

WINTER NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

Welcome to the winter edition of our Parish Council Newsletter. It's been a busy quarter with Remembrance Day, Halloween and Christmas Events taking place throughout the village.

We're looking forward now to spring, and you'll receive our next newsletter in May.

Happy Reading.

PLANNING UPDATE

The Parish Council would like to sincerely thank residents who came together to campaign alongside us against the proposed road junction at Chapel Lane. This collective effort shows the strength of our community. Whilst this is a welcome outcome, we must remain aware that an appeal may still be submitted, and staying engaged will be important.

The proposed development off Cronton Road has now been submitted to the planning authority. Following the excellent turnout at the recent public meeting, the parish council remains committed to working with residents to protect our green belt land.

FACEBOOK

Do you follow us on Facebook?

We'd really love Parish Residents to join the Parish Council Facebook group, where we share updates, local news, meeting information and important community announcements. It's the easiest way to stay informed and get involved in what's happening in the parish.

Click here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2867443070213073> Or search Cronton Parish Council on Facebook.



ADVERTISE HERE!

We are seeking out **local businesses** who'd like to **advertise** in this newsletter, reaching approximately 550 homes as well as the businesses within Cronton.

Pricing will be:

- Full page: £100
- Half page: £50
- Quarter page: £25

Please contact: clerk@crontonparishcouncil.gov.uk to express interest.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Please come along to our Parish Council meetings, 7pm at the Council Office on Monday 9th March, Monday 13th April, Monday 11th May and Monday 8th June

CLERK@CRONTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK
WWW.CRONTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

The Parish Council has recently adopted six new working groups to help focus on key areas of village life and improve how local priorities are developed and delivered.

Working groups are small teams of parish councillors who meet as needed to explore ideas, review issues, and make recommendations to the full council. The six groups cover the following areas:

- Budget
- Planning
- Community Events
- Compliance/Policy/Website
- Environmental
- Neighbourhood development plan

Importantly, these groups also provide an opportunity for residents to get involved. From time to time, working groups may invite volunteers or residents to support their work by sharing ideas, local knowledge or specific skills.

You don't need to be a councillor, just have an interest in helping our village to thrive. Details of opportunities to get involved will be shared through parish notices and future newsletters.

Your village needs you - working together, we can make a difference

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Cronton Parish Council are currently drafting a **Neighbourhood Development Plan**, which will set out our vision for the village for the next decade. To do this correctly, we will need the help and guidance of the residents.

Within the next few weeks a leaflet will be dropping through your letterbox outlining what needs to be done and how you can help.

Please take time to read it, get involved and shape the future of the village.

FIX MY STREET

Did you know that you can use the **Fix My Street App** to report any local problems such as pot holes, fly tipping, vandalism or broken paving. You can download it to report any issues round the village and you can also view areas where other reports have been made.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CRONTON COMMUNITY CENTRE?

Answer - lots & it's great!

In addition to the current regular weekly activities of Pilates, Yoga, Karate, Ballroom, NDTs (Dancing & Theatre school), Salsa, History of Cronton, Cake Decorating & Flower Arranging, we've added a few new ones:

Sundays

- Walking Football for anyone over 50. Stay active - meet others - enjoy the game. 10am - 11am. Starts 15th February. First session free then £5 per session - contact Simon on 0780383344 or simonboyd481@gmail.com.

Monday 23rd Feb / Monday 27th April / Friday 29th May

- **Marvellous Menopause** - Connect, chat & find support. 7:30pm-9:30pm. Free to attend - contact Alison on 07988136315

Tuesdays

- **Calm & Connected** - Boosting women's self confidence. 9:30am-11:30am, every 6 weeks starting 24th February - Free to attend - contact Alison on 07988136315.

Thursdays

- **Soul Wellness** - Mindful meditation with sound bathing. 3pm-4pm. £8 per session. Bring own mat, blanket and pillow - contact Hayley on 07974131265

Fridays

- **Stroke Support Group** - provides physical & emotional support for both stroke survivors and carers via Virtual Reality Headset technology & healthcare professionals. 12:15-2:15pm every 4 weeks, starting 13th February. £4 per session - contact Carl on 07806680842.

And finally don't forget every Wednesday...

- **Our Community Cafe** - Everyone welcome. Hot drinks, toast/teacakes and good company. 10am-12pm. £2 donation.

Upcoming Events (& there'll be more):

Sunday 22nd March: Table sale! Book a table or come along to grab a bargain. Refreshments available 10am-2pm.

April (date to be confirmed) - Bingo Night.

