



**CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL**

# **NEWSLETTER**

[www.cronton.org](http://www.cronton.org)



**SPRING 2017**

## **NEW VILLAGE WELCOME SIGNS**

Have you noticed the four new **"Welcome to CRONTON"** signs that have been installed at the entrances to Cronton at

- Chapel Lane adjacent to the Parklands Club
- At the A5080 end of Tue Lane
- By the M62 motorway bridge in Hall Lane
- On Cronton Road just past the Queensbury Way traffic island.

The purpose of the signs is to both provide a pleasant welcome to the village and also improve our identity for visiting services who sometimes get confused due to our border location.



The cost of the signs was wholly funded by a private donation a gesture that we are sincerely appreciative of.

## **Knowsley draft Halsnead Masterplan**

*Cllr Shaun Cooper*

**Y**ou may be aware of the government's decision to support the creation and development of a garden village in the Whiston area.

The chosen site was formally the Halsnead Park Estate and is 174ha in size and is located on the eastern side of the Tarbock Island Interchange. The site also includes land south of the M62, predominantly comprising the remnants of former Cronton Colliery. This part of the site is roughly triangular in shape with the M62 marking its northern boundary, the A5080 (Cronton Road) to the south and Fox's Bank Lane to the east.

The plan sets a target of 8,100 new dwellings in the period 2010-028 including a target of 25% affordable housing. Also included in the plan is the provision of a new primary school.

The land to the south of the M62 will provide a minimum of 22.5ha employment development with vehicular access from Cronton Road.

The former Cronton Colliery will become a country park. The former mineral railway line will become a multi-user equestrian footpath and cycle link over the motorway.

The Parish Council believe that this development will ease any pressure for housing development in the Cronton Village area and will provide employment opportunities.

The Parish Council has formally supported the proposals during the consultation period.

Further details can be found at :

<https://halsnead.knowsley.gov.uk/Whiston>

## **DOG FOULING**

There has been a marked increase in dog fouling in the village, both on the pavements and the Pasture. This can be extremely dangerous to children should they come into contact with it.



While most dog owners are responsible and clean up after their pets, this is not always the case. There is a fine for anyone letting their dog foul, it will be enforced.

*Cllr John Foran*

## **HAVE YOUR SAY**

**Knowsley Consultation on Proposed New Dog Control Measure until 5pm on Thursday 18 May 2017. See article at:**

<http://www.knowsleynews.co.uk/dog-control-proposals/>

# St Helens Local Plan Preferred Options 2018/2033

As part of the above plan St Helens Council is proposing to release a number of parcels of land from the Green Belt.

Land to the south of the Manor Farm Public House extending to the M62 and west to Hall Lane will be released for housing development. The draft proposals recognise the difficult highway issues this would create. It is the Parish Council view that such development would have a considerable negative impact on Cronton Village with an overwhelming increase in traffic using Hall Lane from Mill Lane in Rainhill. For this reason the Parish Council has objected to the proposal.

Further details can be found at: <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplan>

*Cllr Shaun Cooper*



## Village Clean-up Day

**O**n Friday 3rd March a small but hardy group of villagers despite the inclement weather took to the streets with their litter pickers and bags to give Cronton a Spring Clean.

The main focus of attention was on Sandy Lane, Cronton Road, Tue Lane, Penny Lane, the Pasture and the verge opposite the church in Hall Lane that is a persistent litter trap.

The result was that 40 bags of litter and rubbish was removed from the village and our thanks go to both Halton and Knowsley councils for assisting in disposing of the bags.

The next clean up day will be in November and we will keep you posted.

*Cllr Dave Rostance*



## The Community Centre continues to offer a variety of activities:

*Chris Birtwistle*



**The outdoor bowls season is due to start in the middle of April, in the meantime indoor bowls continue on Monday and Wednesday afternoon 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm.**

**Theatre Drama groups from 3 years - 17 years operate on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.**

**Baby and Toddler Tuesday morning 9.00 am - 12 noon.**

**Lace making Tuesday afternoon 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm**

**Bums and Tums Wednesday 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm.**

**Pilates Thursday 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm.**

**Weigh watchers - Sunday morning 9.00 am - 11.30 am.**

**A NEW SESSION IS NOW BEING OFFERED ON A THURSDAY AFTERNOON - this consists of tea/coffee biscuit, a variety of games, cards, dominoes, beetle drive OR just a sit and natter. 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm, so come along a perhaps meet and make new friends.**

## CRAFT GROUP

**Wednesday morning  
10.00 am - 12 noon**

In the Parish Council Office  
(next to the newsagents)

You can bring along your knitting, embroidery, crocheting etc or if you would like to learn a new craft, there are willing hands to help you.



precept 2017/18	2016/17		2017/18
	original budget	Forecast outturn	Forecast
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	£	£	£
Common investment income	47	47	47
Bank interest	10	9	10
Office rentals	0	0	0
VAT refund	976	976	534
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>591</b>

