



News from around the Millpond

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Chair's Report —

Barbara Bowman

Hello everyone,

As I write this it looks as though spring may be around the corner (but let's hope it stays that way and our trusty team of deliverers aren't out in the snow, putting this newsletter through your letter boxes later in the month!)

We all know this past autumn and winter have been very wet and the effects are still with us – from the closure of Lea Road due to a landslip, to blocked gullies and potholes galore in our roads and pavements. The Parish Council has spent a lot of time over the past three months reporting faults and lobbying the County and District Councils to repair, maintain and keep clean our streets. We will continue to do so in the coming months if necessary. As of writing, DCC has advertised for an extremely lengthy closure for Lea Road. I very much hope it will not take that long to sort out, but I understand that at the moment they are still in the monitoring phase.

On a more positive note with spring come more events planned for the village which we hope you will enjoy and take part in. There are details of some of these in this newsletter but with publication only every quarter it's a good idea to keep up to date via posters in the noticeboards, shops and Post Office and also through various social media.

At the Bank Holiday at the beginning of May, Royal British Legion is planning to commemorate the ending of World War Two (VE Day), so look out for details nearer the date! (Also in this issue page 6)

These events only take place because of the hard work done by volunteers, so many thanks to them. If you think you can help, please put your name forward.

Both the Community Centre and Institute are always on the look out for people to help run these venues and the Parish Council will also soon have two vacancies and is looking for interested people to be councillors. (See the article inside) There are also less formal roles and ways to help. Many organisations would like to do a better job of informing people of their activities through social media. I know that The Parish Council could do with a helping hand and also the Community Centre. If you think you can help please contact me to discuss (Contact details on the back page).

Derek Roose

Recently we sadly marked the passing of Derek Roose . Derek was known to some as Mr.Cromford. Having been born, raised and resident in Scarthin and then his own home on The Hill, Derek was passionate in his concern for the village and served as a Parish Councillor for nearly thirty years being forced to stand down at the last election in 2019 after a prolonged period of illness. It is a mark of the respect and affection in which he was held that there wasn't even standing room at the funeral in Swanwick Crematorium with friends and well-wishers having to stand in the lobby and outside the front doors. We give our condolences and best wishes to Ruth and his family in their loss.

Diary Dates

There are too many diary items to list here.

Please see the individual articles.

CROMFORD SCHOOL NEWS

Our school's motto is to 'learn, aspire and achieve in a caring Christian environment'. It's a motto that drives everything we do. No one is ever left behind and everyone is encouraged to reach and exceed their potential. Lizzie Knighton is a brilliant example of this, although, truth be told, we never have to encourage Lizzie too hard as she's determined not to let anything get in her way, not even her cerebral palsy and epilepsy.

Lizzie is in year 6. She uses a frame to aid her mobility but it never stops her taking part in anything and everything. She has a happy personality and her natural chattiness makes her a fantastic participant but her resilience and ability to push herself as an individual or in a team is incredible. Not only does she love getting involved in PE lessons, especially dancing, but she's also the first one to try anything. She is one of the only girls in the football team. She pushes herself and has developed ways to help herself progress in the lessons. She is such a cheerful person even if she is in pain or unwell. That's why we are delighted and extremely proud that Lizzie got nominated in October and won the Derby County's Inclusion Champion of 2019!

It was one of the Derby County coaches who regularly come to school to deliver PE lessons and after school clubs activities, Jacob, who nominated her. He couldn't fail to be impressed by her gymnastics performance and her absolute resilience and tenacity.

Well done Lizzie! You're a real credit to yourself and the school and we wish you the very best in all your future endeavours which we know will be plentiful!

Well done also to Cromford School who for the third year running have achieved the Gold Sports award, which is presented by the School Sports Partnership.

We would also like to thank everyone who has supported the school over the last year. Your support is much appreciated. We were able to raise money at the Christmas fair and the Chocolate Bingo. The 150 club raised a significant amount for school funds and we are hoping among other things to be able to get Lego boost robots so the children can learn to programme.

Forthcoming events include:-

27 March: Easter Bingo – 6:30pm for 7pm start, all welcome (chocolates to be won!)

13 June: Summer fair – 10am – 1pm, lovely family event with our traditional stalls and home-made cakes

For more information about the school, check out our website

www.cromfordcofeschool.com or call us on 01629 822248. You can also follow us on Twitter @CromfordPrimary

Plant Sale in May

As usual there will be a Plant Sale in May – this year on Saturday 9th May. Put the date in your diary and look out for the posters!

The sale always has a good choice of tender vegetables – tomatoes, peppers, beans, aubergines, cucumber, squash and courgettes. There are also summer perennials and other vegetables for planting out with the coming of better weather.

The prices are very reasonable and the sale usually features different varieties which you do not always find in the garden centres.

If you raise plants from seed or cuttings and would like to donate or help on the day please contact Barbara Bowman (01629 822889). All the proceeds go towards the cost of running the Garden and Produce Show held at the end of August.

Both events are sponsored and supported by Celebrating Cromford.



Chromatography Angels close up (above) and Cromford School winning entry (right)



Lizzie and her award with Paddy and Jacob .

Message from the Mill

After a busy Christmas period, we have had a quieter few weeks at the mill, preparing for the 2020 tourist season. Many thanks to all the local groups and shops who participated in our Christmas tree festival, and congratulations to Cromford Primary School, who were crowned official Christmas Tree Champions! (Pictures page 3)

If you have visited the mill recently, you may have noticed some changes taking place. We are installing a new marquee in our yard for our 2020 season of events, which will be available to hire. We will also shortly be re-opening the former cheese shop by the canal as the 'Counting House Coffee Stop' – perfect for picking up a takeaway coffee for a brisk canal walk.

Our Beyond the Mill Walls project has progressed too, and you will now find a range of wooden sculptures on the flower meadows between the mill and the river. These represent the industrial past of the area, which used to house lead smelting mills, and the current wildlife that can be found making a home there. The next stage of the project is to install our 'Scavenger's Scramble', a series of tree trunk scrambling stations along the river path for children. You can find more information on this project at: www.cromfordmills.org.uk/beyond-mill-walls.

March sees the start of our jam-packed events programme. This year we're introducing adult craft workshops once a month and trialling some song-and-story sessions for toddlers too. Our popular lecture series is also returning on Tuesday evenings, with cheese and wine at 7pm and the talk beginning at 7.30pm. We have a range of fascinating topics booked in, from local histories of Langley Mill, Lumsdale and Brampton, to visual treats such as Emily Strutt's photographic diary and the archives of W. W. Winter, photographers of Derby. We even cover the history of ice cream making in June, and Georgian reading habits in July! Tickets cost £8 and advanced booking is recommended.

For full details of these and our other events, pick up a 2020 events guide from the mill shop, or visit our website (www.cromfordmills.org.uk/events). We wish you all the best for 2020 and hope to see you down at the mill soon!

Eleanor Gunn

Informal Learning Programmer

Chernobyl Children's Life Line

CCLL are making an appeal for volunteer host families. "Chernobyl Children's Lifeline has been bringing children over every year since 2003. With the passing of time since the nuclear disaster in 1986 we are finding it more difficult each year to find host families."

The Bonsall & Derbyshire Dales Link are currently appealing for host families to take part in this year's programme. Our plan for this year is to bring over eight children from Korosten in northern Ukraine. We are looking for local families who might be interested in hosting two children between 9 and 11 years of age **for two or four weeks** (it's up to you) in this year's 4-week summer programme, during **July 11th to August 8th, 2020**. If you are interested, please don't delay contacting us, as it takes time to undertake DBS checks and complete the paperwork.

We hold informal monthly meetings of the Link, usually in The Kings Head in Bonsall. All are welcome to come along.

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, Bonsall & Derbyshire Dales Link, will be holding a fundraising Quiz Night at Cromford Community Centre on Friday 13th March starting at 7.30pm. The proceeds from the evening will go towards funding the Ukraine children's visit this summer. Tickets are £5.00 which includes soup and a roll and can be purchased by individuals or by teams of 4 people. Contact Janice Broome on 01629 824512 or email janicebroome@sky.com There will also be a raffle and a bar.

Derbyshire Dales District Council

Cllr Garry Purdy

It has a certain ring to it don't you think – 2020. I am optimistic that it will be a good year with some small green shoots of recovery being seen in the economy.

I am leading with the help of Members at the Town Hall and our Officers on plans for the benefit of Derbyshire Dales. Without giving too much away because it has to be approved yet at the Full Council (Budget) meeting on Thursday 5th March, the bare bones of what I wish for the Authority are laid down in Headlines as a Review of the Green & Clean Team, to build more new businesses and to build more affordable homes. Much more detail is currently being worked on and is being added to the Headlines

On a local level we have been dealing with seemingly more dust, dirt and mud in the village and addressing the issue with County Highways, our own Authority and Dene Quarry with regard to the wheel wash. Whilst it is always a dirty time of year with leaf fall and inclement weather etc, the problem does seem higher than normal.

For example I drove to a meeting at Slaley on Monday 3rd February only to witness a tractor travelling in the opposite direction down Clatterway. When I returned there was an awful lot of mud on Clatterway and also on the Market Place and along the A6 main road leading to Derby.

Whilst we have to accept that we live in a quarrying and agricultural area, I have to ask drivers of vehicle's to show more respect for our environment and what they deposit on the road. It is a serious impact upon the environment and yet it need not be so with more care.

The wheel wash at Dene Quarry needs to be used by each and every driver, and agricultural vehicle's need to show more responsibility as to what they deposit on the Highways, otherwise the appropriate Authorities will be contacted.

I am sorry I could not attend the AGM of Cromford Community Centre as it clashed with our Planning Committee meeting. But I have been appraised of what took place and I am encouraged that some new faces have come forward. I wish them good luck with their endeavours. Cllr Mrs Joyce Pawley and myself assisted the Committee in the past with input from our Officers and with public monies involved there is a lot of responsibility on the Officers of the Centre.

Together with the Chairman, Cllr Barbara Bowman, Cllr Mrs Joyce Pawley and I are seeking improvements to the base stones on safety grounds of the 1st and 2nd World War Memorial in the Garden of Remembrance in the Memorial Gardens. The Memorial was unveiled on 13th July 1919, Attended by Sergeant Major Gillott and dedicated the same day by the Bishop of Southwell. There is much history to this iconic Memorial in our village and it is our duty to look after it for others that follow, and especially important to keep it safe and in good condition to help support the magnificent work of the British Legion.

With Best Wishes Cllr Garry Purdy

Councillor Irene Ratcliffe**Derbyshire County Council**

Pressure has been put on the relevant officers to carry out the assessment for a controlled crossing on The Hill, near the Bell Inn which currently has Daphne as 'Lollipop Lady'. Children find it extremely difficult to cross here for school when no crossing attendant is available, and there is real concern from parents and teachers for their safety.

Discussions continue with Highways on the Via Gellia Water Lane Project, and I will be keeping the Parish Council updated as these progress. There is, at time of writing, no further information about the Lea Road slippage, but repairs were carried out to the entrance of Scarthin following an incident there.

I am constantly following up on complaints regarding the clearing and washing of The Hill and Market Place due to material deposited by lorries from the many quarries that send their traffic through the village.

The Royal British Legion



As we approach the 75th anniversary of VE / VJ Day the Cromford Branch of the Royal British Legion have two events for your diary:

PIE & PEA SUPPER - Tuesday 3rd March - Boat Inn, Scarthin
6.30 pm for 7.00

Tickets will be £5.00 each

booking details will be on posters around the village

AFTERNOON TEA PARTY - Friday 8th May (Bank Holiday) in the Community Centre, Market Place, Cromford



Registered Charity No. 0104274
www.cll.org.uk

Chernobyl Children's Life Line visit to Chatsworth House in the summer 2019

Article on Page 7
(facing page)



Some of the new sculptures on the meadow at Church walk

What do Parish Councillors do?

Cromford Parish Council will shortly have 2 vacancies. Could you be a Parish Councillor?

We are often asked – what does this mean – what do Parish Councillors do?

The obvious answer is that they are members of the Parish Council and attend Parish Council meetings. Cromford holds 11 meetings a year, traditionally held in The Institute on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The meetings officially start at 7:30pm (though sometimes we have a talk beforehand from a council officer or similar). The meeting usually lasts 2 – 2 ½ hours – dependent on the agenda.

We are a fairly small Parish and our budget is not large, almost all of it from the community charge we levy on each household in the area. We do not own any buildings or land, but we do employ a part time clerk and a part time footpath warden.

We try to act as a go between for local residents who may have issues with the DCC and DDDC councils and their services and liaise with the 2 District and 1 County Councillor for the area (who usually try and attend our meetings)

We comment on (but cannot take decisions) on planning applications in the Parish

We are “adopters” of Cromford station and help with the ongoing landscape works and planting there.

As Parish Councillors we select representatives to help in the running of various village organisations. We also set up and run the Quarry Liaison Committee which meets quarterly and consists of representatives from the quarry operators, Middleton and Bonsall Parish Council, DCC (who give planning permission for quarrying), DDDC (who monitor pollution, blasting etc)

But councillors are also active outside the meetings.

We have small grant each year from DCC to do some work on public footpaths and we supplement this with our money by employing a part time warden who does reports, small clearance and litter picks the footpaths in the village (not the footpaths on the streets – that is the responsibility of the DDDC). We hope to resurface the footpath between Market Place and the school in the next few months.

