



**Minutes of Credition Annual Town Meeting held on Wednesday, 29th March 2017,
at 7.00 pm, in the Boniface Centre, Church Lane, Credition**

Present: Credition Town Councillors Mr F Letch (Chairman), Mrs J Harris, Mr M Szabo, Mr A Wyer, Mr R Wright and Mr N Way
Electors of the Parish and Members of the Public

In Attendance: Mrs C Dalley, Town Clerk
Mrs E Anderson, Assistant Clerk

1. Welcomes and Introductions

The Mayor and Chairman of Credition Town Council, Councillor Frank Letch, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 9th March 2016, were confirmed as a correct record and were duly signed by Councillor Letch.

3. To receive the following reports:

- a) Chairman/Mayor Credition Town Council
Councillor Letch presented a report which is attached as Appendix One.
- b) Mid Devon District Council Ward Members
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Councillor John Downes, Mid Devon District Councillor, this is attached as Appendix Two.
- c) Devon County Council Ward Member
Councillor Nick Way provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Three.
- d) Town Council Members and Representatives

Councillor Joyce Harris provided a report on behalf of the Administration & Personnel Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Andi Wyer provided a report on behalf of the Policy & Forward Planning Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Joyce Harris provided a report on behalf of the Property & Allotments Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Joyce Harris provided a report on behalf of the Grants Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Frank Letch provided a report on behalf of the Christmas in Credition Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Frank Letch provided a report on behalf of the Credition Open Space Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Frank Letch provided a report on behalf of the Parish Paths Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Mike Szabo provided a report on behalf of the Floral Crediton Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

- e) Crediton Neighbourhood Plan
Councillor Andi Wyer provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Five.
- f) Crediton Police
The Town Clerk read a report provided by PSCO Lisa Crocker, this is attached as Appendix Six.
- g) 1st Crediton Scout Group
Debbie Richards provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Seven.
- h) Age Concern Crediton
John Musty provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Eight.
- i) Sustainable Crediton
Charles Mossman provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Nine.
- j) Crediton Operatic & Dramatic Society
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Carol Stoye, this is attached as Appendix Ten.
- k) Crediton Town Team
Rosemary Stephenson & Kate Lock provided a presentation, this is attached as Appendix Eleven.
- l) Church Housing Action Team
Ruth Morley provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twelve.
- m) Friends of Crediton Library
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Judith Ezard, this is attached as Appendix Thirteen.
- n) Newcombes Meadow Community Group
Councillor Andi Wyer provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Fourteen.
- o) Crediton Air Cadets
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Flt Lt C Myers, this is attached as Appendix Fifteen.
- p) Crediton Arts Centre
Peter Hamilton provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Sixteen.
- q) QE Academy
Rupert Poole provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Seventeen.
- r) Boniface Link
Judith Tucker provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Eighteen.
- s) Crediton & District Access Group
John Higgs provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Nineteen.
- t) Crediton Area History & Museum Society
David Nation provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty.

- u) Boniface Trail Group
Bob Lunnon provided a presentation, this is attached as Appendix Twenty One.
- v) Crediton Twinning Association
Jenni Pitts provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty Two.
- w) Crediton & District Swimming Club
Peter Brewer provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty Three.

4. Public Forum - Open Questions from Electors

One member of the public asked Councillor Letch why Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) does not have a 5 year supply of housing land. Councillor Letch explained that MDDC are in the process of identifying the land. He advised the member of the public that MDDC planning officers would be better placed to answer this question.

5. Close

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45 pm

Signed: Date:.....
(Councillor F Letch)

Chairman's Annual Report 2016-2017

This municipal year has been a great success crowned by the award of Quality Council, which is a wonderful achievement. It is the result of realistic ambition, hard work from our office staff and a commitment to engage with the community by Councillors.

The Town Council has a strong strategic action plan with clear focus on its aims and objectives. These are based on the needs of the community and supplying the services which District and County are no longer providing such as keeping the public toilets open, weed control on the High Street, highway grass verge cutting, youth provision and taking on three new play areas.

The Town Council has an updated and up-to-the-minute website with many useful links. We also have an office which is open every day between the hours of 10.00 am and 2.00 pm.

The Council has started a Keep Crediton Clean Campaign which has led to greater community involvement, with litter picking from groups such as Cubs, Scouts and Brownies. We also have delegated powers from Devon County Council to manage flyposting and signage.

We now have a large stock of free dog poo bags which are freely available at the Council Offices and distributed when I hold my Mayor's Surgeries on the Town Square.

We continue to support the youth work in Crediton which was so hard-hit by the decision of Devon County Council to close the youth centre. We fund a new detached youth work project and also contribute towards the Youth Café.

The Town's Neighbourhood Plan is still progressing, although I would be the first to admit that it is a large challenge which is taking a long time to realise.

There have been several community events in the town with the whole community working together and enjoying such things as our Christmas in Crediton parade and lights switch-on, the beacon lighting ceremony, St Boniface's day, the Food Festival, the Boules Tournament on the Square and Shakespeare in the Square.

Floral Crediton was, again, a great success with increased entries to the garden competition and the It's Your Neighbourhood competition organised by Britain in Bloom. Here the Town gained a Silver Gilt Award and Best New Entry Award. Peoples Park also received a Pride in Park award.

With a view to helping the community towards a more healthy lifestyle we have launched the Redvers Ramble, which encourages people to walk along the town's footpaths.

We are also working with community groups and organisations to improve and look after the town. Community Payback has been carrying out work around the town including the station car park, the steps and footpath leading to Barnfield and the footpaths on the Industrial Estate.

The Town Council has also concentrated on the Wildlife Area in Peoples Park and it is pleasing to report that Sunflowers Day Nursery is looking after the bird feeders, Pippins Pre-School helped with planting and volunteers are helping to plant and keep the area clean and tidy. The Council has also produced a wildlife hunt to encourage youngsters to get out in the park and explore this wonderful natural environment.

It has been a busy year for us and our town crier whose role is important in celebrating and rejoicing in the traditions within the modern-day world. I feel privileged to be the Mayor of Crediton and Chairman of the Town Council.

SUMMARY ON ACTIVITIES OF ECONOMY POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Townscape Heritage Initiative for Cullompton

This would have provided over £1m of investment into Cullompton's historic built environment and help boost the local economy. Regrettably, the initial bid was not successful but a further bid will be submitted in due course.

Tiverton Town Centre Action Plan / Market Strategy

A new experienced market Manager was recruited early in 2016. He is raising the profile of the market and providing monthly reports on events and footfall etc. A Strategy and Action Plan for both Tiverton Town Centre and the market was presented at the January meeting. The Economy PDG will continue to monitor the progress of this action plan.

Rural issues / small business

Mid Devon have also secured £1.2m under the LEADER programme. A number of small businesses have already applied for support.

Mills and Hydro-Power Project

A project to bring Mid Devon mills back into use as hydro generating systems. The project is likely to be a pan-Europe project for ourselves (representing the UK) working with Germany and France to share knowledge and best practice.

Tourism

Tourism links with town and rural issues. A tourism survey has been commissioned and reported on. We recommended to the Cabinet that the Plan should be approved for consultation but expressed concern regarding the small sample of people interviewed.

EHOD Exeter Heart of Devon Development Strategy

Mid Devon has been working with East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge to develop a joint economic strategy. More details will emerge in the coming months.

Broadband

Fast Broadband is vitally important to the Mid Devon district, both for the existing businesses as well as encouraging new business into the area. It has been discussed at a number of meetings throughout the year and will be high on the agenda for next year.

County Councillor Report – Town meeting 2017

My duties as County Councillor for our area involve me dealing with a wide variety of issues and projects. I represent the area on various committees including: Place Scrutiny, Procedures, Mid Devon Highways & Traffic Orders, The Devon & Exeter Rail Working Group and the Fire & Rescue Authority. I attend many parish council & community groups meetings and deal with dozens of individual resident's casework issues every month.

Below some of the issues I have been dealing with:

Central government has again cut its grants to local government. Adult and social care is under particular pressure. Although more funding for these services has recently been announced by government this is over a three year period and there will still be a funding gap in 2020 unless more money is found. Our schools, already paid less than the national average, are badly affected under the government's 'fairer funding' policy, with many of our local schools including Queen Elizabeths losing out. Quite rightly there is great concern from parents and schools as this could lead to redundancies and larger class sizes

From next month South West Highways will cease to be DCC main contractor. Skanska, a Swedish company employing about 5,000 people in this country, will be taking over the maintenance contract awarded by the current administration at County Hall, Exeter. We have been told that most of the current SWH workforce will remain in place. Let's hope this new appointment leads to works done more effectively and efficiently.

Other councillors and I have been working with the schools to improve road safety. My council group fought hard and succeeded in stopping the threatened cuts to school crossing patrols earlier in the year, including the one at Haywards. We have been working with the Head Teacher and Governors at Landscore supporting their efforts to improve road safety and parking issues affecting residents outside the school. I facilitated a meeting between the school and Devon's road safety officers recently. The District Council has agreed to offer free parking permits at St Saviours Way car park at the beginning and end of the school day for parents prepared to walk their children to and from school. The school is working hard to find a school crossing patrol person.

Fewer cars are now parking at St Saviours Way car park due to the recent increase in charges by the District Council. This has led to an increased number of vehicles parking in surrounding side streets. We are working with the local Highway Officers and Town Council on this and other related parking issues.

Over many years we have seen big increases in numbers of passengers using the Tarka Line and improvements have been made at Crediton station and to the local rail infrastructure. Another positive step forward was the recently announcement by GWR of a new early morning service leaving for Exeter at 7.07am from January.

