



VILLAGE VOICE

Serving Isombridge, Longdon upon Tern, Rodington Heath,
Rodington, Sugden and Somerwood

THANK YOU FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of Rodington Parish Council, our Chairman Cllr Martin Holyoake wishes to thank everyone who has contributed to working groups, volunteer days and events in the parish over the last year which has seen so much change locally and nationally and everyone has done very well to work together and take on the Great British mantra of "keep calm and carry on".

HELP KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY SAFE THIS WINTER, VOLUNTEER AS A SNOW WARDEN TODAY

Snow wardens are volunteers who play an active role in their community when the weather takes a turn for the worst.

They help clear pavements and pathways of snow and ice in their local area. This will not only help your neighbours but also our more vulnerable residents who can't help themselves. To learn more about volunteering visit: www.telford.gov.uk and search "Snow Wardens"

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**DON'T FORGET TO
RECYCLE THIS AND
SIGN UP TO RECEIVE
FUTURE MAGAZINE'S
BY EMAIL, SCAN TO
SIGN UP FOR E-
BULLETINS**



ITS BUDGET TIME - HAVE YOUR SAY

"The parish council is currently developing its budget for 2023/24 and we want to know your views on what you feel is a priority" - Cllr Martin Holyoake, Chairman of Rodington Parish Council

For the year 2022-23 Rodington Parish Council set our precept at £20,000, this works out to an estimated £48.19 per household per year and less than the borough average of £63.79 per household. The parish council has been able to keep our precept sensibly low while increasing the amount of projects we do. Some of this has been possible through match funding with other services. Over the last 2/3 years we've upgraded new gateway signs over the parish, upgraded notice boards, installed defibrillators and speed indication devices, given out grants, supported rights of way projects and planted trees and we have also started running an annual Christmas event for the community and finished a number of projects in the local cemetery that have been requested by residents for a number of years.



This model will continue into 2023/24 where we will try to seek funding elsewhere for projects that are additional to our administrative costs, maintenance and legal costs.

With our Parish Plan and the newly adopted Climate and Nature Action Plan we already have a lot of feedback from residents about what we should be prioritising "outside" of the usual statutory requirements of running a council and that's why we put so much work into SID's, defibrillators and environmental projects, but we want know more about how we can help people in our community. Although our resource is small, we can make a big impact if we all work together.

So, I encourage you to contact one of your local councillors whose details are in this magazine and voice your comments to them before they review the precept in January 2023.

GIVING CREDIT WHERE ITS DUE... CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS 2022

The parish council is pleased to announce that for her selfless acts of kindness and continued efforts to keep the streets of our parish clean without ever asking for thanks, **Gemma Jeavons** of Rodington Heath has been awarded the 2022 Chairman's Award and will be presented with her award at a meeting of the parish council on Wednesday 7th December, 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall.

THERE'S A NEW OFFICER IN TOWN

PC2687 Robert McNally

I am pleased and excited to be your new Neighbourhood Police Officer. My background is that I grew up in Shropshire near Shrewsbury before moving away out of the area. I joined the police in 2001 working in the Met, before moving back to Shropshire when I transferred to West Mercia Police in 2005. I've mainly worked on response teams in Telford and for a short time in Bridgnorth and Shifnal. I joined neighbourhood policing last November where I worked on the College and Arleston team.



I'm looking forward to working on Wellington West and Rural with its mix of town and rural areas. I have a great team around me and Shropshire is a beautiful county and a great place to work. I'm looking forward to getting out and about meeting people and being as proactive and accessible as possible!

CLlr Tom Currie, Vice Chair of Rodington Parish Council said...

"PC McNally has already made it a regular commitment to attend parish council meetings to report back to the parish council about what he and his team are doing in the area and take any feedback from residents through councillors."

"We are grateful to PC McNally for his proactive and honest approach with residents on issues raised so far and we have received a number of comments from residents about the increased police presence that has been seen locally"

SID'S FINALLY INSTALLED ON B5063



We are pleased to inform residents that the long awaited speed indication devices are now installed on the B5063 in 2 locations.

These SID's will help slow traffic down and start collecting road user speed data that can be used to argue for speed reductions. Other locations in the parish, particularly in Rodington, are being inspected for approval by the highways authority and we hope to have them in during 2023.

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

Ever thought about giving back to your community through a local leadership role?

Following a recent resignation a vacancy for a Parish Councillor has arisen on Rodington Parish Council to serve until May 2023.

Any persons willing to fill this vacancy must apply using the application forms online before 12pm on 5th December 2022. Contact details are below.

Eligibility of Candidates

The Parish Council is able to consider any person to fill a vacancy provided that:

- He/she is 18 or over
- He/she is a British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union; and at least one of the following apply:
 - He/she is an elector for the Parish and continues to be an elector
 - Or has resided in the Parish for the past twelve months or rented/tenanted land in the Parish
 - Or has had his/her principal or only place of work in the Parish for the past twelve months
 - Or has lived within three miles of the Parish for the past twelve months.

