

THE CLAYTON CIRCULAR

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

*Autumn/Winter
2020*



**IN THIS ISSUE... PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES,
BACK LANE WOODS NATURE RESERVE & IMPROVING PLAY AREAS**

Telephone: 01257 264854 Email: clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk
www.claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Message From Your Chair

Dear Resident,

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of the Clayton Circular, the newsletter of Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council. Well I'm pretty sure nobody could have predicted the events of 2020, what a difficult year it has been for everyone due to Covid-19.

As your Parish Council, meeting with our residents is what Councillors enjoy the most and we have really missed not being able to socially get together and listen to your views. Our superb Parish Council Summer Fair was cancelled, our Scarecrow Festival, weekly community litter-picks and Clayton Cup too. Even the Spring/Summer edition of the Clayton Circular went the same way. Sadly as I write this with case numbers on the increase, unfortunately I have to say we have also been left with no choice but to cancel the Christmas Light Switch-on Evening and Pensioner Christmas meal this year. Please accept my sincere apologies as we all feel absolutely devastated announcing this. On a brighter note, once restrictions are lifted we promise we'll be back with a full list of social events that are bigger, brighter and better than ever for our residents.

Please rest assured other Council business carries on as usual and we have certainly been kept busy and I hope you enjoy reading this magazine to find out what's been happening over the past few months. It has certainly not been all doom and gloom!

Please remember we are always here for you! Our Councillors can be contacted by the methods listed opposite. We would love to hear from you and please let us know what improvements you would like to see in our local area.

I would like to finish by saying I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Mark Clifford Cllr Mark Clifford Chairman of the Council

Your Parish Council

Who Are We?

Parish Councils are the lowest or first tier of Local Government. Clayton-le-Woods is a large Parish within the boundary of Chorley and has a long history. It was established in 1894 and comprises 15 voluntary Parish Councillors who are elected for a four-year term of office to serve and administer to the needs of the residents of Clayton-le-Woods. The Parish Council employs two part-time staff members, the Clerk to the Council, who administers the Parish Council and ensures that the Council conducts its business properly; and a Projects Officer who assists the Councillors in delivering the varied projects across the Parish. The Parish Council is funded through a precept on each residential property in the Parish through your Council tax payments. This enables us to carry out our duties to improve and maintain the area in which we live.

What Do We Do?

The Parish Council owns several assets, including Back Lane Woods, several Play Areas and the Skate Park near Clayton Green library. The maintenance and improvements to these assets remains high on our agenda, as does the appearance of the Parish.

We employ Lengthsmen from Lisieux Hall to help keep the Parish litter free and we maintain many of the flower beds around the Parish. This helps to make Clayton-le-Woods one of the prettiest and tidiest parishes in the whole of Chorley. We hope you agree!

If you have any ideas to help improve the area, we would love to hear from you. Just contact your local Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk. Contact details can be found on the front page of this newsletter.

How To Contact Us?

As well as the Clayton Circular newsletter you can also find news of the Parish Council on our notice board and website, www.claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk We are also on social media.

Our main facebook page is www.facebook.com/claytonlewoodscouncil and we have two sister pages for events. www.facebook.com/claytonlewoodschristmas and www.facebook.com/claytonlewoodsummerfair

Contact the Parish Clerk, Tracy Morris:

By post: Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council, Office 16, Chorley Business and Technology Centre, East Terrace, Euxton Lane, Chorley PR7 6TE

By telephone: Office - 01257 264854 Mobile - 07715 637345 **By email:** clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Meet Your New Parish Councillor, Russell Francis

Hello, My name is Russell Francis and I'm the newly appointed local Parish Councillor for Clayton-le-Woods East.

I am a qualified Accountant by trade with a particular interest within the health and wellbeing arena and have a sincere passion for the area of Clayton-le-Woods. I first moved to the area some 30 years ago.

Following a number of years living in Preston (Fulwood & Cottam); Manchester and London I now live on Radburn Brow, an area that I love so very much given its beauty and community spirit. I am very fortunate to live in the end property on Radburn Brow (leading down to the Lord Nelson) in which my garden leads down to the River Lostock.

I am passionate about improving the daily lives of those living within our beautiful community given the unique surroundings we are blessed to be living in and I look forward to supporting our Parish Council and community in bettering the area we live and work in. For those of you whom take regular walks along Radburn Brow you will know my dog Charlie!!

Please stop by, say hello and give me your thoughts on our community so I can share with fellow Parish Councillors.

I look forward to meeting to you all over the coming weeks and months.



Meet Your Local Parish Councillor



Glenda Charlesworth



Mark Clifford



Sheila Edwards-Williams



Russell Francis



Carole Billouin



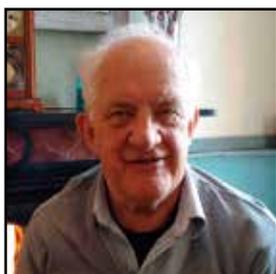
Charlie Bromilow



Jean Cronshaw



Gail Ormston



David Rogerson



Peter Gabbott



David Clough



Dulcie Dowrick



Tracy Morris, Parish Clerk



Gill Egan, Project Officer

Clayton-le-Woods East

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Clayton-le-Woods North

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Jean Cronshaw, Tel: 01772 469 215
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Office 16, Chorley Business and Technology Centre,
East Terrace, Euxton, Chorley PR76TE
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Lancashire County Council Representatives

Andrew Snowden (Clayton North) Rake Cottage, Bolton Road, Abbey Village, Chorley, PR6 8DU Tel: 07917 521912

Mark Perks (Clayton East and West) 8 Bracken Close, Chorley, PR6 0EJ Tel: 01257 279209

Chorley Borough Councillors by Ward

Clayton and Whittle

Mark Clifford, Tel: 07944 891 011
546 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods

John Walker, Tel: 01257 274 340
189 Chorley Old Road, Whittle-le-Woods

Clayton North

Jean Cronshaw, Tel 01772 469 215
37 Brow Hey, Bamber Bridge

Yvonne Hargreaves, Tel: 07427 090 917
Town Hall, Market Street, Chorley

Steve Murfitt,

141 Daisy Meadow, Bamber Bridge
Tel: 07897 788 420

Clayton West and Cuerden

Peter Gabbott, Tel 07969 551 961
48 Pendle Road, Clayton-le-Woods

Neville Whitham, Tel: 07968 094 267
Town Hall, Market Street, Chorley

The impact of Covid-19 within our Local Community

It has been an extremely difficult time for everyone trying to keep safe, understand new rules, whilst still having to work so we can support our families during the Pandemic.

We have had to cancel several events such as the Summer Fair, the Scarecrow Festival and Clayton Cup. We have had to postpone some works including the planned new wildflower meadows across the Parish. There have been unintentional savings that will be carried into the next financial year so they can be used to support the residents of Clayton-le-Woods, as we exit the Winter period.

A decision was made by the Parish Council to earmark some of the savings to be repurposed into a Covid-19 welfare fund. Approximately £5000.00 was set aside to help the most vulnerable in our community through these troubling times, through the procurement of food parcels which were distributed to families who were experiencing hardship over the school holidays. We are happy to



announce we were successful with a grant application from the Lancashire COVID-19 Community Support Fund, receiving £2,500 to help partially fund this project.

The staff at the Parish Council have had to adapt to new ways of working, new procedures and deal with an unprecedented situation. We have been in regular contact with them during the pandemic and they have continued to provide support for residents throughout and helped communicate important government messages and essential local information.

In our opinion Chorley always works together to tackle problems it faces but the community spirit shown by our village of Clayton-le-Woods has been exceptional. We have seen residents donate time, food and other items to help in the Covid-19 response. The amount of people who signed up to be NHS volunteer responders was incredible and the volunteers who participated with the Chorley Together programme was remarkable.

Clayton-le-Woods is a place everyone can take pride in and thank you for ensuring it remained that way by contributing, in whatever capacity you could, to protect our community and the most vulnerable within it.

Article submitted by Cllr. Peter Gabbott



Clerk's Corner

What's in a name?

The origin of the title of clerk seems unclear. In ancient Greece there were secretaries who read documents publicly and at an opening of a meeting read out curses!



Nowadays the town/parish clerk is the senior administrative officer of a city, borough, town or parish. Most parish clerks work part-time as the paid official whose main responsibility is the administration and minuting of parish council meetings and managing parish council finances.

As for me, I have been in the role for nearly 7 years and there is never a dull moment. I can be litter picking or replacing the battery in the local defibrillator one moment and then be responsible for upgrading the parish website and drawing up policies next.

I am always ready to assist you if I can.

Tracy Morris, Clerk to the Council

Casual Parish Council Vacancies



Have you ever considered becoming a Parish Councillor?

Currently there are vacancies to be filled by co-option, two vacancies are in the north of the Parish Council and one is in the west of the Parish.

Parish Councillors represent residents in their local area, attending monthly Parish Council meetings and help to make decisions about what facilities are provided in the area. You do not need any qualifications or specific experience to be a councillor, however you must be over 18 years old and live and/or work within 3 miles of the parish boundary.

For further details please contact the Parish Clerk.

Covid-19 - The community comes together

Everyone's world has been turned upside down since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March, and it is hard to believe that we are still grappling with the changes this has brought to our daily lives.

The Parish Council is not deterred, and as soon as we know it is safe to do so we will set in motion plans for more events, and aim to make them bigger and better to make up for the lost time.

Good news, we will still have a big, shiny, sparkly Christmas Tree but without the "switch on" ceremony and all the trimmings.

Many of us have found it of great benefit to be living in such a lovely community, where there are scenic walks and beautiful country parks on the doorstep and it has been fantastic to see people making the most of their local amenities. It was great to see the painted stone caterpillar growing in length in the Carr Brook Linear Park and the Faerie Grotto that appeared in Whittle Spinney.



Good use has been made of the play areas, once we were able to re-open them, which has been good to see. Let's hope that the current situation can be resolved sooner rather than later and in the meantime stay safe everyone.



Finance Committee

It is the responsibility of the finance committee to monitor income and expenditure.

In addition the committee must recommend the annual budget and precept to full Council and thanks to prudent financial management there has been no increase in the past two years.

The council has continued to invest in improvements and events for the village to benefit our community such as:

Great Greens Lane and Cunnery Meadow Play Areas, Christmas Tree Light Switch on and Clayton-le-Woods Summer Fair.