We also support local groups by giving small grants and make provision for slightly larger expenditure on schemes which we believe help the village.

We organise the planting in the “flower towers” in the Market Place, at the junction of Hawthorne Drive and The Hill, and around the Scarthin was memorial.

We also arrange the Xmas lights and display in the Memorial Gardens.

We try and put out a newsletter 4 times a year informing the village about what we are doing and of other matters which affect them.

Unlike District and County Councillors (or MPs!) we get no allowances or salary, although the Parish does usually pay for councillor training on matters such as finance, the Code of Conduct (which you have to sign up to), planning matters etc. These training events are usually held in the evening or on the weekend.

If you become a Parish Councillor there are certain rules which you have to abide by – the most important is the legal requirement to agree to the Code of Conduct and to fill in a Register of Interests which is then held by the District Council. As a Parish Councillor you promise that you will act for in the best interests of the village as a whole, not just a particular interest or group of people.

We are looking for enthusiastic people to serve on the Parish Council as potentially we have two vacancies. If you would like to talk to someone about the role, feel free to contact any of the Parish Councillors to discuss and if you think you fit the bill, please drop a line to myself (Barbara Bowman) or the Parish Clerk, Dawn Land setting out why you think you would make a good Parish Councillor.

Contact details for the Parish Clerk are on the back page.

March 14th - Village clean

The Parish Council is planning to make use of the closure of Lea Road and carry out a full clean up of litter from the roadside and verges along this stretch of road. We will be doing this in partnership with Cromford Fly Fishing Club. We will be meeting up at the fishing club car park, just inside the entrance to the Meadows at 9.30am for a 10am start.

If you can help please come along – we would love to see you – but it would help if you could let us know in advance (contact Barbara Bowman 01629 822889) as Derbyshire Dales District Council Green Team is helping by supplying rubbish bags and litter pickers – so we would like to know how much equipment to ask for!

The Fishing Club will then remove all the gathered up litter to the council tip.

Hope to see you there! And please bring stout gloves!

Cromford Station Volunteers

East Midland Railways have awarded a grant to Cromford Station Volunteers to purchase a number of redundant Railway Sleepers.

These sleepers will be used to construct a back edging to the footpath leading to the Station.. This will help prevent soil from washing down the bank onto the footpath.

Cromford Station Volunteers meet on the first Friday and third Tuesday of every month to carry out weeding and planting of the banks, plant and maintain the station planters and keep the station and its approach tidy.

The Volunteers are part funded by Cromford Parish Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Derbyshire County Council, East Midlands Railways and ACORP. The Volunteer Group are part the ACORP organisation.

The volunteers work till 09.30 till 12.30 including a coffee break. All tools and equipment are provided.

You are most welcome to volunteer - no limit on number of days you need to attend - Just turn up at the station at 09.30 on any volunteer day for a trail day and hope you will enjoy your day and return on a regular basis. . We suggest you wear your gardening clothes !

Parish Council contacts and Volunteers are Russ Boyack, Barbara Bowman, Jeremy Beckett and their contact details are on the right should you wish to discuss any matter before attending a tester day.

Looking forward to welcoming you at our next meeting.

Russ Boyack Chair Cromford Station Volunteers

Contact Details

Clerk to the Council: Dawn Land 01773 831025

Email: cromfordparishcouncil@hotmail.com

Parish Councillors

Chairman: Cllr. Barbara Bowman 822889

Cllr. Jeremy Beckett 822659

Cllr. Russ Boyack 823111

Cllr. Matthew Birch 07967 237 613

Cllr. Chris Earnshaw 824236

Cllr. Alistair Fraser 824175

Cllr. Jenney March 822351

Cllr. Sue Mosley 822924

Cllr Kate Wakefield 820915

There remains one vacancy.

Parish Footpath Officer: John Mee

Derbyshire Dales District Councillors:

Cllr. Garry Purdy 823636

Cllr. Joyce Pawley 825431

Derbyshire Dales Offices 761100

Derbyshire County Councillor:

Cllr. Irene Ratcliffe

Derbyshire County Council Hotline

0845 6058058

Contact Us

Please use telephone numbers above or reply slip below to contact a member of the Parish Council

Name

Contact Details _____ (Please give an address in Cromford, an email address or a telephone number for one of the councillors to contact you)

This newsletter is published by Cromford Parish Council. It is edited by Councillor Jeremy Beckett and contributions and suggestions would be welcomed for future editions.