



**Minutes of Credition Annual Town Meeting held on Monday 5th March 2018,
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 N Way, Mr J Downes, Mrs H Zorlu, Mrs L Brookes-Hocking and Mr J Ross.
22 Electors of the Parish and 10 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 29th March 2017, 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 provided a report, this is attached as Appendix One.
- b) Mid Devon District Council Ward Members
Councillor Letch provided a report, 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 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 Mike Szabo provided a report on behalf of the Floral Credition Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Liz Brookes-Hocking provided a report on behalf of the Christmas in Credition Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Liz Brookes-Hocking provided a report on behalf of the Policy & Forward Planning Committee, this is attached as Appendix Four.

Councillor Liz Brookes-Hocking provided a report on behalf of the Crediton 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.

- e) Crediton Neighbourhood Plan
Councillor Liz Brookes-Hocking provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Five.
- f) The Turning Tides Project CIC
Ben Pidgeon and Abigail Innocent provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Six.
- g) Crediton Library
Sue Lee provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Seven.
- h) CHAT
The Town Clerk read a report provided by CHAT, this is attached as Appendix Eight.
- i) 1st Crediton Scout Group
Helen Olsson provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Nine.
- j) Crediton Area Children's Centre
Georgie Marks provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Ten.
- k) Boniface Link Association
Bob Edwards provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Eleven.
- l) Crediton Age Concern
John Musty provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twelve.
- m) Crediton Arts Centre
Geoff Fox provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Thirteen.
- n) Crediton & District Access Group
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Crediton & District Access Group, this is attached as Appendix Fourteen.
- o) QE Academy Trust
The Town Clerk read a report provided by QE Academy Trust, this is attached as Appendix Fifteen.
- p) U3A
David Agasee provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Sixteen.
- q) Crediton & District Swimming Club
The Town Clerk read a report provided by Crediton & District Swimming Club, this is attached as Appendix Seventeen.
- r) CISCO
Natalia Letch provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Eighteen.
- s) Crediton Twinning Association
Cllr Letch read a report provided by Crediton Twinning Association, this is attached as Appendix Nineteen.

- t) Boniface Trail Association
Bob Lunnon provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty.
- u) Crediton Town Team
Kate Lock and Rod Brookes-Hocking provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty-One.
- v) Crediton Girlguiding
Judith Harris provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty-Two.
- w) CODS
Paul Walker provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty-Three.
- x) Crediton Area History & Museum Society
John Heal provided a report, this is attached as Appendix Twenty-Four.

4. To discuss the future of the Crediton Council Office building

Cllr Letch firstly thanked Alan Quick, from the Crediton Courier, for covering the story of the Council Office building in such great detail.

Cllr Letch then provided the following update:

- The Council Office building was registered as an Asset of Community Value. This meant that when the building was put up for sale this started a 6-month moratorium period which ends on 10th April 2018. During this period Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) is unable to sell the building, unless selling to a community group. Within the first 6 weeks of this period community groups can express an interest in purchasing the building, which Crediton Town Council did.
- On 21st February 2018, at a full MDDC meeting Cllr Letch put forward a motion to urge Cabinet to sell the Council Office Building to Crediton Town Council on the same basis as the sale of Tiverton Town Hall to Tiverton Town Council, which is 50% of the restricted value. This motion was passed 23 for and 3 against.
- MDDC's Cabinet will be making a decision on 19th May 2018.
- After 10th April, once the moratorium period has ceased, the Town Council will have a better understanding of where it stands. It is likely that another public meeting will be called as the purchase of the building would have financial implications on the Town and its precept.

5. Public Forum - Open Questions from Electors

There were no questions.

6. Close

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm

Signed:
(Councillor F Letch)

Date:.....

Chairman's report 2017-2018

I am quite amazed that I'm already looking at writing my 10th chairman's report. It just shows you that time goes quickly when you're enjoying yourself. This year I'm going to concentrate more on my role as the Mayor of Crediton. This is a civic role, which means that I represent the town at a host of different events, both in the town and in the district.

In early May I was honoured to attend the 50th anniversary of the Townswomen's Guild. It was a great pleasure to join them in celebrating this important anniversary. I don't know if they can exist in this world of equal opportunities by calling themselves a "Women's Guild!" But I can report that they do a lot of good work in the town.

June was a busy month as I opened Credfest on the third and attended a concert given by the St Boniface Concert Society later in the month. There is no doubt in my mind that Credfest is a wonderful event and the result of a lot of hard work. It showcases so much that goes on in the town.

In July I was a member of the not very successful Town Council boules team. This is a competition organised by the Twinning Association of which I am a member, representing the town council. This fits in very well with my love of France, ability to speak French and inability to play boules!

July was also the month in which I attended my favourite event of the year as Mayor (apart from my Mayor's Reception that is!) namely the Mid Devon Show. Having spent 25 years in the country in Wales I am always pleased to be able to look over good quality animals. This show is one of the few one-day shows in the country and so those attending can see all the exhibits.

This was a year of anniversaries as in September I was invited to attend Devonshire Homes' 25th anniversary. This again is a group that does much in the district and in our town

In October, I attended a workshop for the parish path partnership, which was of great interest as I am the chairman of the town council's P3 committee. Many people probably do not know that there is a wide network of footpaths around town. In July we inaugurated the Redvers Ramble, which was the brainchild of Heather Sansom. I am reliably informed that there will be another ramble this July!

On November 12, I attended one of the poignant meetings of my mayoral year namely the Service of Remembrance. As usual I read the first lesson, headed a very large parade to the War Memorial where my army cadet, Lewis Cook, laid the wreath on behalf of me and the council. The attending crowd was the biggest I can ever remember.

On 27 November I was in Exeter for the annual police awards. It is always very illuminating to listen to the commendations of the various officers and members of the public who received these awards. I was delighted that three of the recipients were from the Crediton area. I think they too were pleased that the mayor of their town was there to see them receive their awards.

This year we tried a new approach to Christmas in Crediton. We did away with the High Street Parade which caused so many headaches because we needed such a large number of marshals and it was also very costly to close the High Street. Last year the event centred around the town square and I was pleased to open the event, thank the various sponsors and join in the celebrations.

In January I represented the Town Council at an arts centre event, a wonderful play called The Tinderbox. I have never heard of it before but it was enchanting and the singing was delightful. This is one of the perks of being the mayor!

Also in January I attended a meeting arranged by CPRE, which looked at the challenges of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan. I do not know to what extent this level of cooperation will help Crediton but it was good to be there to see what the vision is.

Apart from all these events that I attended, I try to get to as many market days as possible for my Mayor's Surgery. I probably attend 20 and miss one or two each year. This is something that I do because I think it is incumbent upon me as Mayor and as a town councillor to give people of the town the opportunity to engage. They can ask questions, pose problems, complain or even congratulate me on the way things are going in the town! Yes this really does happen! It is a big commitment and most of the time I am the only member of the Council on the square but I think it is important and has given me and the Council some very useful feedback.

Over the past months the big issues raised by people have been potholes, parking and the fate of the Council Office building. All I can tell them is that I am doing my best to make sure it stays within the control of Crediton Town Council!

I would like to close by thanking our wonderful staff Clare, Emma, Sandie and her replacement Emily. I would also like to thank my wife Natalia for her constant help and support and for carrying out her role as Town Mayoress with such enthusiasm and dignity.

Frank Letch (Mayor of Crediton)

DRAFT

District councillor report 2017-2018

As I come to the end of my third year as a district councillor I can report that I have had a busy year attending 48 meetings. The longer I remain a district councillor the more I realise that the District Council is becoming ever more Tiverton-centric with Cullompton tagged on as the first afterthought and Crediton a long way down the pecking order! I have made it my quest to change this.

The Policy Planning Advisory Group on which I sit meets three or four times a year to discuss major future planning projects. Over the past 12 months its considerations have been centred on the Eastern Urban Extension of Tiverton and the Culm Garden Village outside Cullompton. MDDC was proud to announce awards of £10 million for the Cullompton Project and a little over 8 million for the junction 27 development. At the latest meeting we were told that the town centre plan for Tiverton is nearing completion and will soon undergo consultation, the town centre plan for Cullompton is moving forward and the chairman told us that the Crediton town centre plan would be begun after the 2019 elections! Therefore I declared that it was imperative I remain a district councillor in order to remind the group of its commitment to Crediton.