#### PAYMENTS

Core			
Council Insurance	1,355	1,186	1,364
Non domestic rate	475	0	475
Clerk's salary SCP25	8,680	8,766	8,853
NI Employer's contribution	120	90	120
Clerk's Pension Employer's contribution	2,301	2,322	2,346
Postage	200	137	200
Stationery	252	128	252
Photocopying (toner, newsletters)	370	191	400
Audit (External + internal)	450	330	450
Clerks expenses	100	100	100
Electricity + extra meetings, police on duty, agency sessions and local groups	1,000	250	1,000
Water Rates	300	177	250
Telephone (Broadband/tel package)	350	253	350
Website	175	121	175
Elections	600	0	600
Chairman's allowance	200	200	200
Councillors Expenses	150	0	150
Publicity & Advertising	100	0	100
Affiliations	400	275	350
Maintenance			
Premises (Council - Interior & Exterior)	550	695	600
The Pasture ground maintenance	6,000	3,810	6,000
Non-Core			
Members & Clerk's training	250	20	250
Donations	950	825	950
Remembrance Day	52	43	52
Christmas	500	328	500
Hall hiring	150	0	150
Office cleaning	377	444	444
Housekeeping	100	9	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,507</b>	<b>20,700</b>	<b>26,731</b>
<b>Net payments</b>	<b>25,474</b>	<b>19,668</b>	<b>26,140</b>

#### RESERVES

Reserve for ear-marked items	6,244	324	6,479
General Reserve	3,729	2,948	1,813
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,973</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>8,292</b>

<b>Forecast net payments 2017/18</b>	£26,140
Reserve	£8,292
<b>Total revenue resources required</b>	£34,432
Less: estimated starting balance 2017/18	-£12,527
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant	-£653
<b>Precept required 2017/18</b>	<b>£21,252</b>

## Precept 2017/2018

It is pleasing to report that the precept (the amount of money you pay to the Parish Council) will remain unchanged from last year. It has been decided to use some reserves to meet expenditure over the next year. The council has committed considerable expenditure to the drainage scheme at the pasture and will continue to pay for annual maintenance of the site. Money has also been set aside to improve the area around the base of the war memorial with work starting in the near future. There will be no change to the way in which grants are allocated and the recently decorated council office will still be available for use by village community groups free of charge.



*Cllr Shaun Cooper, Vice-Chair*

## GRANT APPLICATIONS

Voluntary groups in Cronton are invited to apply for grants from the Parish Council. Please note that the Council has no power to make grant to a single individual.

Grant Policy and application form are obtainable from the Parish Council or download them from [www.cronton.org](http://www.cronton.org)

Closing date : 7 June 2017



## CRONTON GALA 2017

10th Anniversary

A cause for celebration

The 10th Cronton Gala is planned for **Saturday 17th June on The Pasture in Hall Lane**. This year the organising committee are strengthened by some new volunteers including some very enthusiastic ladies from Widnes WI and also representatives of Cronton 6th Form College.

We will have a **1940's theme** and all participants will be encouraged to enter into the spirit and dress accordingly. There will be lots of red, white and blue in true patriotic tradition.



Last year we introduced an entry fee to the Gala of just £1 for adults (children are free), this was vital to ensure that we could continue with the Gala because we do not now benefit from the grants that were previously available to us. No one objected to the charge and it did make a big difference to the finances so we will charge the same again this year, good value for a great family treat.



This year we are again promoting the **Scarecrow Competition**. We would like as many villagers as possible to make a scarecrow and exhibit it in front of your house during the week leading up to the Gala. More

information on this by a leaflet through everyone's door nearer the time.

In support of the Cronton Gala we have the **Spring Coffee Morning in the Parish Council Office 7 Hampton Drive from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 22nd April**. All villagers are welcome to drop in for tea, coffee, cakes and a catch up with friends and neighbours. There will be a grand raffle too.



If you would like to help with the Cronton Gala in any way at all, or maybe even join our happy band, then **please call Ian on 07770 395 599**, we meet regularly and very informally.

**Please support your local community activities whenever you can, good for you and good for the village.**

## Monday Morning Drop-In...Open Door

Unless it is a bank holiday we open the Parish Council office

Monday mornings – 9.00 until 12.00

Please call in

We offer tea or coffee, company and conversation. There is also a 'book exchange or borrow' for those who enjoy a good book. We recently received a set of book-shelves from Cronton Mission and St Luke's so we can browse the books more easily – and it looks nice too as you can see from this photo.



We see a regular group of people who drop in – but we would like to see more of you.



We also take donations for **FOODBANK** – everything is

gratefully received. A big thank you to our regular contributors.

**If you or anyone you know would like the Mission prayer group to pray for you or someone you know**



– please let us know

– a note through the Council office door or drop in and see Lesley on a Monday.

**You are also welcome on a Sunday morning in church – Cronton Primary School, Smithy Lane – 10.30 every Sunday except the 3<sup>rd</sup> in the month.**

Lesley Wright

### WARD COUNCILLORS

(Whiston and Cronton)

Terry Byron 0151 208 3281

Gillian Flatley 07713 818 795

Tony Newman 0151 292 4884

### Coming Council Meetings

At Cronton Parish Council Office, commencing at 7.00 pm

#### Monday 8 May 2017

Annual Parish Meeting  
Council Annual Meeting

#### Monday 22 May 2017

General Purposes & Environment Committee  
Finance and Policy Committee

#### Monday 19 June 2017

Council Meeting

#### Monday 3 July 2017

General Purposes & Environment Committee  
Finance and Policy Committee

#### Monday 31 July 2017

Council Meeting  
Finance and Policy Committee

### CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

7 Hampton Drive, Cronton, Knowsley, Merseyside WA8 5BZ

#### Chairman

Will Cook 0151 424 4612

#### Vice-Chairman

Shaun Cooper 0151 424 6006

#### Councillors

Denis Bray 0151 424 2908

John Foran 0151 424 5248

Pat Green 0151 424 5109

Ged McGann 0151 424 0770

Geoff Pentin 0151 423 0038

Dave Rostance 0151 424 4799

**Parish Clerk** — Vitti Osborne

**Answer Phone No. 0151 420 0235**

**email :**

council@cronton49.freemove.co.uk  
crontonparishcouncil10@gmail.com