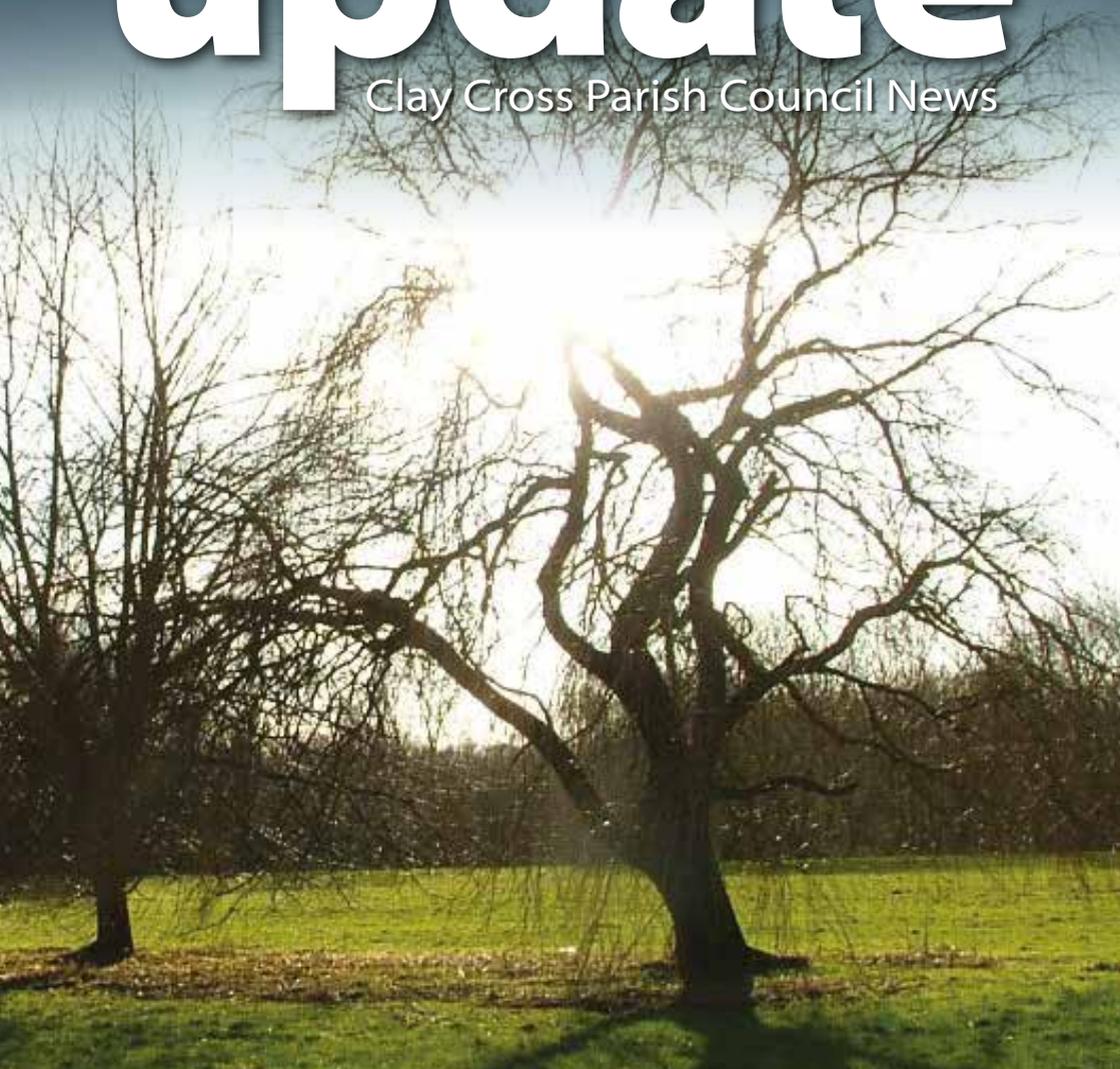


Clay Cross

Spring 2015

update

Clay Cross Parish Council News



**Have your say on the
future of Kenning park *see inside...***

Welcome to Clay Cross Update

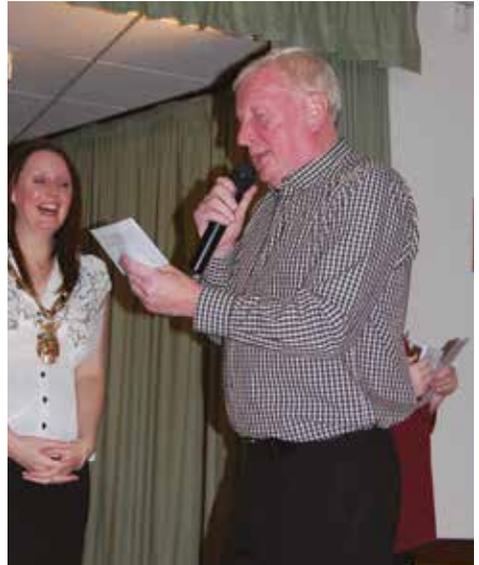
Faced with Government spending cuts many Councils are unable to avoid imposing an increase in the Council Tax that householders must pay, even though they are facing increasingly tight household budgets. It is therefore gratifying that Clay Cross Parish Council has, for the third year in succession, managed to zero impact the contribution it asks Parish residents to pay for the services it provides.

The Parish Council is proud of the work it does to keep the streets clean, protect the local environment, keep the bus station public toilet block open, maintain the Cemetery, leisure areas and open spaces, and run a very successful Social Centre, and some of those activities are reported in this issue.

Among the Councillors who have worked behind the scenes on behalf of the community are Arthur Jackson, Pete Riggott and Ken Savidge none of whom will be standing for re-election in May, so I wish to pay tribute to their long service.

Whilst I am handing out compliments, I must congratulate Tracy Reader who as Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council has raised over £8,000 for her Charity Appeal, Fairplay and also praise the hard work of the voluntary kitchen staff who help make our Tuesday Luncheon Club such a success.

I had the pleasure of helping to judge the Clay Cross Has Talent event in November and was very impressed with the flair on show – let's hope we have another contest soon.



Councillor Gerry Morley hosting the council's Presentation Night.

Finally, I hope residents will make the most of the opportunity to express their views on the future of Kenning Park, when they fill in the questionnaire in the centre of this issue of Update. It is a delightful open space and we need YOUR ideas on how we can get the best use out of it in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerry Morley".

Councillor Gerry Morley.
Chair, Clay Cross Parish Council.

Abseiling for Fairplay

Clay Cross Parish Councillor Tracy Reader is afraid of heights – but she is about to drop off one of the biggest old railway bridges in Derbyshire.

