

NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2024

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH

Over 20 stalls filled Lords Meadow Leisure Centre at the Celebration of Youth event on 22 January. From Taekwon-Do to Youth Theatre, there was something to appeal to everyone. Organised by Involve Mid Devon, Crediton Town Council, Crediton Youth Club, Mid Devon Primary Care Network and QE, this event allowed young people to find out about local clubs/groups/opportunities available to them.

Young people were able to give some activities a go on the day, as well as engage in the town council's stallholder challenge with 3 x One4All vouchers up for grabs. Crediton Youth Club's lead youth worker, Cath

Kelly, said she "was delighted by the enthusiasm of the participating groups and the wide-range of opportunities available to young people. It was incredible." Check out our webpage www.crediton.gov.uk/youth-work to keep up to date!

CREDITON URBAN TASKFORCE [CUT!]

[CUT!] is a volunteer-led initiative, supported by Crediton Town Council enabling local community-minded people to help keep our urban environment in better condition, working safely as a group activity. The group aims to tackle the maintenance of our pavements, kerbs, paths and other public areas.

Would you like to help out? Or can you suggest a place in need of urgent attention? With your help [CUT!] can work to benefit residents, visitors and the local economy.

Please contact the town council's Deputy Clerk for info on upcoming projects: reception@crediton.gov.uk or scan the QR code to visit the [CUT!] webpage and register your interest. Let's look after Crediton!

JUNE

Clear your diaries because June in Crediton is packed full of things to do.

Tuesday 4 June: Devon Day

Are you or your neighbours planning anything?

Wednesday 5 June: St Boniface Day

Born right here in Crediton, St Boniface is the patron saint of Devon.

Thursday 6 June: D-Day 80

The town crier will read a proclamation in the Town Square at 8am. The lighting of the beacon will be at 9.15pm in Beacon Park. Music from the Town Band. All welcome.

Saturday 8 June: Crediton Food & Drink Festival

Talks, demos, children's activities, music, a bar and - of course - delicious, local food. The Town Square, free to attend, all welcome.

Sunday 9 June: The Big Boniface Bash

A community fun day in Newcombes Meadow. Bands, bar, street food, games, Saxon Fayre and more. 12.00 - 16.00, free to attend, all welcome.

ANNUAL BUDGET 2024-2025 – Investing in Crediton and enhancing our community

Who is Crediton Town Council and what do we do?

Crediton Town Council sits in the first tier of local Government and is the first point of contact for anyone concerned with a community issue. Officers and the 12 elected councillors work hard to deliver local services.

We look after a range of community facilities including allotments, bus shelters, public open spaces, alongside organising a range of civic and community events, including Christmas in Crediton.

Crediton Town Council supports our local community groups and organisations by providing annual grants.

We are committed to ensuring Crediton is a place where people want to live, work and visit by enhancing the built environment, open spaces and services within our remit.

Where will our money come from?

The main source of our income is from Mid Devon District Council as part of your council tax. This part of your council tax is known as the precept. We use the precept to fund the functions and services Crediton Town Council provides.

PRECEPT - Domestic rate payers council tax - £491,499.00 (95% of anticipated income)
SERVICES INCOME - Rent for allotments & room hire - £5,220.00 (1% of anticipated income)
OTHER INCOME - Income received from grants and interest - £23,000.00 (4% of anticipated income)

Some of the functions and services Crediton Town Council provides

Community Grants 9%
Youth Service Delivery 11%
CCTV 2%
Christmas lighting and floral displays 6%
Community Events and Partnership Projects 2%
Environmental and Public Open Spaces 22%
Allotment sites 1%
Council Administration and Facilitation 47%

Costs for a Band D property

£174.08 per year/£14.50 per month/£3.35 per week

An annual increase of £11.99 per year/£1.00 a month/23p a week

WITH BIRDS & BEES IN MIND...

Planting continues with winter and spring flowering shrubs for the Peoples Park Wildlife Garden. Pictured here in February is volunteer warden Peter Please working in partnership

with town councillor Giles Fawssett. Volunteers are welcome on scheduled mornings each month. If you want to get involved and join the volunteer WhatsApp group please contact Cllr Fawssett - 07484 878681.

