



Within Euxton Borders a news sheet for residents by **EUXTON PARISH COUNCIL**



September 2023, Issue 94

Chairman's Column



Welcome to the September 2023 issue of the 'Euxton Web' which details both news and events in and around Euxton.

The Gala took place on what was a windy day, to say the least,

but a good day none the less, with plenty of stalls etc around the field. Delicious cakes, savouries and drinks in the refreshment hall with a wonderful group of singers too. A couple of stalls lost their marquees with the high winds. EPC's included, but the rain held off and a large number of residents attended. One of the highlights was the group of musicians including our own Cllr Steve Walker, who with his band mates played for over an hour to an appreciative audience. Hope they come back next year. Dancing round handbags by the ladies of a certain age was a wonder to behold.

The Allotment site had a visit from the judges of North West in Bloom on July 18th, we await their decision. Thanks to all the Allotment holders, Cllr Eric Jones and the Clerk and Deputy Clerk, for their input into our first foray into this category for this competition.

The Leisure Committee held a meeting on July 25th, with new projects to be taken up over the next 12 to 18 months, any suggestions from residents are always welcome. Articles within this newsletter are also requesting your opinions on Primrose Hill and Greenside play areas regarding the replacing and updating of equipment.

The Council is also looking into the process of employing an apprentice village caretaker over the next few months and will be advertising soon.

There is also further information regarding the local boundary changes in regards to South Euxton in particular within this issue.

If you have any queries, questions etc please contact the Clerk/Deputy Clerk on the phone numbers provided and Council meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month plus all Committee meeting dates are shown on the website and the notice boards around Euxton.

Cllr Katrina Reed
Chairman

Calendar Photo Competition

We have had some great photos in to judge for the calendar.

There is still time to enter the photo competition for the chance to get your image featured in the Euxton calendar.

The 2024 'Euxton in pictures' calendar will be going on sale locally in October/November 2023 - soon!

Email to reserve a calendar on clerk@euxtoncouncil.org.uk or call 01257 234004



Leisure Provision changes

Following two large schemes being delivered, one at Greenside and another one at Balshaw Lane play area the Council is moving on to plan future projects.

Council needs some input in to current provision at Greenside play area entrance, the garden



section, as the current gym equipment needs to be de-commissioned.

At Primrose Hill play area the three large climbing frame items need to be removed and Council is wanting to know what should be in its place. See full article on page 5 by the Leisure Committee.



Local boundaries and representation

In the last few years there have been some changes in some of the electoral ward boundaries and the recently approved parliamentary boundary changes have added to some confusions for residents.

See report on page 5 for information about where you live and who represents you.

Gala in July

Euxton Council had a stall at the Gala in July and most of its Councillors attended and met and chatted to residents and some also danced! Councillors attended at different times through the day so we couldn't get everyone in one photo.

It was a very windy day and many of the gazebo's had to be taken down - including the Council's very sturdy one.

Excellently run by the Euxton Gala Day Committee - thank you for another good Gala year.



Balshaw Lane - new play area

To finish off the newly installed 3rd area at the Balshaw Lane site three seats have been installed.

All in rainbow colours we have installed a buddy bench and two benches - on the sunny side! (as requested by some parents).

The area is proving very popular and is often busy with play.

Leisure Committee



Safer Roads for us

6 years after I started campaigning for this – with many hurdles to overcome - it is great to see the new average speed cameras in place right along the A581 (Dawbers Lane). These cameras complement the already completed road safety improvements of LED cats eyes, new safety barriers and high-reflectivity road markings. This project has taken time to deliver and has required the feedback and input of residents through myself, Borough Cllr Alan Platt as well as the Parish Council – it is fair to say that there have been many many conversations on this matter over the years!

Just as a reminder, average speed camera systems work using automatic number plate recognition and a set of cameras over a planned length of road. The cameras recognise number plates at set points along the routes; the system will calculate vehicle speed based on the time taken to travel between the points of a known distance. They calculate your average speed - you cannot slow down and then speed up between cameras to set a lower speed record. A similar scheme on the A565 Southport New Road – in the two years from August 2017 – 2019 led to a reduction of 62.38 % in detected offences.

