



TILE PARISH PUMP *Lite*

Autumn 2017

New Look

Welcome to the new Parish Pump Lite. The first edition of the Pump was released in February '92 and after 48 issues and plenty of public consultation it was clear it was in need of a change. We will no longer be delivering the Pump door-to-door as before but instead you will be able to pick it up from locations around Croxley Green including the library, surgeries, and of course, the Parish office. You can also download a digital copy of the Pump by visiting our website. It is our hope to keep all residents updated with the latest news and views from your Parish Council and so we will now be publishing four issues a year instead of just two. If you would like the Pump sent directly to your inbox then just send an e-mail to info@croxleygreen-pc.gov.uk and we will add you to our mailing list. Happy reading!



Travellers

On August 10 a group of travellers forced their way into Stone's Orchard via the gate on The Green. After a phone call from Cllr Bains, the Clerk and admin staff (despite not being the landowners) made their way on to the Green to stop any more incursions into Stone's Orchard. Although they were successful in blocking off the orchard entrance they could not prevent approximately 20 more caravans from pitching up along the Green. However, after a lot of deliberation between the Clerk, travellers and the fantastic police presence the travellers were eventually persuaded to move on. Our thanks to the police for providing such great support and Peter Lawrence who supplied the concrete blocks which deterred any more travellers making residence in Croxley Green.



Travellers in Stone's Orchard

Weston Wood

August 2017 marked a significant point in the Parish Council's 31 year history when, for the first time, the Council became landowners after they finalised the purchase of a 1.7 acre piece of woodland in the village. The woodland, adjacent to Buddliea Walk and Mill Lane, was purchased for a price of £26,000 and in perpetuity for all residents of Croxley Green. The woodland is to be called "Weston Wood" in recognition of the previous land owner. This is the first notable piece of land that Croxley Green Parish Council will have ownership of as although the Parish Council maintain The Green, Stone's Orchard, and other sites around the village, this is under contract from Three Rivers District Council who are the current land owners. We will shortly be undertaking the creation of a management plan for the site.

Christmas Lights Competition

Last year it was noticed by the Chairman the amount of homes in Croxley Green which had some great displays of Christmas lights over the festive period. So, we are pleased to announce that starting this year will be the inaugural Croxley Green Christmas Lights Competition. It will be free to enter and residents are urged to submit their entries no matter the size or extent of their display. After entries have been received the judging panel will make their way around the village and judge the displays to see who will take home the trophy. Further details including entry forms will be available soon from the Council office & website.

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Parish Council

**THE
PARISH
PUMP**

No. 1 February 1992

EDITORIAL

Why "The Parish Pump?" We thought long and hard over a suitable name for this new exercise in communication between your Parish Council and yourselves. The ideas which were floated were many and varied but we wanted our name to feature prominently. However "Croxley Green Parish Council" is a mouthful in itself and the addition of "Newsletters" was thought to be too much.

Croxley Green is a historic place and it is known that the best source of news and gossip in a community used to be the place at which water, a prime necessity of life, was drawn. We then set out to discover where water was drawn, in the past, for use by the villagers.

Unfortunately, we very soon discovered that there was no single source but a number of pumps and many wells in individual properties. The people of the village were very lucky but it was not so lucky for us.

Not to be deterred, we put it to the vote and so, as this is the central source of news from the Parish to the parish it has become as you see "The Parish Pump."

As most village pumps were Victorian in origin and based on the age of cast iron, so our imaginary pump is based on such designs. But however imaginary the illustration and its derivation is, the purpose of this newsletter is in no way fanciful. We want to use it to communicate with you and we want you in turn, to write to us to communicate your thoughts and feelings to us.

This is an experiment and as such it is impossible to say how regular this newsletter will be published but we hope to have enough to say to make it possible to make an issue at least three times a year.

We must stress that this is in no way a rival to the "Resident" but an additional form of communication, our regular contribution to this well read and long established publication will continue.

The Parish is split into three wards, represented by just sixteen Parish Councillors, all elected by you, and however hard we try, we cannot possibly totally guess what the majority view will be on any particular issue so please let us

know, it will not even cost you a stamp, until the Parish Office is built just pop your letter in our box in the reference section of the library in Barton Way. There is an even more simple way, the councillors are listed, in wards, complete with their telephone numbers, under the handle of our imaginary parish pump, and every one of them will be pleased to hear your views.

John Hedges
Chairman Publicity Committee

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is now almost six years since Croxley Green Parish Council was established. When the council was first elected in March 1985, we all made something of a leap into the unknown. All of us were new to local government and all of us were volunteers, united only in our wish to serve the people of Croxley Green. Our lack of knowledge was offset by the enthusiasm and commitment, but we did start with some problems. Firstly we had no premises and so there was nowhere to use as a Parish Council Office. Secondly we had no money - just a first year precept set by Three Rivers District Council.

What have we done over the past six years? A very valid question because we have had a generally low profile and unless you are yourself very active in the community, you could be forgiven for not even knowing of our existence. Much of the first two years or so was spent getting to know the system, establishing contacts, setting up our own methods of working, there then followed a period of consolidation and planning. But even during those early years there were some activities which were noticeable. The Croxley Green Clean-up days, repairs to the War Memorial, planting bulbs on Scott's Hill verges and the reclamation of the horse trough at Sain's Orchard.