Air Quality Monitoring continues by the District Council. Average traffic growth figures show the link road being well used with an average of 5361 daily journeys in both directions recorded in 2016. Monitoring figures have recorded pollution levels have fallen in the eastern part of the town. However, the situation in the High Street is still concerning and we are pressing the councils to implement measures to address that.

Several community and voluntary organisations have received grants from the Locality and Invest in Devon funds. They include: Crediton Guides, Big Top Youth Café at the Methodist Church, Crediton Senior Voice, St Boniface Concerts Society, Age Concern Crediton, Turning Tides Project, Crediton Town Team for Crediton festival, Early Bird Nursery for high viz jackets, Crediton Youth Orchestra, Crediton to Exeter cycle path, Crediton Rotary Club, Crediton Town Council building defibrillator, Crediton Football Club, Youth Theatre hopping mad production, Parish Church clock, Old Town Hall soundproofing and Friends of Crediton Library. Other organisations have also received funding through the Town & Parish Fund.

NW

Chairman's Report continued ...

The Town Council has also concentrated on the Wildlife Area in Peoples Park and it is pleasing to report that Sunflowers Day Nursery is looking after the bird feeders, Pippins Pre-School helped with planting and volunteers are helping to plant and keep the area clean and tidy. The Council has also produced a wildlife hunt to encourage youngsters to get out in the park and explore this wonderful natural environment.

It has been a busy year for us and our town crier whose role is important in celebrating and rejoicing in the traditions within the modern-day world. I feel privileged to be the Mayor of Crediton and Chairman of the Town Council.

Committee Reports 2016-2017



Cllr Joyce Harris

Administration & Personnel

With the removal of Mid Devon District Council's (MDDC) services in Crediton last year, the Committee has had to deal with some unexpected changes including the Town Council's relocation to the downstairs offices.

The impact of this was eased through the recruitment of a new Receptionist, Mrs Sandie Blake, which was partly funded by MDDC. Amongst these changes, the Council now has an Assistant Clerk, with Emma successfully completing her CiLCA qualification last summer. To top it off, the Town Council has recently been awarded the status of Quality Council, through the Local Council Award Scheme, reflecting the hard work and commitment within the Council.

Policy & Forward Planning

Cllr Andi Wyer

We have had a busy and productive year working on a number of projects. The Committee has been working with DCC to create a safe crossing point near the Leisure Centre, as well as widening Marsh Lane without worsening the problem! We have recommended to Council that we should continue to support youth work projects in the town, following the closure of the Youth Centre and should expand the service by funding a Detached Youth Worker program. We have also started providing free dog poo bags and are exploring ways of increasing the number of dog poo bins in the town to help keep our pavements clear and safe. The Neighbourhood Plan continues to be developed, but it's progress is linked to development of the MDDC Local Plan which has been slower than expected.

Property & Allotments

Cllr Joyce Harris

The Property & Allotments Committee continues to manage in excess of 100 allotments within the Town and is currently considering the possibilities of making the allotment sites more accessible to those with mobility difficulties. The Committee is working hard to ensure the maintenance of the Council's assets, such as the St Boniface Statue, Bandstand and War Memorial, through regular property inspections. Recommendations from these inspections are followed up and actioned, for example a new security light has recently been installed at the Bandstand.

The Committee has also continued to engage with the local community, with commemorative trees being planted in Peoples Park by both Crediton & District Lions Club and 1st Crediton Scout Group.



Grants

Cllr Joyce Harris

The Town Council has continued to support local community groups and organisations by offering grants to support the valuable work they carry out within the community. This year, a total of £16,857.50 was allocated, with 25 organisations receiving a grant. The Committee continues to receive applications exceeding the grants budget available and is developing a strategy to consider each application based on how it fits within the Council's Grant Aid Policy, Strategic Action Plan, the budget available and the level of funding requested.

Christmas in Crediton

Cllr Frank Letch

The committee met monthly with Town Councillors and several members of other outside bodies. As far as the end product is concerned, the event was a public success. The Exmouth Train proved to be a hit and its expense justified.

The Fancy Dress Competition, judged by the Bishop of Crediton, demonstrated how inventive parents and children can be. The light switch-on was a sparkling success topped with an amazing firework display. On the down side, the parade needing the road closure and a small army of stewards and marshals was a headache and took a lot of time and effort on the part of the office staff. Some street acts pulled out rather late which again caused concern. The whole event needs re-evaluating for 2017.



Floral Crediton

Cllr Mike Szabo



Once again, the Town Council provided an array of floral displays during 2016 and for the first time there was even winter planting on the Town Square. This has been made possible since the Council purchased four three-tier flower towers. Wooden edging has also been placed around some of the tree bases on the Square, creating beds for more planting and this will be rolled out to more trees in due course.

The four flower beds outside Redvers House have been planted with shrubs, providing year round colour, and six hanging baskets have been added to the building. The large pot on the pavement on Mill Street, across from ATS, has been planted out and, for the second consecutive year, the weeds on the pavements and streets around the Town have been sprayed.

The Floral Crediton Competition attracted several dozen entries, from both local residents and businesses, who showcased their gardens.

For the fourth consecutive year, the town has entered into the South West In Bloom (SWIB) It's Your Neighbourhood Award programme. Fourteen volunteer led community groups entered the campaign with seven winning the highest level: "Outstanding". In addition, Peoples Park and Newcombes Meadow Park were both awarded a Four Star rating for the "Pride In Parks" Award.

For the first time, the town entered into the SWIB Pennant Award and the judges toured the town in July awarding the level of Silver Gilt and the prestigious Discretionary Award for Best New Entry!

Volunteer residents litter-picked around Crediton several times before the judges arrived, demonstrating their dedication and enthusiasm in these community events and showing the pride that the local community have in our town.



Cllr Frank Letch

Crediton Open Space

The efforts of this group have focused on the wildlife area in Peoples Park. Here we have seen planters introduced, as well as bird feeders. The feeders are being maintained by Sunflowers, a local day nursery. The office staff have produced a superb leaflet where children can tick off various animals, birds and insects they find in the wildlife area. The area needs an occasional tidy up but remains an attractive and popular location as does the whole of the park.

Parish Paths

Cllr Frank Letch

Cllr Heather Sansom, our inveterate hiker, has walked and reported on all our pathways and continues to promote the Redvers Ramble with appropriate signage. As dog fouling is a pathways issue, the Town Council has purchased 50,000 dog poo bags which are given out free at the Council Offices and Mayor's Surgery (donations are naturally very welcome).

Devon County Council's (DCC) local path coordinator, Sam Jeffcoat, has drawn up a list of 27 actionable points that were brought to the attention of the Committee by Ros Davies, DCC Public Rights of Way Officer. Our Parish Paths budget will be used to action work arising from the 27 points of concern.



Neighbourhood Plan

The Crediton Neighbourhood Plan is coming to the end of the 3rd year of what we hoped would be a 2 year project. Progress has been steady and significant with most of our draft policies now in place. The group meet monthly and are currently cross referencing our policies with government legislation and our evidence base. As well as national policies, we have to work within the emerging MDDC Local Plan. The Local Plan has been delayed by over a year so far and has recently been further amended (which in turn causes us to have to amend our plan). It should now clear its final obstacles this year and we hope the completed Neighbourhood Plan will follow soon after.

DRAFT

Report for calls/crimes reported to Police for Crediton Town (March 2016 – Present):

Calls made to Police - March 2016 to Present:

Suspicious activity x 41
Drink Driving x 10
Domestic related x 90
Alarm (building/personal) x 12
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) x 119
RTC x 69
Highway disturbance x 53
Concern for Welfare x 137
Animal Welfare (in road/hot cars) x 14
Dangerous Driving x 11
Missing Person x 53
Theft x 14
Criminal Damage x 9
Abandoned 999 x 30
Assault/Violence x 30
Burglary x 6
Intelligence related x 32
Arson x 3
Other (Sudden Deaths/organised events/found property etc) x 42

Crimes reported to Police- March 2016 to Present:

Harassment x 9
Dog related Offences x 4
Vehicle related x 7
Arson x 6
Assault x 49
Common Assault x 38
Miscommunication x 31
Fraud x 2
Burglary x 26
Attempt Burglary x 4
Criminal Damage x 60
Theft x 39
Driving Offences x 13
Drug related x 11
Rape x 6
Other x 35



Report – Annual Town Meeting – 29th March 2017

Looking back over the last year, it hasn't been the easiest regards stability in our Leadership team and the search to find suitable people to fill these roles increasingly proves difficult. There seems a distinct lack of those who wish to give their time to volunteer. I am sure this is also the case for other community organisations too. In fact, we were very close to having to suspend our Scout Section due to having no Leaders, thankfully though two volunteers came forward at the eleventh hour! Despite our challenges 1st Crediton continues to thrive and as adult volunteers we take pleasure in leading such a lovely group of children.

2016 has been a special year for the cub section, as nationally they celebrated their 100th Birthday. Throughout the year they have been busy completing 100 challenges and before the year end all cubs in Devon came together at Exeter University for a special Birthday party and also renewed their promise. Here in Crediton we commemorated the occasion by planting a Red Oak near our Scout Garden at People's Park.

The year has also seen our group begin to work to a national scouting initiative 'Million Hands'. Out of four different causes 1st Crediton chose Water Aid as their project for the next two years. Various activities and outings will see us all contribute in some way to thinking about how water is used both at home and overseas and how it impacts on our lives.

Always too many activities to report but other things we have been up to include....

