

Rodington Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

on Wednesday 1 April 2009
at 7.00 pm
at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall

**Presentation of the Parish Council's
Annual Report**

Update on the Twister Bus Service

**Latest information about Planning from
Michael Barker, Head of Telford & Wrekin
Planning & Environment Dept**

ALL WELCOME
**Hosted by the Parish Council for the
electorate**

All Rodington Parish Councillors and Clerk will be present

For further information contact Alison Hinks on (: 01952 272365
:: the-clerk@rodingtonpc.org.uk

RODINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER — March 2009

Hard Winter----Deep Potholes

Winter always attacks our rural road surfaces but this year the problem has been worse than ever. First over the past decade investment in rural road maintenance has declined substantially as budget demands encroached on Highways department budget allowances. Gone are the days of the annual tar and stone applications as costs have risen astronomically. So on top of the lack of investment along comes the coldest winter for 18 years and hey presto a minor irritation becomes a major hazard.

Who is responsible? A member of the Public rightly asked, "what are the Parish council doing about it"?

The Parish council has no authority to instigate or make repairs, it does report all known pot holes to T & W the responsible authority and regular contact and follow up between the PC and T & W occurs almost weekly. However we are one of 26 Parish Councils doing the same thing and it's a case of chasing hard to be heard in the crowd. One of our Borough Councillors Derek Kiernan toured the Parish recently with a Borough Engineer to log all the problem areas re-enforcing our calls for action.

Continued Page 4



This issue;

Page 1, Potholes a stoic review

Page 2 Contact info?

Page 3 The Sustainability Act

Page 6 Spring Cometh

Page 7 news from Rodington
Village Hall

Page 8 Annual Parish meeting

Visit www.rodingtonpc.org.uk

RODINGTON PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Cllr. Janet French (Chairman)	01952 770 677	janet@terncrafts.co.uk
Cllr. Brian Ashton	01952 770 156	c/o the clerk see below
Cllr. Claire Broderick	01952 770 636	mclaireb@btinternet.com
Cllr. David Johnson (Vice Chair)	01952 770 577	dave.johnson@t2enterprises.co.uk
Cllr. Liz Tudor	01952 770 348	lizzie.tudor@virgin.net
Cllr. Tim Osborne	01952 770 801	opsi@direct.shawburyigs.raf.mod.uk
Cllr. John Perkin	01952 771 261	nikrep@dsl.pipex.com
Borough Councillors		
Cllr. Jacqueline Seymour	01952 506 790	jacqui.seymour@telford.gov.uk
Cllr. Derek Kiernan	01952 380235	terry.kiernan@telford.gov.uk

Want to make the Council aware of a situation then write, email or call;

The Clerk; Alison Hinks, 7 The Roseway, Wellington, TF1 1JA
Tel. 01952 272365

Email; the-clerk@rodingtonpc.org.uk

Dates for your diary:

Event	Day	Date	Time	Venue
Annual Parish Meeting Plus Council Meeting at conclusion of Annual Meeting	Wed	1st April 2009	19.00	Longdon Village hall
Monthly Council Meeting	Wed	6th May 2009	19.30	Rodington Village Hall
Monthly Council Meeting	Wed	3rd June 2009	19.30	Longdon Village Hall
Monthly Council Meeting	Wed	1st July 2009	19.30	Rodington Village Hall

Members always welcome to attend particularly if they have issues of concern to bring to the Council's attention

Rodington Village Hall



Facilities Available;

Capacity for up to 150 people

Kitchen Facilities,

Large car park Stage and Changing rooms

Licensed bar (by arrangement) For more or booking enquiries please contact Jean Bonehill on 01952 770429

Rodi's Entertainments. (Preview) (2008/9 Winter Season)

Fri 3rd April 2009 The Jackfield Elcock Reisen Band.

Other Activities

Monday afternoons is Line Dancing
Tuesday afternoons we have painting classes
Wednesday mornings [computer training](#)
Thursday mornings is used for [indoor bowls](#)

For full details visit www.rodingtonvillagehall.org.uk

50/50 Auction 25th April Longdon Village Hall

Sell your unwanted items at the 50/50 auction, you get 50% and the village Hall fund gets the rest.
Deliver your items on Saturday 25th 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Viewing from 6.00 pm

AUCTION STARTS 7.00 pm

Spring Cometh,

With Sun at last emerging with some frequency most will enjoy the opportunity of some fresh air. So where shall we go?

Blist's Hill Victorian Town always well worth a visit will on April 4th open 1st phase of a £12 million development which is Canal Street lined with traditional Victorian shops.

Dudmaston Estate NT near Quatt Bridgnorth. Late 17th Century mansion with art collection, plus lakeside gardens, dingle and woodland. Dogs allowed on leads in the non-formal garden areas. Tearoom facilities.

Attingham Park NT near Shrewsbury. 18th Century mansion with Regency interiors. House set extensive landscaped garden with Deer Park ideal for human and dog walks. Costumed Guided tours of the house available on many days and provide a great insight to life at the mansion and its history.