I do hope that it has been worth the wait and that residents living along and near to Dawbers Lane are seeing reduced speeds and accidents – I must thank them for their patience during the 6 years it took from bidding to Government for funding to a fully delivered scheme.

County Councillor Aidy Riggott

Photos: camera pole on Dawbers Lane and County Councillor Aidy Riggott with one of the cameras prior to installation.

Play area safety

The Council takes safety very seriously on its play areas and parks.

Many small repairs happen all year round to ensure all items are working properly. The areas have many inspections done throughout the year from day to day ones by our own caretakers, quarterly by borough inspectors and a detailed annual inspection by a qualified inspection company.

Recently the caretakers have been carrying out some of the tasks which are flagged on the annual inspection such as the replacement of a swing seat at Greenside, handles and feet rests on a see-saw and springy, new bark laying and many other minor repairs.

Also from the inspection reports the Leisure Committee discuss when items need to be retired and replaced - a couple of these areas are mentioned on page 7 - asking for your input.

Leisure Committee

Allotment site

There are continued improvements happening on the allotment site, most of which can be seen from a walk along School Lane.

The ditch which holds all the run off and drained water from the site was dredged and deepened at the same time. All the site water is contained in the ditch, rather than put in the drain system, until it soaks away.

The orchard next to the ditch at the southern end of the site (running along School Lane) was strimmed and tidied.

The site was visited by the North West in Bloom judges in late July as it was entered for the first time in a class.



The Judges seemed impressed with the site (trying not to give anything away to us) and we may know the results of the sites entry for the next newsletter.

The site remains full with a waiting list but if you fancy a plot contact the Council for a form to get on the waiting list.

Allotment Committee



Roundabout revamp

A few months ago, at a Chorley Council Neighbourhood Meeting I proposed a project to be jointly funded by Chorley Council & Euxton Parish Council, that would improve the appearance and visibility at the roundabout where Old Worden Avenue meets Village Way and Main Street in Buckshaw Village.

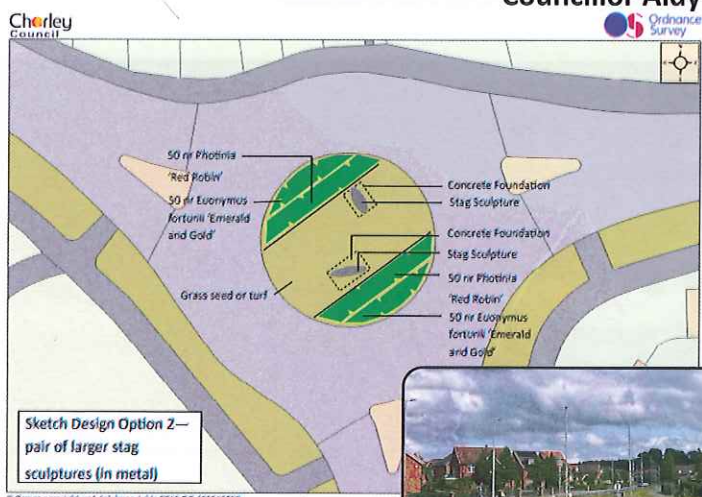
Due to the nature of the existing planting and the location of the crossing points, it can sometimes be really difficult to see whether a car is already coming around the roundabout when you are trying to cross. This is an issue especially for children and those in mobility scooters whose eye line is lower than most adults.

I also proposed to add a landmark to this roundabout like the scheme I proposed at the 'Cannon roundabout' - which the Parish Council delivered a few years ago - to help with directions and to give the roundabout some identity.

Recently I attended a meeting at the roundabout with an Officer from Chorley Council, Chair of the Parish Council, Katrina Reed and the Clerk Debra Platt to look at the issues raised and discussed options. The current working assumption is that we will remove all the unsightly planting and replant with appropriate planting at certain points where it won't reduce visibility and add a grassed area with a sculpture of a deer, or two, as centre pieces.

I will update again on this in a future newsletter as we make progress and bring this idea to life!

Councillor Aidy Riggott



Solving a long-stranding problem

In time for the nicer weather arriving Euxton Council had completed an upgrade on a public right of way (PROW).