Important: The town council is not responsible for this WhatsApp group. By giving your consent for your number to be shared, the town council will not be responsible for the messages sent on this group or how other members use your contact information.

HANGING BASKETS Reducing costs & environmental impact!

At the budget workshops held in November, the importance of floral displays divided members of the public, with some seeing them as low priority and costly and others rating the way they brighten up the town as one of the highest priorities. With this feedback in mind, at the beginning of June you will see 50 hanging baskets go up around the town, however, this year the focus is going to be perennials and grasses which are pollinator and insect friendly. Not only will these be beneficial for biodiversity, but these plants will only need watering once per week, which will half the watering costs and, with the climate emergency in mind, reduce the total journeys made to Crediton by the contractor, Here's an idea of the vision board presented to the Community & Environment Committee. We're looking forward to seeing the final result!

IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Do you look after a green area in Crediton? Almost any outdoor space being cared for by the Crediton community can qualify for the It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) Competition. Whether it's an existing community garden or small area of disused land that's been given a makeover, the most important part is that it is a community project. Although part of RHS Britain in Bloom, IYN is not competitive. The benchmarking levels are used to recognise and congratulate achievements of the groups entering and also provide feedback and guidance to support their projects in the future.

To enter this year, visit www.southwestinbloom.org.uk/Its-YourNeighbourhood.aspx for an application form. Alternatively, if you're interested in entering and want more information, please contact Emma Anderson, by emailing: e.anderson@crediton.gov.uk. Closing date is 5 April 2024.

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO CONTACT US...

Visit us - Monday to Friday 10.00 to 14.00

Email – reception@crediton.gov.uk

Attend a meeting – agendas are on our website

Phone – 01363 773717

Make an appointment with the Town Clerk

Website – www.crediton.gov.uk

CREDITON HIGH STREET ON-STREET PARKING- UPDATE

Following the public consultation held by Devon County Council from 7 December - 7 January, the proposal to implement on-street parking charges in Crediton will be discussed on 13 March 2024. Devon County Council will summarise all comments received and take a report to the Cabinet Meeting for a decision to be made on how to proceed with the proposal. Details of the draft order can be viewed on our website under 'News & Events'.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

Saturday 02 & Saturday 16 - Farmers Market, Crediton Town Square 10.00 - 13.00

Tuesday 19 - Meeting of Crediton Town Council, Old Landscore School, Greenway, 19.00

Saturday 23 - Crediton Community Conversation, Boniface Centre 09.30 – 13.00

April

Saturday 06 & Saturday 20 - Farmers Market, Crediton Town Square 10.00 - 13.00

CONTACT DETAILS

Crediton Town Councillors - Boniface Ward

Name	Email	Telephone
Jim Cairney	jcairney@crediton.gov.uk	01363 773490
John Downes	jdownes@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774267
Joyce Harris	jharris@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775221
Stephen Huxtable	shuxtable@crediton.gov.uk	07875 886550
Natalia Letch	nletch@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775739
Paul Perriman	pperriman@crediton.gov.uk	07442 161917

Crediton Town Councillors - Lawrence Ward

Name	Email	Telephone
Liz Brookes-Hocking (Mayor & Chair)	lbrookes-hocking@crediton.gov.uk	01363 774562 07889 680434
Rachel Backhouse	rbackhouse@crediton.gov.uk	07891 898487
Guy Cochran (Deputy)	gcochran@crediton.gov.uk	07484 878681
Giles Fawssett	gfawssett@crediton.gov.uk	01363 775739
Frank Letch	fletch@crediton.gov.uk	07821 945167
Georgina Stone	gstone@crediton.gov.uk	

Rachel Avery (Town Clerk)

E-mail: r.avery@crediton.gov.uk Tel: 01363 773717

Council Offices, The Bungalow, 8 North Street, Crediton, EX17 2BT

District & County Councillors

Name	Telephone
John Downes (District)	01363 774267
Jim Cairney (District)	01363 773490
Frank Letch (District & County)	01363 775739
Guy Cochran (District)	07891 898487

Useful Contacts

Name	Telephone	Website
Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255	www.middevon.gov.uk
Devon County Council	0845 155 1015	www.devon.gov.uk
Crediton Library	01363 772578	

More on our website: www.crediton.gov.uk/useful-contacts