



Crediton
Town
Council

Newsletter

April - June 2016

A Message from the Mayor

Now that winter is officially over, and the town has recovered from its High Street being closed for three weeks, it is time to look forward to plans and challenges that face the Town. There is no doubt the biggest challenge facing us all is the withdrawal of the Mid Devon District Council service from the Market Street offices. The Town Council has been in long negotiations trying to mitigate the changes as best it can. To help in this quest it has appointed a receptionist who will be able to advise and guide people following the closure.

The Town Council has been looking at the possibility of taking over the council building and has appointed Catalyst Consultancy to carry out a feasibility study. This will help to define the aims and objectives for the building and devise a business plan for how these can be achieved.

This year's Mayor's Reception will be on 20th April. Charities and other groups from the town will gather to network and receive grants from the Council to help them carry on their good work. There

will also be the presentation of the town plate, which recognises the efforts of those demonstrating outstanding commitment to Crediton.

I shall continue with my Mayor's surgeries on the Town Square and look forward to people coming over to chat. Some have positive ideas, some have mild criticisms - all are welcome.

The Wildlife Area and Scout Memorial Garden continue to flourish and enliven Peoples Park. On a floral note, I do hope gardeners in Crediton will enter the Town Council's 2016 Floral Crediton Competition. I shall have entry forms at my surgeries and there are other outlets in the town where they can be collected.

Frank Letch MBE Town Mayor

We recently decided to spend £12,000 per year to keep the toilets in Newcombes and Market St open. Do you think we made the right decision?

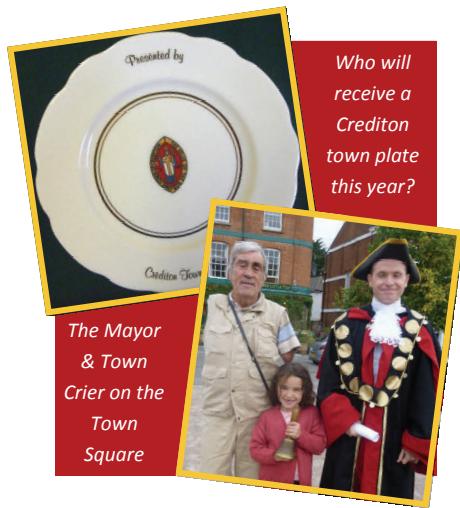
The dual use loading/parking bays were painted red in 2015 to help motorists identify that the bays are different to the normal parking spaces and cut down on people receiving fines. Do you think it's worked?

This financial year, the town council will be paying £3,324 to cut highway grass verges within Crediton otherwise they will be left uncut. Do you think this is money well spent?

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.



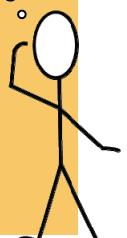
Portrait of the Mayor, Councillor Letch, painted by Kevin Jones



The Mayor & Town Crier on the Town Square

Who will receive a Crediton town plate this year?

What do you think?



Floral Crediton Past & Present

by Cllr Michael Szabo

Floral Crediton was established in the late 1980's by Cllr. Gillian Ponsford. She soon had a team of dedicated volunteers including Joyce Harris, Jenni and Dave Pitts, Nan and John Gaskell, Eddie Sherwood and Norman Ponsford. They started to 'green up' the town. They planted wishing wells at the entrances, held a gardening competition for residents, established the plant-a-boot competition at Haywards School, which at its peak had 70 boots, and entered Crediton in Britain in Bloom ("BIB").

Starting in 1963, BIB now consists of 18 regions including the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and has been organised by the RHS since 2002. It is designed as a ladder for groups to climb from the grassroots level of "It's Your Neighbourhood" ("IYN") to the Pennant Award and then BIB.

In 1992, Crediton received the South West Travel Association Cup for the best town in the "4,500 - 10,000 population" category. This was Crediton's fourth year of entry in BIB, having won a Certificate in the same category in 1990. In 1996, Crediton was awarded the Abbiss Certificate for Excellence.