I'm a member of the planning committee which meets every month. Meetings are rarely shorter than three hours and are often much longer; the longest meeting of the year was just over seven hours, which to me is a ridiculous burden to put upon councillors. Because the district council has no five-year allocation of building land provision speculative applications of varying sizes keep coming before us and take a lot of debate. You only have to see what is going on around the edges of Crediton. Speculative applications are being put in for land which is outside town and parish boundaries. Until Mid Devon gets its act together these speculations will continue.

I am also a member of the scrutiny group, which also meets monthly. We have received a number of written reports, verbal updates and guest speaker presentations and can occasionally hold offices to account.

The homes policy development group on which I sit looks at housing, homelessness and refugees. It is perhaps a damning statistic that over the past 18 months the district has built no new council houses although 16 empty houses are being brought back into circulation.

I also sit on the community policy development group which looks at health issues and facilities for the communities of mid Devon. The constant battle is money. More and more of its services are dwindling away and being put upon the town and parish councils.

The one thing we must all remember is that all the committees are dominated by the main party, which is only natural. Unfortunately, because of the make-up of the three towns Crediton seems to get a bad deal in my view, this is because Mid Devon's Cabinet realises the chances of the Conservatives taking over Crediton are zero, as was obvious from the latest Devon County Council elections. Our town council is made up of a group of independent councillors who have the well-being of Crediton at heart. I do not wish to be political, but I believe that, unfortunately, Mid Devon District Council is!

Frank Letch District Councillor Lawrence Ward.

County Councillor Report – Annual Town meeting 2018

My duties as County Councillor for our area involve dealing with a wide range of issues and projects. I represent the Council and area on various groups and committees including:

Health and Adult Care Scrutiny as its Vice-Chair

Corporate Parent Forum

Local Government Association conference representative

Procedures

Mid Devon Highways and Traffic Orders

The Devon & Exeter rail working party

I have attended many parish council & community groups meetings and deal with dozens of individual resident's casework issues every month.

Central Government continues to cut its grants to local government. My group on the Council have been pressing the administration to increase spending on roads and are pleased that this year they have agreed to put another £6.5 million into drainage and maintenance. However, much more needs to be done. We strongly opposed the planned cuts to mental health services for young people at the recent budget meeting.

We have been working with the schools and residents to improve road safety. My council group have fought hard and succeeded, last year, to stop the threatened cuts to school crossing patrols. The issue of inconsiderate parking in places throughout the town is a problem. Parking restrictions at the top of Waresfoot Drive and near the old school building at Landscrope has now been installed. I continue to press the Highway Officer to agree to free up more parking spaces for residents at East Street.

During last week's terrible weather event Devon was put on Red Alert. Motorists on the whole heeded the warning not to drive in the dangerous conditions. It enabled the fleet of gritters and snow clearers to get on with their work. 'A' Roads were given priority, followed by the 'B' roads and gritting network roads. 100m to 200m of snow was cleared every hour.

I have met with several of the local NHS Officers to discuss the future of day services in our community hospital and suggested it is in their interest to involve the community with their plans. As the majority of these are now run by the RD&E it does mean we can have a local conversation. We continue to await the outcome of the talks between local GPs and the Health Authorities concerning the recently talked-about Health Hub for Crediton.

It was disappointing late last year to learn the planned early morning Crediton to Exeter train service was not going ahead because of problems with crew turnaround time. However, a better solution has been put forward to run a service all the way from Barnstaple to Exeter early enough to pick up the Golden Hind service from St David's, Exeter to Paddington by Great Western trains.

Several community and voluntary organisations have received grants from the Locality Fund and Town and Parish funds including:

Boniface Link organisation

Turning Tides Project for gym sessions and life jackets for water sports

Crediton Area & Museum Society towards replacing their PC.

The Town Team Boniface Project and 'Get out magazine

Southwest Youth Games,

Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership allowing them to keep the scale model of Crediton Station on permanent public display,
Crediton Arts Centre towards the set and costumes for the Government Inspector play,
Kirtton Youth Squash Club for professional coaching.

During the next financial year 2018/19 we are expecting some extra allocations of funds for community groups from the Invest in Devon fund.

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TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Personnel

It has been a quieter year for this Committee, which was welcomed following the unexpected office move during 2016. The focus of last year involved a recruitment process following the retirement of Sandie Blake. After working within the Council Office Building for over 30 years, Sandie became a fountain of knowledge for many Crediton residents. This made it a difficult role to fill, however, at the start of the year, Mrs Emily Armitage joined the Town Council team as the new Administrative Assistant. She will soon become a familiar face to you all.

Property & Allotments

Once again, we have been kept busy maintaining and improving Council owned sites. The highlight of this year has been the installation of the access path and dropped kerb at the Exhibition Road allotments. This was a big project, helped by the Big Lottery Funding secured by the Council, which has meant we now have five allotments accessible by people with limited mobility. The Committee has also been looking into the possibility of improving water accessibility on all its allotment sites and this project will be carried forward into 2018/19.

As always, we have continued to maintain all Council property which has proved difficult with the increase in vandalism throughout the last year, so we would ask all members of the community to continue to report any issues they see. The three play areas that were taken on by the Town Council have also been added to the maintenance schedule, with initial clear ups and works being carried out to make the sites safe and welcoming open spaces suitable for everyone to enjoy.

Grants

The Town Council continues to offer funding support to local groups and organisations, allowing it to contribute to the continuing provision of services as well as specific projects that benefit the community. This year, a total of £23,080 was allocated with 28 organisations receiving a grant. Once again, the number of applications received increased which led to the 2018-19 grants budget being increased to £25,000. Each application is considered against how it fits with the Council's Grant Aid Policy and Strategic Action Plan and the Committee aims to provide unsuccessful applicants with advice regarding alternative funding sources, if an appropriate source is known.

Floral Crediton

The purpose of this committee is to co-ordinate town floral displays, organise the Floral Crediton competition, and enter into the Britain in Bloom (BIB) competition.

We do this with 2 meetings per year, although this year we had an extra meeting to find a new contractor for our floral displays as the District council has raised its prices considerably. The parks and gardens remit of the District council is non-statutory, so we are looking for other contractors to supply and water our floral displays.

Our other services to the town include: keeping the town free of weeds, maintaining a clean and tidy High Street by eliminating fly posting, littering, and dog fouling, promoting the Floral Crediton competition to residents which attracted over 20 entries last year, increasing the number of Floral displays in the town (Two three tier flower towers have been donated to the town and will be displayed and planted this year), continuing to achieve a high standard entry into the BIB competition. A Silver Gilt level was Awarded to the town last year. increasing the number of Its Your Neighbourhood entries into the competition which last year attracted 14 voluntary community groups, building a mutually beneficial working relationship with the Chamber of Commerce.

Last July, the BIB judges visited Crediton and said "The pride taken in the town is evidenced by a lack of litter, dog fouling, and generally well-maintained street furniture."

Christmas in Crediton

The Magical Christmas in Crediton Switch-on event in November 2017 was mainly concentrated the Town Square, with surrounding roads closed but not the High Street. More children than ever entered the fancy dress competition, and along with the scouts presenting Harry Potter and the guides carrying lighted and decorated arches, they made a lively parade which made its way down Market Street and into the packed Town Square.

The land train gave rides up and down the High Street and local choirs and dancers performed in the square, making a full programme of entertainment before Father Christmas and the switch-on, culminating with the local group, the Beatnx playing to the end of the event.

The High Street was decorated with 80 Christmas trees with help from local volunteers and businesses, and St Lawrence Green was lit with stars and tree lights. Already we're planning for more street lighting next year.

Policy & Forward Planning

During the last year, this committee has focused principally on planning issues and Highways matters. We have worked on developing the framework of a 5-year strategic plan, to which all committees have contributed. We have continued to look at traffic management and pedestrian issues, particularly on improving connectivity and convenience for pedestrians.

With the district council ceasing some of its services and assets becoming redundant, we have considered how to continue and ensure the future of such facilities as play spaces and toilets. In particular, we have considered the future of the council offices as an information and advice centre, meetings venue and social organisations hub.

The committee has continued to oversee the progress of the Crediton Neighbourhood Plan and has commented on other strategic development plans covering Devon and the Exeter area.

Crediton Open Space

This year the committee has concentrated on developing the wildlife area of People's Park. Last autumn the laurel hedge was removed giving more space for planting and for continuation of the native species hedge.

The planting is designed for low maintenance but there's always a bit of light pruning and dead heading to be done in the autumn together with clearing the steps of fallen leaves. Volunteers have come to help in both spring and autumn. The Amber project is scheduled to help with fence painting when better spring weather arrives.

