



FREE
PLEASE
TAKE ONE

VILLAGE VOICE

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

LITTERLESS EVENT

Rodington Parish Council is back with its 2nd year of litter picking events "Litterless"... Join us!

17TH JUNE 2023

10:00 - 11:30 at Tayleur Arms car park

12:00 - 13:30 at Rodington Village Hall car park

Equipment provided, please wear suitable footwear.

Contact CONNOR to let us know of numbers attending: 07948 324 085



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PARISH COUNCIL RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Rodington Parish Council has received a prestigious national award as part of the Local Council Award Scheme. This achievement recognises that the council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Moreover, Rodington Parish Council goes above and beyond their legal obligations, leading their communities and continuously seeking opportunities to improve and develop even further.

The Award Scheme report highlighted the council's particular areas of strength, including its commitment to good governance, internal council improvement and community engagement.

The Local Council Award Scheme is a peer assessed programme that has been designed to both provide the tools and encouragement to those councils at the beginning of their improvement journeys, as well as promoting and recognising councils that are at the cutting edge of the sector. It is through the sector working together to share best practice, drive up standards and supporting those who are committed to improving their offer to their communities that individual councils and the sector as a whole will reach its full potential. During the assessment of Rodington Parish Council they were encouraged to apply for the level up award called the "Quality Award" as the Parish Council already meets a great deal of the higher level of criteria.

Rodington Parish Council becomes one of only three Local Councils in Telford & Wrekin to currently hold a level of this accreditation.

The Parish Clerk was quoted as being delighted with the accreditation. "This award certifies our belief that we are working hard to ensure that we support a properly managed Parish Council that seeks to be more and do more than many will anticipate for such a small council. In applying for this accreditation, we wanted to test ourselves, while we say we're good at what we do, this was to test and see if we actually stand out to our peers".

In terms of the future, the council is now reviewing ways in which it can keep on improving its offer to the local community and welcomes input from local people and partners on this. Rodington Parish Council and other local councils like it, are at the front line of the government's localism agenda and are doing as much as they can to delivery services whilst being efficient and cost-effective.





CLERK PASSES CILCA

Congratulations to our Clerk, Mr Connor Furnival for passing his qualification recently.

Connor has successfully achieved his Certificate in Local Council Administration. This is a professional body qualification that is delivered through the Society of Local Council Clerks in conjunction with the awarding body Ascentis and is the equivalent to a Level 3 NVQ. Having a paid officer with this qualification also means that the Council can use additional legal powers to involve itself in further projects in and around the community which will be looked at in due course.

Connor has expressed his interest in enrolling onto the Level 4 Certificate of Higher Education in Community Governance and we wish him all the best with this next level of intense professional training.

CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES

Join a multi-award winning local council and help shape the future of your community!

Could you be a Parish Councillor?

The Parish Council has three vacancies for Councillors and if you live in the Parish, are over 18, a registered voter and have the passion to help your community then this could be just for you!



MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Please feel free to contact a Councillor or our Clerk to find out more about the role and commitment of being a Parish Councillor.

rodingtonpc@gmail.com or visit **www.rodingtonpc.org.uk** and click on **Parish Council > Meet the Team > Become a Councillor**

UPDATES ON ROAD SAFETY

After a frustrating length of time, Telford & Wrekin Council have finally agreed to meet with Parish Council representatives to go through the list of road safety requests that residents have made.

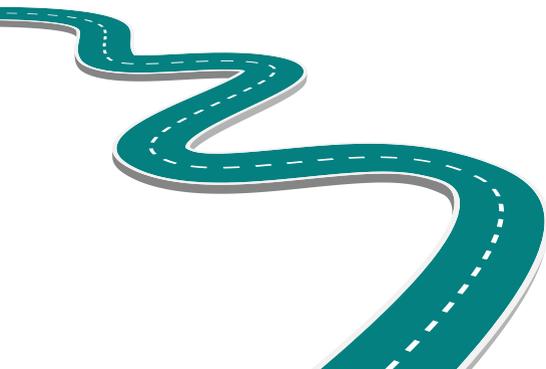
On the 20th June 2023, the Parish Council will be meeting with Road Safety and Technical Engineers from Telford & Wrekin Council's Highways Team. The purpose of this meeting is to present them with a list of requests from our residents who have completed the Road Safety Survey on our website and the requests that have come through the task and finish group known as the Transport Working Group.

Armed with these requests to improve road safety we expect Telford & Wrekin Council to go back and review their viability and conduct some inspections of the roads to ascertain what is achievable. We aim to ensure that all residents concerns and requests are fairly heard.

As previously reported, this scheme must be funded somehow. As it is not a Capital Scheme of the Borough Council it will not come from Capital Funds (the Borough Council's budget). Other areas in the Borough that have had a Road Safety Scheme have had to fund this through their own Parish precepts and this is what we will have to do if a scheme is developed. So far, all but one survey response has agreed that our precept should cover this cost to enable us to have a Road Safety Scheme. Should we fund this, it will be covered across a number of financial years to ensure that the cost is kept minimal to the annual precept per household.

