Local Events

Unfortunately, due to a disappointing response from local groups and organisations to take part with stalls or other fund raising activities, coupled with concerns regarding the ground conditions, the Family Fun Day the Activities Committee had hoped to stage in August was reluctantly cancelled.

The next events the Committee has planned are

**TIM CHU AND PETE J FRAMPTON**

Live Acoustic Guitar and Voice
Classic Blues, Country, Rock and more
St Agnes Church Hall: Friday 21 October
8:00pm (doors open 19.30)
Price: £10.00
Licensed bar
Limited number of seats
Tickets available from Eccleston Post Office (Cash only)

followed by

**Lancashire Night**
(a celebration of all things Lancashire)
7:30pm, at Bateman Hall on Saturday 26 November

Tackler’s Tales (Sid Calderbank and Mark Dowding)
supported by local clog dancer Alex Fisher and fiddler Joy Hunter

Local songs, humour, and dialect poems with a Lancashire flavour. Traditional food and drink, including hotpot, black puddings, apple pie and Chorley Cakes, will be served, together with Lancashire ales and other refreshments available from a licensed bar.

Tickets £10.00 each (paid in advance) or £12.50 on the door, including food. For details call 01257 234003 or email ecclestonpc@btinternet.com

Youth Club

The Parish Council has applied to Lancashire County Council to take over the running of the Young People’s Centre building and a final decision on the future of the building is expected in October.

The intention is to retain the building as a community facility with the youth club continuing, run on a volunteer basis, to provide a much needed facility for our young residents.

If you would be interested in volunteering to assist with the youth club, please contact any of the Councillors or the Clerk (details to the left).

Langton Close Play Area

The Parish Council is working with Chorley Council to improve the small children’s play area on Langton Close.

Chorley Council is to carry out a full refurbishment of the play area and, following this, the Parish Council will adopt the area and look after it in the future.
Chairman’s Report

I’d like to take the opportunity to thank the outgoing chair, Mark Frost for his hard work and contribution to the council whilst in the post. I have been chair since April but a councillor for almost 3 years and supported Mark, as Vice Chair. I have been a resident in the village for over ten years and joined the council because I want to support the community in having their voice heard. Another new member to the council this year, was Craig Mayor, so we are now at full complement with regards to councillors.

As always we extend an invitation to residents to join our Council meetings. You may have a concern that you would like to raise, a view you wish to express regarding a current issue, or indeed just want to hear about current Council matters.

Eccleston Council has submitted an expression of interest in taking over the Young People’s Centre building, as we feel it is a valuable asset within our community and it plays an important role in the life of the village and the wellbeing of many residents, in particular, the young people of the village. We will keep you updated as to how this progresses.

Residents continue to voice concerns with the suitability of a housing development on the plot of land bordering the Hawthorns and Tinklers Lane, with particular concern regarding the safety of the proposed entrance onto Tinklers Lane. We have submitted our concerns to the Borough Council and the Planning Inspector. If this is a matter of concern to you, please let the Parish Council know, either by contacting a Councillor or the Clerk.

It is good to see that work has now commenced on the sight of The Windmill public house, for a new housing development. This should help improve the aspect of the village to visitors and commuters entering the village from the Heskin side.

It is unfortunate that the Fun Day was not able to go ahead this summer. We do have a Village Activities Committee within the Council, who are always working on a range of events for the village and we will keep you updated as and when they are confirmed.

Kate Brown

Flooding

The heavy rain and raised river levels at the end of August provided a reminder of the need for the work being carried out to alleviate problems of flooding, particularly as we approach Autumn and Winter.

The Croston Flood Risk Management Scheme which will, hopefully, help with problems around Eccleston Bridge and St Mary’s Church, is due to be fully operational shortly, with work on the landscaping continuing over the winter. This will not affect the operation of the completed scheme.

It’s important to stress that even with the flood defences, there will always be a risk of flooding and the Parish Council has been involved in discussions with Chorley Council to see what measures can be put in place locally to help residents. Further information will be provided when it becomes available.

You can find advice about preparing for a flood, what to do during a flood and dealing with the effects of flooding from the Environment Agency’s Floodline on 0845 988 1188 or visit www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

For flooding from sewers or burst water mains contact United Utilities on 0845 746 2200

For flooding from highway drainage, surface water, groundwater or watercourses contact Lancashire County Council on 0300 123 6780.

LCC is working hard to empty gullies and repair damage to the highway gully system caused by the severe weather of last Winter. At the end of July LCC reported around 40,000 priority gullies or 40% of the annual target had been emptied.
Goodbye Malcolm!

We’ll shortly be saying “goodbye” to Village Lengthsman, Malcolm Hayes, who is to retire at the end of the month.

Malcolm has been with us since September 2008, working in all weathers to keep the pavements litter free.

On hearing the news, local resident Verner Kristensen organised a collection for Malcolm as a thankyou for keeping the streets clean over the years and many residents and local businesses contributed.

Malcolm would like to thank all those who contributed to the collection.

The Parish Council would like to thank Malcolm for his hard work over the years and offer its best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Remembrance Day

This year’s Service of Remembrance will take place at 10.00am on Sunday 13 November at St Mary’s Parish Church.

As in previous years, the Parade will depart from Eccleston Primary School, Doctors Lane at 9.30am for the Service of Remembrance, followed by the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial.

Council Information

The Parish Council is keen to improve its engagement with residents and is looking into a complete revamp of the website and other means of communication.

Presently, details of parish council meetings are displayed on the notice boards next to the Library in the Carrington Centre, and on the path by the Changing Rooms, off Drapers Avenue.

If you would like to receive a pdf version of meeting agendas and papers by email prior to the meetings please provide your email address to ecclestonpc@btinternet.com

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There have been recent burglaries in the local areas, whereby thieves have targeted sheds to steal expensive cycles. They have removed the screws from the hinges, thus opening the doors without damaging any locks. Thousands of pounds worth of bikes have been stolen.

We would suggest all hinge screws are replaced with tamper proof screws and Hasp hinges.

During the hot weather, can we ask parents to tell children of the dangers of swimming in Quarries and Lakes. We have received a large number of complaints that youths are doing this, and endangering their lives.

Also notable is the rise in trespassing by youths at the old Camelot site in Charnock Richard. This site is particularly dangerous, as youths are climbing on derelict, dangerous buildings and rides. Please remind your children to stay away from there.

We also remind everyone to lock all doors and windows when you leave home, as your insurance is invalid if burglars gain entry through an open window or unlocked door.

PCS0 7932 Maria Fetherstone

Walking Football

Fancy keeping fit, showing the youngsters a thing or two, meeting other grumpy men/women and finding parts of your body that you never knew you had? If so why not join in a game of Walking football here in Eccleston?

Interested and over 55? - then contact the Clerk leaving your name, address, phone number(s) and e mail, we will back to you and organise a get together. Obviously numbers are important and at least 8 people are needed for this to kick off.

Please contact the Clerk for details.

Les Armstrong

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PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone