



# Clitheroe the Future News

Clitheroe the Future  
Trinity Centre  
Parson Lane  
Clitheroe BB7 2JY  
01200 427886

Volume 2 Issue 1  
December 2004

[www.clitheroethefuture.co.uk](http://www.clitheroethefuture.co.uk)

## A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

2004 has been a difficult year for the partnership. We started the year with the elation of having the business plan from North West Development Agency (NWDA) approved and agreement to spend our allotted funding. Unfortunately at that time I don't think anyone appreciated all the additional hoops we would have to jump through in order to actually access the funding. I am sure that delay will have frustrated many who have given up so much time to collecting data and developing our action plan.

I sincerely hope that, now we are starting to initiate projects, the enthusiasm and determination demonstrated in the past by the Clitheroe Community will enable us to carry through these plans to realise our ambition to make Clitheroe and the surrounding rural areas an even better place to live and work in.

We continue to need the support of everyone to carry out the plans.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and success for 2005.

Jeremy Grout-Smith

## NWDA Funding Comes on Line

Some of you may have given up hope that we would ever start to spend the NWDA promised fund of £1.2 million. However we are pleased to announce that the first 2 projects have been given the green light and we hope that others will come on stream soon. For details of the 2 approved schemes see later in this newsletter. The major schemes such as the Castle, Roefield, Gisburn will not start until the next financial year.

## PEDESTRIAN AUDIT

Two meetings have been held this year with Lancashire County Council Highways Department to follow up on the report by Living Streets in January 2004. The report highlighted a whole series of improvements which could be made to Clitheroe. LCC asked Clitheroe the Future to prioritise actions.

Several meetings were held with members of the partnership identifying the area around the Interchange as being a priority due to the high pedestrian usage and the lack of safe crossing points between the interchange and the town. An on site audit by members of the partnership resulted in a detailed report on all issues such as signage, car parking, lighting, and traffic/pedestrian interaction. This included photographs to illustrate the issues and was presented to LCC Highways Department in August. Although they promised to make a positive review of all these issues and identify actions that could be taken, we are still awaiting their response on these matters.

Some of the points raised are the responsibility of Ribble Valley Borough Council and we are continuing to discuss these matters through the market towns forum.

It seems a pity that road traffic priorities are determined by the number of deaths or serious injuries in an area and other projects have little chance of succeeding.

## Market Town Enhancement

One of the first projects to be approved under the NWDA scheme is Market Town Enhancement.

The purpose of the project is to improve the general town-scape through grants to support businesses who want to improve the fronts of their premise, a number of small general improvements, and better signage.

Whilst the amount of money allocated to this is relatively small it is hoped that during 2005 this will result in definite cosmetic improvements to the town.

Details of the scheme will be circulated by Ribble Valley Regeneration Team shortly.

## Web Site

Clitheroe the Future web-site continues to be popular and averages between forty and fifty thousand hits per month with visitors from around the world.

Earlier this year the site was honoured with a Golden Web Award by a group of web-site developers and this together with a letter from the Queen's Private Secretary at Buckingham Palace expressing the Queen's Support for the site and wishing Clitheroe success in the Market Town Initiative helps recognise the excellent work and effort by Stan Parkinson who designed and updates the site.

We shall be adding to and improving the site over the next few weeks and if anyone wishes to add reciprocal links to our site we shall be pleased to hear from you..

Stan needs information and news from people relative to Clitheroe Regeneration Ideas and Progress.



## YOUTH SUPPORT WORKERS

### Involving Young People

One of the first projects to be developed by Clitheroe the Future is aimed at supporting young people living in Clitheroe and the surrounding villages. It's all too easy and simple to say that young people are Clitheroe's future, and just hope they all somehow find a way of fitting in.

The reality is that not everyone feels they have a part to play in the life of the town. Some young people feel disaffected. They may not see any opportunities for themselves. They may not feel they are listened to. They may feel isolated, living in rural villages. They may be uncertain about what the future holds for them. They may be involved in town centre disorder.