There are certain disqualifications for being a parish councillor, of which the main are (see s80 of the Local Government Act 1972):

- Holding a paid office or employment under the Parish Council
- Bankruptcy
- Having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) of not less than three months, without the option of a fine during the preceding five years
- Being disqualified under any enactment relating to corrupt or illegal electoral practices

If you wish to learn more about the role of a Councillor or more information about the vacancy, then please do not hesitate to contact your local parish councils who's details are in this magazine.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR

Cllr Tom Currie, parish Councillor since January 2019

Hello, I'm Tom Currie and I'm proud to be a Rodington Parish Councillor. Whilst, as a council, we have achieved a great deal, I think we still have much to do to raise awareness, trust and engagement of all members in our community. This is ongoing, in the meantime, let me tell you a little about myself. I have lived in Rodington for the past 39 years. I'm married with two daughters and three grandchildren. I retired in 2017 from my role as Head of the National Probation Service in West Mercia. I have over 40 years experience in the Criminal Justice System. I graduated from Manchester (Met) University in 1977 with a BA (Hons) in Social Science (Criminology & Social Psychology) and later completed post graduate Diplomas in Social Work, and Management Studies and graduated in 1995 from Wolverhampton University Business School with a Master's in Business Administration.

I am a lifelong Christian, and this has always been the greatest motivation in my life to serve the community. I am a Lay Minister with the Church of England and qualified as a Reader in 2021 through the programme at Queens, Birmingham University and Durham University. I am a Lay Canon at Lichfield Cathedral, part of the Chapter, member of the Readers Council and a Formational Mentor. I work as part of the Haughmond and Wrekin Benefice Team leading services and supporting our communities.

Since I retired, I have climbed Kilimanjaro in snow, ice and -32 degrees, renovated my house (and garden) I have spent time touring Australia with my wife Shirley and visited family and friends. I have a 5th Dan Black Belt in Wado Ryu Karate, and try constantly to keep myself fit. I remain a keen walker and for the past two years I have chaired Rodington Parish Pathways Partnership to help improve and sustain our local rights of way. This also includes restoration work on the local canal embankment. I have some lead responsibilities as a Councillor, including Vice Chair, Covenant lead for Armed Forces, Climate and Nature Strategy. I serve on the Boards of 4 Charities, including Rodington Village Hall, Meeting Point House, TACT (Telford Aftercare Team) working with those in recovery from drugs and alcohol misuse and mental ill health, and Yellow Ribbon working with people in resettlement from prison to community.

SUPPORTING OUR ARMED SERVICES



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD

Proudly supporting those who serve.

We are pleased to confirm that in October 2022, Rodington Parish Council has received the bronze award from the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS).

The ERS recognises commitment and support from UK employers for defence personnel. The scheme comprises bronze, silver and gold awards for employers who support those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families.

A CLIMATE & NATURE VISION FOR RODINGTON PARISH

You will see that along with this quarter's edition of Village Voice, you have received a copy of the new Climate & Nature Vision for the parish. This document has been prepared by a Working Group of local residents using the responses to the community survey that was put out by the Parish Council earlier this year.

This vision for a greener Rodington Parish has been built entirely from the suggestions that you submitted to that survey, and so it rightly belongs to our community and the people in it. The vision is backed up by a more detailed Climate & Nature Plan that will now be used to develop projects against the 4 themes identified by the Working Group that your ideas have been divided into: Wildlife & Habitats, Energy & Carbon, Waste & Recycling and Access & Travel.

Both the vision document and the plan have been signed off by the Parish Council who have given their full support for this direction of travel for our villages and surrounding land.

What we need now is people who can help to drive these ideas forward. I know that committing to a project like this can seem daunting, but we saw from the survey responses just how many people in our area are passionate about improving the local environment and the knock-on effects we have on the wider world. All we ask from anyone interested, is that you try to make the majority of the monthly meetings of the Steering Group. Any commitment to developing and/or delivering projects beyond that is gratefully received but not expected.

If you are interested in offering some time to this, please go to the page on the Rodington Parish Council website

(www.rodingtonpc.org.uk/community/rodington-parish-council-15363/climate--nature-action) where you will find a simple form to send your details to the Parish Clerk.

We also want to see the flow of great ideas continue to come in, so on the same web page there is a 'project ideas form'. Please do keep submitting your suggestions for the Steering Group to consider.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who contributed their ideas to the community survey earlier in the year, and especially to those who sat on the Working Group over the last 6 months or so to get us to where we are today.

Tom Hayek
Rodington Parish Climate & Nature Champion

LEST WE FORGET



Thank you to everyone who was involved in the organising of remembrance events at St Bartholomew and St Georges Churches in this parish.

And thank you to all the residents and businesses who have paid their respects to all those who have served their country. So many have made the ultimate sacrifice through battles over the years.

As we enter a new era with our new King, we will remember them.



WAYS TO KEEP INFORMED...

The parish council will always make efforts to keep residents informed on local matters, even with little resources we always try, **but we need your help!**

In line with our Communications & Public Engagement Strategy we...

