



Credition Town Council

Newsletter

July - September 2014

Thanks, everyone!

This newsletter reports the town council's activities and finance for the last year (see page 2) but, more important, it is full of thanks to various sectors of the local community, without whose help and support the council would achieve far less and many public events simply would not happen. We are grateful for all input from the community, in whatever form, and the following pages record many activities that take place in the town through much-valued local enterprise and initiative.

Flying High Again

For a second year, the Arts Centre's *Flags Project* has created a stunning effect in the High Street. This year there are even more flags, each one made by a local business or community group with the help of professional artists and volunteer stitchers. Every flag is designed to show the products or service provided by the shop, business or group that made it. Altogether, the flags show the wide variety of what is available in the High Street from apples and accountants to sausages and solicitors, wellies, xylophones, yoghurts and probably zoology books as well.



Helmores Sponsor *Christmas in Credition!*



Members of the Christmas in Credition Team with Helmores Partners Rob Stoyale and Phil Morgan.
(Picture courtesy of the Credition Courier)

Our special thanks are due to Helmores who are the main sponsors of *Christmas in Credition* for the next five years. The town council was pleased to be approached by the company with this offer, as it has helped to ensure the continued development in the second year of this celebratory event. As a council, we are keen to support the High Street shops and businesses, especially at an important time of the year for retail, so a project which encourages people into the town at Christmas, to see what an excellent shopping centre it is, is a very important one to us.

There is still the capacity for other business sponsors to come forward to support this year's event so that we can include all the illuminations, decorations and activities that we have planned for 2014. The town clerk will be pleased to give details.



Annual report from Cllr Frank Letch Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council

Another twelve months have passed giving us new challenges, some changes and many rewarding moments. There has been a much closer bond between the town council and important community groups, resulting in some new and exciting events. Summer 2013 saw the start of the Arts Centre's Flag Project when forty brightly coloured flags, depicting businesses and community groups active in the town, appeared on the High Street. June 1st was the beginning of the Crediton Festival, a great success, with a hundred events going on around the town. The town council would like to say a huge thank you to all those involved.

The county and district councils have consulted on a number of services they provide to the town but those councillors attending meetings have been disappointed to find that decisions seem to have been taken before the consultation process really begins. Devon County Council will no longer fund its usual youth service and Councillors are keen to work with all providers of youth activities in order to retain a range of facilities for young people in the town.

There have been changes in the membership of the town council but following two co-options we now have our full complement of twelve. It is always sad to lose experienced and committed councillors but it is exciting to take on new people with fresh ideas.

July was the month for horticultural competitions. Crediton had three successful entries for the RHS *It's Your Neighbourhood* award. The allotments were again judged by a professional gardener from Knightshayes Court who was very impressed with the general standard. The town council's garden competition was judged by local expert, Bert Jewell, who had the daunting task of sorting out more than thirty entries, a record number.

The newly formed *Christmas in Crediton* group, was behind a wonderful spectacle on 28th November when a colourful parade went from St Lawrence Green to the town square where hundreds of people gathered to see Father Christmas arrive and cheer when the 4000 lights on the Christmas tree were turned on!



Charles Academy of Dance students in the 2013 Christmas parade

The Scout Memorial Garden has been our most important project for some years. I'm pleased to report the easy access path is in place and well used and the planting has been completed, thanks to help from several community groups. We will complete plans for Peoples Park by planting several new trees and creating a wild-life garden at the east end. The area has been cleared of weeds and we are now battling with the last remaining stubborn nettles.