Church Stretton, always well worth a car ride on a sunny day, visit the High Street to see collection of unique shops no national cloned high Street here. After that take the road up Long Mynd for excellent views and walking opportunities galore. Watch the Gliders from the Gliding club maximising the thermals over the Mynd.



ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT:

- Lack of local jobs or businesses,
- Local post offices, shops or pubs closing,
- Lack of rural buses,
- Shortage of local medical care,
- No affordable housing,
- No local police presence,
- Speeding traffic.

The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 gives local people and organisations the right to lobby Government through their local council, in our case Telford and Wrekin Council. In outline terms your local organisation can present a concern or idea to Telford and Wrekin, they can then, through a local panel present that idea to Whitehall and the Act then forces both tiers of Government to reach agreement with you. If used correctly this can be a powerful tool for local issues.

Sounds too good to be true.... Well yes possibly. First your local council needs to sign up to the idea and nationally only 57 Councils have so far signed. Unfortunately Telford and Wrekin is not, as yet, a signatory to the scheme. The Government expect having created the Act local communities will grasp the opportunity to have a say in local affairs and badger their Councils to join. On the website listed at the end of this article is an address where you can find a suggested format for a badgering letter.

The website opens with the statement;

“Indeed, our philosophy has been that local communities are the experts on their own problems – and the solutions to them. Not central government. It follows, therefore, that we too cannot dictate the solutions.

But we can:

- give guidance on the procedure to adopt so that your ideas have the best chance of being implemented

- indicate some ideas that have come up at the public meetings that we held when campaigning for the Act.

Creators of the act expect organisations to be active possibly in the following areas;

(a) the provision of local services,
(b) the extent to which the volume and value of goods and services that are offered for sale; or procured by public bodies and are produced within 30 miles (or any lesser distance as may be specified by a local authority in respect of its area) of their place of sale or of the boundary of the public body

(c) the rate of increase in the growth and marketing of organic forms of food production and the local food economy,
(d) measures to promote reasonable access by all local people to a supply of food that is adequate in terms both amount and nutritional value,

(e) the number of local jobs,
(f) measures to conserve energy and increase the quantity of energy supplies which are produced from sustainable sources within a 30 mile radius of the region in which they are consumed,

(g) measures taken to reduce the level of road traffic including, but not restricted to, local public transport provision, meas-

POTHLES continued

T & W have announced an extra £2.5 million maintenance budget to try and catch up with repairs this amount spread over two years and currently the emergency pothole repair teams have been doubled to four to overcome the backlog. The result will hopefully see most of the dangerous potholes fixed in the next thirty days however we all know the problem does not end there.

A filled pothole however well done is still a weakness in the road surface, further frost will quickly erode the repair and heavy lorries can cause equal damage to potholes and even more to rural road edges that are not protected by kerbstones.

What's the answer? The only road repairs that last are a top strip of the old surface and then a relaying of a complete surface with embedded kerb stones installed to prevent break up at the edges caused by heavy vehicles. Such a process requires statutory notices, Health and Safety procedures galore, planning and a very deep pocket. Cost per mile can easily be £1 million so perhaps one can understand the rarity of such repairs.

Whilst we all bemoan the state of the roads we have to consider the reality, to repair the roads of the Borough to a standard that would please us all would probably need £50 million pounds to catch up the shortfall of past years. However the Council that tried to set a rate to finance that would crucify its rate payers and would be capped by Central government anyway to prevent a riot.

So T & W have to balance where and what major repairs can be done and everywhere else continue with filling in Potholes. Our role is to be thankful for this year's low rate rise, and report the holes as they appear for the safety of all road users.

Sustainability Act continued

to, local public transport provision, measures to promote walking and cycling and measures to decrease the amount of product miles,

(h) the increase in social inclusion, including an increase in involvement in local democracy,

(i) measures to increase mutual aid and other community projects,

(j) measures designed to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases,

(k) measures designed to increase community health and well being,

(l) planning policies which would assist with the purposes of this Act, including new arrangements provision of affordable housing, and

(m) measures to increase the use of local waste materials for the benefit of the community.

If you or your organisation are interested in using this process you can get further information from www.localworks.org or 020 7278 4443.



LONGDON-UPON-TERN VILLAGE HALL REGULAR EVENTS

Pathway People,

Alternate Mondays, 3:30 - 5:00pm (Doreen Brown 541395 or

Rosalie Wheeldon 770247).
Restarts 25th April for summer School term.

Line Dancing, Tuesdays
7:30pm (Janet French 770677).

Canine Conundrums,
Wednesdays.

Hall Available for hire

Parties, meetings, club events

Call Janet French for booking details 01952 770677



www.t2retail.co.uk



18 volt C/less
With 2 batteries

Just £39.99
Multi Tool
Kit
£27.99



Mic Mixer



£21.99

RAC 600
Car
Compressor
£19.50



2100 Watt Ring Inverter

Converts 12 volt power to 240
mains, ideal for Caravan,
Motorhome or boat.
Price £229.00