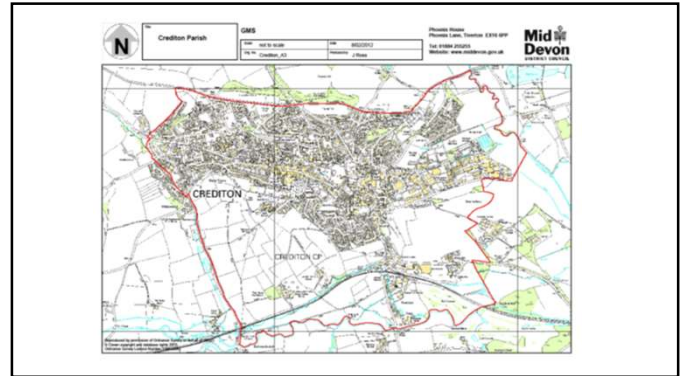
The committee also looks out for unloved open spaces around the town that either an eyesore now or soon will be. By contacting and liaising with the landowner, the brambles at the bottom of Queen Elizabeth drive have been cut back, much improving first impressions of the town at the west end.

Parish Paths

The committee has met several times during the year and it is pleasing to note that our intrepid path walker, Graham Chudley, has given us a series of very positive reports. We have had good support and input from Ros Davies, Public Rights of Way (PROW) Officer, and we still have a healthy budget remaining for future projects.

Graham reported no real problems on the pathways around the town, but the committee has been concentrating over the last few months on the condition of Tin Pot. We even did one slightly muddy walk around the whole network at that end of the town. Unfortunately, with the recent very bad weather, I am told that the path is becoming much more muddy and difficult to walk.

When we were there the main problem seemed to be the leaves that had fallen onto the tarmac and were becoming slippery and therefore a hazard. The committee has worked with Crediton's PROW warden, Sam Jeffcoat, to arrange for the leaves to be swept off the path into the grassed area each side with the hope that they will compost down.



‘Crediton is a great place to live, active and friendly but with terrible traffic and poor air quality.’

January 2015 Household Survey

- Other surveys in January – March 2015:
- Primary schools
- QE
- Businesses

Planning hierarchy – the simple version

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
(Central government)

The Local Plan (MDDC)

The Neighbourhood Plan (Crediton TC)

Planning hierarchy – the bits in between

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Regional Plans – Heart of the South West (HotSW)
- Area Plans – Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP)
- The Local Plan (MDDC)
- The Neighbourhood Plan (Crediton TC)

Regional and Area plans and planning groups

- Regional Plan **Heart of the South West (HotSW) Productivity Strategy**
Heart of the South West Joint Committee
- Area Plans **Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP)**
Exeter, East Devon, Mid Devon and Teignbridge
- Exeter and Heart of Devon (EHOD) Shared Economic Strategy**
Exeter, East Devon, Mid Devon and Teignbridge
- ↓
- Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)

Crediton Neighbourhood Plan

- It now has 8 sections
- The first one has been added since the last review.
- The NP accepts the land allocations in the MDDC Local Plan.
- Section 1 adds detail to its development policies.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 New development 2 Community and facilities 3 Town centre 4 Transport 5 Sustainability 6 Employment 7 Heritage 8 Rural environment

Neighbourhood Plan statements

Sustainability – minimising the negative impacts of all kinds of development

Design – what kind of new buildings do we want?

Town centre vision – keeping it vibrant and attractive

Heritage – identifying our built and natural assets

Biodiversity – protecting and caring for the environment

Sustainability statement

- resilient to changing circumstances**, e.g. climate change, older population
- more reliant on its own resources**, e.g. agriculture, employment, energy
- less dependent on fossil fuels**, e.g. car use, non-renewable energy sources
- reducing carbon emissions**, e.g. promoting renewables
- improving air quality in the town**, e.g. road redesign, planting

Design statement

To help evaluate

- the potential impact of a new development on the existing townscape
- the quality of a proposed development

Looks at:

- Construction materials and finishes for walls, roofs, doors and windows
- Scale – number of floors
- Planting areas and fences
- Layout of larger developments
- Road design



Town centre vision statement

Make the High Street a desirable destination

- Reduce noise, traffic speed and air pollution
- Put pedestrians first
- Develop planting



Heritage statement

- The conservation area
- Individually listed buildings
- Terraces and groups of unlisted buildings
- Landscape features such as walls, banks and hedges
- Wells
- Views
- Parks and open spaces



Biodiversity statement

- Understanding the habitats we have
- Encouraging the retention of habitats in new developments
- Protecting existing habitats
- Looking for opportunities to:
 - Extend existing habitats
 - Introduce new sites for wildlife
 - Increase planting in the town



Our town setting

- Two rivers
- Two valleys and floodplains
- Hills and hillsides

- How do such landscape assets become degraded?
- What measures would protect them from the negative impacts of development?



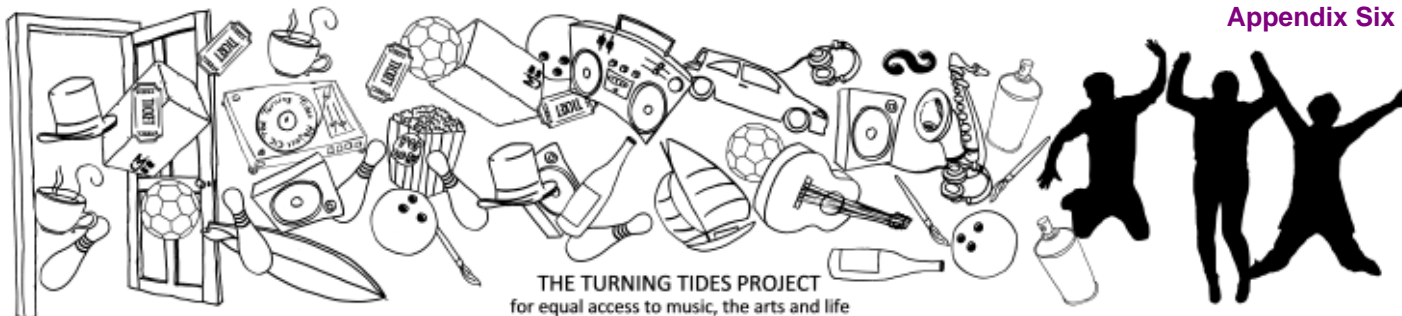

Yeo valley development



The Creedy Valley – existing development and a future site



Unloved spaces in the townscape, by design



Developed our volunteer strategy. TTTP have volunteered across the month of Credfest, Tesco foodbank and the Christmas tree festival
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/volunteering-with-ttpt.html>



Started an #inclusive skittles team, playing in the CREDITON District League
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/sportssessions.html>



Developed our #inclusive football team. TTTP now has a kit thanks to the Council's TAP funding. It is sponsored by Stapletons accountants
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/sportssessions.html>



TTTP have worked alongside Tesco to achieve Tesco's Bronze level certificate for workplace skills
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/tesco-a-journey-towards-inclusive-work-opportunities.html>



TTTP's weekly music sessions on Fridays, which our Big Band rehearse and develop our sets. TTTP played twice at Credfest, and were one of the bands that took part in Busk It. TTTP played across various festivals and put on a Christmas gig at the Buccaneers bar
http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/credfest_june_17th_2017.html



TTTP's Tuesday Making Waves session is held at the Buccaneers. This is our technology session, which develops people's skills in media, film, photography and editing
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/sessions.html>

25 Exeter Road
 CREDITON
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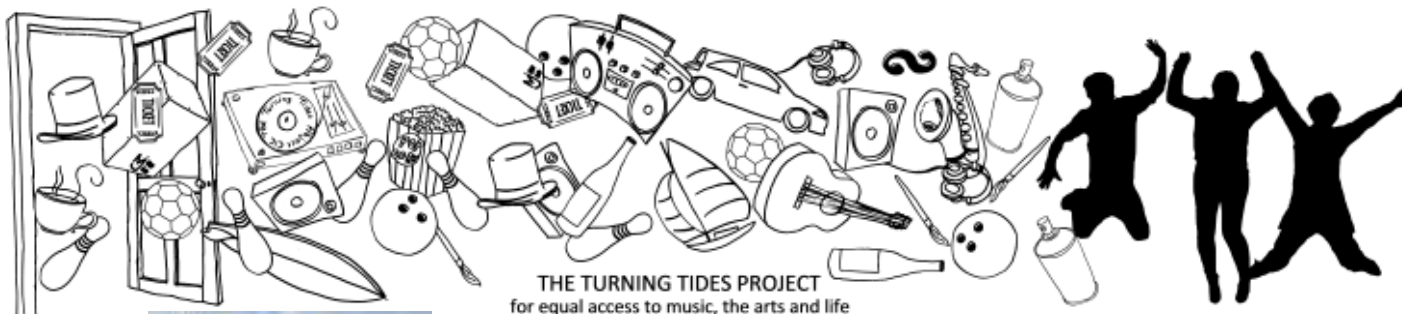


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@The Turning Tides Project
 @TurningTidesCIC
 @TurningTidesCIC





