



# Crediton Town Council

## Newsletter

April - June 2015

### It's a bug's life!

On a warm sunny afternoon on Wednesday, 18th March, children from Hayward's and Landscore Schools paid an important visit to Peoples Park, to help with the creation of the new wildlife area.

The project, started by Crediton Town Council, has now become a huge community project, involving Community Payback, Newton St Cyres Young Farmers Club, members of Crediton Incredible Edibles project, local businesses and now children from both Crediton Primary Schools.

The children were helping by making cosy bug hotels to encourage wildlife to the area. We think they did an excellent job!

There is still lots to do to complete the project. The town council is asking residents if they can donate specific plants, including, Elder, Raspberry, Butterfly bush, Flowering currant, Berberis, Winter flowering Honeysuckle, Mahonia, Holly, Bloody Cranesbill, Carex, Woodrush, Teasel, Cardoon, Chamomile, Honesty, Evening Primrose, Foxglove, Jacob's Ladder, Shield Fern, Sweet Cicely, Greater Celandine, Creeping Rosemary, English Bluebells, Cyclamen and Hart's-tongue Fern, in readiness for the big planting day being held on Saturday, 11th April, where everyone is welcome to come and help!



*Children from Hayward's & Landscore Primary Schools proudly showing off their bug hotels*



**Thursday  
7th May 2015**

General	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Town	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Your vote counts**

### Your council needs you and your vote

Town Clerk, Clare Dalley, is calling on all residents of Crediton to get involved in the forthcoming elections, being held on Thursday, 7th May 2015. Kirtonians will be asked to vote in the town, district and general elections.

Clare is encouraging residents to check that their name is on the Electoral Register, so they have the opportunity to vote on election day. Anyone not sure whether they are registered can check at the Council Offices, on Market Street. It's your right to vote, so don't miss out!

Information regarding all the newly elected town councillors will be available on the Crediton Town Council website and town council notice boards, after Monday, 11th May.

## Parking the loading bay issue!



The dual purpose loading bays in Crediton have caused much anger and frustration over the past years. After a long and hard-fought campaign, mostly with Devon County Highways, the town council has at last achieved a major concession from the Minister and officers of the Department for Transport.

The loading bays, which are dual purpose, can now be differently marked and larger signs can be put up. This includes increasing the size of all lettering. This should take away the ambiguity that now exists and make the life of the motorist that much easier. The town council is now pursuing the new markings with Devon County Highways.

## Crediton Gives & Takes

Sustainable Crediton's Waste Action Group undertook a unique event in Crediton High Street in February. A Give and Take event where people gave away their unwanted, but perfectly usable goods which could then be taken away free of charge by others.

Funding was secured from the Devon County Council Locality fund and Awards for All to cover costs for premises, publicity and other expenses, but all the labour was provided completely free of charge by over 40 volunteers.

Crediton's Mayor opened the shop on the High Street, on 6th February, to a queue of about 40 people waiting outside! By the end of the first day over 500 people had been to the shop, many bringing goods to donate, but others just coming to shop for the five free items they could take away every day. Everything from baby clothes & toys to curtains, CDs, DVDs, books, china, ornaments and small electrical items was given, including a kitchen sink!

By the time the exhausted volunteers closed the doors, 14 days later, over 7,700 people had visited. More than 7,000kg of goods had also been donated, with over 95% of them finding good new homes. Paula Mossman, from Sustainable Crediton's Waste Action Group said "The people of Crediton took the project to their hearts. It was an unqualified success".

Sustainable Crediton would like to thank everyone who supported the project in any way. If you would like to find out more about their Waste Action Group and how you might get involved in future events, please visit their website at [www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk](http://www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk).



*A great turn out for the opening of Sustainable Crediton's Give and Take Event (Photo courtesy of the Crediton Courier)*

## If you don't use it, you'll lose it

The past year has seen a dramatic change in the services offered to the town. We have witnessed the closure of numerous services, such as our care home and Youth Centre. With many services still under threat, it is important that we utilise those we wish to keep.

In March the Tesco bus stopped; we now face the threat of losing our town bus service and main road buses after 8.00 pm. We are told that these buses are not financially viable, as there are not enough passengers and resulting revenue. So the answer is simple, use it or lose it.

There are plans to radically alter the library service, cutting £1.5 million from the budget. If you don't wish to lose this invaluable service in the future, then you must start using it now. So please go and explore what our wonderfully equipped library has to offer. It's not just a place for borrowing books!





## Floral Crediton 2015

Once again the town council will be arranging the Floral Crediton Garden Competition. It is hoped that the categories will appeal to all gardeners in the town as they range from small to large formal gardens, small to large natural gardens, a family garden and, for those who do not have a garden, there is the patio or hanging basket category. So there should be something

for everyone! Local gardening expert Mr. Bert Jewell will judge the competition on the 21st of July. Last year several gardeners benefited from Mr. Jewell's expert knowledge asking him questions about their plants, vegetables, fruit trees and pests. It is



*Many beautiful gardens were entered in 2014 (Photos courtesy of the Crediton Courier)*

not just a competition but also an opportunity to share knowledge and interest. Entry forms can be found at the Town Council Office, Crediton Garden Centre, Crediton Library, Tuckers Country Store, the Crediton Courier and in several town shops. Entry forms will also be handed out by the Mayor during surgery times on the Town Square.