- Joining, our 'Mid Devon Scouting District' for our annual St George's Day service and parade.
- Hosting guest, Paul Truswell. Paul made an overnight stop at our hut, during his fundraising walk from Lowestoft to Lands End in aid of his son's Scout Group in Macclesfield. What a great thing for a parent to do. Our Beavers had a great time looking at a map to see where he had walked to get to Crediton before he set off on the next leg of his journey the following day. We continued to track him all the way to the finishing line, thanks to the powers of social media.
- Holding our hugely popular Family Camp, locally at Salmonhutch. An event held every other year where our members and their families can enjoy and learn new skills together. This year's theme was 'Pirates'.
- Celebrating our patron The Queen's 90th Birthday by gathering for a Royal Picnic at our hut.

As ever we have been pleased to work alongside our town community ...

- We Joined forces with the Town Council to organise the Beacon Lighting to commemorate The Queen's 90th Birthday.
- Our Cubs were the first to trial the new child friendly Town Trail.
- We attended both the special church service for The Queen's Birthday and the annual Remembrance Day service and parade
- We took part in the Christmas Light Switch on Parade
- As well as decorating a tree for the annual Xmas Tree Festival we also for the first time, provided help at the event, for which we received much praise from the organisers.

Our year ended with a Family Christmas Party and the delivering of our Christmas Scout Post to local households within the town.

2017 has already been busy with more camps, activities and community events to look forward to.

Last but by no means least, two years have passed since we sadly lost one of our scouts Samuel Crocker. He is never too far away from our thoughts. I am therefore pleased to inform you of the completion of all three memorials created in his memory. The first being the Totem Pole located at People's Park, the second a plaque surrounded by stars at our hut and the third a set of Geocaches that link our memorials with the one at Landscore School. On behalf of 1st Crediton I wish to thank both the Town Council and the community for the support provided in enabling us to fulfil our wishes to remember Samuel by. As a group we continue to keep the sparkle shining for Samuel.

Debbie

Debbie Richards
Group Scout Leader
On behalf of 1st Crediton Scout Group

DRAFT

Age Concern Crediton report for Town meeting 2017. In

There has recently been much said about the NHS and problems involving bed blocking due to high levels of hospital admission, often because of issues associated with the elderly. The closure of local hospitals has done little to help this, and so we are having to consider alternative ways of dealing with the issue.

Many of the elderly members of our population are unable to walk beyond their front and back doors. They live for the large part in isolation and lack mental and physical stimulation; in consequence, their bodies slow down exposing them to the risk of blood related and other issues, the result of which is frequently a hospital visit.

At Age Concern Crediton, we try to combat this by offering a service whereby they are collected and driven to and from our Centre in Deep Lane, to spend time in activities in good company, and enjoy a home-cooked two course meal. This can make a tremendous difference to their lives: many of them visit us more than once a week and over the last year we served over 1500 lunches to our guests. There can be no doubt that such visits are a form of preventative medicine and help to reduce the load on our overburdened services. More importantly they achieve in our guests a sense of wellbeing during and after each visit.

We also offer services in the home: befriending, light domestic duties, and advice, given by a team of wonderful volunteers. We have a footcare clinic, an art group, and we run fitness sessions at the Leisure Centre. This year we have repainted the Centre specifically to provide a dementia friendly atmosphere: there is an increasing demand for us to care for guests in the early stages of this condition; it also provides a welcome respite for their carers.

Every penny given to our Charity serves the people of the Town and although we have historically been fortunate in being supported by Mid Devon District Council and Crediton Council and its Officers, this cannot be guaranteed: we still need to rely on outside sources for gifts and donations. During the past year, we have increased the operation from 4 to 5 days per week; and by holding fund raising activities we managed to raise over £6000 which, together with the income from our Charity Shop at the top of the High Street, has helped us to keep the charity in parity.

In the coming year, we are planning to make further alterations to the Centre which will allow us to meet a growing need and serve more guests daily. It will also provide a larger space which is multipurpose and can additionally be used by the Community for meetings, social functions and the like. This will require a greater involvement of capital than we can currently access, and we shall need to invite assistance from new external benefactors.

We are at an important stage of our development, with much to look forward to. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers, not only for our core business, but to help run events such as the Parish Church Concert with North Creedy Choral Society (April 29th); Youth jazz at Buccaneers bar (April 27th) and a Summer Afternoon Soiree with Cream Tea in the garden of Winswood house (July 30th). Full details of these and all our other services are on our Website.



Sustainable
Crediton

AGM



Welcome!

Agenda

- Minutes of the last AGM
- Treasurer's Report
- Reports from Action Groups
- Re-Election of Core Group Members



Sustainable
Crediton



Finance
Anne Tucker

Treasurer's Report

2015

- Income: £3,256
- Expenses: £8,353
- Deficit: £5,097
- Balance: £4,226

2016

- Income: £2,647
- Expenses: £2,700
- Deficit: £154
- Balance: £4,072



2016

- Library Exhibition
- WI Talk
- EU Referendum Debate
- "For the Love Of"
- Letters to Mel
- Informal events
- Economics Action Group

2017

- 10th Anniversary
- Local Plan
- Working with Schools
- CredFest 2017
- Economics Action Group
- Informal socials



2016

- Woodfuel from Hedgerows
- Anaerobic Digester
- Creedy Bridge
- Tarka View
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Good Energy Scheme
- Fuelling Connections
- Peak Demand

2017

- Leader position vacant
- No active projects
- Meetings suspended
- Woodland & Hedgerow group going strong!



2016

- Supermarket Food Waste
- Reuse in the Garden
- Give & Take Event
- Repair Cafe

2017

- CAG Food Waste & Compost
- Food Waste sharing lunch
- Food Festival Recycling
- Xmas Tree festival



2016

- Exeter-Crediton Cycle Path
- Sustainable Transport infrastructure
- Rail Service Campaign

2017

- Boniface Trail charity
- Cycle path lobbying
- Electric Cars Talk & Blog



<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/bonifacetrailassociation>



Sustainable
Crediton



Food Group
Nicola Frost

2016

- Pig Club
- Seed Share
- Food Waste Petition
- Bee Talk
- Seed Saving Workshop
- Seasonal Recipes

2017

- Pig Club year 2
- Seed Share
- Love Food, Hate Waste



Sustainable
Crediton



Economics Group

Anton Massey

2016

- Establish an Economics & Local Trade Action Group

2017

- High Street Loyalty Card
- Local Business Collection Points
- Book Club
- Other ideas?

- Credit Union
 - Gerald Conyngham



- Crediton Pig Club
 - Nicola Frost



- Crediton Flood Resilience Group
 - Tony Gale



**Sustainable
Crediton**

Core Group Re-Election

Candidates:

- Chair: Sarah Green
- Vice-Chair: Charles Mossman
- Treasurer: Anne Tucker
- Secretary: [vacancy]
- PR representative: [vacancy]
- Energy Group representative: Charles Mossman
- Food Group representative: [vacancy]
- Waste Group representative: Anne Tucker
- Transport Group representative: [vacancy]
- Economics Group representative: Anton Massey
- Hedgerow & Woodland representative: Charles Mossman
- Town Council representative: John Downes
- Other members: Mick Dumper

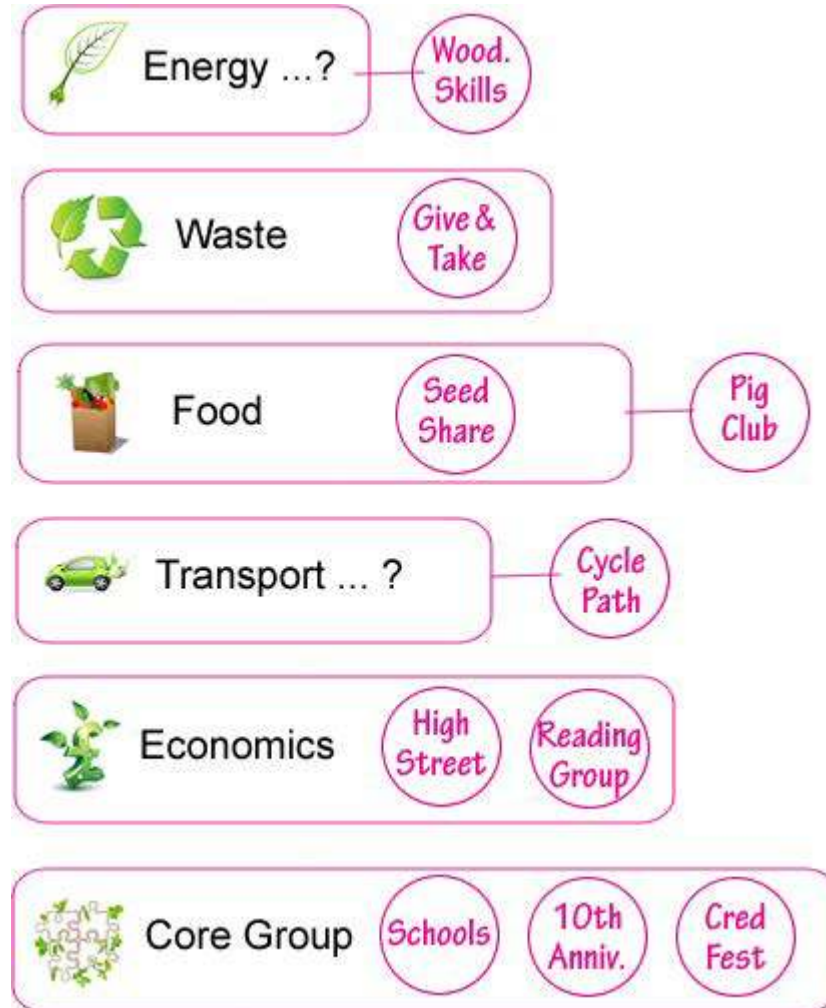
Core Group Re-Election

Looking ahead ...