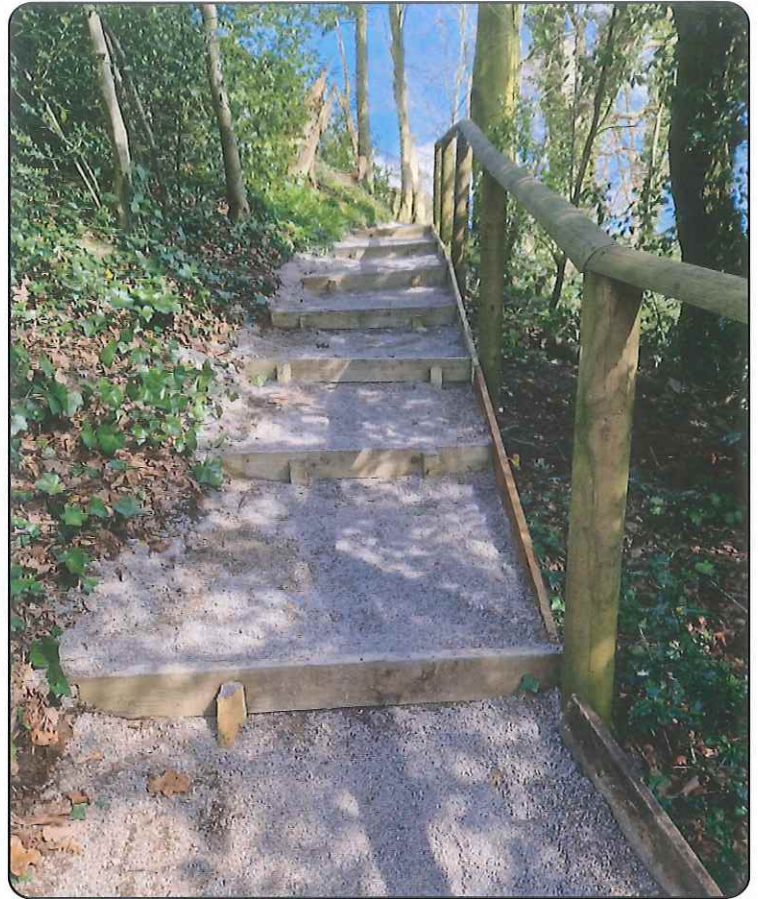
PROW Euxton No 20. from the A49 Wigan Road by Chapel Brook up hill to Euxton CE churchyard.

The newly refurbished path has been edged, backfilled with fine stones, hand rails installed along the inclined path and more steps created to make the incline a little easier to walk up.

Since acquiring the land the Council has improved not only the path but had the fencing repaired and filled in along the A49, created a banking behind the fence to be planted with new hedging (kindly assisted by the WI ladies doing the planting), improved the entrance from the road by splaying the entrance path and had all the trees inspected and the necessary safety works done on them.

The land from the A49 road going back and to the side leading down to Chapel Brook is to be improved and the Council is seeking a design and prices for this work. It is hoped the works will improve the look of the area and allow residents to appreciate the woodland. Any ideas welcome.

Leisure Committee



Millennium Green

An area on the Millennium Green was planted up with grasses and wildflowers suitable for the shady wet land in the south west corner.

It needs a couple of seasons to be at its best but the grassy meadow section came out lovely in its first year, this is a photo from its earliest flowers, later even more cornflower blue flowers and red poppies bloomed amongst other varieties.

The two areas have been assessed and a plan put in place for its maintenance and succession for next summer season.

The pond also had some maintenance and planting done in and around it and this will continue and be added to throughout the year and coming years. Fencing has been added at the sides of the pond where the platform is, to help protect some young trees and shrub plants and allow them to grow - as they were being trampled and disturbed by dogs entering the pond at these two points.

The Green also was spotted to have Ash tree dieback and a number of Ash trees have been taken down. The trees infected were planted in 1999/2000 so relatively young and succumb to the disease quicker.

Leisure Committee



Photo left of Mrs Duck and her 4 duckings, above of one of the areas which lost Ash trees in the south west corner of the green

Greenside Garden area

...continued from front page

In the front section, before arriving at the play area to the rear of the Greenside site is a section with four gym exercise machines.

One of the items needs de-commissioning and removing and as the equipment is no longer supported by the manufacturer will not be repaired and returned.