THE TURNING TIDES PROJECT
for equal access to music, the arts and life



TTTP: Equal Access to music programme has begun music sessions in local schools, with 1:1 and #inclusive sessions at QE school
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/equal-access-to-music-programme.html>



TTTP run weekly #inclusive sports sessions to develop #inclusive coaching team



TTTP are working with Lords Meadow leisure centre to complete #inclusive assistant swim teacher courses



TTTP Big Band performed at the Freemason's open day



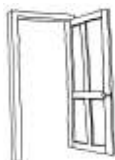
TTTP pop-up shop has been a regular presence at Tesco and at local festivals



We have local shops and cafes now stocking and selling our handmade produce

25 Exeter Road
Crediton
Devon
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Telephone: 01363 772512
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Website: www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk

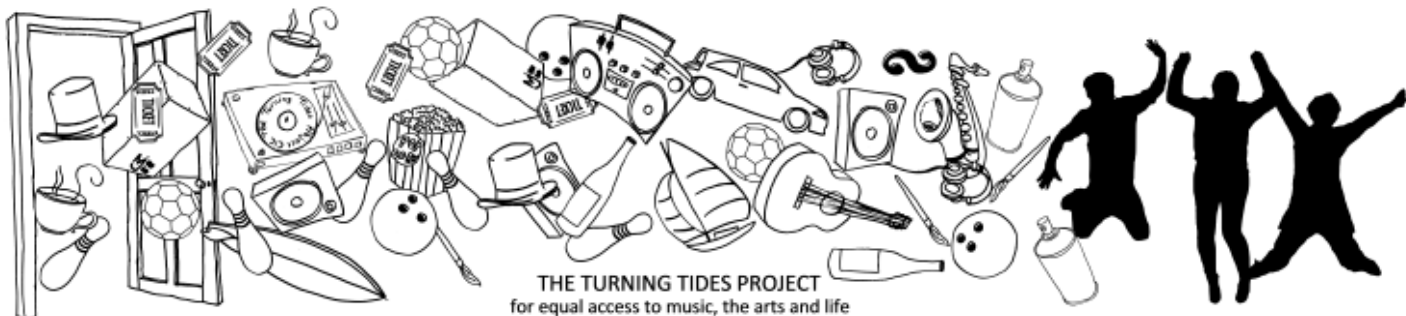


@The Turning Tides Project

@TurningTidesCIC

@TurningTidesCIC





The impact of The Turning Tides Project:



5 people training to achieve an assistant swimming teacher qualification



2 people are qualified football coaches and lead our #inclusive football session



20+ people with and without labels have taken part in our Big Band. Some have never performed on a stage before. All members of the band are learning and developing our musical knowledge and skills together



12 people have achieved Tesco bronze award for workplace skills



On average, 15-20 people attend our sport sessions weekly and are living a healthier lifestyle

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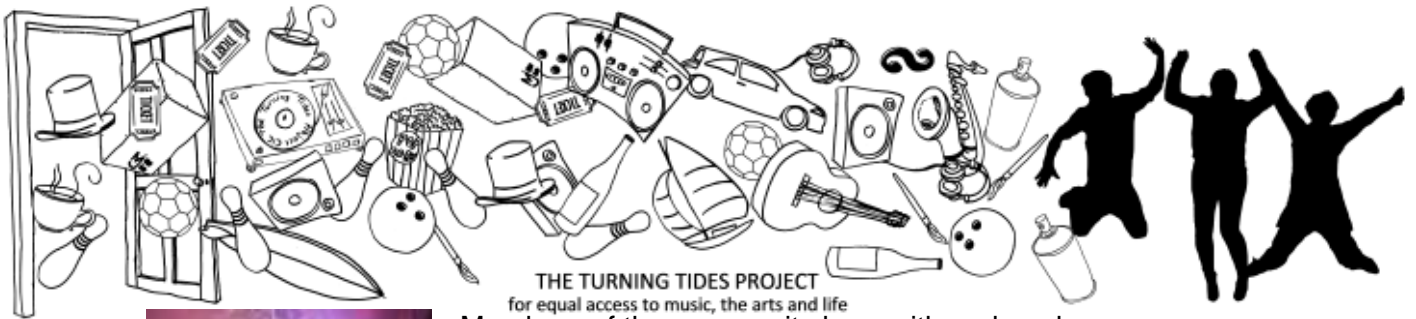


@The Turning Tides Project

@TurningTidesCIC

@TurningTidesCIC





THE TURNING TIDES PROJECT
for equal access to music, the arts and life

Members of the community have either played or volunteered with the Big Band. 250+ people in the community have watched us play



We volunteered at Credfest over the summer and ran #inclusive ink workshops and yarn bombing workshops, working closely with local organisations



The company have its own team of editors with and without labels that produce our films and small talk, (our accessible communication approach)



TTTP have ran 10+ workshops on 'The Social Model of Disability' in 2017



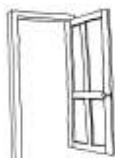
We are working with Active Devon to evaluate the accessibility of local places of interest, and to develop community coaches.

This year

This year with your support we will be:

25 Exeter Road
Crediton
Devon
EX17 3BL

6



Telephone: 01363 772512
Email: theturningtidesproject@hotmail.com
Website: www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk

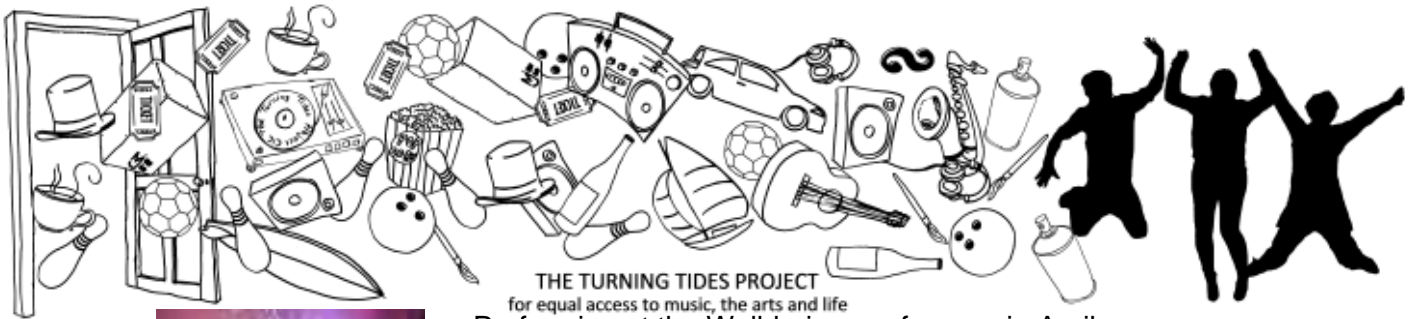


@The Turning Tides Project

@TurningTidesCIC

@TurningTidesCIC





THE TURNING TIDES PROJECT
 for equal access to music, the arts and life
 Performing at the Well-being conference in April



Catering the Well-being conference with our #inclusive catering team



Working in local schools running music sessions and 1:1 music lessons as part of TTTP: Equal Access to music programme

<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/training.html>



Developing our #inclusive sports sessions and coaches
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/inclusive-sports-qualifications.html>



Performing at local venues and festivals

25 Exeter Road
 Crediton
 Devon
 EX17 3BL

7



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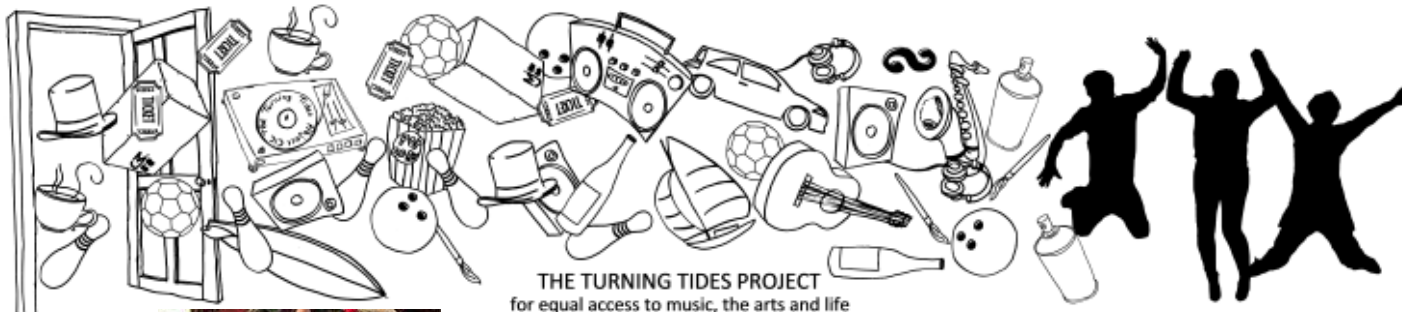


@The Turning Tides Project

@TurningTidesCIC

@TurningTidesCIC





THE TURNING TIDES PROJECT
 for equal access to music, the arts and life
 Delivering our 'The Social Model of Disability' workshop
 to local companies
<http://www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk/training.html>



Volunteering at the Christmas tree festival



TTTP has secured support from Heritage lottery fund. This project is named 'Turning Tides @ The Palace'. It will be developed around the history of the old cinema in Cridton.



