

# Newsletter

January - March 2017

## A Message from the Mayor

As can be seen from the articles in this newsletter, the past three months have been busy for the Town Council and its staff. This hectic period culminated in our Christmas in Crediton parade, followed by an election for a vacant seat on the Council in Lawrence Ward. The Clerk and Assistant Clerk have also been busy preparing the Town Council's budget.

In December, I attended a session chaired by John Hart, the leader of Devon County Council. The topic was "tough choices", which is county-speak for cuts.

Despite the diminishing funds filtering to the Town

Council from funding streams above us, the Town Council intends to maintain the services it funds in the town. Those services include youth provision, public toilets and grass cutting.

I shall continue to hold my Mayor's Surgeries on Farmers' Market days where I can distribute newsletters, other council publications and the ever popular "poo bags." I also welcome the opportunity to chat to residents and receive their comments and proposals.

Need poo bags?

You can always pick some up from the Town Council Offices!

Councillor Frank Letch

## Fantastic Fun ... with Fireworks

There was fun for all the family at the Christmas in Crediton 2016 celebrations. Entertainment on the High Street started at 4.00 pm with Winkleigh Morris, Rado, Exeter Street Band and Crediton Town Band. Adding to all this festive fun, was the Exmouth Land Train, which provided rides up and down the high street, and the Children's Fancy Dress Competition. The Parade & Lights Switch-on saw record numbers of people taking part and watching the whole event. This year, there were even more lights and fireworks for the big switch-on.

There was just too much happening for us to be able to report it here! Don't worry if you couldn't make it and feel like you've missed out, as we had the event filmed.





So, to see the film plus videos and photographs taken on the night, together with a list of all those who helped make it happen, which includes our sponsors Crediton Dairy, Create Storage, Hedgerow Print and Crediton Chamber of Commerce, please go to the Christmas in Crediton Facebook page and Town Council website.

#### **Brand New Minibus**

The Mayor, Councillor Frank Letch, recently had the honour of cutting the ribbon on the new Crediton Community Transport minibus. This welcome addition to the Community Transport fleet cost £58,000 and is fully wheelchair accessible. After a long application process, the full cost of the minibus was successfully funded by the Department for Transport. This bus will be joining a new Passenger Club Scheme, aimed to help disabled, elderly people in isolated rural areas.



## **Keep Crediton Clean Campaign**

We thought we would introduce you to some of the many unsung heroes of Crediton. On the right is Pete Beal (not the one from a popular soap opera!) who tirelessly litter picks the streets of Crediton no matter what the weather. Thanks Pete, litter did you know it would make you famous!



To the left are members of Sustainable Crediton. This was taken just before the Britain in Bloom Competition judging, when two groups cleaned from East Street,

around the Parish Church, Newcombes Meadow, the Town Square, High Street and St Lawrence Green. Thank you to everyone involved, what a difference!

For further information on the Keep Crediton Clean Campaign, including how you can join in, please visit the Town Council website at www.crediton.gov.uk or call into the Council Offices.

## Hip, hip, hooray...



Yes folks, it's been a long time coming. In actual fact, it's taken almost three years but the Town Council is pleased to confirm that the discrepancies and inconsistencies within the Town's Traffic Regulation Orders are now being addressed by Devon County Council.

You may have noticed the dual use loading/parking bay outside the Council Offices has been turned into just a parking bay and the one situated outside Tesco Express is now an all-day loading bay.

For full details on all the changes being made please go to the Town Council's website www.crediton.gov.uk.

What do you think?

We would love to hear your thoughts about Christmas in Crediton 2016. What did you like? What didn't you like? How do you think it could be improved in the future?

The Town Council has received delegated powers from Devon County Council to take action and remove unauthorised signs, posters and graffiti in Crediton. What areas do you think we should be concentrating on?

Your views are important to us and we value your feedback. Please let us know what you think about the above issues, or anything else in Crediton! Contact details can be found on the back page.

#### **Bob's on Board**

At the December Town Council meeting, Councillors welcomed Bob Wright as a new, duly elected Councillor. Bob's election followed the resignation of Bill Dixon earlier in the year. Bob is a popular face around Town,



having been a Mid Devon District Councillor for numerous years, as well as a volunteer for Churches Housing Action Team and being an active member of Community Speed Watch. Following his election, Bob said "It is gratifying to know that, after almost ten years of representing the residents of Lawrence Ward on the District Council, they have enough faith in me to choose me to represent them on the Town Council. I will continue to work hard for everyone."