What is a precept?

Parish councils may raise a 'precept' on the council tax bills produced by their local billing authority (unitary authority or district council). This is essentially a demand for a sum to be collected through the council tax system. Council tax-payers cannot refuse to pay it, and the billing authority cannot refuse to levy it. It is the only source of tax revenue available to parish councils.

The Parish Council Annual Precept Income is £121,591.98

Property Band	Precept 20/21 (£)
Band A	£14.73
Band B	£17.18
Band C	£19.64
Band D	£22.09
Band E	£27.00
Band F	£31.91
Band G	£36.82
Band H	£44.18

FACT: The Clayton-le-Woods precept is £4.68 below the Chorley average.

FACT: Clayton-le-Woods has the 9th Lowest Parish/Town council precept (22 in total)

CIL Funding

The Parish Council receives Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies as well as the precept which is paid to us if there are new developments in our village. The CIL budget figures as at 19/10/20 were:

Total CIL Funds received: £446,509.34

CIL funds spent: £170,760.85

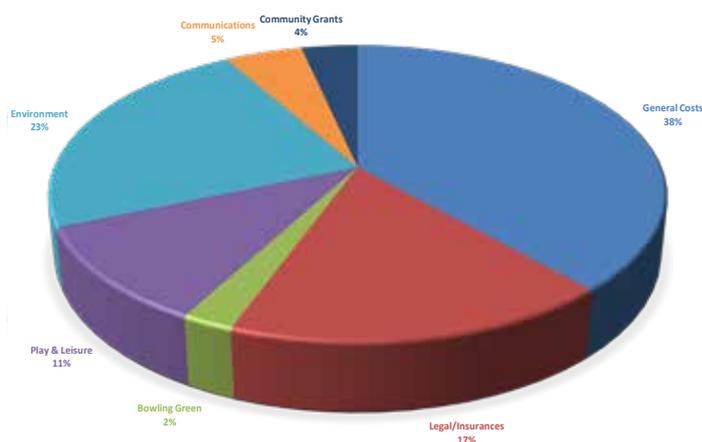
CIL funds allocated: £245,443.43

CIL funds available: £30,305.06

You can see more detail about the CIL spending on page 6 in this Newsletter.

Article submitted by Cllr. Peter Gabbott, Chair of Finance Committee

WHAT YOUR PRECEPT IS SPENT ON



Have your say **On Your Roads**

You can have your say on your roads and transport locally by completing a short survey. As part of a new campaign to promote the work of their highways service, Lancashire County Council is encouraging people to complete the National Highways and Transport (NHT) survey, which measures public satisfaction with services across different local authorities.

The campaign will also focus on their work maintaining Lancashire's roads, this year the team will fix around 36,000 potholes and resurface 175 miles of roads; but following a wet and stormy winter the council are finding more potholes than usual this year, so they are also asking people to help them by reporting potholes on their website.

In 2020/21, the county council will spend £26m to maintain our 4,600 miles of highways and 5,300 miles of footways.

They are continuously introducing new techniques to fix potholes and supplement the traditional repair teams. They have also introduced a new deep in situ recycling process for resurfacing and this year will recycle 19,000 tonnes of



asphalt in resurfacing our roads.

At 20 tonnes per wagon load that's an amazing 900 loads diverted from landfill and 1800 return journeys eliminated.

Find out more about how Lancashire's roads are improving and complete the survey at www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/pothole

In Clayton-le-Woods Lancashire County Council have recently resurfaced Town Brow, and if there are other areas that need to be brought to Lancashire County Council's attention please complete the survey in the first instance.

You can also report any issues to your local councillors, and their details can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Community Infrastructure Levy Grants Awarded

The Parish Council has ambitiously embarked on 14 projects throughout the village through the award of CIL Grants.

CIL stands for Community Infrastructure Levy and is paid by developers to Chorley Council to allow them to provide facilities to support the community.

Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council receives a percentage of this amount to help improve local infrastructure.

We have partnered with other organisations such as the LEF, Chorley Council, Brothers of Charity, Cuerden Valley Park Trust and local schools who have either been able to match our investment or contribute to the projects so our community can benefit from these local improvements.

Our plan was to target a variety of projects that would then benefit various parts of our community from:

Investment in youth facilities to improve health and

well-being in young people and prevent anti-social behaviour.

Footpath improvements to help residents feel secure in the village and ensure it remains accessible for all.

Provision of Defibrillators across the Parish, these can be vital in emergency situations and are potential life savers.

Trying to tackle local concerns surrounding dog fouling through the procurement of dog bag dispensers in problem areas to help reduce the number of instances.



Cllr Mark Clifford by the new Dog Bag Dispenser



Lancaster Lane Running Track

We have committed to developing a community nature reserve to act as an amenity to all, protecting the natural environment, managing and maintaining wildlife with a view to encourage community involvement.

We believe it is extremely important to invest in local

infrastructure and we thank

our partners for helping us to contribute in making our village a better place to live with new wildflower meadows, new wildlife habitats and new education resources.

We want to provide safe outdoor spaces that everyone can have access to so they too can benefit from the natural environment we all enjoy.

The decisions we have made ensure the Parish Council is fit for purpose and can continue to serve the residents of Clayton-le-Woods for many years to come.

Article submitted by Cllr. Peter Gabbott



Defibrillator on Preston Road

Changes to Chorley Ward Boundaries



From May 2020, following review by the Local Government Boundary Commission, new wards have been created and there have been changes in the number of elected members on Chorley Council.

The number of Councillors will be reduced from 47 Borough Councillors to 42 Borough Councillors when Chorley Council holds a whole council election. The election was originally planned to take place in May this year, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic the local elections were postponed with no date set yet for when these will take place.

Currently the existing ward boundaries and the Ward Councillors remain the same.

For your information, the new wards in Chorley Council are:

- **Adlington and Anderton**
- **Buckshaw and Whittle**
- **Chorley East**
- **Chorley North East**
- **Chorley North West**
- **Chorley North and Astley**
- **Chorley South East & Heath Charnock**
- **Chorley South West**
- **Clayton East, Brindle and Hoghton**
- **Clayton West and Cuerden**
- **Coppull**
- **Croston, Mawdesley and Euxton South**
- **Eccleston, Heskin and Charnock Richard**
- **Euxton**

In general, the changes to ward boundaries will only impact residents when voting in the local Chorley Council elections. In Clayton-le-Woods the specific changes to the wards are:

The Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council area is included within two wards, the **Clayton East, Brindle and Houghton Ward**, which covers the areas of Clayton Brook, the area south and west of Clayton Brook and the A6 Preston Road and the area north of Clayton Green Road and east to Cuerden Valley Park; and the **Clayton West and Cuerden Ward** which contains the remaining areas of the Parish Council.

From the perspective of Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council, these changes to the Chorley Council ward boundaries do not have any impact as the Parish Council boundaries and number of Parish Councillors do not change.

Latest News from the Methodist Church

By September, risk assessments and a "deep clean" completed, Whittle Methodist Church were pleased to be able to welcome back members of "Slimming World", the first of a number of groups who regularly met there prior to "lock down".

Since March many of you have been sharing with us in our on-line Sunday services; on Facebook and YouTube @ Chorley and Leyland Methodists, and these services are planned to continue.

Though the Church buildings were closed throughout lockdown we trust that the flower displays outside the church helped to provide some pleasure during those sometimes, cheerless times.

Had the Scarecrow Festival gone ahead, our display might well have been a scarecrow image of the prophet Jonah, backed by a huge whale with mouth agape.

The timely caption above might have read: "When you're down in the mouth, think of Jonah, he came out alright!"

Article by Alan Walmsley

Whittle Surgery is coming to Clayton!



Construction work has now commenced on the old St John's Club site on Preston Road Clayton-le-Woods to build a new state of the art surgery and community meeting room with offices for Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council.

Financial constraints meant the original planned third floor had to be shelved for a new development comprising of two individual buildings, as no interest was found for the uptake of an inbuilt pharmacy and community café on site.

Cllr Mark Clifford says, "It was imperative that new plans were developed quickly to allow Chorley Council to acquire this site after the original plans proved to be unviable and the possibility this land could fall into the hands of developers with a different agenda. I'm sure the whole community is looking forward to the brilliant new surgery opening in Winter 2021.

Thanks to Whittle Surgery, Chorley Council and Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council working together, we will soon all be able to make use of these superb facilities."

Kingfishers in the Wild

Local resident Fiona Dewhurst from Radburn Brow shares her experience of watching the wildlife at Carr Brook.

"It was early morning in September 2017 when the cat brought in a rather unusual bird, luckily unharmed. We released this tiny baby kingfisher along the riverbank where we knew there were a pair nesting just near Radburn Brow Bridge.

For many years we have been lucky enough to watch this delightful pair of Kingfishers swoop along the course of the river, poised motionless on rocks, before diving into the river to catch a fish, and then patiently waiting for the fish to stop wriggling before plunging into the narrow tunnel in the vertical banking that concealed their nest to feed the young kingfishers.



Unfortunately, erosion and the subsequent collapse of the riverbank has now swallowed up the kingfisher's deep nests. It would be interesting to know whether anyone has spotted where along the river they have relocated?"

Article submitted by Fiona Dewhurst

Save the Hedgehog!

The British hedgehog is now officially classified as being vulnerable to extinction. This is alarming news and we can all help in providing a habitat to encourage hedgehogs in our neighbourhood.

Here are several tips to help preserve the hedgehog population;

- Hedgehogs roam 1 to 2 km during the night, when they are active, and so it is important that they can access a wide range of gardens. You can make a hole in your garden wall or fence (13cms by 13cms) to allow them to move between gardens.
- If you have a pond, make it safe for hedgehogs. They are good swimmers, but if they get into a pond they need to be able to get out, so use a pile of stones or a piece of wood to create a simple ramp for them.
- You have an excuse to keep an area of your garden wild, this will provide a great environment for hedgehogs to nest
- Litter is a major hazard to all wildlife, but especially hedgehogs, even garden netting can cause problems with hedgehogs getting tangled in the netting. Make sure netting is stored properly and where possible use little netting in your garden.
- You can put out food and water for them, meaty cat food is suitable. Water is the only thing you should give them to drink, not milk, they are lactose intolerant.



