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Derian House Field Saved!

Thanks to lobbying by your local Councillors Mark Perks and Alan Platt Chorley Council has announced it is not looking to enter into an agreement with Chorley Hospital to turn the Derian House playing field into a car park.

Alan and Mark are now supporting parents at the Football Club to secure a lease of the playing field to allow for junior football development.

Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC Summer Sports Programme

The Easter soccer school run by Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC and organised by Mark Perks was held in Astley Village. The Soccer School was highly successful and another one was held during May half term in Buckshaw Village.

The five week Summer soccer school returns to Astley Village on 29 July.

With the help and support from Councillor Mark Perks the FA Standard Charter club is going to run a 5 week school holiday programme in Astley Village. The scheme, aimed at 5 to 11 years old, begins Monday 29 July based at the Community Centre on Hall Gate. Coaches from the club will deliver the scheme.

The club now runs 7 teams with a further 2 planned to start this September. This season has seen the club's U10's and 15's win their league and the U9's Blue and U11's take runners up spot. Cllr Alan Platt sponsored a Chorley Community grant to the Club for goalpost sockets and nets.



Players and Coaches at the Easter Soccer school

Problem Solved!

When local resident Jennifer Irvine suffered a fall due to surface water running down the footpath at the top of Foxcote in Astley Village she decided to contact her local representatives for assistance.

Local Ward Councillor Alan Platt arranged for an investigation by Chorley Council which revealed that not only was surface water running down the steps from a blocked highway grid in a corner of Rookwood, but also that the water contained untreated sewage, possibly emanating from an incorrectly connected toilet and was running over the Foxcote Play area.



Water from the drain (photo courtesy of Mrs J Irvine)

Chorley Council, Lancashire County Council and United Utilities worked together to identify the problem as being due to a collapsed culvert and repairs were carried out by LCC.

EU Membership - Let Britain Decide

Mark and Alan have both signed up to co-sponsor a draft Bill underpinning a referendum into EU membership. Sadly Labour and the Liberal Democrats don't want you to be given a say. If you want to join Mark and Alan in supporting the referendum visit www.letbritaindecide.com for details.

- Trinity Buckshaw School - expansion work on new classrooms starts this July as part of the plans to make it a two form entry.
- Building work on the Commercial quarter is now underway.
- Following Borough Councillor's request, Chorley Council has cleared the raised bed outside Astley Village Community Centre and is now to plant up.
- Work on killing knotweed around centre and subway continues before planting scheme gets underway.
- Chorley Council's Planning Officers have requested developers make further changes to the Rugby Club housing application following representations from Councillors and Residents.
- Mark and Alan continue to work with statutory partners on issues raised by residents.

Young People Successes at Buckshaw Youth Association

The Buckshaw Youth Association, which runs at Buckshaw Village Community Centre, is open to 8 to 17 year olds.

The association is run by Mark Perks and Trustees and offers arts, sports and social activities. A visit to Rock FM was organised earlier this year and young people made commercials.

The Youth Group secured some commissioned youth work this year and has successfully reached its target supporting young people from Chorley in gaining qualifications. 4 Young People gained their Silver Arts Awards, 3 gained their FA.Level 1 coaching, 13 gained AQA accreditation in football and a further 10 successful passed Bronze Arts Awards or Arts Discovery Awards.



Cllr Mark Perks is now qualified as a volunteer youth worker and works alongside Parish Councillors Paul Thomas and Aidy Riggott in running the successful group. Cllr Alan Platt kindly sponsored a Chorley Community grant to the group to fund its Family Bike Event held the 15th June.

Buckshaw Scouts Association Launched

The new Group now has over 80 Cubs and Scouts and operates two nights a week. The Group is based at Trinity School and recently attended its first camp at Waddecar.

Cllr Mark Perks sponsored a Chorley Community grant for the Group and is also the Group's Chairman.

Bike Week

To mark National Bike Week a 2nd Family Bike Event ran from Trinity Buckshaw school to Astley Park - 36 families took part.



Parking for Events

In an attempt to help with problems caused by with parked vehicles in Astley Village, Mark and Alan have requested detailed traffic management plans are submitted for events in Astley Park and at Derian House which attract large numbers of vehicles.

Chorley Council has implemented this for the most recent events and improvements were noticed.

Local Development Framework

Mark and Alan have been involved in trying to reduce the numbers of houses earmarked for the area.

At the Chorley Council meeting when the publication version of the Local Plan was approved Alan assisted with an amendment proposing to have Planning Officers reappraise the over abundance of building in the Euxton area and to maintain the area of separation on Euxton Lane. Unfortunately the amendment was defeated by the Labour Group.

More recently Mark took the lead speaking at the Local Development Framework Hearing against several issues including the loss of the area of separation and the proposed housing off Euxton Lane/Pear Tree Lane.

Astley Village Resident's Association

Having worked with AVRA for several years on Fun Days, Clean up Days and the like, Mark and Alan were sad to hear the Committee had decided to wind up the Group following unsuccessful attempts to attract new members.

Both Mark and Alan had sponsored grants for the events and thanks go to Breda, Christine, Frank, Gail and Kath who had worked hard over the past few years to provide events for local residents to enjoy even if the weather was not always kind!