village award at the RHS Northwest in Bloom Awards ceremony on 1 Nov in Southport.

We were also very honoured to have been asked to represent the Northwest in next year's RHS Britain in Bloom competition.



The previous day The Friends of Croston Station received an 'Outstanding' award in the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood' category.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who have given their time this year including those from the Croft Field Volunteers, Croston Together and Croston Knitwits.



Thanks must also go to all the residents and businesses who support our work with hanging baskets and other floral displays which make our village such a special place.

Britain in Bloom North West Judges Report 2019

We have now received the judges report - 92 points scored out of 100!

The judging is split into 3 categories with marks awarded in each section.

Horticulture: 36 points (max 40)

Judges commented on the additional planters they saw and noted that the "Doorstep Challenge" and the "Greening Croston" campaign which was supported by Croston Together had been very successful. They noted very good floral displays at pubs, businesses and Croston Sports Club. The Station was described as outstanding. Mr McGregor's Garden, all knitted and crocheted by the Croston Knitwits, received a special mention.



Environment: 29 points (max 30)

The judges wrote of the excellent Heritage Trail and the conservation work at Bishop Chester's wood and nature reserve.

They found the village "extremely clean, tidy and free from litter" and were very impressed by the water conservation system which has been used on the Recreation Park.



Community: 27 points (Max 30)

Another excellent score with the support from organisations businesses being noted. "Wonderful effort by all concerned"

The Judges concluded with "All the very best for 2020 - you are a credit to North West in Bloom - on behalf of the committee thank you for your tremendous entry. "



Work over the winter months

Our work does not stop!

We have planted 300 rockery Tulip bulbs in the planters on the river walls which have been also been planted with Bellis daisies.

The Parish Council's contractor has also planted bulbs and Primulas in all the other planters which the bloom group will now keep an eye on over the winter months.

We will also be continuing our work on the Out Lane car park where we will shortly be planting fruit trees to create a community orchard. Thanks go to Croston WI and Amanda Nicholson for sponsoring this project.



Interpretation Board

In the new year we will be starting work on putting together an interpretation board (similar to the photo) to be placed in a small garden area on the village green.



The board will contain information relating to Croston - its history, landmarks, charter etc. and will replace the current Charter and garden.

Up to date information and details of volunteer sessions can be found on our facebook

page: croston in bloom

We wish you all a happy festive season!

The Central Lancashire Authorities of Preston City, South Ribble and Chorley are undertaking a review of the development plan(s) for the area and are working towards the preparation of a Joint Local Plan for Central Lancashire. This will be a



single Planning document containing the Council's vision and objectives. It will set strategic and local development management policies and site allocations for future development across the three authorities. Once adopted, the Local Plan will guide the future growth and development in the Central Lancashire area and replace the Central Lancashire Core Strategy (adopted in 2012) and the Local Plans/Site Allocations and Development Management Policies of the 3 Central Lancashire Authorities (all adopted 2015).

We are now consulting on the first document to be prepared which will help to shape the policies developed in the Local Plan. The '**Central Lancashire Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation**' is in the form of an online survey, which asks you to give us your opinions on the key issues facing Central Lancashire and presents all of the submitted site options for the region (made-up both of sites received through previous Call for Sites consultations in 2018/19 and sites added by the local authorities of Preston, Chorley and South Ribble).

We're also launching Part 3 of our Call for Sites consultation to give residents and stakeholders the opportunity to submit more smaller housing sites of up to five dwellings as well employment sites (especially brownfield), both of which were few in number during the previous consultations and both of which are integral to ensuring a robust and future proof Local Plan for Central Lancashire, one that provides sufficient places for residents to work and live.

To get involved visit <https://centrallocalplan.citizenspace.com/> where you can review all consultation documents and complete our online survey.

For more information on the local plan and to make a call for sites submission visit <https://centrallocalplan.lancashire.gov.uk/>

A Drop in session, where Local Plan Team Officers will be on hand to answer questions and provide practical tips in using the online portal, will be held in The Old School Hall, Church Street between 4:00pm-7:00pm on Wednesday 18th December 2019.

The consultation ends Friday 14th February 2020.

recycle **clean** plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays at home



We are making it easier for you to recycle more plastic waste. Along with plastic bottles, which are already collected, residents will be able to put **clean plastic pots, tubs and trays** in your recycling bins at home.

These include yoghurt pots, margarine tubs, and meat, fruit and vegetable trays of any shape or colour, along with their lids. It is easy to see whether something is recyclable by checking the number stamped onto it. **Anything with a number 1, 2 or 5 within the recycling triangle should go into your blue recycling bin.**

The colour and shape of the container doesn't matter - the main thing is to check that it can be recycled, and give it a rinse. If the plastic still has food waste on it, or is covered in plastic film, it can cause a problem as in the recycling system and could end up not being recycled at all.