- Avoid using pesticides, insecticides and slug pellets as these reduce the hedgehogs natural food supply of creepy crawlies and slugs.
- Check long grass before you start strimming or mowing, as these can cause horrific injuries and death to the hedgehogs.
- If you have built a bonfire, check it for hedgehogs before lighting it, as a hedgehog will view this as an ideal nesting place.
- You can make a hedgehog home in your garden, log piles make good homes or you can make a DIY hedgehog house.

If you want any more information you can visit the websites below:

www.hedgehogstreet.org

www.chorleyhedgehogrescue.co.uk

Switch to Cycling

Lancashire County Council launched a campaign in the summer to encourage walking and cycling for short local journeys.

Many people started to cycle during the lockdown and Lancashire County Council want to build on this momentum to get more folk cycling.

There are lots of benefits to cycling as it will improve your fitness, it can save you money and also help to improve the environment.

The County Council have set up new cycle routes to help make cycling easier and safer.



If you wish to support the campaign or want to know more, the website address is www.lancashire.gov.uk/cycling



Play Area Improvements

Work to rejuvenate the Manor Road playpark began in September. The work is a joint effort between Chorley Council and the Parish Council. (the playpark currently has split ownership)

For many years this playpark has drawn criticism for being out of date from residents, we are proud to announce as part of the Parish Councils rolling plan of improvements it is now having a much needed refresh thanks to a £25,000 cash injection from Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council.

Cllr Mark Clifford says, "It's fantastic to see Manor Road Play Park having this refurbishment, it's certainly overdue and by working closely with Chorley Council it has allowed this project to go ahead. Playparks cost a staggering amount of money to refurbish and I must thank Chorley Council for their additional match funding of £25,000 to bring the funding total to £50,000 along with their agreement to maintain this playpark in the future."

The photograph at the top of the page shows the new play area.

Cunnery Meadow

Last year the Parish Council also improved the Cunnery Meadow Play Area, with the aid of a grant from the Lancashire Environment Fund.

As with all the play areas across the country this was closed



during lockdown, since it re-opened it has been very popular and well used.

"The play area is used by many and will be a massive benefit to the community!"

I am glad to have helped deliver this much needed project and look forward to it serving the residents of Clayton-le-Woods for years to come." said Parish Councillor, Peter Gabbott.

Meadow Bank Toddler Play Area

The Parish Council was able to take advantage of the play area lockdown by carrying out a facelift to the small toddler play area at Meadow Bank.

The Parish Council has carried out repairs to the flooring and equipment followed by a bright new coat of paint.

The image above is of Meadow Bank Toddler Play Area after the makeover.

A message from your local Policing Team

Covid-19
The police are currently inundated with reports of breaches to the Covid-19 regulations and ask the public to continue to report the breaches but to do this using the online form on the Lancashire Police website, web address below:

<https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/covid19/Create>

Stay vigilant

As the Christmas period approaches the incidence of theft from cars is increasing so please be vigilant, make sure you lock up your vehicles and ensure that there are no

valuables on display.

In the know

Lancashire Police, Lancashire Fire and Rescue, Lancashire County Council and Neighbourhood Watch have set up a regular email messaging service where you can be updated on any issues relating to incidents, scams or crime in your area.

This service is called "In the Know" and if you wish to sign up for it, you can do so by logging onto the website and registering. The website details are below:

<https://www.stayintheknow.co.uk/>

Inspire Youth Zone - Covid response in our community

When the Covid-19 crisis hit in March 2020, Inspire Youth Zone adapted quickly to ensure we could continue to meet the needs of Young People across the whole borough as well as play a full role in supporting vulnerable residents through the Chorley Together campaign.

The last four months have been an incredibly busy time for Inspire and we have seen the demand for our services increase at a time when our ability to fundraise has been hugely impacted.



In all the craziness of lockdown, the way people have come together to support each other in Chorley and the surrounding boroughs has been incredibly heart-warming. Staying connected and maintaining the relationship with all of our members has been a huge undertaking for our team. We have developed innovative ways of engaging young people online during lockdown, across junior and senior sessions - through our brand-new initiative 'Youth Zone at Home!' Through the use of Facebook and Instagram we have been able to deliver over 217 hours of content that includes games, activities, quizzes and tutorials. We have also been able to connect and engage to over 80 Inspire members through Zoom.

Our community outreach programme supported by Chorley Council and The National Lottery Community Fund has enabled us to join our members in local parks and host a selection of fun activities. Our experienced youth workers are reaching out to young people in vulnerable communities and are able to provide support, advice and guidance. The Outreach team visit two local parks 5 nights

a week; that includes (among many others) Clayton Brook, Coronation Recreation grounds and Buttermere Green.

Our Current & Future Programmes

Following the guidance from the National Youth Agency, we are delighted to be able to open our centre doors to young people again. As an essential service we are encouraged to continue our work and are exempt from the restrictions implemented on the 14th September (though of course we still need to ensure strict social distancing practice), which means that our offer looks and feels a little different from what our members are used to...