Current action groups
are responsible for
BIG themes ...

People & projects
come & go ...

Some are left
with a vacuum

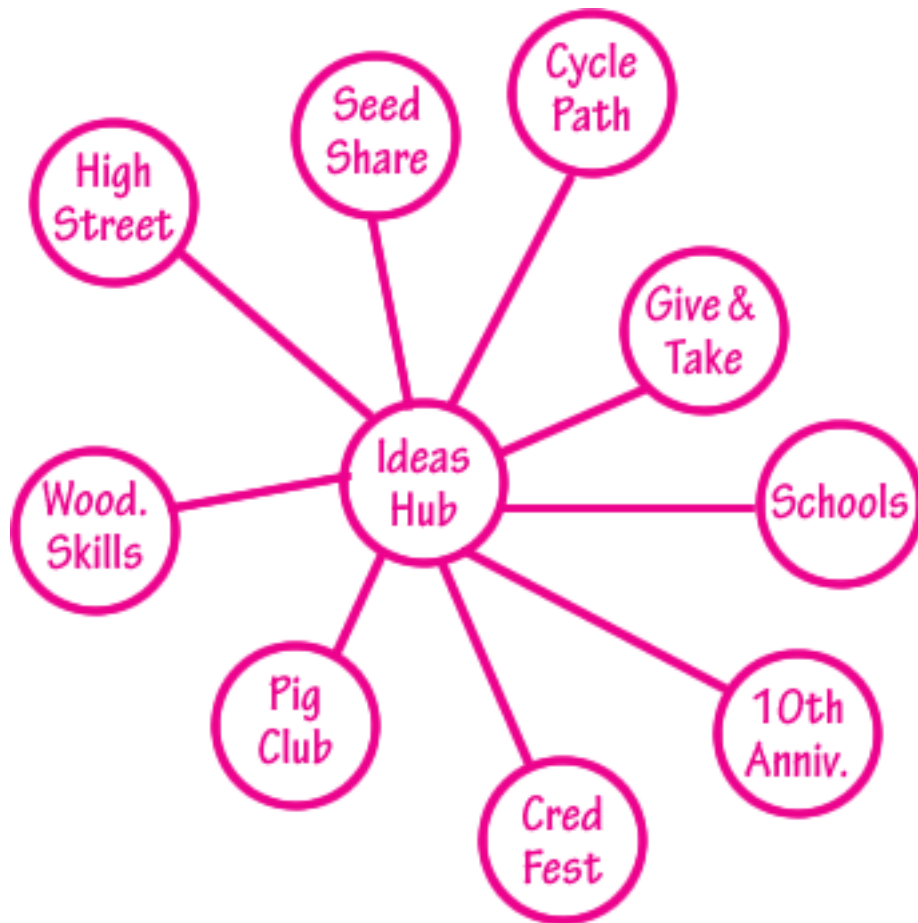




Sustainable
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Core Group Re-Election

Would this work better?



Specific *projects* rather than permanent groups

A single, permanent incubator group for sharing & kick-starting new ideas



Sustainable
Crediton



Thank You!

CODS 2016**Carol Stoye - President**

The CODS year began in April with the musical comedy, The Witches of Eastwick. With this production we stepped away from the traditional musical genre & got involved with a relatively new production. CODS are always up for a challenge & the show was very well received.

At our General Meeting in June we were delighted to present a cheque for £850 to the Devon Air Ambulance.

'Sparkle For Samuel' had been chosen at 2015's meeting as our charity of the year, & collections had been made after all our productions. The cancer charity Force was chosen as our next good cause.

In September we performed our concerts entitled 'Showstoppers' for two sell out evenings in the Boniface Centre. These concerts are always popular and you have to be quick to get a ticket! The evenings include a two course meal, a bar and entertainment at what we think is a very reasonable price.

October saw us performing an interesting little play entitled ' Bums On Seats' by Michael Snelgrove. This explored theatre life from different angles & was very funny even if the audience wasn't quite sure what was going on!

At the beginning of November we started to rehearse for our next big show for this Easter which is 'Made In Dagenham'. This, again, is a relatively new show & we are very proud to be performing it. The subject is the strike at the Ford factory in the 1960s by the women who made the car interiors. It features Harold Wilson & Barbara Castle as you've never seen them before!

In December we went on tour taking two Christmas concerts to the villages of Morchard Bishop & Newton St Cyres. These featured songs from 'Showstoppers' and also Christmas numbers and Carol singing. It is planned to do more of these in the future.

During 2016, between us our members have tried to support other groups' productions in the town & Devon as a whole and are always grateful for similar support.

As well as trips to the theatre we have enjoyed meals, a barbecue, a quiz and have joined in the flower and Christmas tree festivals.

That is the end of CODS 2016 report.

Don't forget that ' Made In Dagenham ' is coming soon!



Projects in 2016-17



Credition Festival 2017

- At least 40 events over 3 weeks; led by Artistic Director Rachel Vowles; sport, music, drama, food, dance, literary, open air cinema, silent disco.
Details www.credfest.co.uk

Flag Project

- 8 new flags made in 2016, bringing total to 68; hugely popular with locals and visitors; Town Council grant for 2017; traders and groups to contribute; workshops start in April



Boniface Project

- Boniface story told in 'stained glass' nylon banners; back drop for 2015 and 2016 reenactments; plans for Boniface trail



New Community Hub

- The ACE vision for arts (theatre/dance/conference/cinema 200 seats); community (centre with provision for infants, youth and seniors); enterprise (business units, hot desks, commercial training ...)

Town Square weather protection

- exhibition of possible designs for Town Square Weather Protection



Town entrance signage

- traders and tourism; community concepts; local artist engagement

Chamber of Commerce

- revitalising traders forum Grown out of High Street Traders Group formed at Town Team meetings; membership built and became an independent body; traders elected to officer posts in Chamber; new Chamber gives £3,000 to Christmas in Crediton



Projects supported:

Echoes of War Time - joint drama project with Avranches and Fulda, has developed into a European Union funding bid for €300,000 from 3 countries

The Crediton History Trail - tourism/heritage

'Get Out' What's On in EX17 - publicising local events





Projects in 2016-17

CRED FEST

4-24 June
2017

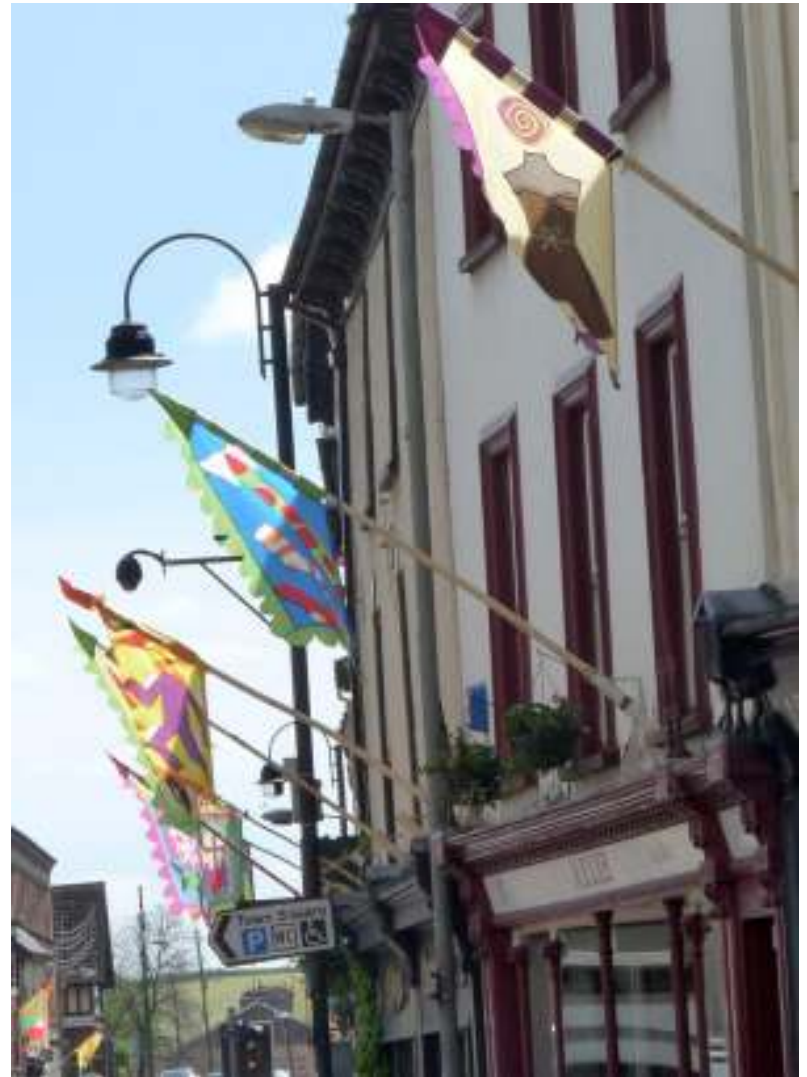
40 events over 3 weeks;
led by Artistic Director;
sport, music, drama,
food, dance, open air
cinema, silent disco



www.CredFest.co.uk

The Flag Project

- 8 new flags made in 2016, bringing the total to **68**
- Hugely popular with locals and visitors
- Town Council grant for 2017
- Traders and voluntary groups to contribute
- Workshops start in April





The Boniface Project

- Boniface story in 'stained glass' nylon banners
- Back drop for 2015 and 2016 re enactments



- Plans for Boniface trail

NEW COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT THE **ACE** VISION

ARTS

- Theatre/dance/conference/cinema 200 seats

COMMUNITY

- Community centre with provision for infants, youth and seniors

ENTERPRISE

- Business units, hot desks, commercial training ...

