

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are open to the public.

The agenda for each meeting can be found on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page and on noticeboards during the week before the meeting is held.

Should you wish to ask the Parish Council any questions or raise any points with us, 15 minutes at the beginning of each meeting are set aside for you to do so.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Parish Council meeting

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Parish Council meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Parish Council meeting

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Annual Parish Council meeting



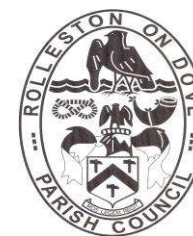
Search 'Rolleston on Dove Parish Council' and request to join

## Rolleston on Dove Parish Council

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## MEETINGS

The Parish Council continues to meet virtually via Zoom. The meetings are still at the same time, 7.30pm on the second Monday of every month, and although they will never feel the same it does allow business to be conducted and keep some things moving forward.

## PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT ELEMENT OF COUNCIL TAX

Although this has been a very unusual year for all of us, much of the routine work of the Parish Council has continued and with it of course, the usual expense. The work which your Parish Council undertakes to maintain the village includes many things such as cutting of grass verges, Craythorne and Elizabeth Avenue football pitches, public open space such as The Croft village green, litter picking, bin emptying, maintaining play equipment and street furniture, tree work (including tree works on the Jinny Trail and woodland management at Craythorne Woods) and hedge trimming on public land - as well as many other things within the village. Our funding comes mainly from the Parish Council Precept element of the Council Tax, and for many years was also topped up with funding from East Staffordshire Borough Council and the County Council. As we reported at the same time last year this funding

continues to decrease and puts further burden on the Parish to fund this work. The full cost of the pandemic is yet to be felt but it will undoubtedly put further strain on local funding. As a result, the Parish Council has once again taken the difficult decision to request an increase in the Parish Council base rate of £5 per year (equivalent to 42p per household per month). This is not a decision taken lightly and we hope the explanation of the cause can be understood by the village. The new rate will continue to compare favourably with neighbouring Parish Councils with similar expanses of open space to maintain to a high standard.

### **FOOTPATHS**

As we reported in the Autumn Edition of the Rollestonian the Parish Council, working with local landowners, has made many improvements to the footpaths in the Parish. The stiles on footpaths 3, (the track from Shotwood Close to Shotwood Hill), 4 (over Shotwood Hill to Cornmill Lane) and 5 (Cornmill Lane to Marston Lane by the brook) have nearly all been replaced or repaired. In addition, hardcore has been put down next to each stile to improve the ground under foot. Fiddlers lane, the only bridleway in the village, has had all the undergrowth at the sides cut back, making access much easier. Footpath 9 from Brook Hollows to Tutbury Road has had two stiles lowered to make them easier to access. Footpath 6, behind Marston Lane, has had the stile replaced, whilst in the same field on footpath 7, rotten posts have also been replaced. Finally, footpath 18 (at the far corner of Craythorne Recreation Ground) has seen a stile replaced with a kissing gate to improve access for all.

The Parish Council wishes to publicly thank all the local landowners

for their help and co-operation over the past year. Without their support these improvements could not have taken place. With the village once again in lockdown the local footpaths are being used more than ever.

The Parish Council asks all walkers to respect the fact that they are walking through private land. Please stay on the footpaths and if walking your dog please keep it on a lead through farm fields. Your co-operation in this matter is very much appreciated.

Paper footpath leaflets are available by contacting the Parish Clerk or from Starbucks.

### **LITTER PICKING**

One of the many activities that has had to be cancelled during the pandemic has been the village clean-up days. The Parish Council is very grateful to the many people who take the time whilst out walking to pick up litter and dispose of it safely. However, it is an unfortunate side effect of more people out in the village exercising, that the amount of litter does increase. If you are prepared to take a litter picker with you whilst out walking, there are still some available (free) by contacting the Parish clerk. Please take care whilst doing so and only do it if it is safe.

### **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

We have a vacancy for a councillor on the parish council. Please contact the Parish Clerk, Mary Danby, if you are interested in applying for co-option onto the council.