Tracy, who is also Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council, will on March 14 abseil 80 feet down from Millers Dale Bridge over the river to raise money for her charity appeal, which is on behalf of the Fairplay charity. Her father, Parish and District Councillor Brian Wright, will also abseil down from the bridge.

Tracy has so far raised an amazing £8,339 during her year of office. She said: "I'm terrified! I have never done an abseil before. I have a genuine fear of heights and this is going to be a really big challenge.

"It's been hard work but I'm very proud of the total so far and all the money raised. I'm also very



The bridge at Millers Dale.

grateful to every person who has helped make this year's appeal a success."

The money that has been raised has been through a variety of events which more recently have been a charity Auction held at the Council and a hamper raffle. Tracy is also undertaking a charity quiz night.

Fairplay is a local charity that supports children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, and their families across North Derbyshire. More information about Fairplay can be found on their website.



From left, Councillor Andrew Reader, Consort to the Chair, Janice Rhodes, Chair of Fairplay, Heather Fawbert, Chief Executive of Fairplay, and Councillor Tracy Reader, Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council.



Find us on
Facebook

Clay Cross Social Centre now has a Facebook page so please visit us soon!

Combating Loneliness in Clay Cross

Loneliness is a serious problem for many elderly people in Clay Cross and now a team from local churches is determined to reduce their sense of isolation.

It's one of several initiatives underway in the town to improve support for individuals and create a greater sense of community, particularly encouraging the use of volunteers.

At the hub of the enterprise is Aileen Power, Community Development Worker for the North Wingfield Team of churches, which includes St Bartholomews church and St Barnabas Church and Community Centre, Danesmoor.

One of the key activities to alleviate loneliness is the Friendship Group, which meets on first Friday in the month at St Bartholomews church on High Street, from 2pm to 3pm. It may only be an hour or so, when about 25 people meet for a free drink, cake and a chat, but it is something to look forward to and it helps reduce isolation. Transport can be arranged.

If the group could meet twice a month, or even every week, it would be even better! But that will require more volunteers, to pick up some members from their homes, prepare and serve teas, and chat!

