

# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

Summer Version 1

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST :

**CHESHIRE EAST AND PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE IN MAY 2015. PLEASE WATCH THE NOTICE BOARDS FOR MORE INFORMATION. THE PARISH COUNCIL ALWAYS WELCOMES NEW ENTHUSIASTIC RESIDENTS**

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## CRANAGE BOWLING CLUB

Cranage Parish Council have finally reached the final stages of transferring the asset from Cheshire East. It has taken nearly three years but now the bowling club can start rebuilding the clubhouse. Their planning permission has been approved again. It is very exciting and we will support the committee all we can to ensure the building-work is carried out as quickly and efficiently as possible.

For the residents of Cranage Parish or outside local areas, who wish to join please contact Mr Roy Porter on 01477 532703

### DECISION

Police Community Support Officer

We were asked by Brereton Parish Council if we would be interested in sharing the cost of £11,000, of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). This was discussed at a Cranage Parish Council meeting and it was the opinion of members that this did not represent good value for money. There are two reasons for this, firstly, Cranage can generally be

regarded as a low crime area and other disturbances are rare. Secondly, there were concerns that response times could be slow if the PCSO was in Brereton when an incident was reported in Cranage.

Should residents have contrary views, the Parish Council would be interested to hear and discuss them.

## FOOTBALL PITCHES IN CRANAGE

Cranage Parish Council have financially supported Cheshire East this summer to improve drainage on the football pitches in the Dane Valley. The pitch closest to the A50 was constantly holding water by the goal posts and in the bottom corner so this has now been addressed and the far pitch

is due to be done before the end of September. We have recognised that this pitch would be played more frequently if cut regularly and drained. The Parish Council hope this will now encourage teams to book the pitches and be an asset for local players in

their spare time. Interested in joining a team please contact Tim Sheldon (our footpath officer ) as he is also involved in Holmes Chapel Hurricanes and could point you in the right direction (details on back page)

At the start of Cheshire East's £23m investment in 2013, commitments were given to tackle the rapidly increasing number of potholes which were and are a symptom of the overall condition of our road network. The job is not finished but we are making significant progress. You will have seen much of this completed work locally.

The number of reports on potholes that pose safety problems for our road users is falling (as are the claims) but the amount of work to prevent and protect the road surfaces remains our priority.

As illustration of the progress across the borough, in the first four months of the current financial year (April to July) we have:

Cleaned 18,000 road gullies.

Filled 6,000 potholes.

Repaired over 3,000 surface defects with our Velocity machine.

Repaired 33,000m<sup>2</sup> of road with our patching crews.

Resurfaced 62,000m<sup>2</sup> of carriageways

Surface dressed and protected 547,000m<sup>2</sup> of road.

In total, 107km of road has been repaired (roughly equivalent to 142 football pitches!).

**MAINTENANCE OF OUR PARISH**

The Council have made lots of enquiries about the employing of a lengths man across the parish. They have received a copy of the basic duties that need to be undertaken by Cheshire East. It is not as frequent as we would like but a

guide to help us when chasing up the highways department and ANSA.

It has been included in this newsletter for information purposes. We would like any help with information on whether it has been maintained. If we feel the basics are not being completed

then we will ensure that they are carried through. We can then debate whether or not to invest some of our precept into employing a lengthsman.

We don't want to incur any double taxation costs.

**CHECK IF THIS IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN YOUR AREA**

**RURAL GRASS CUTTING**

<40 MPH (OUTSIDE TOWN BOUNDARY) - ONCE A YEAR/ 1METRE WIDE. 3 VISIBILITY CUTS ON JUNCTIONS AND BENDS

**URBAN GRASS CUTTING**

EVERY TWO WEEKS FOR 10 MONTHS (NOV TO FEB)

**FOOTPATH CLEARANCE**

ADHOC BASIS/ WEED SPRAYING TWICE A YEAR

**ROAD SIGN CLEANING (MANY ARE DIFFICULT TO READ)**

NO BUDGET BUT IF DANGEROUS ADHOC.