At the moment Inspire is:

- Delivering 6 days a week on an invitation only or pre-bookable basis. Members of Inspire can book onto one of our many sessions and activity areas directly via the Inspire website (Art, music, dance, drama, sports, baking, wellbeing and recreation activities - available every session)!
- Delivering our Community Outreach programme 5 evenings a week / 2 areas each night- all across Chorley. For area times / locations please see our social media channels- no booking needed!

We're really easy to find, just across the road from Chorley train station.

For more information about our current structure and any updates visit:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/inspireyz>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/inspireyouthzone/>

or visit our website: <https://www.inspireyouthzone.org/>



Clayton-le-Woods Bowling Green, open all year round!

One of the community assets provided by the Parish Council is a Bowling Green, which is free for everyone to use, all year round.

The green can be found at the rear of the Ley Inn car park on Back Lane. If you want to give bowling a try, but do not have a set of bowls the Ley Inn will supply you with a set for a £5 refundable deposit!

There is no need to book, just turn up. It is a great way to spend a few hours out in the fresh air.

Do remember that when visiting the Bowling Green, you will always need to follow the latest Covid-19 regulations, relating to group sizes, social distancing, and hand sanitising.



Litter Picking

We really miss our weekly community litter picks and we will restart them as soon as restrictions on group numbers are lifted.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to litter pick, either as an individual or as a same household bubble, we have lots of equipment we can lend out to you.

Please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

Cllr Mark Clifford added,

"We really do have a great team of volunteers and I really miss not working with them every week, litter picking our area is so satisfying and I can't wait to all meet up again soon."



Back Lane Woods Nature Reserve

After a delayed start due to lockdown restrictions, work on Back Lane Woods commenced in early July. The Lancashire Wildlife Trust have been tasked with the transformation of the woodland into a nature reserve and will be managing the reserve on behalf of the Parish Council.

The first project was to renew the footpaths through the woodland as they had become narrow and unsafe in several places.

A new footbridge was installed in the woodland to make them accessible for all and improvements to steps were carried out.

The Lancashire Wildlife Trust have also installed an outside



classroom as we plan to be offering free forest school classes to our local children as soon as practicable.

There is still much work to be done including the installation of two pond dipping platforms with one of them being accessible for disabled residents. The footpath will be renewed to Preston Road with fencing and a gate to be installed.

Over the next few weeks tree and habitat surveys will take place to allow work to begin in increasing biodiversity throughout the woodland. Cllr Mark Clifford says "This is a fantastic project to be involved with and already the work carried out has made the woodland accessible to all.

I heartily recommend adding a visit to Back Lane Woods as part of your daily exercise, you will not be disappointed."

Work to enhance biodiversity in the woodland will carry on throughout the year and on occasion access to the woods may be temporarily restricted due to safety work being carried out. Please follow the signage and instructions to stay safe.

To keep up with the latest news regarding the woods please visit our website and Facebook page.



Clayton Green Library

Good news that Clayton Green Library reopened in the Summer, which was great news for avid readers in Clayton-le-Woods.

It is COVID secure with measures in place to provide hand sanitisers, screens to protect staff and public, social distancing, and contact details captured for test and trace.

All returned items are also quarantined for 3 days before being put back on shelves. Unless you are exempt face coverings must also be worn in the library.

At the time of writing the library is opened Monday Thursday and Friday 9am until 5pm, Wednesday opening is 9am to 7pm, closed for lunch 1pm to 2pm on these days. Saturday opening times are 9am to 1pm.

There are lots of new books on display, so come along and



support your local library.

For up to date information visit the website:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/>

Love My River - Carr Brook Linear Park

Residents might have seen quite a bit of news about the Love my River Project happening in Carr Brook Linear Park, Clayton-le-Woods.

This is a very exciting project that will allow Carr Brook to be protected from erosion. By engaging and educating the local community through the Love My River Project, the campaign hopes to get everyone involved in protecting this beautiful river.

In January this year funding from the Rural Development Programme for England was obtained to address water pollution, remove invasive non-native species and address changes to water flow in the North West River Basin.

Despite delays caused by Covid-19 work is now underway in Carr Brook Linear Park. This work involves stabilising the riverbanks where erosion is taking place, this is especially important to protect wildlife. A kingfisher was sighted on the river and therefore an ecological survey has been carried out.

There is a proposal to create a new wetland feature within the Linear Park, which will both benefit wildlife and alleviate the possibility of flash flooding downstream which could put homes at risk. Public consultation and planning permission will be required; however it is hoped that the wetland will be created in Spring 2021.

Invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam will be eradicated and native planting encouraged to re-establish, with areas of the river fenced to create wildlife habitats.

The Love My River project is asking the public to get involved in volunteering to help make these improvements happen. Please see the information below for more information.

Cllr Mark Clifford says, "I urge you to become a volunteer on this fantastic project. Climate Change is happening now! We sadly see the damage being done within our community every time the river floods. Carr Brook is a beautiful river and it is a fantastic habitat for an abundance of wildlife, we need to do everything we can to protect it."



LEARN NEW SKILLS. MEET NEW PEOPLE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Welcome to Carr Brook Linear Park.

We are looking for volunteers to join us on an exciting new project at Carr Brook Linear Park.

- Help improve the quality of the river by learning how to check water quality and understand the sources of urban pollution to water bodies through walk over training.
- Be involved with overseeing improvement works to stabilise the river banks and create natural flood management.