Community hub comparisons



Beehive - Honiton



Watermark - Ivybridge

Pavilions – Teignmouth



Barnstaple Work Hub



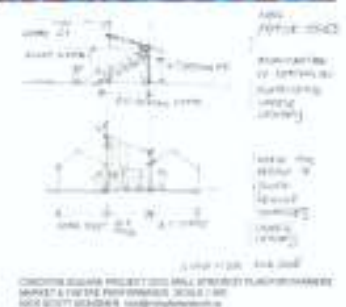
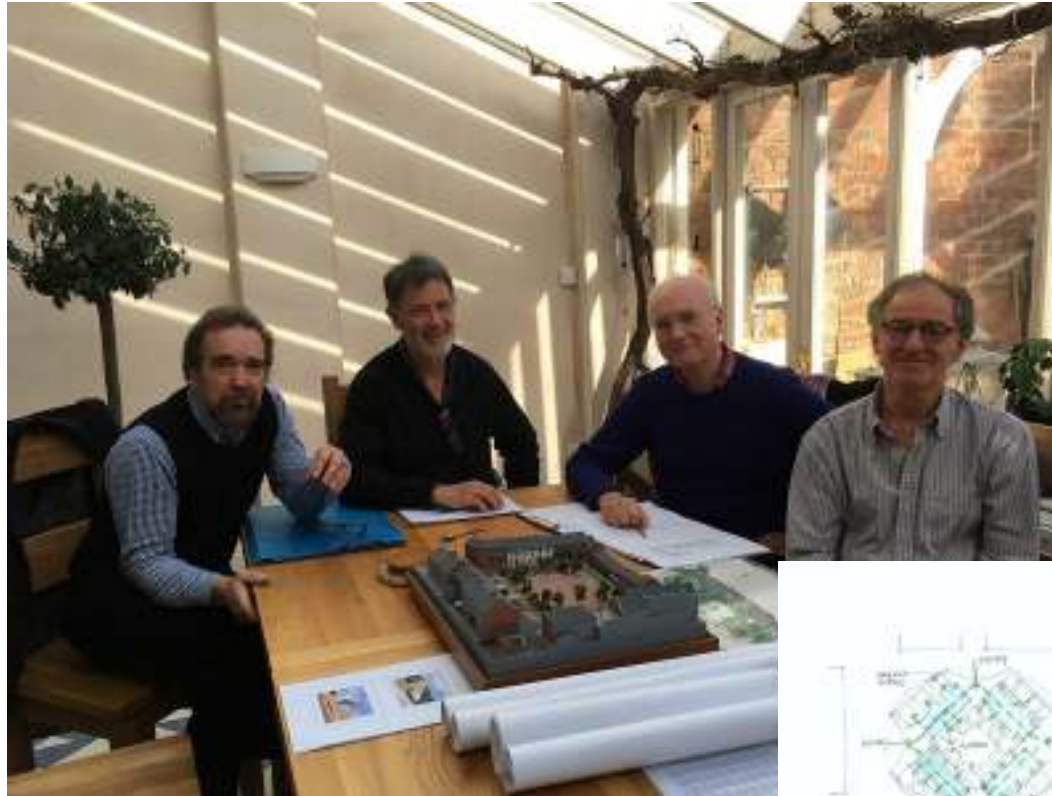
Town square weather protection scheme



Met Office Hadley
Forecasting Centre
climate report 2012



Working with architects who live here





Exhibition of Designs for Town Square Weather Protection

Tuesday 25 October 7pm–9pm, Boniface Centre



The Town Team has asked some local inspiring architects to describe ideas of how we could “see the sky, feel the wind in our face, but still stay dry” on the Town Square.

Come along to see the designs and hear from the architects.



Local artist, Charlotte Turner, will also be sharing concept ideas of new town signs to welcome people to Crediton.

Come along and tell us what you think.

Town entrance road sign scheme



The Chamber of Commerce

- Now set up and active with growing number of members and website:



- Grown out of High Street Traders Group formed at Town Team meetings

ECHOES OF WARTIME

100 years ago the people of Crediton were part of a community at war. We have been finding out about some of these individuals and their stories; how the war affected their lives and what they wanted to do.

Working from the researched materials, we have imagined their characters. You may see them and encounter them, as echoes of people living in the town 100 years ago.

These people believe that they are in the world of 100 years ago, so if you find yourself speaking with them, please remember this.



CHARLES WARE

Charles is 14 years old and very keen to go off and fight for his King and Country. His father was a very successful soldier and he is determined to follow in his footsteps.



MINNIE BERRY

Minnie is Charles' Mother. After her husband died she returned to her native Crediton from London and is making sure ends meet for her family by being a seamstress.



STEPHEN DAVIES

Stephen was an architect who enlisted very early in the war. Badly injured he was sent home to be nursed. Because he could be sent back to fight he chose to kill himself by his own hand.



AMY MONTAGUE

Amy came from London and now lives at Perton House. A keen supporter of the Rights for Women movement, she works at improving the situation of women and poor people in society. Her husband is a Colonel in the army and her son is at the front line.



JOHN WISSMAN

John is the son of a German woodworker who, following his recent marriage to Charles, has decided to enlist and fight for the Germans.



THE REV. WORTHINGTON

He is the Vicar of Stobenske and Gladys' Father.



GLADYS WISSMAN

Gladys is the daughter of the Vicar. She is in love with John Wissman, who is a German living in Devon.

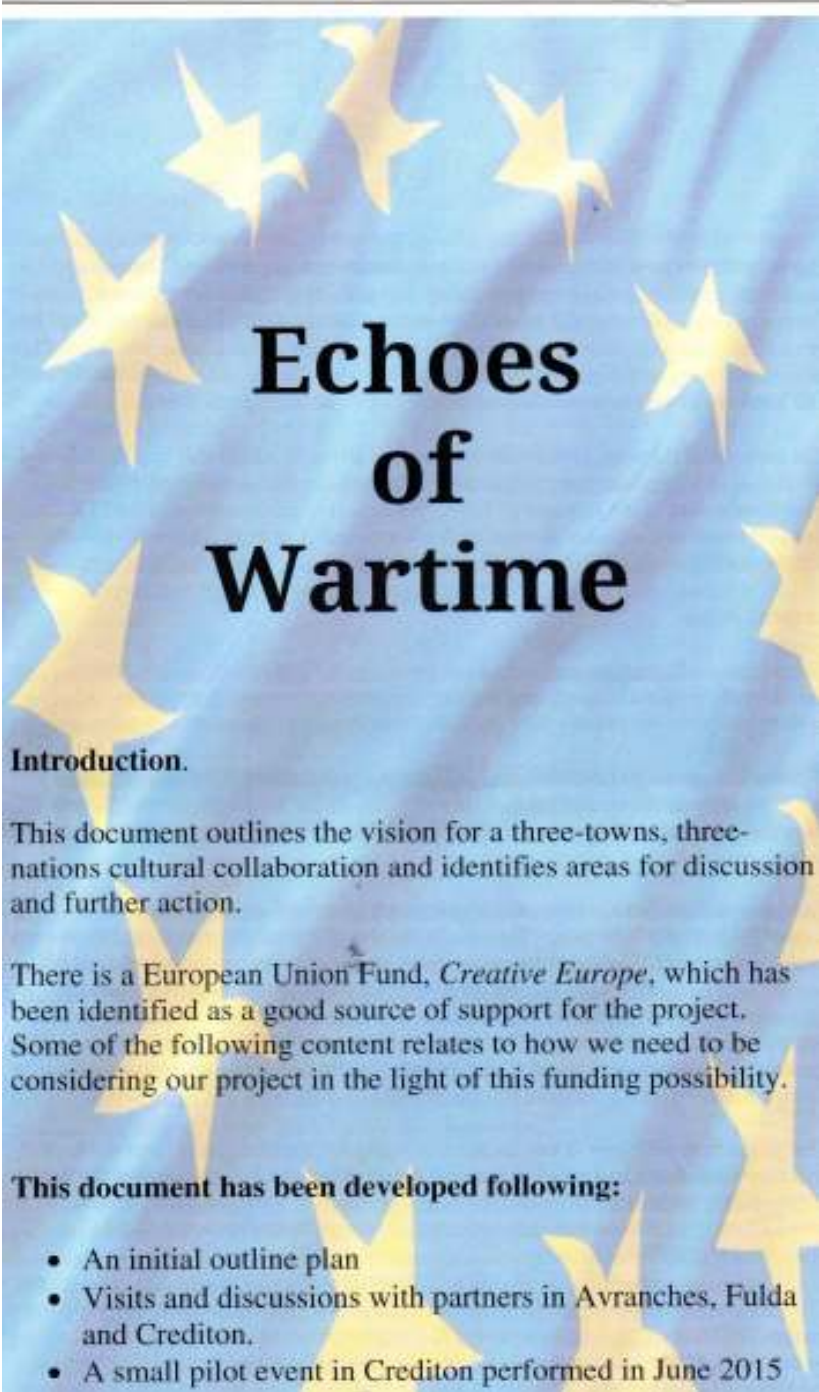


This is a community theatre project led by Common Players Theatre and generously supported by The Heritage Lottery Fund, Crediton Town Square, Sted Devon Town and Parish Fund, and Jacques Wortham Ltd. More information on this project and the histories behind it can be found at <http://creditonhistory.org.uk/>



We also supported this project

Which has
developed into a
European Union
funding bid for
€300,000
from three
countries



Echoes of Wartime

Introduction.

This document outlines the vision for a three-towns, three-nations cultural collaboration and identifies areas for discussion and further action.

