

Rolleston on Dove Parish Council

Clerk: Mary Danby

Email: rollestonpc@outlook.com

Mobile: 07908 545412

Website: www.rollestonondovepc.co.uk



Spring 2024

Precept 2024/25

The Parish Council recognises the impact of cost of living rises for residents in the current climate, as well as the impact on the Council of rising costs across the board for goods and services. As per last year, the Parish Council has decided to keep the increase to the minimum and raise your Parish Council tax by only 22p per month (Band D homeowners); this is equivalent to a rise from £62.98 to £63.20 per year. This slight increase will continue to support the ongoing services and maintenance which your Parish Council undertakes for the village and our assets. This includes:

- cutting of grass verges, Craythorne and Elizabeth Avenue football pitches and public open spaces such as The Croft village green, Meadow View, Shotwood Close and Spead Eagle island
- tree work programmes for the Jinny Nature Trail, Tafflands and the willows on Brookside
- ongoing maintenance and safety of play equipment at Elizabeth Avenue, Tafflands and Meadow View play areas
- repairs to footpaths and stiles as required
- provision of sandbags, sand, road signs and cones to assist residents coping with flooding issues
- 50% of the maintenance and planting costs for the much-admired troughs and planters on Burnside, Jamie's Garden and Spread Eagle Island (thanks are given to the Civic Trust for supporting the other 50% of these costs)
- Various maintenance works including litter picking, looking after wooden benches, the village sign, sign posts and other village assets

Rollestonian of the Year Award 2023 opens for nominations 1st February

This award has been given since 2009 by the Parish Council and is presented in recognition of our local 'heroes' - quite simply those who consistently go beyond the call of duty, those who deserve recognition for their efforts and dedication or those who have achieved exceptional heights in their chosen field, such as sports or art. It celebrates the inspiring individuals and groups that are part of our community, who improve lives and village surroundings and exemplify what can be done when people work together, often behind the scenes. This may be through volunteering or supporting one of the many village organisations for many years, providing services to the village community, looking after village spaces or achieving excellence in a particular area. For the purpose of this award any individual person(s) or group of any age **who live, work or volunteer** in the parish is considered eligible to be "Rollestonian of the Year". For further details and to submit your nominations through the online form visit the Parish Council website <https://rollestonondovepc.co.uk/rollestonian-of-the-year>, or email to rollestonpc@outlook.com, or write to the Parish Council Clerk. Nomination boxes are also located in Starbucks and Rolleston Club. Nominations must be supported by reasons demonstrating how they have benefited the village and residents and the nominator's contact details. The award will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 22nd April after consideration of nominations at the March Parish Council meeting.

Closing date for nominations is 1st March 2024

Show your community heroes why their accomplishments make a huge difference to the lives of others and submit your nominations now!

Flooding

The Parish Council is well aware that flooding remains the most serious threat to property and villagers' wellbeing. It is working closely with the Environmental Agency and Staffordshire County Council to try to reduce the risk level. In December the Parish Council was informed that the long-awaited flood model to identify properties likely to flood would be ready early this year and that some £200,000 was available to improve matters. The Council will look closely at this, and work with the Environmental Agency to look at ways to reduce the flood risk to these properties. Flooding on Highways is the responsibility of Staffordshire County Council and have promised to have the drains jetted on Burnside and Beacon Road to ensure that they are free flowing. Once this has taken place the Parish Council will

look to see if this improves the situation and will discuss with the County Council what other measures can be undertaken to help if required. Flooding is an agenda item at every Parish Council meeting and Councillors welcome comments, ideas and thoughts from all residents on this matter.

Project Updates

Elizabeth Avenue Play area improvements

Repairs to various items of the play area equipment, as well as releveling of the existing paving slabs and laying of additional ones, at the gate entrance into the play area, will be done when the weather permits these. The overgrown grass along the edges of the tarmac path leading to the school entrance will be removed, taking the path back to its original width, to provide easier access to the school entrance.

S106 Play area completion

The Parish Council has now received the final monies from the S106 funds, to complete the next planned works on Meadow View play area (which will take place when the weather is suitable). These are to clean and paint the existing equipment and railings to smarten these up, to install a drain through the very muddy entrance from Forest School Street and an additional bench.

Craythorne Road playing field and car park improvements

The Parish Council is pleased to confirm that the final improvements to the car park have been completed by Amey, including clearing and levelling under the railings to make them easier to maintain and additional works to the car park surface. Replacement hawthorn whips will be planted to replace any which have not survived last year's weather conditions.

Rolleston Station

The Rolleston Station Heritage Group, supported by the Parish Council, who own the land on which the former station is situated, has submitted a funding application to East Staffordshire's Ward Enhancement Programme to try to secure much needed funds for the renovation of the old cattle dock wall on the Station. This is in a rather sorry state, requiring rebuilding and repairs to prevent further decay and is the final area of the Station planned to be restored. The funding application is supported by our three Borough Councillors and has been given a boost by a donation from a local resident.

Diamond Jubilee Orchard

The Jubilee Orchard, (owned by our Parish Council and managed by the Parish Council and a group of volunteers), is currently undergoing a full set of planned improvements. These include edging of the fruit beds for easier maintenance and removal of old fruit bushes and trees as required. A sharing shelf has been installed on the gate for produce from the Orchard, and excess produce from gardeners and allotment holders, to be placed here as a gift for residents to use. If you could spare some time and would be willing to help, the next working party meets on **Saturday 24th February starting at 10am for a couple of hours**. For further information please contact Mike Robson on (01283 480599) or any Parish Councillor.

Sports England funding

The Parish Council is discussing with East Staffordshire Borough Council and Sport England a proposal to place a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on Craythorne field. This hardcore, soft tarmac area would allow tennis, netball, basketball, cricket and football to be played as well as providing a surface for yoga, tai chi and other gentle exercises. The funding for this, if agreed, would come from Sport England as compensation for the loss of the Forest of Needwood playing fields.

Parish Council meetings

Meetings start at **7.00pm** and are held at Old Grammar School Room. Everyone is welcome to attend. The agenda for each meeting can be found on the Parish Council's website, Facebook page and on noticeboards 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. The full list of councillors and contact details can be found on the Parish Council's website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 12th February 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting

Monday 11th March 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting

Monday 8th April 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting



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