Recent feedback from guests of the Friendship Hours includes "The helpers are gems", "It is great to get out from the four walls! When you live alone it is nice to get out for an hour," and "It is a good place to have a laugh." One lady wrote: "I have been on my own for 30 years; it's wonderful to be able to meet different people."

Aileen said: "The Friendship Hour is open to all people of any age because we recognise that social isolation is not a respecter of age, or circumstance. The people who come here represent just a tiny fraction of the people who live on their own, a dip in the ocean."



Danesmoor Children's Holiday Club Summer 2014, with Faith, Warren and Aileen.

"Groups such as these makes a big difference in the community in a time when social isolation is a big issue, People are living longer and we have many vulnerable older people spending a significant amount of time on their own. The impact of social isolation on people has been raised a lot recently as it is now recognised as a threat to public health and well-being.

"Churches can play a very important role in combating loneliness by offering a space for people to feel welcomed, accepted and valued. The committed team of volunteers at St Bartholomews do a wonderful job in ensuring their guests are treated with respect and the care and attention they deserve."

Aileen, who is employed by the Church on a three year contract, joined the Clay Cross team eight months ago, working alongside the Vicar of Clay Cross, Rev Richard Law. Before she can develop new initiatives, she needs to have feedback from the local community, and has therefore introduced 'Community Listening Exercises' throughout Clay Cross and Danesmoor. »

She explained: "It is vital to talk to local people to hear their views about what it is like living in this area. To find out their concerns, hopes and dreams for their community in which they live. I would encourage local people to contact me with any thoughts, concerns or ideas they may have."

Volunteers at the St Barnabas Centre in Danesmoor are also committed to community inclusion. A Community Cafe is open every Thursday from 11am – 1pm; a place for people to come chat to others and make friends. Customers enjoy healthy, wholesome home cooked food in a friendly and relaxed environment.

The team at St Barnabas Centre are looking at new ways of using the centre to meet local need within the community, while also managing to be financially sustainable and covering the running costs of the centre. This involves the recruitment of volunteers for the St Barnabas Centre.

Aileen explained: "The centre is always looking for volunteers for the Community Cafe and other tasks throughout the centre. If you are unemployed at present, retired, or just have some time on your hands, please do get in contact. There are people in the area who have been unemployed for some time due to ill health, either physical or mental health, as a result their confidence and self esteem can be greatly affected leaving individuals feeling as though they have little, or nothing to offer. What I want people to know is that there is always something to offer, even if it is just coming to have a cup of tea with us, your presence is of value and we welcome you! We aim to provide opportunities and help all those who walk through the doors of St Barnabas and St Bartholomews.

The St Barnabas Centre is also a great place to hold parties, children or adults, conferences, or just get-togethers – for example, Mums who drop off their children at the nursery might like to meet for a drink and a chat.

Aileen, with a experience in social welfare across the country, also helps out at St Barts for the Foodbank on some Tuesday nights, and welcomes calls for help from any individual who might be suffering domestic abuse, loneliness, have mental health problems, or just have trouble making ends meet. As a result of her experience Aileen can support with signposting people in the right direction for the help they need.



The monthly 'Friendship Hour' at Saint Barts.

She said: "It's my heart. I am so passionate about it, and I sometimes get frustrated when I can't do it all. I need to be able to do something about it. I love people and helping people in need makes me tick.

"Personally, I am not one for preaching on the streets, I believe in expressing my faith in action. As Christians I believe this is key to contributing to the social regeneration and positive change within our society."

For further details about St Barnabas Centre contact the centre manager on 01246 250599 www.stbarnabascentre.co.uk

The Clay Cross Foodbank operates out of St Barts on a Tuesday night 7-8pm – for further information about the foodbank contact the coordinator, Andrew Fellows on 078998 78398. Contact the Vicar, Richard Law on 01246 864649. Contact Aileen Power on 07935 305029.

Clay Cross Social Centre

Clay Cross Social Centre is the ideal venue for birthday parties, engagement parties, wedding receptions, funerals, craft fairs, public meetings and much more.

You can hire the main hall from just £15 per hour including the bar, which is managed by Clay Cross Parish Council and offers fantastic prices.

Clay Cross Social Centre has one of the finest dance floors in the area. It is spacious and comfortable, and this is a furnished lounge area adjacent to the bar.

Bingo every Wednesday, doors open 6.30pm, free admission, books 40p each, flyers 30p each, new members always welcome.

Every Thursday evening, from 7pm, social mixed sequence dancing takes place, admission £1.80 per person.

