

Chorley Hospital A&E Campaign

The announced downgrade of the A&E service came as a massive blow to the whole town recently and the campaign to reverse the situation has continued in earnest.

The MP recently commented in the press, "This shortage in staff has not just occurred in recent weeks and while the problem has been growing, managers have failed to respond accordingly. The plans to close A&E at Chorley are a reflection of poor planning, a failure to recruit and a continual trend of services being shifted from Chorley to Preston."

Mark spoke at the recent special meeting of Chorley Council discussing the issue and the request made to Lancashire Teaching Trust.



Which conditions can be treated at the Urgent Care Centre, open 8am-8pm?

Minor nose bleeds	Minor chest, neck and back injuries
Minor cuts, bites and stings	Minor head injuries with no loss of consciousness or alcohol-related
Burns and scalds	Minor allergic reactions
Infections (including abscesses)	Some minor ailments such as coughs, colds, flu symptoms, sore throat, earache, urinary tract infections and sinusitis
Foreign bodies in wounds, ears and noses	Diarrhoea / constipation
Muscular sprains and strains to shoulders, arms and legs	Emergency contraception
Fractures to shoulders, arms, legs & ribs	Remember, your pharmacist or GP can provide treatment for a range of minor illnesses and injuries.
Dislocations of fingers, thumbs and toes	
Minor eye conditions including conjunctivitis and foreign bodies	

For any life threatening or emergency conditions **ring 999** or go to your nearest emergency department

For out of hours advice **ring 111**

Mark has attended the Saturday morning protests with many of the public outside the hospital at the Euxton Lane entrance along with residents from the village. He has signed the online petition and urges you to do the same!!

The hospital is currently running an Urgent Care Centre at the hospital so please continue to use this service if needed.

The Trust announced they aim to reopen in August.

Astley Village Community Action Plan

In February Chorley Council executive finally announced their plans for the 4 pilot schemes called – Community Action Plans (CAP).

One CAP is to be delivered within Astley Village it has been influenced by a council 2015 resident satisfaction survey in which 1299 people responded. Just 66 from Astley Village responding, the majority of which were over 60 along with some intelligence driven data.

After repeated requests to Chorley Council and for assurances that funding would be allocated to tackle issues rather than on infrastructure, going unanswered. Mark eventually had to submit a Freedom of Information request to the council and request a "Call In" of the council's decision. Actions have now been agreed for the village with neither stakeholders nor key partners involvement.

Mark has been completely excluded by the council and not involved in these plans.

Councillor Mark Perks says Chorley Council "has missed an opportunity" and "lacked vision and ambitions".

The projects for Astley Village are :-

- **Car parking at Astley Village Community Centre £25,000**
- **Improvements to subway in Astley Village £15,000**
- **Astley Village gateway schemes £12,000**
- **Plus a project on improvements to the Astley Village Centre canopy £35,000**

There are no projects to use and involve the Children's Centre – (which was listed for closure by LCC in May), to improve health, on people social inclusion, or increase public participation, holiday schemes, anti-social behaviour, volunteering involve groups or established schemes that would bring real benefits to all.

If the council will not consult with you for your ideas! Mark would like to hear from you about YOUR VIEWS?

mark.perks@chorley.gov.uk

Stagecoach 109A Bus Service

It has been so good to see once again the 109a bus service back operating on both sides of Chancery Road. Stagecoach changed the bus service in the village on the 3rd April 2016 after listening to people.

The 109A service has been restored back to include links from Astley Village to Tesco and Southport Road along with stops at Booths on Union Street. It still provides a service to Buckshaw, so residents' using the medical centre can access it and the link to Preston.

Issues remain regarding timetables being made available along the route and the important question. What is to happen after the temporary situation offered by Chorley Council for part of the service when funding ends?

Cllr Mark Perks had met with Stagecoach officers back in January this were Mark handed over the petition he had organised

on your behalf, along with the evidence of the many problems users faced that Mark collected from you.

Mark Perks commented **"For people who rely on the service this has been a massive issue and one of the biggest issues I've known affecting so many in the village in my 14 years as a councillor.**

Despite a meeting being held at the community centre with Stagecoach back in September 2015, few, if many residents knew anything about the meeting until after the event. Or of the changes that were going to be made back in October 2015.

I want to thank all those residents' who helped and all 200 plus who signed the petition, as it has made a difference. It wouldn't have happened without the users sending a clear message to Stagecoach."

Derian House application

It was disappointing to learn the request Mark made to Chorley Council on behalf of some residents that the planning application to build an additional building be heard in public was rejected and approval given under delegated powers by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of planning. The current parking problems along Chancery Road has not been addressed and was not discussed.

Astley Village Scouts

Mark recently gave the new scout group a £500 grant to support them buy equipment, and wishes them every success.

Westway Woodland Trust Managed Woodland



Work being undertaken by the Woodland Trust in the woodland along Westway has led to a lot of comments about the damage to the grass verge, the mess left and just what was being done !! Mark got directly in touch with them to report YOUR concerns - the Trust which manages the Westway Woodland stopped the work straight away and has repaired the damaged verges and removed most of the felled trees. They will return in September after the growth season. The tree thinning and removal will continue and work cleared.

Astley and Buckshaw Junior Football Club Summer Soccer School

The popular scheme returns for its 13th year in the village. Based at the community centre it will operate for 4 weeks during August. Details can be found out www.abjfc.co.uk and through Chorley Council's What's On.



Strawberry Fields Employment Site/Housing

Outline permission was given by Chorley Council for the development of a pub, store, employment site and up to 125 homes at Strawberry Fields last year. Work has now begun on clearing some trees and hedging ready to make way for the road access link into the site on Euxton Lane. This was approved by the council recently on 4th May 2016.

It was Mark who requested a tree preservation order for many of the current trees and is thankful it was passed by the council last year.



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