



VILLAGE VOICE

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

HELP PROTECT OUR HEDGEROWS

Our partner, CPRE The countryside charity, has been working on a large scale hedgerow project across Shropshire. Last year this saw them deliver workshops, online talks by experts, hedge laying classes and install more than 5km of hedgerow in South Shropshire, and they have plans to develop their project even further this year, ideally in the borough of Telford & Wrekin.

If you're a landowner and would be interested please contact: admin@cpreshropshire.org.uk

HISTORY OF OUR PARISH

Can you help us unlock more history?

Recently the parish council has received some information about the former Rodington Canal. It has been so fascinating to learn about our rich history and we'd love to find out more.

If you have anything to share or would like to see what we've learned so far please contact Cllr Keith Smith whose details are on the back.

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“
JUST KEEP
MOVING
FORWARD.”

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2021-22



The last year has been nothing short of a challenge, and certainly one that our community rose to.

As we came out of the height of pandemic we all had to adjust to the new ways of getting about our daily lives. But we did it, and we continue to get on and help each other through difficult times.

As a small parish council, we don't often see ourselves involved in many large scale services or projects. We do not have the funds, resources, or certain powers that the larger town councils do. But despite this we rose to the challenge. Its been really encouraging to see our team here work together to develop plans to finish the improvements to our cemetery, develop the scheme for opening up the towpath on Rodington Canal, launching our Transport Working Group who are working closely with us to address the ongoing road safety concerns through our parish. We also finished the upgrades to our new village signage and officially declared a climate emergency with plans to actually make an impact.

With bulb and tree planting, setting up our defibrillators, running litter picking events, giving out community awards and so much more, it has been a delight to see so much going on in our beautiful corner of Shropshire. And rest assured, there is more to come!

It has been a pleasure to serve as Chairman of Rodington Parish Council this last year and I am honored to have been re-elected as Chairman to serve until May 2023.

Cllr Martin Holyoake
Chairman of Rodington Parish Council



Annual Community Forum

WEDNESDAY
18TH MAY

7 - 8PM
RODINGTON
VILLAGE HALL



Topics of Discussion



*Tackling crime, the climate
emergency and community cohesion*

ANNUAL
COMMUNITY
FORUM



SPEAKERS:

Nicola Lowery

Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner



Cllr Martin Holyoake

Chairman of Rodington Parish Council

For more details, contact us:

rodingtonpc@gmail.com

www.rodingtonpc.org.uk

TACKLING SPEED IN OUR PARISH

Rodington Parish Council is pleased to announce plans for 2 solar powered speed indication devices for Rodington parish.

The SID's will capture the speeds of vehicles coming in and out of our parish and we'll be able to share this information with the police and local highways enforcement. This data can be used to make changes to local speed restrictions if there is a need found. Drivers will be displayed with an appropriate message depending on their speed.

The funding is coming from the parish councils 2022-23 budget and we are currently working through the logistics of being able to move these units around 6 locations in the parish.

There is still a lot to be done to ensure we are capturing the correct data in the right locations but we hope to see them on our roads very soon.

John Campion West Mercia PCC

Working for and with the local community to build a safer West Mercia.



As your PCC I work for and with the local community to build a safer West Mercia. It is my role to govern and scrutinise the service you as a member of the local community get from your police force.

As your commissioner my priorities are:

- Putting victims and survivors first
- Building a more secure West Mercia
- Reforming West Mercia
- Reassuring West Mercia

To find out more about the work I do as your PCC, please visit the details below.

01905 331 656

opcc@westmercia.police.uk

www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk



@WestMerciaPCC



FREE

**EMERGENCY AED
&
CPR TRAINING**

Rodington Parish
Council, in
partnership with
the West Midlands
Ambulance
Service

*Brings you a
training session
about CPR and
how to use and
what to do when
in need of using a
defibrillator*

Saturday, July 23rd

at Rodington Village Hall
starting 10am to 12pm finish

Training includes:

- Learn about emergency situation
- Basic life support techniques
- Get started with CPR
- Get started with a defibrillator
- Real-life demonstration

REGISTER AT: RODINGTONPC@GMAIL.COM

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Rodington

A giant afternoon tea party will be held at Rodington Village Hall on the 3rd June (2-5pm) with music from all 7 decades of the Queen's reign.