**HEDGE CUTTING AND TREE OVERHANGING PAVEMENTS**

PRIVATE LAND. INSTRUCTED BY HIGHWAYS ACT 1980. WHEN REQUESTED.

**LEAVES FROM GULLIES**

SWEEPING BY HIGHWAYS 4 TIMES A YEAR.

**GRASS CUTTING**

ON OPEN SPACE 4/6 TIMES A YEAR. 15 ON ESTATES.

**LITTER COLLECTION**

RURAL /MAIN ROADS 8 TIMES A YEAR.

## PLAY AREA ON OPEN SPACE OFF NEEDHAM DRIVE

Two youngsters who live nearby have approached Cranage Parish Council requesting that consideration is given to improving and adding some equipment to the facilities on this play area and perhaps a fitness or trim trail within the surrounding open space, in order to cater for the 10-15 year olds is suggested.

When the play area was put in place by the two developers some 15 years ago, it catered for those between the ages of 2 and 8 years. Now that these youngsters have ap-

proached secondary school age, there is a need for more adventurous equipment to cater for some of their leisure and recreation time.

The area is in the ownership of Cheshire East Borough Council who carry out the basic maintenance to existing equipment.

The parish council is fully supportive of the initiative shown by the youngsters and it is already looking into the feasibility of funding some of the work and applying for grants. We have informed the borough council of our intention

and we hope to have the support of our CEC ward members as well as the community.

We would encourage volunteers to come forward to help take forward the planning of the work and to assist in the preparation of a draft plan which includes ideas from the young people who would be using the open space and play area. If residents would be interested in joining a group to assist in taking this idea forward, they should contact the Clerk of the Council.

### HELP REQUIRED

There is a small piece of un adopted land, behind Deans Row Cottages, which has been fenced off by a local resident.

The land has been part of the open space for many, many years and if allowed this land could be taken by possessory title. The land must be exclusively occupied by the claimant and

should prevent all others having access but we are unable to remove the padlock on the gate as it could be constituted as criminal damage.

The Parish Council have no rights to claim the land as we have not occupied it exclusively for 12 years.

Local people are obviously very upset. They need support in ensuring photographs and written evi-

dence are kept with people in the space and then retained for future use. Copies could be sent to the Clerk

The Parish Council did plant trees last year which was photographed in the press but they were taken not long afterwards.

**Un adopted  
land please  
help the  
local  
residents**

## BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER DANE

Cheshire East Council has indicated their intention to support the construction of a foot bridge and cycleway over the river Dane linking Cranage to Holmes Chapel. They have asked both Cranage and Holmes Chapel Parish Council to carry out further consultation

in their respective villages to ascertain the views of the residents before they pursue the matter further. Cheshire East Council state that grant funding will be required to complete the project and will be relying on both Parish Councils to assist if and when any action is tak-

en. A joint questionnaire will be prepared and distributed to all residents in Autumn 2014 with results sent to Cheshire East Council and, of course, published via the CPC newsletter and web site.

## CRANAGE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014

**Chairman:**

Councillor D Hopley, Fairholme, Knutsford Road, Cranage. CW4 8ER.01477 533642  
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**Vice Chairman:**

Councillor M Hodge, Briarwood, Goostrey Lane, Cranage CW4 8HE 01477 537728  
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Website address [www.cranage-cheshire.org.uk](http://www.cranage-cheshire.org.uk)

**Clerk to the Parish Council:** Mrs J Mason. 10 Brereton Heath Lane, Brereton Heath. CW12 4SY.  
email: [J.mason715@btinternet.com](mailto:J.mason715@btinternet.com)

**Footpath and Tree Officer Representative:**

Mr T Sheldon, 5 Armistead Way, Cranage, CW4 8FE. Tel; 01477 534688 email [tim.sheldon@btinternet.com](mailto:tim.sheldon@btinternet.com)

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING THE DANE VALLEY WARD**

Councillor L Gilbert. 75 Ravenscroft, Holmes Chapel. CW4 7HJ Tel. 01477 544307  
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Councillor A Kolker. 42 Primrose Chase, Goostrey. CW4 8LJ Tel. 01477 544513  
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