In good weather there is an outdoor seating area and during the evening and weekends a large car park.

WE HAVE A GOOD SELECTION OF 2015 DATES STILL AVAILABLE. BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!



Mixed sequence dancing takes place every Thursday.

For further information contact the Parish Council office on (01246) 862812 or on (01246) 861406 or visit our website at www.claycross.gov.uk or you can find Clay Cross Social Centre on Facebook.



Sue Wright, bar manager, greets customers with a friendly smile.

Clay Cross Christmas Market

A Christmas Market organised by the Parish Council and held at Clay Cross Social Centre on December 13 proved to be an outstanding success, supported by local social and neighbourhood groups with stalls, many of whom raised money for charity. The Town Centre Group, for example, raised about £80 with a tombola stall.



PC Bronwyn Walton and a colleague with Geoff and Joy Barber of Lower Clay Lane Neighbourhood Watch.



Face painting: Paula Bargh with Jack Reader.

A late night Christmas shopping event proved a successful experiment at Clay Cross, and is likely to be repeated this year. The evening was organised by the Town Centre Group, with shops staying open until 8pm, and schoolchildren sang carols accompanied by Ashover Brass Band. "It was a nice way to celebrate the start of Christmas, and there was a good mood around the town," said spokesman Andrew King.

In brief

A Council Initiative

A system of working groups helps Clay Cross Parish Councillors cope with the increasing size of the town and the growing complexity of issues that affect residents. The council has set up four working groups of councillors, dealing with Streetscene, Planning and Environment, Cemetery and Social Centre and Events, plus the statutory Finance Sub-committee. "As Clay Cross gets bigger and bigger there is a need for further scrutiny and detailed discussion of subjects," explained Councillor Ted Mansbridge, who chairs the Planning and Environment Working Group. "If the whole council looked closely into every issue, council meetings would go one for ever and a day. Each working group produces a report to full council, with their recommendation, and this is debated by full council."

Improving Kenning Park

Clay Cross Parish Council is asking residents to tell them how to improve Kenning Park. "We want to know how people see it and use it, and what people want there," explained Councillor Ted Mansbridge.

The council are thinking of setting up a Friends of Kenning Park group to suggest ideas and help move it forward – they could, for example, catalogue all the wild life that use the park, an exercise which has never been done. They might also have suggestions on whether there should be an area set aside for meadow flowers, more trees, a play area, a solid footpath alongside Press Brook, and other ideas.

Maybe you use the park to walk your dog; would you use fitness equipment if it was installed? Would a jogging track be a popular facility?



Views across Kenning Park.

Opencasting Protests

Protesters fighting a plan for opencasting alongside the A61 between Tupton and Clay Cross are waiting to hear the date when the application will be decided by Derbyshire County Council.

The statutory period for objections closed in December, but the council will consider any representations made right up until the date of determination.

The Hilltop Action Group say three quarters of the site is bordered by housing, and residents will be

subject to the effect of noise and dust for three and a half years.

A spokesman said: "The public meetings held last November appear to have successfully achieved their objective of encouraging local residents to submit their own objections – at the latest count over 200 are listed on the Derbyshire County Council Planning website.

"We have no indication of when the planning determination meeting will be and do not expect to get more than five days notice."

Water for the Allotments

Problems with water supply are a thing of the past for allotment holders at Clay Cross.

The Parish Council has arranged for water to be piped to the Valley Road allotments where it will be fed into a dip tank so that tenants can collect and carry it away in buckets. The Parish Council will also pay for water used. These were the last allotments in the town not to have a water supply.

Clay Cross have allotments at Clay Lane, Tranmere Avenue, North Street in Holmgate and Valley Road also in Holmgate. If you would like to try your hand at growing vegetables, flowers or fruit then contact the Parish Office to see if there are any vacancies.



The dip tanks at Valley Road allotments.

Vandalism of Dog Bins



The vandalised bin.

Dog bins have become an essential amenity for residents, helping to keep the pavements, footpaths and grass verges free of dog mess.

However, when a dog bin in Clay Cross was recently vandalised it not only left a mess in the area, but cost council taxpayers £248.68 plus vat to replace. Clay Cross Parish Council are careful to ensure that dog bins are placed where they are most needed, and where they will be used, even relocating them if need be. There are 28 dog bins in the parish, costing £1,151.28 plus VAT to empty last year.