Sunday 24th May: LIVE Music Event.

June (date to be confirmed) - Afternoon Tea.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/830156651990736>

Available to hire - for birthdays parties & celebrations. We've already received a number of booking for children's birthday parties.

Any queries about the activities, hiring or to become a member - contact Karen via email klmuk1966@yahoo.com or at the Community Centre on Wednesday mornings.

We look forward to seeing you!

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Our Remembrance Sunday commemoration took place on the 9th of November, and despite the weather on the day, there was again an excellent number of people in attendance. The ceremony started at 10.45, with readings from members of the local clergy and church representatives and was followed by the two-minute silence and a faultless rendition of the last-post and reveille.

20 wreaths were laid by various community groups and individual family members, commencing with Cronton Parish Council and ending with representatives from Merseyside Police.

After the Remembrance service, there was a short church service at the Methodist Chapel. On display in the chapel were histories of those commemorated on our war memorial.

The Dandelion Tavern, The Unicorn Inn and the Community Centre all hosted people following the service.

TREE LIGHTING AND CAROL SERVICE

Tuesday 9th December saw the lighting of the village Christmas tree and the annual Carol service at Holy Family Church. Despite the bad weather, there was a good number of people to see the winners of the Christmas drawing competition, Frankie McCafferty from Holy Family school and Jessica Dolan from Cronton CofE school, switch on the Christmas tree lights.

The Ecumenical Carol service at Holy Family church was again standing room only. In attendance were the Mayor and Mayoress of Knowsley and Chair of Cronton Parish Council. Congratulations should go to the heads and staff of both schools, together with the children for a wonderful service.

A collection was taken at the service, and £400 was raised for this year's charity, nominated by Father Michael of Holy Family, which is the Widnes Foodbank.

LIVING WELL BUS

The Living Well Bus will be back in the village on **Friday 20th March 10.30am -12.30pm**. Posters will be in the Parish Council office window nearer the time and it will also be advertised on our Facebook group - Cronton Parish Council.

CRONTON STOCKS AND STARS MUSIC FESTIVAL

During November, Cronton hosted its own mini-music festival - 'Cronton Stocks and Stars', a name chosen to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of our village, and because it was enabled with funding obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The festival was organised by the Cronton Gala & Events Team, with help from the Culture Knowsley team, and ran alongside the Knowsley Fringe Music Festival.

Performances were held at each of our village venues. The Dandelion Tavern hosted The McKnight Brothers, Kessler - 80's tribute band performed at the Unicorn, followed by The League of Gentlemen at Holy Family Social Club.

The festival concluded with an afternoon at the Community Centre, the new bar was renovated just in time and unveiled on the day. Around 100 people attended to see performances from Little Words, Greg Oldfield and The Chimps.

All of the events featured local artists and were very well attended, bringing people from the community together to socialise and enjoy live music.



COUNCILLOR AWARDS

At our November meeting we awarded 3 recently retired Councillors; **John Foran, David Thomas and Dr Will Cook** (former Chair), with a plaque to thank them for their long service to the Parish Council and community. Between them they contributed many years of voluntary work and helped to maintain and improve various aspects of the village.



HELP PRESERVE OUR VILLAGE HISTORY

Residents are invited to help form a **Village History Group**, bringing together local knowledge, memories, and interest in preserving Cronton's heritage.

The group's first task will be to complete the work already undertaken on the **Cronton War Memorial booklet**, ensuring this important piece of village history is finalised and preserved for future generations.

You don't need to be an expert - just an interest in local history and a willingness to help. If you would like to be involved or find out more, please contact the Parish Clerk or speak to a Parish Councillor.

Help us tell Cronton's story.



MEET OUR DEDICATED TEAM: NEW COUNCILLORS



COLIN THISTLEWOOD

I have lived on the edge of Cronton for 28 years now and spend a lot of my time in the village either walking my dogs, cycling or meeting with my many friends from the village.

I see this appointment as an opportunity to give some of my time and experience towards making a meaningful impact and help shape a community that reflects the values and needs of its residents.



LYNNE HEYWOOD

I am very pleased to be a Cronton Parish councillor again. As a prolific carer for our planet and Cronton village. I left the Parish council many years ago to expand my knowledge surrounding the environment, our planet and Cronton. I will fully continue to support the people of the village. Young, elderly with a hope that the youth develop a deeper understanding of the environment they live in.

I am a staunch advocate of the green belt I have lived in Cronton for 50 years and I strongly believe in Cronton being an integral part of the Knowsley community.