Volunteer sessions will also be advertised next year to eradicate balsam from the site and encourage native plants to flourish and increase the wildlife living in the park.

GET INVOLVED

To get involved or find out more information, contact Pauline Taylor: M: 07810123988 E: pauline.taylor@groundwork.org.uk

 Love My River Chorley



Please sign up to the Love my River Project by visiting their web page www.groundwork.org.uk/projects/lovemy-river-chorley/ or searching for Love my river Chorley on Facebook.

Footpath Works

It may have seemed to have taken an aeon but the reinstatement of the new footpath at Bankside was finally finished in May.

The original footpath and steps were sadly closed in late 2018 by Lancashire County Council as they were deemed to be in an unsafe condition.

Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council duly resolved to install a brand-new path at Bankside on land owned by the Parish Council. Planning permission was sought and granted and the path was installed as soon as restrictions allowed.

Work to repair the footpath linking Fiddlers Lane to Manor Road has also been completed.

Over time the tarmac has started to break up along this route due to tree roots pushing through. A section of tarmac was replaced on the footpath. We apologise for any disruption caused during the work.



Clayton Bottoms - a hamlet in the **Manor of Clayton**

When I first came to live in the Clayton-le-Woods & Cuerden ward, with my family in 2002, our daughter attended Clayton-le-Woods primary school - seems such a long time ago now! Being interested in heraldry and local history, I did a little research about the coat of arms that the school had as their motif on their uniforms.

The school logo is the crest of the Clayton family of Clayton Hall - sadly only ruins remain of this, once important, Manor. The name Clayton is of Norman origin meaning 'village on the clay' - although the name had a few spellings, e.g. Claughton, Cleighton, Cleiton. The earliest spelling is in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Claitone and Claitune, and it appears in its present form in Lancashire in the pipe rolls of 1263.

After reading books by Joan M Langford and George L Bolton - local Authors and historians, I discovered that the area where my daughter's school is located, was commonly known as 'Clayton Bottoms' - the name 'Bottoms,' without being rude, is the description of the lowest part of anything, i.e. a hill or a valley, especially near a stream or river, so 'Clayton Bottoms', once surrounded by many farms and fields, is the core of what Clayton-le-Woods town has now become; a vast expanse, mainly due to the amount of



development, over many years.

Before the Townley Parker family of Cuerden decided to remove various landmarks to widen their parkland's and improve their views, in the mid 1800s, there was a pub called the George and Dragon and a Smithy where the Cuerden Valley car park at Town Brow is now and also a school on the grassed bit that juts out before you start the journey uphill towards Asda. There was even a chapel located on the Clayton-le-Woods school grounds, on Back lane, next to the cottages that are still there today.

In the late George L Bolton's book, 'Clayton in History' (1985), he mentions court proceedings carried out at Clayton Manor, owned by the Anderton family, in the late 1600s. On one occasion some lads were on trial after being caught fishing illegally in the River Lostock. The two lads from Clayton were fined 4d each, but the two from Whittle were fined 12d each, because they were foreigners! How times have changed - my apologies to anyone from Whittle-le-Woods who may be reading this.

Going back to Heraldry, the Clayton family crest is now used as a logo on local landmarks and Parish Council literature. The Parker family of Cuerden, did actually marry into the Clayton family at one point. Could the engrailed cross above Cuerden hall, part of a design by Lewis Wyatt, be from the Clayton's crest, or could it be from the Brooke's family crest of Astley? I feel some more reading coming on.

Article submitted by Alison Whitham



VE Anniversary Celebrations

The residents at Brookside Care Home on Preston Road Clayton-le-Woods had a fabulous time at their street party to celebrate the 75 years since the end of the Second World War in Europe on May 8th 1945.

They were unable to invite their families and friends to share the celebrations, but it certainly didn't stop them having lots of fun to mark the occasion.

Bunting was put up in the car park, which was turned into their "street" for the day and they enjoyed a glass of sherry (or two!) and the weather was so kind they even had iced lollies.

They couldn't have a professional entertainer for the event and so relied on their music collections played through a loud speaker.

Article submitted by Louise Newton, Manager at Brookside Care Home

Clayton-le-Woods Remembers the Fallen

The Remembrance Services were muted this year but nonetheless moving.

Cllr Mark Clifford was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of our village at a ceremony led by Revd Philip Venables. He was accompanied by Cllr Tina Newhall, Whittle-le-Woods Parish Council Chair and Cllr Eric Bell, Whittle & Clayton-le-Woods War Memorial Committee.

The Remembrance Service can be seen at the following link: www.bit.ly/36zysK6



Wonderful Wildflowers

Chorley Council's Streetscene department always do fabulous flower displays across the Borough, and despite the challenges of the Covid-19 outbreak the Council have produced some stunning displays. We asked them to share their secrets, so we could all consider growing our own wildflower meadow.

Read on for their tips...

This year we have created numerous wildflower areas across the borough, on the roundabouts, in our parks and the highway verges.

The visual impact of the colourful flowers makes these areas attractive to both humans and insects which means they also create benefits when it comes to environmental responsibility:

- Helps reduce our Carbon footprint
- Introduces more ecological practices/processes
- Adds value to the landscape and natural spaces
- Improves biodiversity in the borough.