The Leisure Committee is seeking your input of ideas for this area, if the gym equipment is all removed. The new all weather recreation facility built closeby, next to the football fields, has offered younger residents the ability to play ball games in a contained fenced area, which has left the play area being used for the younger children.

What do you think could be done in the garden area? Let us know.

Leisure Committee



Primrose Hill play area

...continued from front page

In the middle part of Primrose play area, before getting to grass area, are 3 large climbing frames. These are now old and require replacing with more dynamic equipment.

The recent creation of a new area at the Balshaw Lane site could be replicated at Primrose with different or similar equipment pieces to provide activity pieces for older children, whereas the first section is for smaller children (swing, roundabout, springy, net climbing cone).

What do you think could be put in the area? Let us know.

Leisure Committee



Local boundaries and representation

...continued from front page

Euxton is served by a number of levels of Government. We have covered any changes in our newsletters previously, when there have been consultations or changes but, here is a reminder.

~ A Parish or Town Council (Local Council) is closest to the people and often operate on a village footprint. Here it's Euxton Parish Council.

~ Above this is a Borough Council operating a whole district, Chorley Council controls from town centre, outward to its outlying villages.

~ Next up is a County Council which for us is Lancashire, which has a whole Lancashire footprint.

~ Then there is Government where we elect an MP (member of parliament) to represent us in the Houses of Parliament where Government is run from.

Chorley Borough Council underwent an electoral boundary review which was inacted at the 2021 elections (after the 2020 elections were moved to 2021). This review presented some issues for Euxton as it was separated into three different Borough areas, with three different sets of 3 councillors (thats 9) looking after Euxton - 3 in each ward area.

Euxton is divided into 3 Chorley wards called: Euxton; Buckshaw & Whittle; Croston, Mawdesley & Euxton South - each having 3 Councillor representatives.

Euxton Parish Council was reviewed in the same Electoral boundary review as Chorley and wase split to align to Chorley's wards.

Euxton's wards changed to: Euxton; Euxton South; Euxton Buckshaw. The 18 representatives for Euxton Council are always contained in this newsletter and are on Page 8.

Lancashire County Council structure is slightly simpler as the whole of Euxton is within one area, called a division, which is covered by one County Councillor and this division is called Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley.

Member of Parliament (MP) this is a higher level of representation and your elected MP sits as a member of Government at Westminster. Currently Euxton is within the 'Chorley' constituency, covered by one MP. In late June 2023, after a few rounds of consultations, which were covered in our newsletters, the new parliamentary boundary structure was agreed.

The 'Euxton South' part of Euxton, which was put in a neighbouring Chorley Council ward (see above) will now fall into the South Ribble constituency, with the remainder of Euxton in the same constituency as before.

These changes of course will not happen until the next General Election - which is when the whole country goes to election to choose new MPs who then go on to form the next Government.

All the Councils noticeboards advertise all the parish councillors, borough and county councillors and the MPs details and are updated whenever there is a change of Councillor/ward/details etc. The newsletters often runs articles explaining the work and roles of Euxton parish/borough/county/MP's. More is available on the parish councils website.



New Speed Indicator sites

Euxton Council has two new speed indicator device sites which were up and running in August, ready for schools returning weeks later.

One site is on Runshaw Lane approaching the shops area from Leyland side, but which can detect vehicles metres before the zebra crossing - the other is on Balshaw Lane approaching the mini roundabout from Chorley side detecting vehicles as they enter Balshaw Lane from Southport Road slight bend in the road.

These sites have been chosen to slow cars coming in to built up or busy pedestrian areas.



All Purposes Committee

Pavement weeds

Chorley Council's streetscene department treat the weeds on the roadside and pavements.

Recently the weather has been encouraging the weeds and they had grown large in some places. Chorley has been out to treat them and they have been turning yellow (dying). If you have weeds on the pavements or roadside - report through Chorley's reporting system or call 01257 515151.



New Life Saving sites

Euxton Council is to install two new public access defibrillator sites in the village.

One of the proposed sites will be on the front of the Methodist Church building following their request and discussions. The second site will be at the entrance gates to the allotment site, inside the new estate off Euxton Lane, as per photo below.

These two sites, when installed, will be checked weekly and maintained by the parish council and put on to the ambulance service system so they show as available defib sites for when they receive emergency calls which require a defibrillator.