TTTP will collate and have more research for the museum about the old cinema. This project will involve the local community, gathering interviews and photos from people who may have used the cinema.

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 Cridton
 Devon
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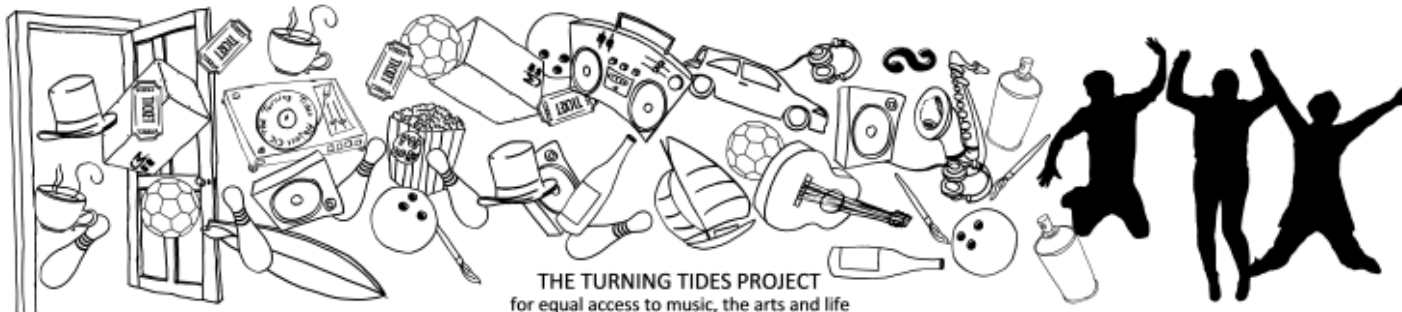


@The Turning Tides Project

@TurningTidesCIC

@TurningTidesCIC





We would like to thank the Town Council for their continued support and interest in our work, and are looking forward to the coming year.

Written by:



Benjamin Pidgeon,
Company
Manager



Abigail
Innocent,
Session Leader

Dated:
February 2018

DRAFT

25 Exeter Road
CREDITON
Devon
EX17 3BL

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Email: theturningtidesproject@hotmail.com
Website: www.theturningtidesproject.org.uk



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Crediton Library



Crediton Library is one of 50 Devon Libraries and has been run by Libraries Unlimited, a charitable mutual, since April 2016. Libraries Unlimited aims to bring ideas, imagination, information and knowledge to people's lives and communities. Library Supervisor, Béatrice Coveney, left at the beginning of September after 13 years in charge. New Library Supervisor Sue Lee brings library, business support and teaching experience to the role.

There were 50,000 visits to Crediton Library last year to access books, audiobooks, DVDs, computers, events, clubs, exhibitions, etc. The library provides resources and events for all ages. To increase the offer to the community Crediton Library works in partnership with, and provides facilities for, a wide range of organisations: from Learn Devon for maths skills and Elite training for IT skills, to Upstream and U3A for poetry, craft, song sharing, French and Spanish groups. Crediton Library has 4 Reading Well collections, endorsed by health experts, to help people to understand and manage their health and wellbeing. New links with Active Devon and other organisations are being formed to increase support for the mental and physical health and well-being of the community.

In addition to a book club for children and one for teens Crediton Library offers a weekly Duplo and Lego Club and a weekly under 5 event. 250 children attended the 16 events Crediton Library put on over the 2017 summer holidays, from craft, science and minibeasts, to author and drama events. 250 children from 21 local schools also took part in the national Summer Reading Challenge at Crediton Library.

The Friends of Crediton Library is a group of volunteers from a cross-section of the community that have been in existence since 2014. They support the library by extending the library facilities to benefit the whole community. Funds have been raised through annual voluntary donations, from book sales of donated books and from events they host in the library. During the past year they have installed blackout blinds, bought a digital projector, screen, laptop and PA system to attract speakers for talks and presentations by offering modern, technological facilities. They have replaced the teen sofa to enhance the social space for young people. They paid for a disco for the children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge and provided a school trophy for the school with the highest percentage of finishers to support the literacy development of children.

Devon Libraries has a new website so please visit the link below to find out more about Crediton Library: <https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/creditonlibrary>

Sue Lee
Library Supervisor
Crediton Library

devonlibraries.org.uk



is part of



@DevonLibraries



facebook.com/CreditonLibrary

CREDITON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

We have continued to attend Crediton each week, apart from the occasional week due to staff shortages and our move from our Gold Street office to our new premises at Coggans Well House in Phoenix Lane. This year at CHAT has been particularly challenging with some staff changes and a big office move and restructure.

It was very sad that Mid Devon District Council decided to withdraw their office support in Crediton followed by the cessation of their occasional housing options sessions. However, we felt it was important that the residents of Crediton and surrounding areas were still able to access support with their housing issues. This has proven invaluable for those residents and it would be fair to say we have seen an increase on our service.

We anticipate the need for housing advice to continue to rise with the introduction of benefit reform and the implementation of Universal Credit. The Homelessness Reduction Act will come into force in April 2018 which should see a rise in the need for any homeless client or client facing homelessness needing to attend their Local Authority. We envisage this being very problematic for clients living in the Crediton area with the withdrawal of MDDC presence in the town and the difficulties for clients being able to attend the Tiverton area due to the poor public transport links.

Housing Advice:

We have had a member of our team leave and one member of staff on four months' sick leave however we can report the following statistics for our drop in housing advice service:

From January 2017 to 31 December 2017 we saw 16 new clients; 13 clients who had previously sought advice and 58 ongoing clients we are working with. Of these the 59 were in the over 25 age bracket. 7 of the new clients were social housing tenants and 11 of the new and returning clients have mental health issues. These clients presented with wide ranging issues including: 7 new street homeless client; use of our Deposit Guarantee Scheme; prevention of homelessness by seeking financial assistance to clear arrears; landlord and disrepair issues. Two Crediton clients were facing homelessness as a direct result of the introduction of Universal Credit.

Tenancy Support:

Currently (as at 31 Jan 2018) out of the 32 Tenancy Support clients that we are supporting we have 8 who come live in the vicinity i.e. 4 from Crediton and 4 from the outlying villages

Crediton Tenancy Support Outreach – For the period 1 April 17 to 31 Dec 17 – our team saw 30 different clients on 86 separate occasions. Some clients only visited the Outreach once but several sought support on numerous occasions (up to 13 visits - by one client). The average number of visits by a single client however is 3.

In general Tenancy Support is sought for Benefit and Budgeting issues but for some the Outreach may be the place where the initial Tenancy Support meeting is held.

Debt and Money Advice:

For debt and money advice in the last year we have worked with 5 clients with an address in Crediton.

Of those 4 cases are ongoing. 1 client has had a Debt Relief Order granted and is back in full-time employment.

The total debt for all the clients combined is £42,350.

4 cases involve families with children and all of the clients receive housing benefit.

3 of the clients are in regular part-time employment.

Stella Beever
Housing Advice Team Leader

DRAFT



Report – Annual Town Meeting – 5th March 2018

Our Group Scout Leader for Crediton, Debbie Richards, would normally be giving this report, but she is taking a well earned break from Scouting for 6 months, so it has fallen to me to update you on our activities. One reason Debbie felt able to take a temporary step back was that we had reached some stability in terms of leaders, with a new Scout team starting last January, and 4 new leaders (all parents) taking on the Cubs section in September. Along with the established Beavers team, everyone is very enthusiastic, committed and working well together to give the young members some truly memorable experiences. We continue to be full with waiting lists for all sections.