Once we have held this meeting with Telford & Wrekin Council and have some feedback, an updated notice like this one shall be issued. Otherwise, please keep an eye on minutes of Parish Council meetings on our website;

www.rodingtonpc.org.uk



www.rodingtonpc.org.uk/community/rodington-parish-council-15363/road-safety/

POLICING MATTERS

PC R McNally and PC B Pratt attended the April meeting of the Parish Council to update the Council on the ongoing successful efforts of West Mercia Police to bring justice to a cross county group of individuals who have been involved in organised crime which has particularly effected rural crime across Wales and Shropshire.

The convictions of members of this group will help our rural communities remain a safe place to live, work and visit.

The Parish Council is grateful to PC McNally and his team for always attending our meetings and giving reports on what activities are ongoing locally. We encourage residents to attend these meetings if they wish to raise anything with the local police without the need to go through formal contacts.

Many residents have noted the increased police presence in the Parish since the assignment of PC McNally and PCSO Collumbell to the Wellington West and Rural area.



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.

LOCAL POLICING TEAM DETAILS

Wellington West and Rural

wellingtonwest.snt@westmercia.police.uk



PC
Rob McNally
07811 748260



PCSO
Zoe Beven
07870 167791



PCSO
Ivan Collumbell
07817 941151
(Rural)



PCSO
Evie Dunkley
07779 543156
(Safer Schools)



PCSO
Gareth Rhodes
07971 395039



PCSO
Ryan White
07971 395158

REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE!



Lots of the updates we've been giving you since we created the Rodington Parish Climate & Nature Vision have focused on the nature and wildlife side of what the Steering Group has been doing, so we thought it was time to tell you about another area of work we're busy with – waste and recycling.

When we put the community survey out just over a year ago, many of the ideas that came from you focused on how we could work together to produce less waste. These ideas ranged from sharing more items with our neighbours (e.g. vegetables, garden plants) to throwing away less and also increasing the number of materials that we could recycle within the parish. In other words, you told us that the mantra of 'reduce, reuse, recycle' was what you wanted to see more of.

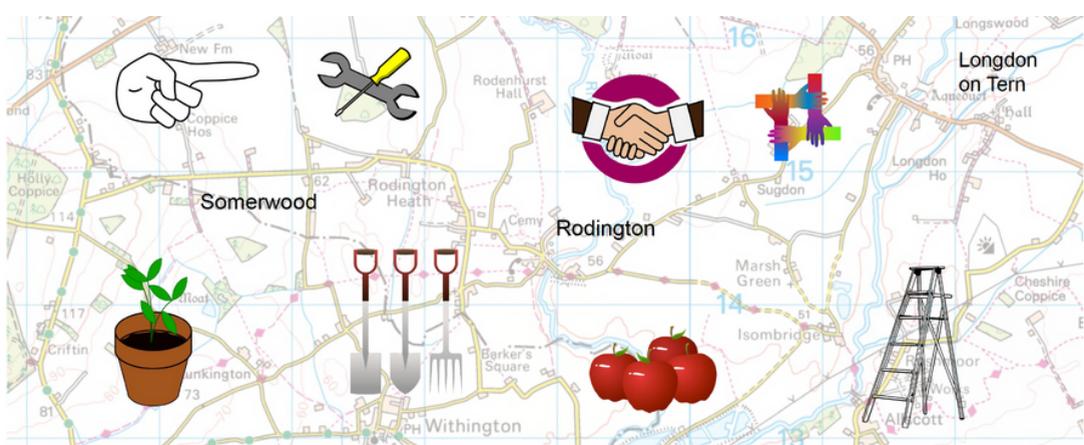
So, what are we working on? Well, having sought advice from an expert in this field (the person who started up the Shrewsbury Cup (www.shrewsburycup.co.uk) and the Shrewsbury Food Hub (<https://www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk>), we have developed a few ideas.

We are investigating what materials we could recycle more in the parish and are looking at the ways to increase that such as, with more recycling skips at the village halls, community waste collection and providing residents with specific advice. If you would like to consider becoming a Recycling Champion for the parish, please contact the Parish Clerk on rodingtonpc@gmail.com.

We are also continuing to support the Parish Council's litter picks in the area and there are sessions booked on 17th June, 10am meeting at Tayleur Arms car park and 17th June, 12pm meeting at the Rodington Village Hall car park, equipment provided on the day. If you would like to attend, further details are on the front cover of this magazine.

The most exciting step we have taken is to create a 'borrow, swap and give' Facebook page to allow residents to work together to improve the waste management profile of the parish (search for 'Rodington & Longdon Upon Tern : Borrow, Swap and Give'). We hope that this page will allow people to lower their waste footprint, consume a bit less 'stuff' and support their community.





We will be creating and posting a list of items that residents have on constant offer (free of charge) and also encourage people to post on there if they need something such as a tool for a one-off job or short-term need (e.g. a sander or a wheelbarrow). This will prevent unnecessary purchases and also help out those who are less able to afford to buy tools and other items.