For details visit: chorley.gov.uk/Pages/AtoZ/Waste-and-recycling.aspx and lancashire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/lancashire-recycles/

Recyclable

Glass bottles and jars (wine, beer and sauce bottles, jam jars)

Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, plant pots

Cans drinks and food cans, aerosol cans, clean foil food trays and kitchen foil

All types of **paper** (inc envelopes and phone directories), **cardboard** (clean pizza boxes only)

Garden waste (grass cuttings, leaves, twigs, weeds, dead plants, fallen fruit, cut flowers and rabbit and guinea pig bedding)

Non recyclable

Mirrors or glazing, drinks glasses, crockery

Plastic bags/wrapping, plastic toys, polystyrene, hosepipes

Paint tins, crisp packets, coat hangers, wires

Cardboard with food residual, waxed cartons, hard back books, wallpaper

Soil and turf, stones and rubble, treated wood, household or garden chemicals, domestic waste

Remember to rinse all plastic, glass, cans and food containers



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Tel: 01772 601241
www.crostonpreschool.org

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Coming up to Christmas, we would advise you to keep all presents hidden and away from view. Do not advertise on social media that you are doing Christmas shopping or that your house is empty as you are 'checked in' to another location.



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

Make things as difficult as possible for Burglars. Keep all doors and windows locked, and this includes sheds and garages. Remove all tools from works vehicles overnight if possible. Never leave any valuables on show in your car.

We have also had calls regarding doorstep salespersons cold calling and offering work. These sales tactics can be very aggressive and target the vulnerable and elderly. Never agree to any business on the doorstep. If you have been targeted by cold callers, please report to Citizens Advice consumer direct on 03454 040506 or the police non emergency number 101.

Please continue to report any suspicious activity.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful, crime free festive season.

PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone

Croston Village Archive.....

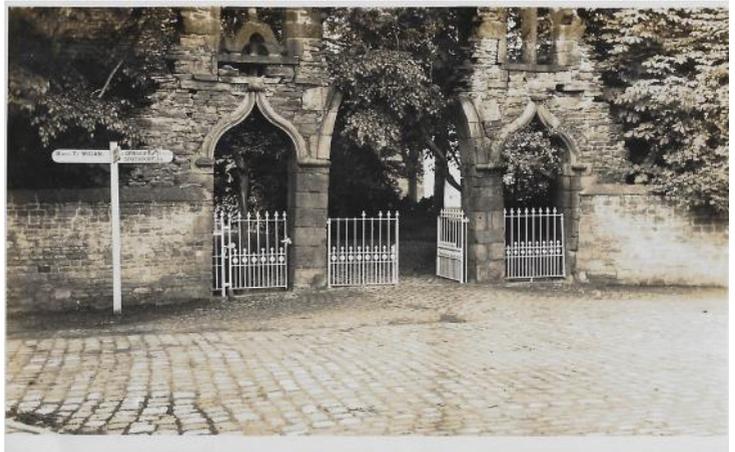
was started so that the history of our village would be saved for future generations.

Kath Almond, Anne Sandwell and John Forrest are in the process of indexing the many articles, photos, booklets

and memorabilia donated, so that eventually it will be open to the public.

In the meantime, if you have a query about the village please contact us on crostonarchive@hotmail.com

NB: we are looking for 2 second-hand swivel chairs.



Contact Details

Councillors	Tel
Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Kath Almond	600368
Robert Baker	07963 820393
Mark Cowley	07545 976151
Peter Fenemore	600572
Keith Iddon	07787 005663
Sam Myers	07966 674392
Bruno Paillusson	603427
Gill Stubbs	07905 452160

Alan Platt (Clerk to the Council)
can be contacted at:

**9 Ambleside Avenue
Euxton
Chorley
PR7 6NX**

Tel: 01257 234003

**e-mail:
crostonpc@btinternet.com**

**website:
www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk**

Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except August), commencing at 7:30pm, in The Old School, Church Street, Croston. Details of the meetings are placed in the notice boards prior to the meetings.

Residents are always welcome to attend and part of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non-emergency): 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

British Transport Police (Station and car park): 0800 405040

National Grid (gas leaks)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency Floodline
0845 988 1188

Flood Action Group
Kath Almond: 01772 600368,
Richard Guinness 01772 600957
Dave Massam 01772 601077

Lancashire County Council
(roads and pavements, including
street lighting): 0300 123 6780

County Councillor
Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151

Borough Councillors
John Dalton 01772 622597
Paul Sloan 01257 515151

Notice boards

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities and details of meetings etc. The notice boards are located on the Village Green, outside McColls and by the Surgery on Brookfield.

Local non-for-profit organisations wishing to include A4 sized posters to publicise events etc should contact the Clerk.