Insects that visit flowers have a very important role in the process. When collecting food for themselves they move between flowers carrying pollen from one flower to another, resulting in production of more plants in the future.

The main groups of insects that we are trying to encourage back into the towns are Honeybees, Bumblebees, Hoverflies, Beetles, Butterflies and Moths.

How to create your own wildflower meadow?

- The ground should be prepared in March.
- Choose the area carefully, if shaded the seed will not germinate
- Remove any existing vegetation – by removing the top layer of the area (with a spade/turf remover) or lay a plastic sheet over the area for at least three weeks
- Once the vegetation has died or been removed, rotovate the area so the soil becomes a finer material to use
- The area should now be ready for you to sow your seed.
- When you have purchased your seed (we use Euroflor mix), mix this with silver sand.
- Sow the seeds during the first two weeks in April
- Rake and roll lightly to give good contact between the soil and the seed. If needed water thoroughly

Article submitted by Chorley Council Streetscene Department



Wild Verges

This year Chorley Council decided to leave part of their larger verges to grow longer to encourage wildlife and wildflowers. Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council plan to create wildflower verges next Summer.

Wildflowers grow best on infertile patches of land, so are ideal for verges, roundabouts and such locations.

In previous years wildflowers have been sown on Sandy Lane near the motorway bridge, Heritage gardens opposite Lidl on Preston Road; at the entrance to Carr Brook Linear Park near the Lord Nelson; and Carr Brook Linear Park near Huntsfields.

Do you have any ideas as to where else these could go?

We would like more suggestions for possible locations for wildflower planting, so if you do have any ideas please email the clerk with your suggestions:

clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk



Sarah Tinsley
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Holiday Hunger

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an economic impact on lots of families in Clayton-le-Woods and the Parish Council obtained a grant of £2,500 from the Lancashire Covid-19 Community Support Fund to help support families who are struggling due to the pandemic.

The Parish Council helped through voting to match this grant. This created a fund to help families and others in the Parish who are struggling.

Over the school holidays the Parish Council have distributed supermarket food boxes where families needed some help with schools and other agencies identifying the families who benefited from the food parcels.

The parish helped 91 children and their families during the summer holidays and the scheme continued through October half term and if funds permit help will be provided over the Christmas holidays.



Last Christmas... I gave you my heart...

Wow! An estimated 500+ residents attended our Christmas Light Switch-on evening last year. Father Christmas paid a visit to the delight of children as residents sang carols around the tree.

Festive music was provided by the Chorley Silver Band and the children of Clayton Green 1st Scout group led the chorus. As always the tree was a sight to behold, it has become what is arguably known as the best tree in the Northwest of England and we are very proud of the work we do in bringing it here for your enjoyment in Clayton-le-Woods!

Festivities carried on down at the Lord Nelson Pub on Sandy Lane where the music continued with another great performance from Chorley Silver Band followed by performances from the International Singing Sensation Gemma-Louise Doyle. The night ended with a Disco and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Cllr Mark Clifford says, "I must thank everyone on behalf of the Council who attended this brilliant night and all



of our hard working volunteers, without their help it simply would not be possible. A special thanks to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of Clayton Green 1st Scout Group.

A huge thanks to Chorley Silver Band

and of course the absolutely delightful Gemma-Louise Doyle. A massive thank you is owed to Harry, Sasha and the staff of the Lord Nelson for supplying gallons of warming hot mulled wine and hundreds of delicious pizza slices free of charge to our residents.

I'm absolutely devastated we cannot all get together for the switch-on evening again this year but mark my words the next one will certainly make up for it!"

The Halfway House pub hosted the Christmas Party for the senior citizens of Clayton-le-Woods. Everyone had a fantastic time, with over 80 residents enjoying a delicious Christmas Lunch followed by a Carol Concert from the children at Manor Road Primary School. There was also a free raffle with prizes donated by local businesses.

Sadly, due to the pandemic, there will not be a Seniors Christmas Lunch this year but we hope that next year the Parish Council will be able to host the Christmas Meal again.



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Dates for your Diary

Scheduled Parish Council Meetings have still been able to go ahead as planned since the start of the pandemic however these have been taking place remotely using Zoom.

The next planned meetings are below:



If you wish to attend or participate in one of our future meetings please contact the Parish Clerk in advance.

Useful Information

Clayton Green Library Opening Times

Please check Lancashire County Council website:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/>



Local Policing Teams



Chorley Police - tel: 101
Website: www.lancashire.police.uk/
Clayton-le-Woods Policing Team
PC Christian Seddon
PCSO Catherine Flett
PCSO Michelle Appleton

Clayton Green Sports Centre

Please contact Chorley Council on 01257 515151

Or check the website:

<https://chorley.gov.uk/news/pages/leisure-centre-update.aspx>



Clayton Hall Landfill Odour Issues
Environment Agency 0800 807060
Residents' Helpline (Quercia)
07961 403782

Chorley Borough Council

01257 515151

Chorley Borough Council out of hours number: 01257 515142



Contact your Parish Council

07715 637345 | 01257 264854

clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

www.claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

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16 Reception Block, Euxton Lane, Chorley PR7 6TE




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