All Purposes Committee



Euxton WI

We have donated a Picnic bench, with access for a wheelchair/pushchair, to the Millennium Green. Delivery of this will take place late August just missing this issue but a photo will be in the next with our fund raising story.

If you require further information please contact Valerie Hough 01257 270874 We meet at the start of each month on Wednesday at 2pm.



Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteering

Jakes comments, "As part of my Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, I had to do some volunteering work of my choice for 3 months. I decided to choose litter picking for Euxton Parish Council to support the community that I live in.

Each week, I ventured to various local locations including Greenside Recreational Park, Primrose Hill School & Play Park and Euxton Scout Hut & surrounding green spaces, to name a few.

Come rain or shine, I spent an hour each week collecting every piece of rubbish I could find, using equipment provided by the Council. This included a go-kart wheel, a camouflage net and even an unidentified animal skull!

I've hopefully made a difference and in recent weeks I've found it harder to fill rubbish bags which can only be a good sign that its worked!

I thank Euxton Parish Council for this opportunity and hope others will follow in my footsteps to keep our community clean and tidy."

Thanks go to Jake who chose this type of volunteering to improve where he lives. If you are interested in volunteering drop a message to the Clerk.



From £1 Great value bus fares in Lancashire

- £2 max single fare 7 days a week
- £1 max single fare after 7pm*
- **Weekender ticket** - buy a Saturday day ticket & get Sunday free

Find out more at lancashire.gov.uk/publictransport

* Not available on Blackpool Transport services except services 74 & 75.

Funded by UK Government

lancashire.gov.uk >>>> Lancashire County Council

MEET THE AUTHOR

Wild! Wild! Wild!

A People's History of Slade

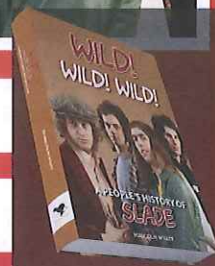
Lancashire-based music writer Malcolm Wyatt's new book is the story of Slade, Britain's biggest hitmakers in the 1970s. With six no 1 UK singles, Slade were *Top of the Pops* regulars and are responsible for one of the most famous Christmas songs ever in 'Merry Xmas Everybody'. *Wild! Wild! Wild!* brings together over 300 fan memories to tell the Slade story in a way that it's never been told before.



Malcolm Wyatt

Euxton Library

Monday 9th October
6:00pm – 7:00pm



Euxton Parish Council

All Council correspondence to: Debra Platt, Clerk.
Unit 16 CBTC, East Terrace, Euxton, PR7 6TE
T: 01257 234004 M: 07484 538 376
Email: clerk@euxtoncouncil.org.uk

Council Meetings

Council meetings are normally the third Thursday of the month at 7.15 pm and held in the Annexe at Euxton PC Community Centre, Wigan Road, Euxton. Please check the website or noticeboards for the dates and venues. Members of the public are very welcome to attend all meetings.

2023 meetings Thursdays: 21 September, 19 October, 16 November.

2024 meetings Thursdays: 18 January, 15 February, 21 March, 18 June.

Noticeboard Locations

- Wigan Road, St Mary's car park
- Wigan Road opposite Euxton Mills
- Euxton Lane junction with Wentworth Drive
- Euxton Buckshaw Village behind the Hub adjacent to play area
- Euxton Buckshaw Village Barnes Wallis Way behind Tesco
- Euxton Buckshaw Village at the Lancaster Way Community Centre
- Euxton Buckshaw on Brookwood Way
- Chancery Road opposite Chancery Fields
- Highways Avenue shops
- Southport Road Skate Park
- Runshaw Lane shops
- Allotment site



Councillors...

Euxton Ward

Patricia Fellows	277213
Ian Hamer	267280
Eric Jones	265013
Paul Morton	07771 848604
Andy Oddy	07717 895242
Rebecca Peers	277821
Dez Rigg	273986
Helen Tune	411711
Steve Walker	07766 695316
Barry Williamson	460168
Joan Williamson	460168

Euxton Buckshaw Ward

Barrie Duckworth	07580 247222
Neil Hall	07557 885210
Cheryl Parker	07894 966145
Katrina Reed	271199
Aidy Riggott	07585 633025

Euxton South Ward

Sam Hoyle	07740 945139
Vyn Thornhill	274550