In the last report Debbie spoke about our start on a national Scouting initiative 'Million Hands', which we have now completed. We have undertaken a range of activities looking at clean water and sanitation, in this country and abroad. As well as indoor sessions learning about the issues, the whole Group participated in a community litter pick at Westward Ho beach, and did odd jobs to raise enough money to fund the building of 2 toilets in rural villages in Uganda and Nepal, which are now 'twinned' with our toilets at the Scout Hut!

In June we had a Family Fun Day at Salmonhutch, for all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and their parents and siblings to enjoy traditional Scouting activities such as tent pitching, cooking on fires and woggle making, as well as making boats to race in the river and building a rope bridge.

We were very pleased to have 7 Beavers achieve their Chief Scout Bronze Award and 6 Cubs their Chief Scout Silver Award this year, through participating in a wide range of activities and learning new skills to earn all the Challenge badges.

You will have seen us out and about in Crediton this past year, getting involved with local events such as the parade through Newcombes to open CredFest 2017, and Remembrance Parade – the coldest, wettest one on record but our young people did us proud. Then our Hogwart's Express and Harry Potters at Christmas in Crediton, and we provided help again at the Christmas Tree festival both in the Church and the Boniface Centre.

Our young members have had several opportunities for overnight adventures, from sleepovers in the Scout Hut for the Beavers to a survival camp in a local farmer's woods for the Scouts, where they built their own shelters to sleep in and fires to cook on. Some of our older Cubs attended a Sixers and Seconders camp with others from Mid Devon District.

So 1st Crediton Scout Group is feeling very positive moving into 2018, with lots to look forward to (not least Debbie returning in July!). One highlight is sure to be an International Jamboree at Exeter Racecourse this summer for which our Scouts and leaders will be the only ones attending from Mid Devon.

Helen Olsson
Beaver Leader
On behalf of 1st Crediton Scout Group



Report for Annual Town Council meeting

March 2018

Crediton Area Children's Centre, part of Mid Devon Children's Centre

Devon Children's Centres have recently completed a tender process, with all services in Devon now being run by Action for Children. At Crediton Area Children's Centre, we are pleased to remain with this charity, that we have been part of for the last five years.

The new contract brings changes to the way that we are working with families and children;

- Our age range will now be 0 – 8 years old and we are looking forward to further building our relationships with schools
- Redefining some services so that we make sure that we reach all children who need something extra, as part of Early Help services within Devon.
- Further strengthening our community links and working with existing provision that offers activities for children and families.

We will continue to run groups from Old Haywards School, alongside toddler groups, and other community venues. Working in partnerships with others will remain key to strong service delivery.

Crediton Children's Centre will be piloting a new project, Community THRIVE in Action. Working with community members, volunteers and parents to pass on messages about baby brain development, bonding and what we can all do to help build children's resilience and emotional well-being. If you'd like to find out more about this project, please feel free to contact me.

Georgie Marks

Centre Lead

01363 777219

BONIFACE LINK

The Link was set up over 20 years ago at the behest of the Town Council. Its main aim is to maintain communication with, mainly, Dokkum and Fulda, but also with the other towns which have genuine St Boniface connections.

It is not our job to arrange events or activities, but to help keep open lines of communication. Having said that, we do hold a few little events each year, to keep us together and to raise a bit of money; from time to time we do sponsor the odd Boniface-linked activity: this year we held a well-attended, interesting and successful Saxon evening.

In addition our Secretary, Judy Tucker, is supervising the preparation and reissue of updated "Visitors' Guides to Crediton" (Town Trails) in three languages: Dutch, German and French.

Membership of the Link is only £5 a year; you won't get much for your money, but you will help us keep burnished our close relationships with especially Dokkum and Fulda - incidentally both very pleasant places to visit regardless, though I wouldn't go to Dokkum in mid winter!

One of our more successful ventures with D and F is the annual veterans football competition. It is now in its fifteenth year, and 2018 sees us, Crediton, hosting the event, between 1 and 3 June. We have to find accommodation for about 30 people, mainly players but also a few partners. People have been very generous in the past, but this year I DO NEED a few more volunteers to provide beds for our very well behaved guests.

If any of you would like to help out, please contact me, Bob Edwards, on 774391 or salmonhutch@btinternet.com

Bob Edwards

Chairman

Age Concern Crediton Report for Crediton Town Team 2017-2018

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 other issues, the result of which is frequently a hospital visit. And of course, the depressing face of loneliness is never far away.

Age Concern Crediton was set up to provide a realistic counter to these problems by:

- Providing a Day Care service at the Lady Mills centre in Crediton which offers activities, warmth, home cooked food and friendship.
- Providing support at home: shopping, befriending, cleaning and light domestic duties.
- Offering Fitness activities through the Leisure Centre
- Offering an Art Group with fortnightly sessions
- Providing Podiatry Services: toe nail cutting etc.
- Having Dementia Awareness via the Memory café which (we are about to set up)

This has been a good year for the Charity in terms of the number of elderly people whom we have served: over 2400 activity days were provided in the Day Care centre, (compared with 1750 last year), and we currently offer one or other service to over 70 people each week. Needless to say; without the commitment of our staff of nine together with forty or so volunteers, none of this could be possible. As I write, we are desperately seeking more voluntary help; even an hour a week would be useful: Drivers; Day Care Helpers; Shop assistants; Cleaners; Befrienders; Podiatrists; Fund raisers and Events Coordinators.

Our work has been historically supported to a degree by Government Grant but this is no longer assured, and so last year we put in hand major alterations to the layout of the Day Room in order to allow more guests to use the Centre, as well as to provide a realistic meeting facility for other users in the Town. We have always been supported by the work of our High Street Shop, but this year relied on fund raising from a wider range of sources which enabled the completion of the work; we are now looking towards alterations to our kitchen facility to finish the task.

During the year we have been supported by the following whom we would wish to thank: Ashton's; Val Barker; Four Seasons; The CoOp; Kelly Trust; Crediton Town Council; Q.E. Jazz Band; Buccaneers; Richard and Stella Stevens; Sandford Village Hall Committee; Tesco; Crediton Rotary (both groups); Charlesworth Nicol; branches of the WI and Mothers' Union; Cllrs Nick Way and Margaret Squires; Crediton Town Band; Crediton Farmers' Market; and an army of dedicated volunteers.

Our Doors are always open between 09.30 and 3.00pm and we welcome visitors to see the wonderful atmosphere in the Lady Mills Centre on Deep Lane, where donations of goods for our High Street shop can also be left.

John Musty

January 2018

Report of the Crediton Arts Centre for Town Meeting, March 5th, 2018

The Arts Centre has enjoyed another busy year. Every week during term times, at least 200 people, young and old, come through the doors of our East Street building. Some come to attend an art class, a film or a performance; others might be taking part in a dance workshop or a rehearsal for a forthcoming play.

We're especially glad that the Crediton Youth Theatre runs two classes for different age groups at the Centre each week. The Youth Theatre is perhaps best known in the town for its outdoor performances in recent summer Festivals. In 2017, they performed 'Hopping Mad', written and co-directed by Crediton resident Jez Taylor. Other Arts Centre contributions to Credfest were the well-established annual Food & Drink Festival; an event we call 'Busk It', when local musicians play in and out of shops up and down the High Street; and – an innovation for 2017 – an Art Trail in which 40 or more shops and businesses hosted work created by local artists, including paintings, textiles, ceramics and sculpture. Most of these works then appeared in an exhibition mounted in the Boniface Centre. Photographs by students from Hayward's and Queen Elizabeth's were displayed on the touch screen in Helmore's window. The East Street buildings also provided a venue for several other Festival events, including stand-up comedy from Comedy Suits who, for better or worse, consist mostly of members of the Arts Centre, silent movies with a live music soundtrack created in a day by local musicians of widely ranging abilities, and an Art Show by members of classes which are held at the Centre. Two of the Centre's storytellers told multicultural stories in Hayward's, Landscore and Sandford Primary Schools.

Another feature of our year was one of our biennial trips abroad, when around 40 people spend 5 days, led by Paul Cartwright, exploring the art of a European city – this time, the destination was Lisbon. The Centre also maintained its contribution, largely through the efforts of Peter Hamilton, to the entertainment featuring in the Christmas Lights Switch-On in the Square.

All of this, co-ordinated by a volunteer committee and our invaluable part-time administrator, Rosemary Stephenson (who is also a key player in the Town Team), stretches our resources in terms of time and money, not to say energy. We are very grateful to our Business Partners (Veitch Penny solicitors, Wortham Jaques accountants, Peck and Strong bakers, Ashgrove Kitchens and the Baobab Cafe) for their essential support; and, of course, to the Town Council, not only for vital funding, but for the informal encouragement we consistently receive from councillors and council officers.