This project, which is funded by both the North West Development Agency and Lancashire's Youth Service, is about helping individual young people to get connected and then finding a way for their views to be heard by people and organisations that make decisions in the town. Four new outreach workers will be working directly with disaffected young people particularly at weekends and in the evenings, to find out how they see their own needs. They will then provide support and encouragement for them to get engaged with more organised activities. These could be about sport and leisure activities or learning opportunities. We hope to complete the recruitment of these outreach workers in December.

## Castle Project

Consultants will report back in early December on the latest studies (Audience Development and Access Plans) for the proposed re-development of Clitheroe Castle. It is hoped that Heritage Lottery can then take a decision on progressing with the lottery bid.

A Friends of the Castle group has been formed to progress improvements to the grounds and they are working with schools and colleges to develop new planting schemes. For further information please contact Richard Jackson on 429041

## Market Study

A study funded by the Countryside Agency into the role of traditional markets in six market towns in the North West has been completed. Clitheroe Market came out of the study as being more successful than most in terms of survival and being part of the general retail offer in the town. A follow up meeting between CTF and Ribbles Valley Borough Council Market Management has identified a number of actions to try to build on this success. It is hoped that at least some of these can be put into effect in 2005. If you would like to read the report please contact Richard Jackson to email it (Too big to copy) The **Christmas Market** will take place on **Saturday 11th December** - please give it your support.

## St Mary's Centre



St Mary's Centre is enjoying a new lease of life since the Parish Hall Trustees agreed to the management of the centre being transferred to Trinity Community Partnership. The cinema has recently transferred to the main hall with a new projection box being built at the rear of the hall.

Ben Hasty who is managing the centre is working closely with volunteers to put together a programme of film and live events for the new year. This would then be used to establish information on the types of events which could be held in the proposed redeveloped centre and to estimate the viability of each type of event. The next stage of the development process will be to conduct an Economic Impact Study on the proposed new development and to try to find a commercial partner who may be prepared to contribute substantially towards the proposed redevelopment. It is vital to Clitheroe that we preserve a community facility of this type but it must be sustainable in the long term.

## Community Notice Board

The Community Noticeboard is already a great success, only a few months after being set up outside the Yorkshire Bank on Market Place. It gives people information about a very wide range of community activities that are going on in the town or in the surrounding villages. The noticeboard is so popular that there's already a waiting list of people and organisations wanting to display information.

Clitheroe the Future obtained funding for the noticeboard after it had been identified by many people at the public meetings as being a good idea.

Two main rules apply. No political messages and no commercial advertising of businesses. The Council for Voluntary Services, based in Swan Courtyard, manage the Noticeboard, keeping the information up to date.

Clitheroe the Future are now thinking about whether there's enough demand for a second board, placed elsewhere in the town.

## Whalley

Richard Jackson, our Project Manager, has been facilitating Whalley Action Group who have been producing a Parish Plan as part of the Countryside Agency Vital Villages Programme. The report is now complete and for anyone interested this can be viewed on Whalley Parish Council Web-Site at [www.whalleyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.whalleyparishcouncil.org.uk).

Some improvements and actions have already been completed. An ongoing issue of flooding of King Street seems to have been solved after a meeting was organised with LCC Engineers who made some modifications to the screen where a brook enters the main culvert. It was pleasing to note that, in spite of recent heavy rain, no flooding occurred.

## Fair Access to Services—Rural IT

Clitheroe the Future Executive have given approval to the project submitted by Northern Rural Partnership. This will establish IT training and support in the villages of Bolton by Bowland, Grindleton and Ribchester.

Rural businesses and residents will benefit from localised training which will mean that the service can be delivered in their neighbourhood rather than the clients travelling to a larger centre.

Clitheroe the Future Partnership is supported by the Countryside Agency, Ribbles Valley Borough Council, Clitheroe Town Council, Trinity Community Partnership and NWDA.