There is a European Union Fund, *Creative Europe*, which has been identified as a good source of support for the project. Some of the following content relates to how we need to be considering our project in the light of this funding possibility.

This document has been developed following:

- An initial outline plan
- Visits and discussions with partners in Avranches, Fulda and Crediton.
- A small pilot event in Crediton performed in June 2015

Crediton History Trail



Get Out

What's on EX17

MARCH 2017

FREE

Monthly listings
Gigs dance drama
visual arts
community events

Toby Moran Mylett
playwright
'August'

Simon Ripley gets pressed in
Talk Chain

Front cover picture '486 Ash Stones iii' (detail) by Simon Ripley

Supported by



Website



<http://www.creditontownteam.org.uk/>

That's it! Thank
you for watching



CHAT Report for Crediton Annual Town Meeting 29 March 2017

With help from Crediton Town Council CHAT (Churches Housing Action Team) runs two drop-in outreaches a week in the Council Offices – Housing Advice on Tuesdays and Tenancy Support on Fridays, both from 10am – 12.30pm.

Housing Advice

Between January 2016 and January 2017 our Housing Advisors, who have undergone the Shelter Housing Law and Advice Foundation Training, saw 98 housing clients. Our advice is free, confidential and impartial and is for anyone from 18 to 118! Roughly 70% of our clients are aged 25 and above.

The outreach is getting busier, possibly due to the fact that clients no longer have access to MDDC staff now the office is closed in Crediton.

Clients drop in to the service for many reasons. Examples include:

- Difficult relationship with landlord
- Being served with eviction notices
- Wanting to improve banding on Devon Home Choice and needing help with gathering evidence, such as medical need or overcrowding; we have also helped clients to register with Devon Home Choice
- Needing help to apply for Housing Benefit or Discretionary Housing Payment

One of our Housing Advisors has summed up her thoughts about the outreach: 'I think it's really important that CHAT has a presence in Crediton, especially now that MDDC has no permanent presence there. We are bridging a gap. In addition, if clients have to travel by bus, the journey to Tiverton is long and complicated as there is no direct route, so our presence in Crediton saves them the expense and time.'

Tenancy Support

During 2016 (Jan to Dec) 32 individual clients were seen – 27 who lived in Crediton town and 5 who came from surrounding villages.

These 32 people visited the Outreach over a total of 95 sessions – some coming just once, but many came for repeat visits, with 2 of the clients returning to see a support worker on 8 different occasions

Due to annual leave, bank holidays, staff sickness or staff shortages, and during the change over from MDDC to Crediton Town Council we have sometimes had to cancel the Outreach, but generally we have managed to be there the vast majority of the Fridays in the year.

Referrals have come from a variety of sources eg self-referrals, private landlords, MDDC Housing Dept, and family/friends

The majority of clients were over 25 years old.

A Case Study:

A client (single man in his mid-twenties) who had previously worked with the Tenancy Support Team some months before came to see our worker at a Crediton Friday morning outreach. This client had been a passenger in a car accident the year before and as a result had long-term physical and mental health issues. He had had to give up his recent job as it was affecting his health and he currently had no income, having been refused benefits by the DWP because they had deemed that he had made himself unemployed.

A previous Court Order to repossess the flat he lived in had been actioned by the local authority as he had been unable to comply with the debt repayment plan. He now owed over £1000 in rent arrears and was waiting for an eviction date from the Court Bailiff.

- He was assisted to re-apply for Universal Credit immediately as, by now, he would be entitled to this benefit; in the interim we supported him with food and fuel vouchers.
- CHAT helped him to provide the relevant information for the benefit application and made a request for backdated Housing Benefit for the period he was denied Universal Credit.
- We referred him to one of the CHAT Housing Advisors to make an appeal against the proposed eviction.
- We accompanied the client to attend the Court appeal hearing a couple of weeks later where the eviction was suspended and an agreement to repay the debt agreed just 2 days before the eviction date.
- In the meantime the client had found a new job which was much more suitable for him; however he had to wait a month before he was paid so CHAT continued to support him with food and fuel vouchers to enable him to manage financially until his first pay day.
- He was able to successfully keep the home that he had lived in for over 5 years and move forward with his life once again.
- We still keep in contact with the client about once a month for the time-being to make sure that all is well and the feedback from the local authority is that he continues to comply with the repayment arrangement and his debt is reducing steadily.

A case that could easily have resulted in yet another homelessness person but with appropriate support and full engagement from the client resulted in a happy ending.

Debt and Money Advice

Denise (our D&MA) advisor, who takes internal referrals, has two current clients and three new referrals from the Crediton area; one of the current clients is nearing the end of the process and has been helped to complete a bankruptcy. Occasionally Denise can use the Crediton outreach 'slot' if another staff member is away – for example: the Friday morning slot on 17 March to meet the three new clients.

Deposit Guarantees

At present CHAT has 18 people on our Deposit Guarantee Scheme, 7 of whom live in the Crediton area



The Friends of Crediton Library (FoCL) have been in existence since 2014. At this year's A.G.M. Pauline Thomas, Libraries Unlimited Service Delivery Manager, congratulated Crediton Library and FoCL on their achievements. At the AGM the previous year, she emphasised that when the Library was taken over by Libraries Unlimited very little change would have been noticed by members of the public. Devon County Council was still responsible for delivering a Library service and the fact that Libraries Unlimited was a Charitable Trust meant that big savings could be made on business rates (especially on building costs). The Board of Trustees consists of Volunteers with particular organisational skills, librarians and 2 'Friends' representatives. At the 2016 AGM, Pauline thanked everyone for their continuing friendly, informal and efficient support.

The Friends of Crediton Library have concentrated on supporting the Library staff in their provision of activities for children and the extension of library facilities to benefit the whole community. Funds have been raised through annual voluntary donations, from Book Sales at the Farmers Market and from events in the Library itself. Two of the social highlights last year were a Murder Mystery evening hosted by the Circle of Spears and the Robin Ravillious photography evening. These events highlighted the need for our current fundraising project; we are hoping to install black out blinds and to buy a digital projector, screen, laptop and P.A. system so that we can attract speakers for talks and presentations by offering modern, technological facilities. The Library would also like to host Film Nights.

As with most local organisations, we are always looking for more members. Those who are keen support our excellent local library are encouraged to join FoCL.

Judith Ezard , Secretary FoCL

Newcombes Meadow Community Group

We held our AGM, earlier this year and disappointingly it was poorly attended. At this meeting we were reminded of the shocking start to the year – when the zip wire was unfortunately damaged by fire. We were however, extremely pleased when the zip wire was repaired and the space net was finally installed alongside an additional piece of equipment - the bank slide. Later on in the year we received an award from Britain in Bloom South West - Outstanding classification in the 'It's your Neighbourhood Award' – specifically recognising community involvement.

However Our group is thin on the ground and the existing founding members intend to step down from their official roles, as soon as possible. But without any interest from others to take over the group, it is likely the group will fold. There is hope especially from MDDC that the group could remodel itself as a Friends group, where interested parties could keep a watchful eye on the park as a whole. A proposal was tabled by Joe Scully the parks manager from MDDC with ideas as to how certain features of the park could be enhanced; as a long term project. The ideas were interesting and the group felt it would only be fair to give Joe an opportunity to promote these ideas. It was therefore agreed that the group would like Joe to present ideas to a wider forum to rally support, should this be successful any remaining funds would be passed over as a start-up fund.

In the meantime, as always I am always keen to recognise the dedication that my fellow group members have put into this project over the last few years
We do have an outstanding play area now, that is extremely popular all year round.

Ruth Preater-Gillard
Chair of Newcombes Meadow Community Group



2469 (Crediton) Detached Flight Air Training Corps



Commanding Officer's Report

The Crediton unit of the Air Cadets is a Detached Flight (D/F) of 2469 (Exeter St Thomas) Squadron, and was formed at the Queen Elizabeth's Academy in February 2014, to give the young people of Crediton the chance to participate in a full range of activities associated with the Royal Air Force, as well as to enjoy the more traditional events and activities of associated with a uniformed youth organisation..

The staff at the D/F is quite small, with one officer, one NCO and one Civilian Instructor who organise the programme for some 16 cadets, both male and female, aged 12 to 20

Throughout the year Crediton cadets have been flying in the Tutor 115E (the RAF training aircraft) at both RAF St Mawgan and RAF Colerne, as well as attending camps on RAF stations, target shooting and visiting Airshows. During the year the cadets have also progressed, with their academic studies in various aeronautical subjects from basic airmanship to rocket propulsion, aircraft handling to air navigation as well as radio and radar.

Recently a number of cadets completed their St John's Award in Youth First Aid, as well as gaining their Basic Radio Operator qualification

On the community front, Crediton cadets have taken part in the Poppy Appeal and Battle of Britain Wings Appeal, raising some greatly needed funds for both these worthwhile causes. They also attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade and helped with the Xmas Lights.

The cadets have also fulfilled what are traditionally known as our 'annual' fund raising events, namely marshalling at the Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary Open Day, the RSPCA Open Day and at the Tedburn Fair, as well helping at The Heart of Devon Show and bag-packing in various stores in the area.

Chris Myers

Flt Lt C Myers
Officer Commanding
2469 (Exeter St Thomas) Squadron
Air Training Corps

Crediton Arts Centre – Report to the Annual Town Meeting 29 March 2017

Glimpses from the past year:

Three brochures a year indicate what goes on in the Centre. Our intimate studio hosts a variety of visiting professional theatre productions including puppet groups for young audiences, home grown productions with the Brown Paper Bag Theatre Co and Crediton Youth Theatre. There's a variety of art classes in drawing, painting, water colour, life drawing and portraits. The Centre hosts two local Book groups and recently a film programme with a focus on 'books into film'. Another success was the second art exhibition 'Movement' organised entirely by young people from QE. Add in-house fundraising evenings, Ballet, Slimming World and Karate groups on a regular basis and one-off meetings and events and it's a busy space! Many people young and old cross the threshold on a regular basis.