## Official Launch of Friends of Crediton Library Group

A new group, Friends of Crediton Library, launched officially on February 7th with a promotional stand at the Farmers' Market, and an event featuring FabLab with its 3D printer from Exeter Central Library, alongside a cake sale in the library. In fact, the 3D printer generated so much interest that they will try to have it back for a workshop day in the future. Town, District and County Councillors were there to support the event, and have continued to offer practical help and encouragement.

The aims of the group are -

- \* to raise the profile of the library through events and other activities
- \* to increase membership, borrowing and visiting totals for the library
- \* to raise money for specific library purposes
- \* to offer voluntary assistance to the library as and when it may be required
- \* to liaise with other groups of Friends and with Devon libraries



*A cake sale to raise funds for the Friends of Crediton Library Group (Photo courtesy of the Crediton Courier)*

Friends of Crediton Library have a Committee and a Constitution, and are now looking forward to planning more events to both fund raise and support the library in the coming months. They hope to create links with other organisations in the town such as Age Concern and Upstream, to ensure that use of the library and enjoyment of all it can offer, is accessible to as many people as possible. Julie Maddison, Chair of Friends of Crediton Library, said "So far we have 25 Friends - there is no joining fee or subscription, but if you do join Friends of Crediton Library you will be registering your support for Crediton's much loved, well stocked library, run by knowledgeable and professional staff in a welcoming and inclusive environment which we are so lucky to have." Please contact Friends of Crediton Library if you wish to join, or if you are part of a group with whom you feel they could work.

# Neighbourhood Plan update



Volunteers preparing and collecting the surveys ready for delivery to households

Between January and March, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering group distributed surveys to households and businesses throughout the town. More than 1200 household responses were received; almost 400 school students responded online and 300 school pupils gave their views. Volunteers have recorded the data and opinions electronically.

The data and opinions collected have been professionally analysed with a report being produced in April. The report will guide the steering group in producing policies for future development. Although the allocation of sites has already been done through the district council's Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan will add detail.

The steering group expects to produce a draft plan for consultation in early summer. This will be widely publicised with opportunities for local people to comment before the policies are finalised.

## Dates for your diary

### April

**4th & 18th** **Farmers' Market** Crediton Town Square

**21st** **Crediton Town Council** meeting 7.00 pm Council Chamber, Market Street

### May

**2nd & 16th** **Farmers' Market** Crediton Town Square

**7th** **Election Day**

**19th** **Crediton Town Council** annual meeting 7.00pm Council Chamber, Market Street

**30th** **Sustainable Crediton** plastics collection at Peck & Strong, Marsh Lane, Lords Meadow 10 - 12.30 pm

**30th**

**Crediton Parish Church Flower Festival begins**

### June

**4th**

**Crediton Parish Church Flower Festival ends**

**6th & 20th**

**Farmers Market** Crediton Town Square

**13th**

**Crediton Festival begins** and runs until 11th July

**13th & 14th**

**Crediton Food & Drink Festival**

Crediton Town Square

**16th**

**Crediton Town Council** meeting 7.00 pm Council Chamber, Market Street



## Crediton Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Frank Letch (Mayor & Chairman)	2 Butt Parks, Crediton, EX17 3HE	01363 775739
Joyce Harris (Deputy Mayor)	5 Charlotte Street, Crediton EX17 3BB	01363 775221
Nick Way	Westwood House, Westwood, EX17 3PE	01363 777903
John Downes	Blagdon House, Blagdon, EX17 1EH	01363 774267
Georgina Ford	Preston Farm Barn, East Village, EX17 4DA	01363 866413
Andi Wyer	3 Glen Creedy Court, Crediton, EX17 1GD	01363 777160

## Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward

Richard Adams	Lower Spencecombe, Crediton, EX17 5BT	01363 84165
Liz Brookes-Hocking	Oliver House, 7 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT	01363 774562
Mike Szabo	9 Alexandra Way, Crediton, EX17 2EA	01363 775255
Paul Vincent	2 Western Villas, Western Road, EX17 3NA	01363 775048
Anne Hughes	5 Lennard Road, Crediton, EX17 2AP	01363 898475
Dan Webb	The Great Hall, Creedy Park, EX17 4EB	01363 775367
Clare Dalley (Town Clerk)	Council Offices, Market Street, Crediton, EX17 2BN	01363 773717
	E-mail: townclerk@crediton.gov.uk	

## Useful Contacts

Mid Devon District Council	01884 244636 (Crediton)	<a href="http://www.middevon.gov.uk">www.middevon.gov.uk</a>
Devon County Council	0845 1551015	<a href="http://www.devon.gov.uk">www.devon.gov.uk</a>
Crediton Library	01363 772578	
Citizens Advice Bureau	01884 244630	
Crediton Hospital	01363 775588	

## District & County Councillors

John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Bob Wright (District)	01363 773566
Martin Binks (District)	01363 866668
Nick Way (District & County)	01363 777903