### **New Youth Project**

Since Devon County Council removed its youth service in Crediton, the Town Council has worked with local youth organisations to plug the gap that was created.

During 2017 the Town Council will be funding a new Detached Youth Project. Detached youth work involves working with young people away from buildings and in a setting they choose. The Crediton project will focus on engaging with young people in Newcombes Meadow, the Leisure Centre Skate Park, Southfield Drive walkway and Peoples Park Road and will be delivered by Youth Workers Lauren Strand, Crediton Methodist Church, and Daniel Nganga, Crediton Congregational Church.



## **Epic Entries and Success!**

On Tuesday, 8th November, Crediton Town Council held an awards ceremony for the Britain In Bloom Crediton entries.

This year, the Crediton-In-Bloom groups received a total of fourteen certificates for their entries into the "Its Your Neighbourhood" Award Programme. Crediton also received a Silver Gilt Award and "The Best New Entry" Award, which were presented to Councillor Michael Szabo at the Awards Presentation held in Taunton, on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October.



Michael Foy, the lead Britain in Bloom judge, described Crediton's 2016 entry as "A remarkable first time entry" and said "the participants have to be congratulated on their achievements"!

# ? Think you ? know Crediton?



Where would you find this well-upholstered bench?

Answer on back page

#### Liz's Return from Palestine



For the last three months Cllr Liz Brookes-Hocking has been taking part in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI). Ecumenical Accompaniers offer protective presence to vulnerable communities and monitor and report human rights abuses. They join Palestinians and Israelis who work in nonviolent ways for peace and support the local churches.

Over the next few weeks Liz will be preparing for the advocacy work which is the second part of the programme. So, if anyone knows of any groups who would be interested in talking to Liz, please contact her on 01363 774562. Booked in so far are Crediton Mothers Union and OE.

## And there's more...

Think you know Crediton? Answer

Bowling Crediton Bowling Clubhouse Thank you to all our enthusiastic volunteers who helped tidy up and plant bulbs at the Peoples Park Wildlife Area on 8th October!

CONTRACT SPECIAL SPECIAL

If your organisation would like to provide a presentation at the next

Annual Town Meeting
being held on Wednesday, 29th
March 2017 please contact
Clare, Town Clerk, on the details
below.

Mid Devon District Council is consulting on its new Local Plan. The consultation will be held between 3rd January and 14th February 2017. For more information visit:

https://www.middevonnewscentre.info/ local-plan-review-approved-for-publicconsultation/

#### Dates for your diary

<u>January</u>

7th & 21st 17th Farmers Market Crediton Town Square Crediton Town Council meeting 7.00 pm

Council Chamber, Market Street

**February** 

4th & 18th 21st Farmers Market Crediton Town Square Crediton Town Council meeting 7.00 pm Council Chamber, Market Street **March** 

4th & 18th 21st

29th

Farmers Market Crediton Town Square Crediton Town Council meeting 7.00 pm

Council Chamber, Market Street Annual Town 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
John Downes		Blagdon House, Blagdon, EX17 1EH	01363 774267
Nick Way		Westwood House, Westwood, EX17 3PE	01363 777903
Dan Webb		The Great Hall, Creedy Park, EX17 4EB	07479 469700
Andi Wyer		3 Glen Creedy Court, Crediton, EX17 1GD	01363 777160

#### **Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward**

	Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward					
Liz Brookes-Hocking		Oliver House, 7 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT	01363 774562			
	Heather Sansom	20 Redvers House, Crediton, EX17 3AW	01363 775455			
	Mike Szabo	9 Alexandra Way, Crediton, EX17 2EA	01363 775255			
	Jade Walters	Ground Floor Flat 1, 7 Union Road, Crediton, EX17 3AW	01363 774317			
	Bob Wright	3 Okefield Ridge, Crediton, EX17 2EG	01363 773566			
	Hannah Zorlu	Hilary, Barnfield, Crediton, EX17 3HY	01363 530037			
	Clare Dalley (Town Clerk)	Council Offices, Market Street, Crediton, EX17 2BN	01363 773717			

E-mail: townclerk@crediton.gov.uk

#### **Useful Contacts**

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Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255	www.middevon.gov.uk	District & County Councillors	
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	www.devon.gov.uk	John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Crediton Library	01363 772578		Bob Wright (District)	01363 773566
Citizens Advice	01363 776210		Frank Letch (District)	01363 775739
Crediton Hospital	01363 775588		Nick Way (District & County)	01363 777903
Social Services	0845 155 1015			

Non-Urgent Police Enquiries/Reports 101 Report a power cut 105