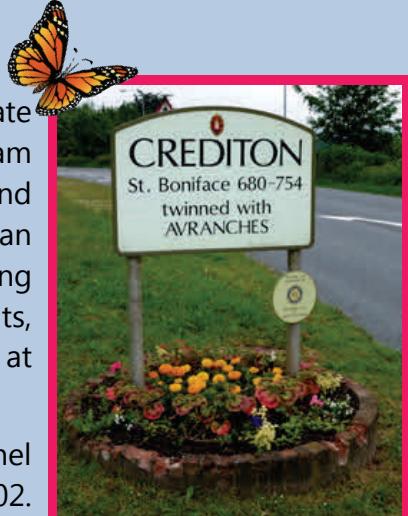
Caroline Smith and Richard Bowden
in the Congregational Church
gardens in August 2012. (Photo
courtesy of Crediton Courier)

In 2011, Crediton entered BIB and earned the South West Tourism Cup, Silver Award. In 2012, the Crediton Congregational Church entered the IYN Award, which consists of non-competitive, volunteer-led groups, who clean up or 'green up' local areas. By 2015, 18 groups including the Railway station, Town Square Garden, Peoples Park and the Wildlife Garden, Bowls Club, Hillbrow Residential Home, Hayward's Garden Club, Lanscore School, Lennard House Gardeners, Newcombes Meadow Community Group, Moffats Land Allotments, Lions Club, Age Concern, Rotary Boniface, Residents Stanbury Court, the Lodge residents and Save the House Martins, had entered, which has built a solid foundation of support for entry into the Pennant Award this year. The criterion for this award is more relaxed than the BIB criteria allocating 25% for Community Participation, 25% for Environmental Responsibility, and 50% for Gardening Achievement.

The Floral Crediton competition, allowing residents to showcase their gardens and receive valuable feedback from judge, Bert Jewell, is thriving and last year had over 25 entries!

The council has agreed to enter the Pennant Award this year and the judges will visit on July 4th. As chairman of the committee, I aim to support the town community volunteers in their effort to attain Gold level recognition for Crediton at Regional, National, and European levels, because 'green' streets: encourage people to linger longer (helping local businesses to thrive), bond communities together (restoring pride and reducing anti-social behaviour), and create a prosperous and unified community.

Anybody wanting to join us on this enjoyable and rewarding journey of step-by-step continuous improvement in Crediton can contact me at mikeszabo60@gmail.com or 775255.



One of the wishing well planters
greeting you as you enter the Town.



Garden entries from 2015 (Photos
courtesy of Crediton Courier)

Keep Crediton Clean Campaign

We are sure you will agree we live in a beautiful part of the country. Our Town is a great place to live and work in, as well as to visit, so it is with a sad heart that we are writing this article today.

The Town is being blighted by the inconsiderate actions of a few people who drop litter and those that do not pick up after their pets. Is it too much to ask for people to make use of the dog and litter bins provided?

This is a growing problem in Crediton, with numerous complaints now being received at the Town Council offices on a weekly basis. Well you will be pleased to know the Town Council is tackling the problem head on. Firstly, we are reporting anyone seen carrying out these offences and we would encourage all residents of Crediton to do the same. This can be done anonymously!

Secondly, and on a more positive note, we would like to take action to keep Crediton clean now and in the future. To do this, we aim to start the '*Keep Crediton Clean Campaign*'. We are asking individuals, community groups and organisations, schools and businesses to do their bit and help clean up the town. So ask yourself, what can you do today to help keep Crediton clean?

Over the coming months the Council will be organising local initiatives to keep Crediton clean. Please see Council noticeboards, website and social media pages to get involved and don't forget to tell us what you're doing to make a positive difference.

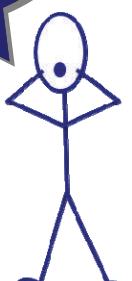


Did you know the Town Council is consulted on every planning application within Crediton Town? Did you also know that you are able to comment on planning applications? Our town will always be affected by development and it is important that as residents and businesses you use the channels available to make your voice heard and have your say.