There was also planning opposition to the proposed Imperial Machine Company's site, redevelopment and possible overdevelopment on both the sites of The Orchard and Applegarth & Pelka on the Green. We introduced the first dog bins and dog control scheme in S.W. Herts and last but not least we took over the management of the grass cutting on the Green.

But now we are entering into a new phase in the life of the Parish Council. Having now accumulated some funds, we can at last really start to do things. We have already introduced a pilot bus service for the senior citizens of the village - it may be limited in scope at present but it is a start. The area around the library is being tidied and a sturdy new seat installed. In the first half of this year we will be opening a Parish Office so that you, the residents of Croxley Green, can contact us more readily. Progressively during 1992 we will be starting several other initiatives all designed in one way or another to make Croxley Green a better place in which to live.

COUNCILLORS

North Ward 773041
Peter Foster
John Hedges 222715
Chairman - Planning & Development

Alison Wall 777340
Chairman - Planning & Development

Joe Wesson 233000
Vice-Chairman - Council

Ray Withers 819102

Croxley Green Ward

Ernest Burds 770559
Graham Frost 777589
Muriel Good 771840

Heather McMaster 772317
Margaret Pointet 720088

NAN. Other

South Ward

John Brind 228785
Phil Drury 720701
Bill Hasterly 775231
John Laster 252806
Chairman - Council

Lawrie Matthews 243420
Chairman - Environment & Amenities

Clerk to the Council
Derek Fineberg 220329

The first edition of the Parish Pump, Feb '92

Croxfest

This September saw yet another fantastic day on the Green when residents were treated to a day of music, sun & fun at Croxfest. Feedback from the event has been extremely positive and the Parish Council is proud to help make the event



Cllr Wallington at Croxfest

possible with the subscription paid each year to the Croxley Green Society, who organise Croxfest and the Revels. This year 6 Councillors helped on the day by collecting money and making sure the event ran smoothly. Congratulations to all involved.

Dog Show

The 6th annual Parish Council Dog Show took place on September 24 in Stone's Orchard. It proved our biggest year yet with 210 entrants across the ten classes, a tombola, an agility course provided by Doberdayz and a PA system generously supplied free of charge by local resident Nick King. This year saw the introduction of two new classes in our Dog Show, Stop & Go and Best Trick. The winner of Best Trick was William who won over the judges with a superb routine which at one point included holding a bouquet of flowers for his handler. You can watch William's winning performance by visiting our Twitter page @CroxleyGreenPC. This year's Best in Show was the Greyhound Lexi. Croxley Green Parish Council would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's show possible. Nick King for supplying the PA system, Ruth Springer for organising prizes for the tombola and Croxley Hardware, New Road Coffee House & Deli, Croxley Groomers, Butlers & Son's Butchers and The Co-Op for their kind donations. We really couldn't do it without you! This year we raised a

fantastic £362 which will be donated to the National Animal Welfare trust based in Bushey. If you came to this year's Dog Show and have any feedback from the event then please get in touch.



Lexi & her handler Jean Armstrong

Rangers

We have had some change of personnel within our Ranger team over the summer. Phil left us after 3 years to move with his family to Warwickshire and we thank Phil for the service he provided to Croxley Green over the years and wish him good luck in his new venture. After Phil's departure James was promoted to Senior Ranger and we are delighted that Anthony Bassenger has joined him after a successful interview. Don't forget that you can keep up to date with the work being carried out by James and Anthony around the village by following them on Twitter at @CroxleyRangers.

Budget 2018/19

At this time of year your Councillors start to collate ideas and suggestions that will help build our budget for 2018/19, which will be finalised in January 2018. So, if there was anything you feel Croxley Green could do with, perhaps an extra dog bin, more seating in public spaces or an increase in the flowers found around the village then contact your Councillors to let them know how you think the Parish Council should spend its money. You can find contact details of your Councillors on our website.

Croxley Views

In every issue of the Parish Pump we seek to find out your views on certain issues that effect you the residents. This autumn we are looking to find out your opinions and suggestions on the Parish Council's funding of two PCSOs for our village. Maybe you feel that the Parish needs more than just two PCSOs to help combat crime in the area or that the £28,000 which is spent on the officers could be best spent in other places. Whatever your views please get in touch and let us know.

You can e-mail us at info@Croxleygreen-pc.gov.uk or alternatively call us on 01923 710250.

Dates For Your Diary

- **November 12** - 2:15pm - Remembrance Sunday Service & Parade - All Saint's Church / War Memorial
- **Tuesday November 21** - 7:30pm - Local Area Forum - Harvey Road School
- **Thursday November 30** - 6pm - Christmas Lights Switch On & Carols - Outside the Library
- **Saturday 16 December** - 4pm-7pm - Croxley Green Christmas Market - In/Outside the Library
- **Sunday December 31** - Midnight - NYE Fireworks - The Green
- **Wednesday 17 January 2018** - 7:30pm - Wassail - Stone's Orchard

Contact:

01923 710250



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