Outside the walls and within the wider community the past year has seen an Art trip to Vienna and Budapest, the annual Crediton Food Festival, bi-annual Shakespeare in the Square, (last year both Henry IV and V) the annual Busk It and the Christmas Lights Switch on Event in November. Many more people both directly and indirectly are caught up by and through these events

And the next year:

Needless to say we're here to stay! We plan and work for the continuation of all the many events and classes described in the Centre's brochure. At the same time we keep an open door and a listening ear to suggestions and ideas for new classes and events for the Centre and the wider community

Currently we're busy working with the Town Team on Credfest 2017 under its Director Rachel Vowles, and in particular transferring the Youth Theatre's very successful production Hopping Mad to Newcomes Meadow in June. The Centre is involved with the ninth Food and Drink Festival in the Square, flooding the High Street with musicians for Busk It, an art trip to Portugal in October and the fifth 'Switch On' event in November. That's a variety of Crediton folk of all ages being involved with our work.

How does this happen?

One strand is because of the committed and energetic work of the Centre's administrator Rosemary Stephenson, together with two part time staff and the Centre's trustees and volunteers working to sustain and develop the Centre.

The second strand concerns funding. Little of the above could happen without the support and grants from the Town Council. We work hard to secure grants to fund specific projects, but like all comparable arts organisations, our major need is to sustain our core funding, which includes such areas as wages of part-time employees and the maintenance, rental, heating and insurance of the building. As councillors will appreciate, in the current financial climate, such funding is very difficult to secure. Consequently the Arts Centre is very grateful for the continuing support of Crediton Town Council not only through its annual renewable grant and its project grants, but also through the active collaboration with the Centre – both formal and informal – in so many ways.

Working together the Arts Centre wishes to continue to play a part in sustaining and developing the liveliness and well being of the town

Peter Hamilton Trustee March 2017

Queen Elizabeth's School

Report for Annual Town Meeting - Wednesday 29th March 2017, at 7.00 pm

Boniface Centre, Church Lane, Crediton.

Queen Elizabeth's School summer 2016 results saw great success at post 16 (6th Form) with a 99% pass rate at A Level and a fantastic 55% of students getting A* to B grades. The progress measures of the students at QE have been impressive for several years and this year was no different, with official progress measures showing strong positive progress. In 2016 the government introduced an entirely different accountability measures at age 16 (primarily GCSE grades) but we saw a significant improvement in the GCSE grades the students achieved, with 13% getting A* or A grades in at least 5 GCSE subjects, and 37% getting 5 or more at GCSEs at A* to B. One of the all-important new measures is the English and maths threshold and at QE 69% of students achieved both English and maths GCSE at grade C or above, a figure that compares very favourably with both national figures and other schools locally. English had outstanding results, with 85% of students getting a grade C or above. Maths was also impressive at 73% grade C and above. Our English Baccalaureate (EBACC) is was very pleasing at 26%, which represents the progress students make across a broad range of subjects and QE school remains absolutely committed to ensuring a broad range of subjects is available to all students, for examination at both age 16 and post 16.

Attendees at the will be aware of the school's work in the local press and with parents to communicate the potentially damaging effects of reductions in school funding as the result of the government's proposed new funding formula. Staff and governors are grateful for the support provided by the wider community, via letters to the press and local politicians and we did have a positive meeting with our MP, Mel Stride, who took up the matter with Nick Gibb the Schools' Minister. Whilst we have yet to hear any positive news that the formula will be amended to stop the huge reductions hitting QE (and all the other secondary schools in the constituency - Okehampton and South Dartmoor in Ashburton) I remain cautiously optimistic the formula will be amended. However the best case scenario is this will result in slightly less of a real terms reduction in secondary schools' income in areas across Devon, so schools will still face very real funding challenges.

The governors of QE School have announced that they are looking at working with a number of neighbouring schools on the possibility of forming a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). A 'MAT' is a group of schools that work together in a formal arrangement. All schools within a MAT are governed by a single board of trustees. The board of trustees is responsible for decisions relating to how each school is run but there will still be a local governing body who will monitor and challenge the quality of education in each school. The reason QE governors are considering this move is to ensure that all our children continue to receive the best possible educational opportunities and to do this there is a strong argument that we must partner with like-minded schools. Our experience of local informal partnerships to date has been encouraging and we have already joined the Dartmoor Teaching School Alliance. We therefore see the formalising of our partnership arrangements as being the next logical step. Furthermore governors believe that by proactively choosing and forming the structure and ethos of the partnership we can ensure that our local community, for both today and tomorrow, is best served. QE governors are at the very early stages of considering this move to form a MAT and have been actively seeking the views of the community, through the local press and attendance at the Farmers Market. However, it important to stress that no formal arrangement has yet been set up, and that the work to gather views and share information that has been done to date is part of an informal information gathering/sharing process. There will be a formal consultation based on the detailed proposal before QE governors make any final decision.

I would also like to bring to the attention of the meeting the proposals around land use in the Local Area Plan. The proposals show the deletion of the single site for a school at Lords Meadow. QE School responded to the consultation saying that whilst we do not object to the site being deleted from the plan, we did want to see another suitable site allocated, as although we are not currently seeking a single site, the provision for one in the Town should be made by the planning authorities, especially given the long time frame the plan covers. I would also like to clarify that development of the land at Forches Cross will result in all-weather facilities being constructed elsewhere to replace the playing fields and any development will therefore enhance the sporting facilities for the town, as the all-weather facilities will be available for sports clubs and community organisations to use.

TOWN MEETING REPORT, 2017

For those of you who do not know even what Boniface Link is, we were set up some years ago at the request of the then Town Council to assist the Council and community in fulfilling the obligations of the Friendship Charters with Dokkum and Fulda. These Charters arose because of the connections of the three towns through our Patron Saint, St. Boniface.

Members of the Link have regular social events to keep in touch with one another and to raise funds. Last year we had our usual early summer Barbecue and Croquet evening and a Boules evening in late summer. In October we had a very successful Saxon Supper and finished the year with our AGM and Annual Dinner. At both the Saxon Supper and the Dinner we were joined by friends from the University and from Hildsvin, the local re-enactment group, among others.

Our public service depends on what is required. Last year we hosted a visitor from a new Boniface community near Utrecht for two days and arranged for that community to receive a Devon flag for a celebration they were organising. Shortly after that, we arranged for a CD of music and local views to be sent to Dokkum. They had requested it for an arts festival they were running. In the summer we took over and ran the town's Boniface Walk on 5th June, St. Boniface Day, as the Town Team's St. Boniface sub-committee were too committed elsewhere to do it.

Generally, we liaise where we can with Dokkum, Fulda and any other communities who have links with St. Boniface and are always ready to assist any organisation in Crediton that wishes to communicate with a Boniface counterpart.

For some years we have been looking for someone to attend, virtually free, a 4-week summer school at Fulda University. This person must be between 18 and 23, educated to GCSE standard (but knowledge of German is not necessary). If you know anyone who might be interested, please them to contact us.

Crediton & District Access Group.

Reg Charity 1039145

The Group celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year

When it started its prime purpose was to ensure that Disabled people would have access to Public Buildings, Banks, Shops and the like. These days it has become more involved with matters that affect the Disabled generally, such as transport and administration problems.

We are still consulted on major projects, such as the new Bus Station in Exeter.

The person who represents the Group in this work is our secretary, Mrs Yvonne Pope whose knowledge of the Laws and Regulations as they affect the disabled is unsurpassed. She has worked tirelessly over the years to ensure the rights of the Disabled are not overlooked, and there is no doubt that without her dedication, the Group would not enjoy the reputation that we have today

As reported previously the issue of the pavement outside Morrisons is still outstanding.

Time has sadly taken its toll of our original members and we do need new people to carry on the increasing problems that arising due to the fact that people are now living longer.

If you know of anyone who is disabled, or anyone prepared to take us over the next 25 years please let them know. We meet at 11am on the third Tuesday of the month at Crediton Hospital

CREDITON AREA HISTORY & MUSEUM SOCIETY



REPORT TO CREDITON TOWN MEETING March 2017

We continue to circulate a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year and hold monthly talks at the Boniface Centre over the winter months when the museum is closed.

A group meets weekly, at the museum over the winter and at Downes during the summer, sorting and cataloguing our growing collection. Work continues on detailing the collection using the specialist museum software we have, with the long-term intention of putting this on our website so that the general public can easily learn more of what we have in the collection.

Last year's exhibition 'Transport – the way we got around' was popular and we hope that this year's exhibition 'Down on the Farm' will prove to be even more popular. Visitor numbers usually amount to around 1500 each season and we are pleased to say that local primary schools are visiting us more often. What we can display is severely limited by a lack of floor space but other tenants and our landlord kindly agreed that we could expand onto the mezzanine floor where we now have 3 cabinets, wall displays, some artefacts and the town model in its bespoke cabinet. We have retained a small display on the Great War, usually focussing on events 100 years earlier. .

The museum opens on 17th April and will run until October. During the Crediton Festival we will stay open on Saturday afternoons too and we hope to include rural craft demonstrations then.

All year around the Research Corner, where family and house history research goes on, is open every Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. .

The rent and other essential costs of maintaining the museum amount to in excess of £5,000pa and we simply would be unable to meet these without the grant given to us by the Town Council and our Friends programme. Around 15 local firms contribute £100pa each and approaching 80 individual members also contribute. This income bridges the gap and ensures our survival.