Reading time: 4 minutes

Geoff Fox

Crediton & District Access Group report for Crediton Town Council

Reduce Social Isolation – the Government is encouraging us all to play our part, acknowledging that those who have the opportunity to be part of the community on the whole enjoy a healthier life reducing demand on health services.

The Crediton & District Access Group fully embraces this and believes improvements to the basics such as access to transport and the built and natural environment are a fundamental necessity.

In 2017 the Access Group celebrated it's 25th anniversary with friends who over the years have given support to the Group and it's aims to improve access and create equal opportunities for those wishing to be part of the community and socialise without the difficulty and embarrassment caused by challenging access.

The Access Group is grateful for funding it has received from the Town Council and the Co-Op. The Town Council money has helped towards funding travel costs of members representing the Group at various Events and attending meetings. The Co-Op money will be put towards projects planned for the coming year such as up-dating the Access Guide and campaigning for more seating in shops to help those who need to rest whilst shopping or socialising locally. The Group will also continue to campaign for improvements to pavements and the creation of a safe pavement in Mill Street running from Mole Avon to Morrisons.

Queen Elizabeth's School

Town Council Report

We have had a very successful academic year so far, with notable achievements in sport and extracurricular activities - for example the recent Outdoor Education trip to Scotland and of course the incredible Titanic Production that has become rightly famous in the town and wider community. A look at our website news section gives a flavour of all the fantastic work that is going on and the energy and commitment of our staff and students.

Since the last meeting we have invested further in our Social Media coverage and this is having a very positive impact and assisting us in getting the positive messages out to the wider community.

Recently published national league tables for school performance were also very pleasing. We are delighted that the School Performance League tables recognise once again the outstanding results that students achieve in Queen Elizabeth's School Sixth Form, putting us at the top of the table. The results are available from the Government's school performance website but the headlines are:

QE students achieved the highest average A level point score of any comprehensive school in Devon. (This is the average grade and average points that students achieved per A level entry. A points value is given to all qualifications so you can compare qualifications of a different level, size and grading system. The number of points is based on the challenge and size of a qualification.)

QE students achieved a B grade (on average) in their best 3 A levels, the best result for any comprehensive school in Devon.

QE students made better progress in our Sixth Form than students in every Independent school in Devon.

Positive progress measures in the new and much more demanding English and Maths GCSEs –69% grade 4 and above (the old 'C' grade) which is 5% above England average.

We have also had a significant amount of building work completed recently – grant funded from central government to approximately £700,000 to refurbish the historic West Wing.



Crediton and District U3A

Crediton and District U3A is a not-for-profit organisation for those who are retired or semi-retired. We are a thriving local group, and at the start of our third year we have exceeded our expectations with currently over 250 members and 25 active groups. The average number of groups per U3A area across the country is 30. We continue to attract members from the surrounding villages including Bow, Copplestone, Morchard Bishop, Lapford, Yeoford, Colebrook and Shobrooke. We also have regular meetings with other U3As through the North Devon Link.

Membership costs £12 a year and allows access to a wide range of classes and groups. Knowledge, skills and experience are shared through many and varied interest groups. Any member with an experience or strong interest in a subject is welcome to run a group.

We have a range of groups including the active, such as walking groups, tai chi and Pilates, the thoughtful, such as philosophy and mindfulness and the educational, with family history, language groups and historic buildings. We are always looking for new groups to add to our list. Some groups run weekly, others fortnightly and some monthly.

The only cost involved in attending a group is a share of the expenses, normally room hire and refreshments. Group leaders are not paid to run a group.

A successful U3A is wholly dependent on people being prepared to run groups.

The full list of groups and how to join is on our web-site:

U3asites.org.uk/crediton

The website is an integral part of our U3A. It has up to date information on groups, speakers and other local activities and is a way for new people who move into the area to find out what is available to them. The website is also a way for members to get in touch with us, for sharing views and for group leaders to update us on the running of their group. The site has had 23,000 hits over the last year.

On the third Wednesday of every month we have an Open Meeting at the Boniface Centre, with a speaker. Non-members are welcome and doors open at 09.30 for a 10.15 start. The £1.50 entry fee includes refreshments and offers the chance to chat and learn more about the organisation.

We now have a full list of speakers already booked for 2018 including talks entitled An Introduction to Islam, The NHS Chaos Theory and Devon's Lost Industries. The full list of speakers and all the information about our U3A is on our website.

The January Open Meeting included a lively talk by Judy Binks entitled Napoleonic Prisoners of War. Crediton was one of the towns used for the billeting of French Officers, being far enough away from the sea to discourage escape plans. Lower ratings were imprisoned locally in Dartmoor Prison. We learned, among many other things, the origin of the naming of Belle Parade in Crediton – the uniformed French Officers would take their regular walks there – and about the marriages that took place between some of the officers and local girls.

The committee has worked very hard over the last two years to ensure the smooth running of the organisation. They balance the books, organise the monthly speakers, put publicity in place, help groups run smoothly, set out chairs and make tea at the monthly meetings, organize an annual ceilidh, take minutes at meetings, check the business side is operating correctly, take photos, organise the exhibition at the library, offer a lunch and support for group leaders regularly and maintain the website, amongst many other things.

In 2017 we held a very successful ceilidh in Sandford Parish Hall and a photo exhibition at Crediton library. We also had a stall at the Devon County Show.

David Agasee

Chair Crediton and District U3A

(University of the third age)

DRAFT



Credition and District Swimming Club

The Club was formed in June 1999 just after the new Credition Swimming Pool was opened and currently has over 100 members enjoying competitive swimming for all ages. The 2017 Club Championships saw 60 swimmers taking part achieving 15 Devon County Qualifying Times and breaking 13 Club Records. Other competitions during the year, some at national level, resulted in some excellent results. 2017 has been a memorable year with one of our Masters swimmers, Darren Beer qualifying to swim in the World Championships in Budapest. Darren took part in several events and was place 11th in the world for the 400 metres Individual Medley. The Club once again organised and run the 19th Credition Learning Community Annual Primary School Gala in which 12 of our Schools took part and which was won by Bow this year with Sandford coming 2nd. Lifesaving Training is also available at the Club and other recent innovations include 50 metre pool training at Kelly College, Tavistock and regular Land Training to improve overall fitness. Club nights are Wednesday and Sunday at the Lord's Meadow Pool when further information on joining and supporting the Club can be obtained.

Peter Brewer - Chairman

Crediton International Social & Cultural Organisation ATM Report

CISCO was created in 2008 to support migrant workers and their families with information, translation and advice; help them integrating into the Crediton Community; protect them from hate crime and any sort of discrimination.

CISCO runs an Advice Centre helping with benefits, housing, employment, banking, etc., similar to Citizens Advice. We organise Immigration Talks to meet the local PCSO from Migrants' Department.

CISCO runs free English Lessons in Crediton with qualified volunteer teachers. We hope that the brake of the language barrier will help migrants making new friends, finding better jobs, feeling more secure and confident.

CISCO runs some cultural events to share our diversity with the Crediton community: We regularly take part in Crediton Food Festival and we were involved in CredFest 2017. This year we have decided to participate in the Spring Craft Market on Saturday, 17th March, in Crediton. Do come to our stall to see different ways people celebrate the arrival of Spring in the different countries. The event will be fundraising for our free English Lessons.

We welcome everybody willing to help us or involve us in new projects and events.

Contacts:

Maggie Bankowska-Sylla, Chairman, Polish interpreter, 07475659780, sylla.maggie@gmail.com

Natalia Letch, Treasurer, Russian interpreter, 01363 775739, 07455824053, natalia.letch@gmail.com

Immigration Talk 2017



CREDITON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Our year started with the opportunity for the Twinning Association to help Queen Elizabeth Academy French dept: with their student exchange with a school in Avranches. More students wanted to come here than QE had accommodation for, so the Association was asked to help with this & we found beds with members for about 8 students. *We took them to the Council Chamber, & provided refreshments for a reception by our Mayor Frank.* The students had asked if they could meet & question a WW2 veteran, & with help from the British Legion we were able to invite John Higgs to come to the reception & the children asked many interesting questions. The Twinning members were also invited to the final evening soiree where it was good to see them enjoying some Devon Morris Men showing them some traditional Devon dancing. All the students enjoyed the evening and I hope these exchanges will continue to take place as the Association is pleased to help.