- Publish minutes on our website as quickly as possible after a meeting.
- Publish agendas on all notice boards and our website at least 7 days before a meeting (only required to do this 3 days before).
- We're on Facebook and Twitter where we post all sorts of local information.
- Post news updates on our website, including upcoming **road closures, events, meeting dates and ways to respond to surveys and volunteer.**
- Publish a quarterly parish magazine to every house in the parish (one of very few parish councils that do this in Shropshire).

Please use any of these facilities to keep informed, however if you want to receive direct information when important issues or updates come up, feel free to sign up to our e-bulletins scheme where you provide your email address, just scan the QR code on the front page!

-bulletin for Rodington Parish residents

Village Voice is a publication created and published by Rodington Parish Council. The opinions expressed by the various contributors are not necessarily those of Rodington Parish Council. The inclusion of an article in this publication does not necessarily imply a recommendation of its aims, policies or methods. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information in this publication; however, no liability can be accepted for loss or inconvenience caused as a result of error or omission.

USEFUL LINKS & SERVICES

Planning, enforcement and development...

If you are interested in knowing what is going on in your local area in terms of planning and development then you can find lots of information on Telford & Wrekin Councils planning portal.

Research the portal here: <https://secure.telford.gov.uk/planning/home.aspx>

The parish are not the local planning authority (that is T&W Council) so we do not make decisions on planning, we only express views in the same way residents can. However councillors do receive training on planning so if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask your councillors any questions and they may be able to point you in the right direction of your enquiry.



Find help, support and advice during the cost of living crisis...

Visit: www.telford.gov.uk/costofliving

Automated external defibrillators (AED's) are available at the Tayleur Arms and the phone box next to The Bull at Rodington.

Both AED's are regularly maintained and checked by the parish councils Clerk and any access is available only by contacting 999 in an emergency. We cannot hold the liability for giving the AED access code out to anyone because of the risk of an AED being administered without medical authorisation by the health services in an emergency situation.



If you'd be interested in AED use training then please get in touch.



We are continuing to remind residents to sign up to Neighbourhood Matters, this is your way of receiving direct updates on police matters in your area.

Please visit www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk to sign up today or speak to one of your parish Councillors for a sign up slip.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS



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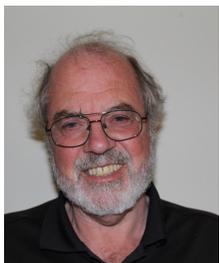
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Find us on



THANK YOU TO LONG SERVING CLLR

In September 2022 the Chairman and Clerk of the parish council reluctantly accepted the resignation of Councillor Anne Fletcher after nearly 5 years of service on the parish council due to personal circumstance changing recently.

Anne joined the parish council shortly before the current Clerk started in 2018 and Mr Furnival had this to say... *"Anne has been a real cue for this parish council with her attention to detail, commitment to take the role of being an elected member of office so professionally and her willingness to adapt and take on new challenges.*

I have worked in lots of councils across Telford and Shropshire over the years and have worked with hundreds of councillors and I have to say that Anne was one of the best councillors I have ever had the privilege of working with. I will personally miss her guidance, support and leadership on the council but I know I will retain a friend, as many will as Anne will no doubt remain active in her community in other ways."

RODINGTON CEMETERY INFORMATION

You may have noticed that the continued improvements to Rodington Cemetery taking shape. One corner of the cemetery has undergone major construction to improve the visibility and display of historic headstones. Visitors can now see the names and style of some fascinating people who lived in Rodington Civil Parish.

Contractors will return to the cemetery very soon to complete a project that was first drawn up by former Councillor Alec Manley in the early 2000's.

Using Mr Manley's original designs, the garden of cremated remains will receive a face-lift which is aimed at tidying up the area around the plaques to make them more visible, easy to keep clean and remove any unsafe, uneven ground.

Our contractors have also been working to remove any trip hazards on the site recently.

If you're interested to know more about what we do to keep the cemetery so tidy, you can now contact our newly appointed Cemetery Warden, Cllr Keith Smith whose details are in this magazine.



St. Bartholomew's **CHRISTKINDL**

*** * * MARKET * * ***

German Style Christmas Market

Tony's Special Mulled Wine

Super Christmas Hamper

Children's Lucky Dip: Cakes

Christmas Tombola : Gifts

Traditional Food and Drinks

Robert's Famous Bacon Butties

Saturday, 26th November

*** * * 4:00 - 6:00p.m. * * ***

Longdon-upon-Tern Village Hall

CAROLS BY THE TREE

MUSIC &
CAROLS

HOT
FOOD

RESIDENTS OF RODINGTON PARISH ARE
INVITED TO THE ANNUAL CAROLS BY
THE TREE EVENT.

STALLS

THE PARISH OF RODINGTON INCLUDES
ISOMBRIDGE, LONGDON UPON TERN,
RODINGTON HEATH, RODINGTON, SUGDEN,
SOMERWOOD

FREE
RIDES

25TH NOV 22
7PM - 9PM

RODINGTON VILLAGE HALL
LIGHTS ON AT 7:30PM