There will also be music provided outdoors by a local DJ.

The Blu-zone ensemble will play indoors, and the wonderful Gabriela will serenade with her Ukele. There's lots of giant-sized games for children (of all ages!) Kris Krendo, a dedicated childrens' entertainer and magic show, a craft tent with art/pictures and activities, a display by our Astronomical group, and a Karate demo by our local club.

Celebrations begin with a parade from the Bull Ring (centre) of Rodington with a parade of vintage tractors led by local enthusiast, Richard Lewis, and Paul Cadwallader's award winning 1930's vintage truck. Along the route to the Village Hall we'd like to encourage all residents to festoon their properties (and the Bull) with bunting.

This event is free to all. There's no need for tickets, but residents in the Parish will have received a flyer about the event. We ask you to respond either by email, phone or post to confirm your attendance so we can plan the catering. Also, if you or anyone else you know would like to volunteer to help bake cakes, put tables out/ decorate the village hall etc, please contact Tom and Shirley Currie on 01952 770258 or write to tomandshirley77@gmail.com

This event is supported by Rodington Village Hall, Rodington Parish Council, St Georges Church and members of the community.



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough



Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Longdon

To help celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Longdon-upon-Tern has been awarded a grant from Telford & Wrekin Council so now we can celebrate in style. Celebrations will be centred at the Village Hall.

The festivities planned so far are –

A Right Royal Jubilee Scarecrow Trail

From Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June we hope you will all be able to decorate your homes and gardens with bunting, flags and make and display in your front garden a 'Right Royal Jubilee Scarecrow!'

Afternoon Tea will be served from 12 noon on the 4th June 2022. This will be a ticketed event.

Crazy Golf will be on offer on the church drive during the Afternoon Tea.

Platinum Paws Dog Show and Canine Chaos will follow with show classes for all breeds and owners!!!

Evening will bring a BBQ, Music and Right Royal Games with a Jubilee Theme – Pin the Crown on the Queen, Golden Egg and Silver Spoon Race, and Pass the Buck!

Life and Experience of Longdon during the 1950s
A visual display of photos and memories.

A Story Teller will put together a lasting legacy from this event by talking to us all about the Village.

A Memento for every home in the Village!

Further information on how to pre-book the Afternoon Tea, Dog Show Entry and how to have a Right Royal Celebration will be delivered to village residents soon.

Find us on Facebook at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall

PROTECTING OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

We are a nation of bird lovers! More than 50% of UK adults feed birds on a regular basis in their gardens, on balconies or with window feeders and a study suggests that this supports almost 200 million garden birds!

It is great to see that this love of garden nature is mirrored in our area with many bird feeders visible as you walk past houses in the villages and beyond. As with most things though, feeding the birds is not necessarily as simple as it seems. Hopefully the tips in this article will help residents to get the most out of this way of connecting with nature (both for you and for the birds).

One thing you might have noticed if you regularly feed birds in your garden is that there are a number of birds in our area that have strange red growths on their heads. This is Avian Pox (not the same as Avian Influenza or 'bird flu') and affects a few different species including Great Tits and House Sparrows. The disease doesn't often kill the birds directly, but the growths can make them more vulnerable to predation (the growths are often around the eyes) or at risk of more dangerous secondary infections.

One of the main ways that this virus transmits between birds is through contaminated surfaces such as bird feeders including through the accumulation of old food debris. The good news though is that there is a really easy way of combating this – simply by cleaning your bird feeders once a month. You should use a normal household disinfectant and soak your emptied feeders for an hour or so before cleaning them with a stiff brush. Leave them to dry before refilling them and replacing them in the knowledge that your garden visitors are safer. If you have the space, another way you can reduce the risk to the birds you are feeding is to move the feeders to a different part of the garden every time you do the monthly clean.

There has also been a recent study showing that feeding birds could be allowing more confident species such as House Sparrows and Blue Tits to outcompete shyer birds. A good way around this is to spread some seed away from the feeders each time you fill them. I throw some mealworms and crushed up fat balls under bushes and hedges. You can also split up where your feeders are so that birds like Goldfinches have more time without being bullied away by the others.