On the last weekend in May we hosted a visit from the Avranches Orchestra. 42 players came & 10 of their association members too. This was a very large undertaking for us as many of them had not been before but one of our members, Peter Brewer asked many other groups in the town for help with accommodation & managed to find beds for all of them. We organised 2 concerts for them, one in Exeter at the Mint & the main one at Holy Cross Church here in Crediton with the Church Choir taking part. They all came together for a celebration tea between rehearsal & performance, provided by the Twinning Association & the noise level in the Boniface Centre proved that everyone was having a good time!

The standard of both concerts was exceptional & is a testament to the dedication & practice of all the musicians, many of whom were in their early teens.

The concerts were both free of charge to the audiences with a voluntary collection resulting in a large donation to FORCE. We were helped by a generosity from the Town Council in giving us a grant so helping with the cost of the venues, for this we say a big Thank You.

We had other social events for our members during the year, including a treasure hunt, a joint BBQ with FORCE in a member's garden, a skittles evening, & a curry meal cooked & hosted by another member. These events are for fun & fundraising. In July we again held our annual Boules tournament in the Town Square & 11 local teams played for the trophies.

In September we invited Avranches for an `official` visit. To make it an `International Sporting Event` we challenged them to a Bowls match on the Bowling green & a Boules contest on the Town Square. I am happy to report that it did not result in an International Incident as Crediton won the Bowls & Avranches won the Boules! Trophy's were presented at the farewell meal of their visit on the Sunday evening.

The Twinning connections continued in October when over 60 members and supporters of Crediton Church Choir visited Avranches & many people renewed the acquaintances made when the Orchestra came here. This was a successful visit with concerts held in both Avranches & St Mere Eglise. Again the Twinning Association were able to offer help & advice with our contacts over there!

As you will see from this report we have had another busy year, we can always welcome new members to join us & keep the link alive between our twinned towns thriving.

This year (2018) is our 25th anniversary & we have been invited to a celebration in Avranches in September.

Jenni Pitts - Chairman

DRAFT

Boniface trail combined use path to/from Exeter



- Status report March 2018
- Presentation explains progress made in last 12 months

Thanks to:

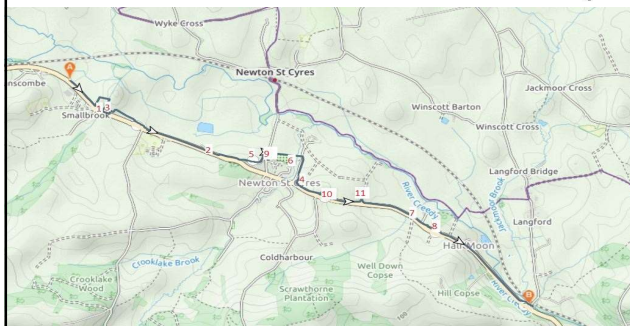
Crediton Town Council for financial support
Club Crediton for use of premises for meetings

Seeking planning permission



- An informal meeting has been held with the planning department at Mid Devon district council to prepare for application for planning permission
- A document is being prepared which will form the basis of the planning application

Route of phase 1



Example of submission



Road edge path



What it looks like now



Similar to path alongside Topsham Road

What it could look similar to

A bit further along path



Field edge



What it looks like now



What it could look similar to

<http://www.conservancy.co.uk/page/cycling/346>

Additional progress



- We are very close to agreement with a major landowner

Concluding Comments



- Negotiation with landowners
- Seeking planning permission
- One member wants to run informal cycle training events in Crediton
- Fundraising
- Consultation



Credition Town Team

Report to the Town Council for the Annual Town Meeting March 2018

Credition Town Team continues to support a number of projects for the people of Credition. The Town Team comprises:

- Rosemary Stephenson (Chair)
- Kate Lock (Vice-Chair and Secretary)
- Martin Ashley (Treasurer)
- Rod Brookes-Hocking
- Jo Ward
- Rachel Vowles
- Lucy Betts
- Lorraine Harris
- Paul Tucker (non-voting)

Mike Summerton and Alison Shakspeare stood down in 2017. We are hugely grateful for their valuable contribution over the past four years.

Projects

Credition Festival 2017: a huge success, with 47 events by 25 groups over 3 weeks in June/July 2017. It included a free open air screening of Mama Mia to 500 people, a well-attended drama production by the Youth Theatre, numerous community events and final party in the square. Many thanks to the artistic director, Rachel Vowles, who has now joined the Town Team. The next festival will be summer 2019.

High Street Flags: Now into its 5th year. 7 new flags were made by shop owners and community groups. We now have a total of 75 flags, which have been displayed at key times over the year.

Active Mums Credition: Regular rides out from the Bike Shed for mums with their babies and young children. The Town Team have raised £1000 to buy bikes and equipment for the rides. The rides are growing, and Tesco's Bags of Help will be featuring the project next month.

Get Out: What's On EX17: a monthly guide to all the arts, music and drama happening in the Credition area. After a short pause, it will start again in March, appearing in the Credition Courier. Andrew Vaccari has led this project, and enormous thanks to him. The Town Team has helped him raise the money to make the project viable.

Boniface Project: The project hopes to place 8 panels depicting the life of Boniface. Each panel will show a scene from his life, taken from stained glass panels in the Anglican Church. A huge amount of work has gone into the project, ready for the funding bid.

Social Prescribing in Credition: this project will seek to match people who have needs with community activities that can support them. It is a model that has worked well elsewhere in the country. It has the support of the GP practices in Credition, and the community services. It is still in planning stages.

The Community Hub: this large scale, long term project seeks to build a substantial centre for Arts, Community and Enterprise in the town. It is at a very early stage, but has support from the local town council and Mid Devon District Council. 2018 will see the establishment of the Trustees committee and the commissioning of a feasibility study with architects to start defining the project.

Girlguiding Crediton

Girlguiding Crediton continues to grow in numbers and strength. We currently have 8 units in the District, with 6 in Crediton town providing opportunities for 180 girls aged 5-17 run by 32 adult volunteers. In town we have two Rainbow units (5-7 year olds); 2 Brownie units (running 3 weekly sessions for 7-10 year olds); 45 girls attending a Guide Unit - for 10-14 year olds – the unit has had to start offering two time slots due to popularity; and a Ranger Unit for those aged 14+.

Highlights for the 2017/18 year have included 5 residential opportunities – 4 Brownie pack holidays and 1 Guide Camp; a programme of refurbishment for our kitchen facilities at the Guide Hut at Lords Meadow, allowing us to undertake group work with all sections in a great new space and the Guides Young Leader being named the SW Young Ambassador of the Year through the Lions Club. We have also taken part in the Exeter Monopoly Challenge, completed numerous badges including our First Aid Badge, Pack Holiday Badge and Mermaid Mayhem Challenge Badge; visited Tesco's for tours behind the scenes; taken part in the Remembrance Parade and litter picked along the link road.

There are lots of plans for the upcoming year including work as a Co-op Charity to improve the toilet facilities at the Guide Hut; seeing how the two Guide sessions work and more opportunities for girls from Crediton to have new experiences, make friends and be of service in their community.

DRAFT

Please could CTC read on behalf of CODS:-

CODS would once again like to thank the Town Council for our grant - we are spending the money on a PA system we can use 'on tour'. Very often we are asked to perform in village halls or in the open air and this new system will provide us with improved sound for our audiences. It will consist of an 8 Channel portable PA system with MP3 player. There will be speakers and boundary microphones which will be able to pick up sound from 'all around'. We would be able to hopefully make this 'work' for us as we intend to offer it , at low cost, to other local groups.

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CREDITON AREA HISTORY & MUSEUM SOCIETY



REPORT TO CREDITON TOWN MEETING March 2018

We continue to circulate a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year and hold monthly talks at the Boniface Centre from September to April which are always well attended.

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, and we intend soon to purchase software to display some of our more interesting items on the website so that the general public can easily learn more of what we have in the collection, and, hopefully to attract more visitors.

The 2017 exhibition “Down on the Farm” was our most successful to date resulting in an increase of over 200 visitors above previous years. It was encouraging that local Brownie and Beaver Scout groups visited. 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 2 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.

We also had a visit from the “Turning Tides” group who used items from our archives to research the history of the former cinema, now Buccaneers.

We have been approached by the Villages in Action Program (apparently it does not matter that Crediton is a Town), regarding a project they are running about “Hidden Histories” in rural Devon. We will be meeting with them and the Arts Centre within the next few weeks.

This year the museum will open on 11th April and will run until October. Our theme will be childhood and amongst the exhibits will be a “Victorian” schoolroom and children’s games from the past.

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 intend to repeat the exercise of placing an insert in the Crediton Courier with a view to adding to our number of friends.

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.