Crediton Town Council Income & Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31st March 2014		
(Last) Year Ended 31 st Mar 2013		(Current) Year Ended 31 st Mar 2014
	Income	
79.88	Administration	65.25
0.00	Council & Councillors	500.00
4,876.78	Property & Parks	3,980.32
0.00	Grants	3,000.00
0.00	Amenities	590.00
134,450.00	Precept	136,800.00
0.00	Ear Marked Reserves	6,600.00
0.00	TAP fund	3,500.00
16,425.49	Other Receipts	0.00
220.00	Parish Paths Project	0.00
0.00	Restated	-1,514.43
£156,052.15		£155,521.14
	Expende	
10,976.60	Administration	7,716.35
4,535.03	Council & Councillors	4,683.15
1,635.01	Property & Parks	22,823.40
0.00	Insurance	3,874.63
0.00	Grants	17,000.00
0.00	Amenities	4,696.24
0.00	Honorary Lum	110.00
0.00	Ear Marked Reserves	28,044.86
58,741.39	Salaries	51,899.24
9,699.60	Section 137 Payments	0.00
54,143.10	Other Expenditure	0.00
0.00	TAP Fund	3,500.00
£139,730.73		£144,347.87
	General Fund	
40,000.00	Balance at: 1 st Apr 2013	40,000.00
156,052.15	ADD Total Income	155,521.14
196,052.15		195,521.14
139,730.73	DEDUCT Total Expenditure	144,347.87
56,321.42		51,173.27
16,321.42	Transfer to/from Reserves	-2,460.41
£40,000.00	Balance at: 31 st mar 2014	£55,639.68

Thanks to town square businesses

The town square is looking verdant and colourful thanks to the support and efforts of local businesses. The four flower towers have been sponsored by six companies located around the square and our thanks are due to Ashton's coffee lounge, Crediton Coffee Company, Fly Fishing Tackle, Gilbert Stephens Solicitors, The Greenhouse and Haines Watts.

Several businesses around the square keep their own planters which add to the other floral decorations and Ashton's have planted around the trees. The containers around the Three Little Pigs create a town centre garden every summer and significantly contribute to the greening of the built environment.

Thanks to voluntary groups

Thanks again to *Incredible Edibles*, whose planted troughs and beds under the nearby trees brighten up the town square throughout the year. These will again be entered in the Royal Horticultural Society's *It's Your Neighbourhood* award this year. In 2013 there were three entries in the town and this year there will be even more. Sites and projects from all parts of Crediton will be taking part in this award scheme and the autumn edition of this newsletter will report on their progress. We would like to thank all the groups involved. Whatever their level of award, their efforts will have made a significant difference to all parts of the town.

Thanks to the Food Festival

The sixth successful festival in June this year was well-attended throughout the two days. Visitors were able to buy produce from the Saturday market and, on Sunday, ready meals were being cooked and served all around the square by local chefs and restaurateurs. The weather was kind, the food was superb and expectations continue to grow along with the reputation of Crediton as a place to find excellent local produce.

News in brief ...

Crediton now has a designated area for its Local Plan. A little later in the year, the town council will be asking a wide range of agencies and groups in the town, as well as individuals, to put forward their ideas for Crediton in the future.

This year's boules tournament, run by the Twinning Association was won (for the first time ever) by the Town Council boules team!

Photos from the top: a Town Square flower tower; planting under the trees, Ashton's; a splash of colour along the Pannier Market; the Three Little Pigs, a garden in the square; Incredible Edibles herbs and flowers



Dan Webb joins the team



Dan Webb, who runs the Creden Coffee Company, on Market Street, joined the Town Council in May 2014. Dan is an active member of the community, being involved in youth organisations including Creden Scouts.



Dates for your diary

July

- 5th & 19th** Farmers' Market - Creden Town Square
- 12th** Sustainable Creden Community Market
10 - 1pm Creden Town Square
- 15th** Floral Creden Competition Judging
- 22nd** Creden Town Council meeting, 7.00 pm,
Council Chamber, Market Street
- 26th** Sustainable Creden plastics collection at Peck & Strong, Marsh Lane,
Lords Meadow 10 - 12.30 pm



August

- 2nd & 16th** Farmers' Market - Creden Town Square

September

- 6th & 20th** Farmers' Market - Creden Town Square
- 16th** Creden Town Council meeting, 7.00 pm, Council Chamber, Market Street



Creden Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Frank Letch (Mayor & Chairman)	2 Butt Parks, Creden, EX17 3HE	01363 775739
Joyce Harris (Deputy Mayor)	5 Charlotte Street, Creden 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, Creden, EX17 1GD	01363 777160

Creden Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward

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

Useful Contacts

Mid Devon District Council	01884 244636 (Creden)	www.middevon.gov.uk
Devon County Council	0845 1551015	www.devon.gov.uk
Creden Library	01363 772578	
Citizens Advice Bureau	01884 244630	
Creden 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