Last year we received an application for Wellparks to be developed. Recently, we received an application for development at Fordton and coming soon will be proposals for Pedlerspool and an Anaerobic Digestion Plant at Lords Meadow. All planning applications have to be submitted to Mid Devon District Council, as the Local Planning Authority. These can be found on their website and in the local press.

Crediton Town Council considers these applications at its monthly council meeting, with each application listed on the agenda (copies can be found on our website). You can comment by writing or e-mailing Mid Devon District Council and/or you can make your views known to your local Town Councillor, who will make sure these are taken into account when the Town Council considers the application.

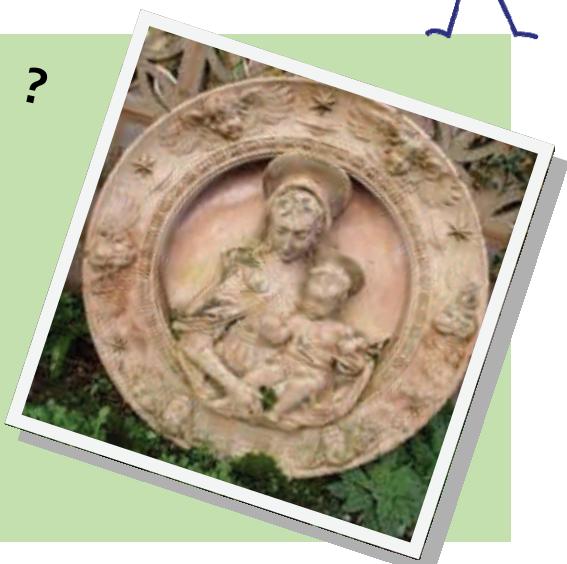
**Planning -
Have your say!**



? Think you know ? ? Crediton? ?

Left: The brightest door bathed in winter sunshine, but where is it?

Right: In which town garden can this be seen?



And there's more...

Christmas in Crediton 2016
Saturday 26th November
The theme is Santa's Toyshop!

Beacon Lighting Ceremony
21st April 2016 starts at 7.00 pm

31st March 2016
Mid Devon District Council service in Crediton closes

Huge thank you to Barkers Jewellers who have cleaned and polished the Mayor's Chain for free

Think you know Crediton? answers
Left: QE Academy
Right: St Lawrence Chapel Garden

Don't forget to enter this year's Floral Crediton Competition. Last date for entries is 1st July 2016

Remember
Crediton Town Council, Citizens Advice & Community Transport are all still in the Council building and here to help



Dates for your diary

April

- 2nd & 16th** **Farmers' Market** Crediton Town Square
19th **Crediton Town Council** meeting 7.00 pm
21st **Beacon Lighting Ceremony** to celebrate HM The Queen's 90th Birthday, Beacon Park (next to Upper Deck) at 7.00 pm.

May

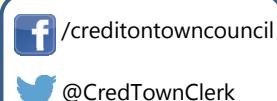
- 7th & 21st** **Farmers' Market** Crediton Town Square

17th

Crediton Town Council meeting 7.00 pm
 Council Chamber, Market Street

June

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



Crediton Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Frank Letch	(Mayor & Chairman)	2 Butt Parks, Crediton, EX17 3HE	01363 775739
Joyce Harris	(Deputy Mayor)	5 Charlotte Street, Crediton EX17 3BB	01363 775221
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

Liz Brookes-Hocking	Oliver House, 7 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT	01363 774562
Bill Dixon	1 Hawthorn Road, Crediton, EX17 2DF	01363 772176
Anne Hughes	5 Court Orchard, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5BJ	01392 851527
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
Clare Dalley (Town Clerk)	Council Offices, Market Street, Crediton, EX17 2BN E-mail: townclerk@crediton.gov.uk	01363 773717

Useful Contacts

Mid Devon District Council	01884 244636 (Crediton)	www.middevon.gov.uk
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	www.devon.gov.uk
Crediton Library	01363 772578	
Citizens Advice Bureau	01884 244630	
Crediton Hospital	01363 775588	
Social Services	0845 155 1015	

District & County Councillors

John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Bob Wright (District)	01363 773566
Frank Letch (District)	01363 775739
Nick Way (District & County)	01363 777903