We have a dedicated team of volunteers, including many who help steward the museum. There is a great deal more interesting work that we could do on the history of the town and area if we had more volunteers so we are always pleased to welcome anyone interested.

Grateful thanks once again to the Town Council for their continuing support.

Report on Boniface Trail Association for FY 2016-7

0. Purpose

It may be recalled that the Boniface Trail Association exists to develop a multi-use, traffic free path between Crediton and Exeter. The path will be useable by walkers, cyclists and those using mobility scooters.

1. Charitable status

The group is now registered with the Charities Commission as a charity.

2. Consultation with Newton St Cyres residents

A consultation was undertaken with local residents in July – the vast majority were very supportive of the path. Subsequently a change was made to the planned route close to Tythling Close which reflected minor concerns from some residents.

3. Choice of portion of route for priority development

It was confirmed that phase 1 of the project was the section between Smallbrook and Newbridge, for a number of reasons. These include support from landowners along that part of the route, a wish to link construction of the path to the building of a new primary school in Newton St Cyres, the absence of any major engineering obstacles on this part of the route and the fact that the County Council have said that if this portion of the route is built then they (DCC) will come under a lot of pressure to build the rest of the route.

4. Survey of route by professional engineer.

This has confirmed that there are no major engineering obstacles on the route for phase 1, and looked at alternatives for the extension towards Exeter. Some costs have been incurred in these surveys.

5. Consideration of prospective legal agreement with Quicke's, major landowners.

The group has seen the first draft of this agreement, and are currently examining it very closely and seeking clarification of unclear issues. It is expected that the agreement when finalised will form the basis for the agreements with other landowners providing land for phase 1. Note though that we have agreed to pay legal costs of landowners (as well as for the group itself) and these form a significant part of our expenditure at the present time.

6. Funding

The group is very grateful for financial support from Crediton Town Council and other statutory bodies. A significant potential source of funding is LEADER funding through REAL Devon. The origin of this funding is the European Commission, even though the administration is local. We have been assured that if we can obtain planning permission before we leave the EU, then we would be eligible for funding. Therefore obtaining planning permission is a priority for the next 12 months. This is complicated because it will involve both district and county authorities. A bid was made for funding from VIRIDOR, and although this was unsuccessful, we were invited to bid again once construction was imminent. A "just giving" website has been created. A bid was also made for funding from the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership.

Boniface trail combined use path to/from Exeter



- Status report March 2017
- Presentation shows a journey from Crediton to Exeter, highlighting developments in 2016-17

Thanks to:

Crediton Town Council for financial support

Club Crediton for use of premises for meetings

Charitable status

Bank account at prominent High Street location



Route past station(I)

End of Four Mills Lane



Route past station(II)

Past station tea rooms



Route past station(III)

Traffic free section

There will also be cycle path through Wellparks development



Past Quicke's

Negotiation over landowner agreement ongoing



Slight change of route

Following consultations with Newton St
Cyres residents



Exeter – flood prevention scheme

“Plenty of room for cycle path”



Concluding Comments

- Setting up charitable trust
- Negotiation with landowners
- Consultation
- Fundraising
- Discussions with engineer



Possible route round Newton St Cyres



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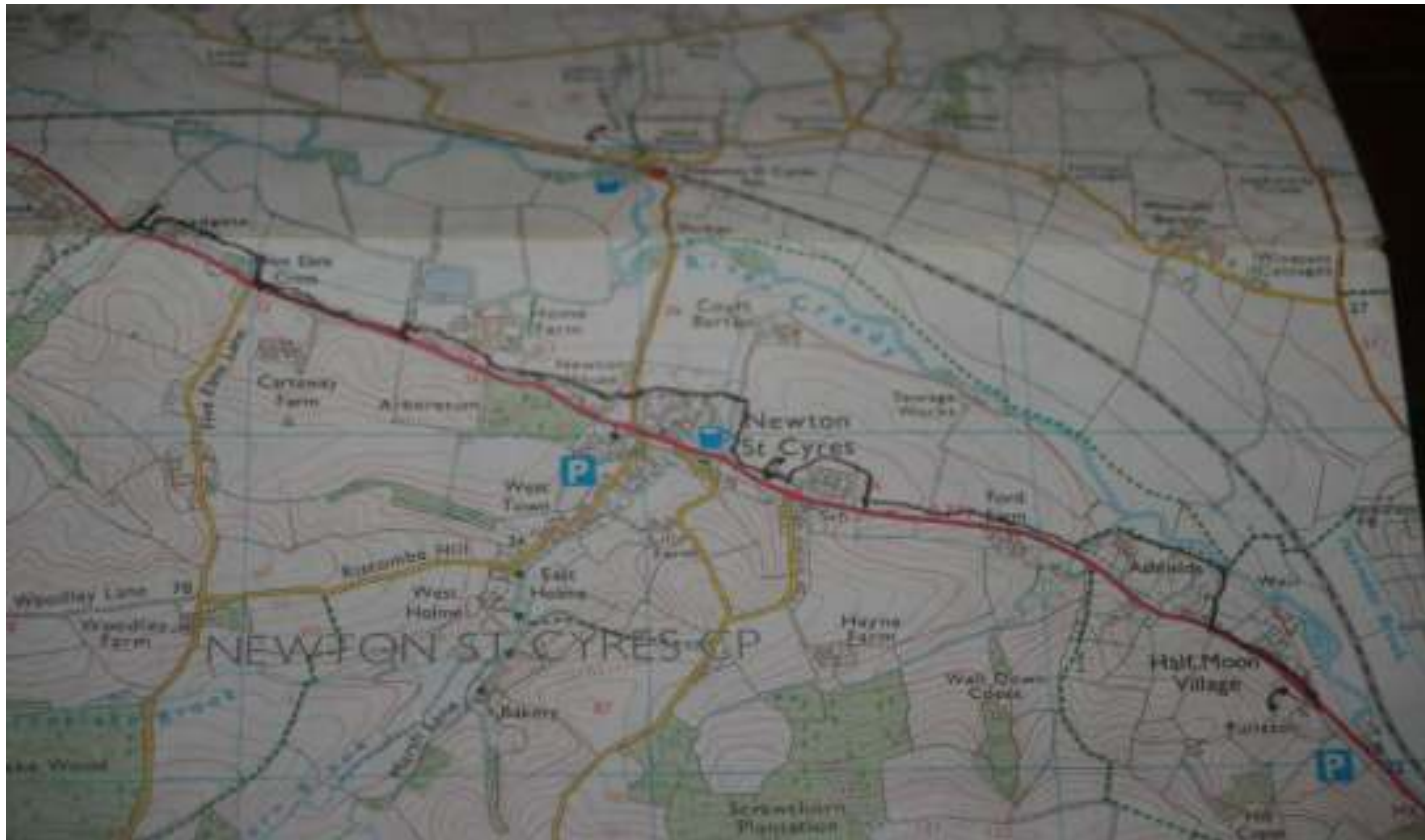


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CREDITON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Crediton Twinning Ass. Was set up over 20 years ago to promote & foster friendship & understanding between the people of Crediton & district & those of Avranches & district in France.

Avranches, in Normandy, although a much larger town, was an obvious choice to twin with, as the 2 schools had been exchanging for several years, & contacts had been established. We have exchange visits every other year, & we have invited Avranches to come to Crediton again in September this year. Many of the Crediton Twinners have long-standing friendships with their host families, but when new members join us, we find them host families too.

Over the years many Crediton clubs have visited Avranches, like the football club, swimming club, the Church choir, & the scouts, & their friends from Avranches have come back here. A new contact for us this year, is the Avranches Orchestra, who are coming at the end of May, & will be playing 2 concerts, one in Exeter, & on Sat 27th May at Crediton Church, please come if you can, & support them as many are young people.

We will be accommodating these visitors in homes in & around the town, just as we do for the regular bi-annual exchanges. The Twinning ass. has also found work placements for young people wishing to improve their English, in shops, factories, & with the Courier newspaper. Some youngsters from here have worked in the Tourist Office in Avranches too.

We have a large membership, & I always say that Twinning is based on friendship, both here & with our friends across the channel. We hold social events throughout the year, to raise money to entertain our guests, & having fun at the same time!!

Since Crediton Twinning was formed we have been very grateful for the support we have had from the Town Council. The Mayor holds a reception for our visitors, & we are also thankful for a grant when needed.

Last year, we were delighted to help QE Academy with the start of the school exchanges again. We were able to help with info for parents, & a tour of the Church, history about St.Boniface, & refreshments at the Council Chamber when the Mayor entertained them, in French! Of course. The visit was a great success & when our students returned a couple of members of the Ass. were in Avranches at the same time ,just in case they were needed. This year the number of French students outnumbered the Q E students, so the Ass is helping again with extra accommodation. I hope this connection between the schools grows year on year, because it can only be good for fostering the friendship between our two towns.

DRAFT

Crediton and District Swimming Club

The Club was formed just after the new Swimming Pool at Crediton was opened in 1999 so is celebrating it's 17th Anniversary. Since then many local people both children and adults have enjoyed improving their swimming and taken part in competitions including the annual Club Championships. Anyone interested in joining the Club is invited to speak to our Coach Jane Brimacombe or any of our Team at the Pool on Wednesday or Sunday evening. Regular Lifesaving instruction is given to Club Members as well as other groups. The Club once again organised and ran the 18th Crediton Learning Community Annual Primary School Gala which was won by Haywards this year with Bow coming 2nd. Recent performances by Club Members both adults and younger swimmers have resulted in entries in National and County Competitions.

Peter Brewer – Club President