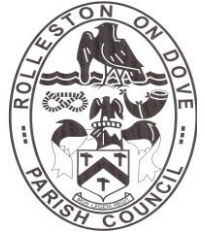


Rolleston on Dove Parish Council



Clerk: Jane Bucknall, rollestonpc@outlook.com
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Dates for your diary:

Monday 12th February – Full Parish Council Meeting
Monday 12th March – Full Parish Council Meeting
Monday 9th April – Full Parish Council Meeting
Monday 16th April – Best Kept Village Sub Committee
Monday 14th May – Full Parish Council Meeting



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

The Parish Council meets on the second Monday of each month in the Old Grammar School rooms. Meetings start at 1930 and are open to the Public. The agenda for each meeting can be found on the village website 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. If you believe you have particular skills that the Parish Council or the village could utilise we'd love to hear from you. We still have one vacancy.

Parish Council Precept element of Council Tax

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 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 has for some time been topped up by ESBC through payments such as the Lengthmans agreement (cutting of grass verges) which will be discontinued from April 2018, and has represented almost £1,500 of income per year. A further reduction in funding from ESBC will happen from April 2019 - which together will reduce annual income by almost £3,400. The Parish Council has increased its investment in the village and will continue to do so with our 5 year plan priorities (below). However, to fund this investment, offset the reduced funding from ESBC and mitigate the effects of inflation we have had to review both the work we do and the level of the Parish Precept. In our January meeting following full financial cash flow review and setting a 5 year plan to improve the

presentation of the village a unanimous, but difficult, decision was taken 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 explanation of the cause can be understood by the village, and that the new rate still compares favourably with neighbouring Parish Councils with similar expanses of open space to maintain to a high standard. As part of normal process, we will also be re-tendering our main contracts to ensure we deliver the very best value for money to the village.

5 year priorities

The Parish Council has challenged itself to plan further ahead to help financial planning and to ensure we are proactive in our investment for the village. After much thought and good debate, we have established five priorities for improving the presentation of the village:

- Repainting the white metal railings along Burnside, Brookside and Craythorne
- Renewing faded and damaged road and street signs
- Improvement work to pathways and tree growth on the Jinny Trail
- Planting of new trees in conjunction with the Civic Trust
- Improve the brook and banks and plant replacement willow trees where needed

Sub Committees and Neighbourhood plan

Our sub committees for Highways and Best Kept Village met on 16th January and will report back at the February meeting, including their recommendations on double yellow lines to help alleviate traffic and parking concerns, and gaining village engagement in our 2019 entry to Best Kept Village.

The Neighbourhood Plan is progressing well with funding obtained to appoint a 3rd party consultant to assist. The Parish Council has two representatives on this group which is still on target to have the plan 'made' this year.

Planning

As many will have noticed Bellway Homes have erected a security fence

around the College Field Site. They are carrying out some investigative work there ahead of an expected submission of a detailed planning application, to define exactly how the outline planning permission granted for housing will be delivered. The PC will be sure to publicise consideration of this application once we know more. In the meantime, please respect the security fencing erected to prevent access especially by children and animals, Bellway are regularly checking the fencing and are aware it is being breached.

In the January meeting we considered an application to sensitively modernise and improve the signage on the Spread Eagle which is expected to take place shortly.

Recreation

The Civic Trust has given details of a circular bench they wish to site around the oak tree on The Croft and we look forward to working with them to install this.

Our Youth Member - Jacob Fowkes, has initiated a project to replace the wooden tractor on Tafflands with a metal one and we have secured funding from Cllr Philip White for this and are grateful for his support and to Jacob for his idea.

Highways - pot hole and drain reporting website

ESBC have an excellent web portal through which to report highways issues that require attention and includes the feature to upload a picture to help prioritise repairs, residents are encouraged to use this facility at <https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader> or search google for ESBC Highways dept. Once submitted you can track progress of action on your report.