Since we moved to Rodington almost 3 years ago, we have recorded 33 bird species in the garden and as I write our Goldfinches and Greenfinches have just returned to start nest building. For more bird feeding tips, search on the RSPB and BTO websites.

Tom Hayek
Rodington Parish Council Climate & Nature Champion



RODINGTON VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

It is an important to ensure that the hall is kept in good order and well maintained and as a result, two important decisions have recently been taken.

The old gas boiler in the Village Hall, after many years of sterling service was beginning to show its age, so it was decided to replace it with a new one. We have already seen the benefits in improved heating in the Hall, and we also expect to make savings on our gas bill (important with energy prices rising so rapidly) from using a new more efficient boiler.

There are two flat roofs on the Hall which were installed many years ago, and a recent inspection revealed that one of them was in a poor state and in need of attention. Therefore, it was decided this roof should be replaced and this has been scheduled for later this summer, well before next winter's weather arrives.

Fancy having a bit of a flutter whilst supporting a good cause? Rodington Village Hall will be launching its 100 Club soon with the first draw to be made in July. For a small monthly subscription, you can help support the Hall and its events and have the chance to win one of three monthly prizes. Further information will be available soon on our website, our Facebook page and the next Community News.

On Friday 10 June at 7.30pm, there will be a performance of 'JABS - behind the screens' in the Hall. This is a professional production with humorous sketches about a vaccinator showing a 'slice of life at either end of the syringe'. It has been extremely well reviewed and there is more information on our website. You may think Covid is not an easy subject for humour, but they say 'Laughter is the best medicine', so maybe this is just what we all need after the dark days of the pandemic.

RIGHTS OF WAY FOR EVERYONE

Rodington Parish Paths Partnership (or RP3) became a formal (funded) partnership in agreement with Rodington Parish Council and Telford and Wrekin in October 2021. The work of this group, including its constitution, partnership agreement and minutes of meetings can be seen online at www.Rodingtonparishcouncil.org.

We work in partnership to improve access and signage of our public rights of way. We also work with local land-owners and relevant interested parties. The public should now see those visible improvements to our rights of way.

Please contact the Chair, Tom Currie on 01952 770258 if you'd like to be involved in the group, become a member or would like to volunteer to do some practical route clearance work. The first annual meeting on the 17th May received progress reports from Telford and Wrekin, and welcomed the Parish's first ever Climate & Nature Champion, Tom Hayek. Meetings normally take place every two months; the next on Wednesday 20th July 2022, 7.30pm at Rodington Village Hall.

ADVERTISE HERE

Village Voice is a publication for the parish of Rodington and goes to every household in the parish, that's 415 houses!

We offer **FREE** advertising for local groups and charities to share the good work of their cause...

So, if you run a local sports club, a charity supporting people in this parish or a local group such as a cafe or chess club then please get in touch with us as we would love to share details about how people might get involved with your work.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Rodington Parish Council welcomes residents, partner organisations, local groups and businesses to its meetings and encourages their engagement in meetings. This is fundamental to improving transparency of the Council and provides a great opportunity for Councillors to hear the views of the wider community.

Full Council meetings are where all Councillors are summoned to attend and are held on the first Wednesday of every month, except August where the Council is in recess.

The Council also holds committee meetings during the year which may be called at any time, notices of these meetings will be published on the Council's website at least 3 clear days before the meeting and all minutes are also published.

Some meetings of the Council may resolve to exclude the public from the meeting due to commercially sensitive information or potential breaches of GDPR or employment law. Any exercise to do this will be advised prior to the meeting on the notice of agendas.

Meeting Schedule for 2022-23

- 4th May 2022 (AGM), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 18th May 2022 (Electors Meeting), 7pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 1st June 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall
- 6th July 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 7th September 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall
- 5th October 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 2nd November 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall
- 7th December 2022 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 4th January 2023 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall
- 1st February 2023 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall
- 1st March 2023 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall
- 5th April 2023 (Full Council), 7:30pm at Rodington Village Hall

To obtain an agenda or minutes please contact the Parish Council using the details on our website; www.rodingtonpc.org.uk

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS



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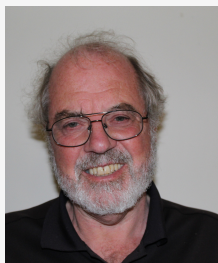
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Find us on