Clay Cross Regeneration

No objections have so far been raised to a plan for a new Marston's pub, and a supermarket, off the A61 Derby Road, Clay Cross, part of the St Modwen redevelopment of the former Biwater site.

A St Modwen spokesman said: "Subject to obtaining planning consent we would hope to be on site in March to start the junctions on Derby Road and

Market Street with a view to the pub being built for Christmas and the foodstore Spring 2016.

A roundabout will be created on the northern boundary of Clay Cross near Hilltop Farm providing access to the proposed redevelopment of the site with houses, a supermarket and hotel/pub. Work on the roundabout is due to be completed by May.



An artist's impression of the proposed new Supermarket.

In brief

Tuesday Luncheon Club

Parish Senior Citizens are invited to join the Luncheon Club, every Tuesday from 12 noon, at the Social Centre, membership £2.80 per week. If you would like to be a member, please register your interest at the Parish Council Office.

Children's Allowance

How many parishes contribute money for little extras at their local schools? Clay Cross Parish Council do. This year the council provided £5.25 per child to Holmgate Primary School and Sharley Park Community Primary School towards Christmas activities, and a contribution of £2.25 per child towards a drink and a nutritious snack.

Jumping for Charity

Members of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (Gardeners Lodge) chose the Arthur Brierley Charity, which helps sick and needy children in the Clay Cross area, as their charity for 2014, and Brother Harry Johnson presented trustees with a £1,000 cheque at the annual presentation night of Clay Cross Parish Council.

The Gardeners Lodge meet every Tuesday at the Coronation Club, Stollard St, Clay Cross. They are part of a philanthropic organisation called The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, Grand Lodge of England.

Brother Harry Johnson said: "We are not as many think a secret society. We have thousands of Lodges throughout the United Kingdom and we have sister lodges throughout the World.

"Members of the order are men brought together by common ideals to protect our families and assist those less fortunate.



"In the process of building thriving lodges, we turn our thoughts to helping those less fortunate, Lodges may organise many different types of fund raising events. To do this we simply apply our collective abilities, organise events hold raffles etc. Often we find that friends and family and other non Buffs are happy to help out. Through our collective effort many millions of pounds are raised each year. We are very small in number but have very big hearts.

"We the members of the Gardeners Lodge try each year to support either a local charity or a charity that is close to our hearts and 2014 we chose the Arthur Brierley Charity as a worthwhile charity to support. The funds were raised mainly by fund raising in the lodge, games night against the members of the Coronation Club, the parachute jump and also quizzes and raffle."

Last year the lodge donated £1000 to the Arthur Brierley Charity, £500 to Sight Support Derbyshire and £350 to Orchid (a male cancer charity) through a member doing a Movember sponsored moustache grow. They also gave £25 to the Poppy Appeal and all their widows and pensioners received a Xmas gift.

Anyone wishing to find out more about the Order or on how to join contact:- Harry Johnson by phone on 01246 865361, or via email:- harry@johnson707.plus.com



Katie Hardy did the jump on behalf of the Arthur Brierley Charity, the chosen charity of the Gardeners Lodge and Sight Support Derbyshire the chosen charity of the Provincial Grand Primo's appeal, at Langer Airfield in early September. She raised £1006.50. Brother Harry Johnson, left, and members of the Gardeners Lodge, hand over their £1,000 cheque to the trustees of the Arthur Brierley Charity.

Clay Cross Talent Show

A good-sized audience at Clay Cross Social Centre were entertained with songs, music and dancing at the second Talent Show organised by the Rotary Club of Clay Cross and Clay Cross Parish Council.

Winner of the over 18s section was singer Alison Morley, with Turran Mcoyin runner-up. The under 18s was won by William Hattersley, a dancer, with Dominic Coyne second and Kinga Kruszkza third.

Judges were MP Natastcha Engel, Cheryle Berry, Past President of the Rotary Club, Neil Greatorex, deputy President, Tracy Reader, who is Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council, Gerry Morley, Chair of Clay Cross Parish Council, and Clay Cross Parish Council Vice Chair Mick Holmes. A raffle raised £127 for Tracy's Chair's Appeal.

Cheryle said: "It was a jolly good night all round, and we were delighted to work with the Parish Council. We look forward to working with them on other projects, including the Gala."



From left: Cheryle Berry, Neil Greatorex, Natasha Engel, Alison Morley, William Hattersley, Tracy Reader, Kinga Kruszkza, Turran Mcoyin and Dominic Coyne.