We also hope that people will use the page to offer excess vegetables, plants and produce. We hope that the spirit of the page will be for these items to be offered for free, but it would also be great if people are able to swap items (e.g. 3 tomato plants for 5 runner bean seedlings – you decide the currency!). Finally, we hope that people will take the opportunity to offer items for free when they have a clear out rather than taking them to a recycling centre. As long as items are offered for free and in good faith, how our community uses the page is up to them!

We appreciate that not everyone uses Facebook, so please consider letting your neighbours know about this if they don't and helping them to get the most out of it.

Special thanks to Duncan Maidens for setting this page up.

Tom Hayek
Rodington Parish Climate & Nature Champion



LONGDON GOES ALL OUT FOR THE CORONATION



Projects have included restoration of a 1647 bell that is now on display in St Bartholomew's Church, purchasing 3 benches (with the help of a grant from T&W) that are placed at strategic viewpoints in the Village. The building of 3 Buggingham Palaces to keep our 'creepy' friends happy! Numerous bug mugs, bug tubes were made and are now hanging waiting for occupants - 7 bird boxes were also made and these will be sited later on in the year. Buggingham Palaces, bird boxes, bug mugs and tubes were all made out of scrap materials.

Over the Coronation weekend the village was decked with bunting and 44 amazing crowns - even one featuring King Charles spaniels! A big thank you to everyone who bunted and crowned.

Sunday started with a special Coronation Service at St Bartholomew's - the bell was also unveiled - it was lovely seeing the church so full. 108 people then enjoyed a 2 course lunch at the Village Hall followed by garden games on the yard, the weather could not be kinder it was a great day all round.

Monday's weather stopped many people from venturing out for the village walk and quiz - but 18 took part and enjoyed the walk, quiz and looking at the crowns.

Altogether a good weekend to celebrate a Coronation.





As part of the Coronation Celebrations in the village this plaque has been produced. The pattern for the plaque has been made by Dave Edwards (using a 3D printer) adapted from the 200 Anniversary of the Thomas Telford Aqueduct plaque. It is cast iron and made at Blists Hill Museum. This will be a limited edition of 150 and each one will have an authentication certificate.

The cost of the plaque is £10 each – if you would like to buy 'a piece of history' please email claire@mclaireb.plus.com
Cash, cheque or BACS accepted.



RODINGTON CELEBRATES KING CHARLES III



On 8th May the Village of Rodington brought the streets alight with their King Charles III Coronation Fun Day.

Over 200 people of all ages attended this event which, despite poor weather, proved to be a great celebration by the community. Fancy cakes and bird boxes were made, faces were painted, straw-rockets were shot into space (Astro-club) and we even showed a film about the community orchard and our local ecology. Special thanks go to Telford and Wrekin Council for administering a grant that made this event possible.



Telford and Wrekin Council is also part-funding an eco-church yard project at St Georges Church, and this work will continue into the Autumn. Already with a 'no-mow in May' policy, we discovered wild flowers in the church yard we never thought we had and a rare orchid called the Kings Fingers (Green-veined orchid, *Anacamptis Morio* which happened to emerge immediately prior to the Coronation! We have built bug-hotels, and intend to create wild-life areas, wild-flower banks and spaces for people to sit and reflect.





Calling volunteers!



Street Champions are volunteers who play an active role in taking pride in their community. They care about their local area, look out for their neighbours and want a clean, safe place to live. If you are one of these highly valued individuals, the Council will help you to make your community spirit go even further.

What do Street Champions do?

There are a range of things you can choose to do as a Street Champion and it is up to you to decide what you want to do in your local neighbourhood. The roles are broken down into three key areas:

- **Doing**

For example - litter picking, cutting back overhanging branches, pruning, maintaining community gardens, spraying dog mess with a bright coloured paint to deter dog fouling, linking in with the work of your local Parish or Town Council or supporting community events.

- **Reporting**

By keeping a regular eye on your local area you can help us identify local issues, so they can be dealt with as quickly as possible.

- **Projects**

From time to time there may be opportunities for volunteers to take part in other environmental projects. This could include awareness raising campaigns or data collection for example.

How much time will I have to put in?

This is down to you and is based on what you want to get involved in. All we ask is that you do as much as you can. There may be other Street Champions operating in your area too, so we can put you in touch with them so you can work together.

Interested? Get in touch; pride.officer@telford.gov.uk or 01952 380455

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.

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS



Could this be you?

Enquire to the Clerk, details below.



**Cllr Tom Currie
Vice Chairman**

cllr.currie.rpc@gmail.com
01952 770258

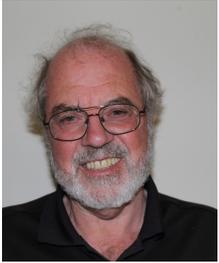


Could this be you?

Enquire to the Clerk, details below.



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Cllr Brian Gaskin
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**Cllr Martin Holyoake
Chairman**
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Could this be you?

Enquire to the Clerk, details below.



**Cllr Gareth Thomas
Ward Member**
gareth.thomas@telford.gov.uk

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