The Rotary Club raise money for various charities during the year, through a Santa's Sleigh collection at local supermarkets, dinner/dances, and a vintage car rally at Ashover. New members are welcome – contact Cheryle on 01246 862395.

In brief

TV Licences

Clay Cross Parish Council is the only parish council in the district to help pensioners pay for their colour TV licences, a service that costs about £9,500 a year. The council will reimburse residents of the parish £25 towards the cost of a licence. They must be over 60 years of age, and only one payment is made per household. Application must be made in person at the Parish Council Offices at Clay Cross Social Centre. You must take your new TV Licence or one that is valid. You must take proof of your age, for example, birth certificate, passport, prescription, medical card or a plastic driving licence with photo. Remember: A Gold Card is NOT accepted as proof of age.

Newly refurbished flats for rent

We are currently carrying out a major refurbishment of one and two-bedroomed flats located on Stephenson Place in Holmgate.

Improvements include:

- The installation of new, modern stylish kitchens
- Brand new bathrooms
- New double-glazed windows throughout
- The installation of new, energy efficient gas central heating and A-rated Combi boilers to help control energy bills
- The use of energy efficient LED lighting.



If you are interested in placing your name on a waiting list to be considered for one of the flats, please contact us at 01246 217650 or email our Choice Based Lettings team at choicebasedlettings@rykneldhomes.org.uk

Your Clay Cross Parish Councillors



**Councillor
Gerry Morley**

140 Market Street,
Clay Cross,
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Mobile: 07970 184620
E-mail: clr.morley@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk



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**Councillor
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2 Dunhill Walk,
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**Councillor
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**Councillor
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39 Florence Road,
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**Councillor
Tracy Reader**

15 Chavery Road,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LN

Telephone: 01246 864102
E-mail: Tracy.Reader@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk



**Councillor
Andy Reader**

15 Chavery Road,
Clay Cross,
Chesterfield S45 9LN

Telephone: 01246 864102

Some useful telephone numbers....

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Clay Cross Parish Council: | 862812 or 861406 |
| Clay Cross Social Centre: | 862812 or 861406 |
| Clay Cross Hospital: | 252900 |
| Clay Cross Post Office: | 863489 |
| Clay Cross Citizens Advice Bureau: | 0844 848 9800 |
| Clay Cross Medical Centre: | 862237 |
| Blue Dykes Surgery: | 866771 |

Local Schools

| | |
|--|--------|
| Sharley Park Community Primary School: | 864833 |
| Holmgate Primary & Nursery School: | 862270 |
| Tupton Hall School: | 863127 |

Derbyshire County Council

| | |
|---|--------------|
| For All Services Call: | 01629 533190 |
| Clay Cross Adult Education Centre: | 862383 |
| Clay Cross Library: | 862592 |
| Social Care – North East Derbyshire Area, Clay Cross: | 01629 533190 |
| Social Care – Emergency Out of Hours: | 01629 532600 |

North East Derbyshire District Council

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| For All Services Call: | 231111 |
| Clean & Green Neighbourhoods: | 217610 |
| Council Tax & Benefits: | 217600 |
| Homelessness: | 231111 |
| Gold Card Enquires: | 217730 |
| Rykneld Homes All Services: | 217670 |
| Sharley Park Leisure Centre: | 217277 |

Other

| | |
|--|---------------|
| NHS Emergency and Urgent Care Services Dial: | 111 |
| Police Non-Emergency Dial: | 101 |
| Samaritans: | 08457 909090 |
| Childline: | 0800 1111 |
| National Domestic Violence Helpline: | 0808 2000 247 |
| State Pension Enquiries: | 0345 6060265 |

North East Derbyshire District Council Councillors representing Clay Cross:



Councillor Brian Wright
12 Carlton Close,
Danesmoor S45 9RP.
Tel: 01246 866856.



Councillor Gerry Morley
140 Market Street,
Clay Cross, S45 9LY.
Mobile: 07970 184620.



Councillor Tracy Reader
15 Chavery Road, Clay Cross
S45 9LN. Tel: 01246 864102.

Derbyshire County Council councillors representing Clay Cross:



Councillor Kevin Gillott,
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.
11 Elton Close, North Wingfield S42 5HQ.
Tel: 07786 702230.



Councillor Brian Wright,
Vice Chair of Planning
12 Carlton Close, Danesmoor S45 9RP.
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Member of Parliament for North East Derbyshire:



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