



Your Parish Council News

Dodington Parish Council | Autumn - Winter 2022

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Brass on the Grass



Councillors were delighted to welcome Dodington Parish Band to Lilliput Park this summer, where they played to an audience of around 150 people. The Parish Council and band hosted a free music event for residents on Sunday 24th July. We plan to repeat this event every summer on the fourth Sunday of July. Thank you to 1st Raysfield Scout Group for providing refreshments, and thank you to the band, Councillors, and everyone else who helped to make this year's event a success.



Chairman's Message

We welcomed four new Councillors to the team this year (details on page three of this newsletter). Thank you to all my fellow Councillors for the time they give to the community.

We were all saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in September. I sent a letter of condolence to our new monarch, King Charles III and informed His Majesty that our community had completed a Book of Condolence. Thank you to everyone who left messages – these will now be bound and kept in our Parish archives. Thank you also to those who came to our Proclamation event at the Parish Hall on 11th September, where my Deputy Chairman, Councillor Christine Howard, read the Proclamation to those who gathered.

Dodington Parish Council will be planting two new trees in our QEII Memorial Garden on Kelston Close to commemorate the lives of HM Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Phillip.



In happier news, we were delighted to run our free Summer Playscheme again this year. We welcomed 140 local children to our Parish Hall over three weeks. Thank you to all the children who attended, and congratulations to our staff team on running such a successful scheme.

**With all good wishes,
Chairman Cllr Chris Zapata**



New Website Launch

Dodington Parish Council launched its refreshed website at the start of November. You can still find it at the usual address: www.dodingtonpc.org.uk



If you look at the website, we hope you will like the new layout and find what you are looking for. We would appreciate your feedback on the new look website.

Please also tell us if you have difficulty finding anything – email Liz Hazelby, Project Support Assistant: info@dodingtonpc.org.uk or call the office: 01454 866546

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Earlier this year, the Parish Council planned how it would celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2022.

Councillors were delighted to present our local schools with time capsules, which will be buried in our public open spaces later this year. We hope the pupils enjoy filling the capsules with special items from this Platinum Jubilee year. We plan to keep the capsules closed for the next 40 years!

Councillors and staff took great pleasure in visiting some local gardens this summer to judge the "Best Garden in Dodington" competition, which was launched to mark this special year. More on this further down the page.

The Parish Council has worked with Wapley Bushes Conservation Group to launch two new walking routes at Wapley Bushes, again to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Paul Hulbert, who is also a member of the conservation group, was due to lead two organised walks of the new routes in September, but these were postponed after the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Please look out for the new way markers in the woodland. There is also a leaflet with map available should you want to walk the routes yourself – please find it on the Parish Council website, or you can contact the Parish office to request a copy. We hope you will join us in remembering Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as you enjoy these walks.



Best Gardens in Dodington Competition Results!



In our last newsletter, we advertised a 'Dodington's Best Gardens' competition, marking Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee year.

We received several nominations – one on the Birds Estate and the others from gardens off Shire Way.

The gardens were judged in August by Deputy Chairman Cllr Christine Howard, Cllr Richard Evans (who is also Chair of Dodington Allotment Association) and Clerk, Hannah Saunders.

Congratulations to the winners: Mr Lamb (Birds Estate) and Mr and Mrs Best (Shire Way)! The winners received garden centre vouchers and commemorative trophies.

Tribute to Linda Rush (Boon)



Linda with former Cllr Dave Lane

Dodington Parish Council Members and staff were saddened by the passing of our former Councillor and Chairman, Linda Rush (formally Linda Boon). Linda signed acceptance of office on 31st January 1986 and served as a councillor until April 2019. She also served as Chairman of the Parish Council from 1995 – 1997.

Linda was a key figure in setting up Raysfield Youth Club and helping secure a permanent building for them on the site of Raysfield School (now Dodington Parish Hall). She was Treasurer of Chipping Sodbury Tourist Information Centre. Linda was also a member of South Gloucestershire Council, where she had particular interests in planning and development issues.

Councillor Paul Hulbert said: "Linda was Chairman of Dodington Parish Council at an important point in time when the Council was taking on new responsibilities. I was grateful for her continued support on environmental issues and Wapley Bushes Nature Reserve in particular".

Our thoughts are with Linda's husband, Adrian, and their family.

New Councillors

The Parish Council was delighted to welcome four new Councillors to the team this year. All four were co-opted on to the Council and we now run with 14 Councillors out of a maximum of 15.
Welcome to...

North East Ward

Cllr Sandra Jee



Cllr Richard Evans



North West Ward

Cllr Adrian Hutton



Cllr Robert Graham



Clerk's Message

This issue of the newsletter will not be door-dropped this time but left at pick-up points and available online. We are trialling a smaller print run to save printing costs and paper, and staff time in delivering the newsletter to 3,000 homes across the Parish. We welcome your feedback on this trial and we will be aiming to deliver our Spring 2023 newsletter as usual.

Parish Council meetings continue to be held on Monday evenings in the Parish Hall. You may recall that meetings used to be held on Wednesday evenings in the Council Chambers. With the Chambers being a bit too small to accommodate everyone comfortably in this time of the continued pandemic, we make use of the quieter Monday evenings in the Parish Hall. For meetings with lower attendance, there is the option to move to the Council Chambers. This decision will be reviewed regularly by Councillors. A schedule of our Parish Council meetings can be found on our website or by contacting the office.

Talking of the Parish Hall, we are reviewing the space we have in there and how to maximise it for both community and Parish Council use. This may mean we are able to make the Council Chambers slightly bigger to allow Parish Council meetings to return in there full-time.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that local elections will be held in May 2023, with polling taking place in the Parish Hall and other local community venues.

Hannah Saunders, Clerk to Dodington Parish Council

Councillor Contact Details

Dodington Parish Council meetings are currently on Monday evenings. A schedule of meetings can be found on our website. Contact the Clerk for more information.

North West Ward (Shire Way area of Yate)

Jean Thomas - 01454 866546
cllrjthomas@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Paul Hulbert - 07771 562505
cllrphulbert@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Mandy Sainsbury - 07882 026239
cllrmsainsbury@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Louise Harris - 01454 329522
cllrharris@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Linda Marshall - 01454 866546
cllrmarshall@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Adrian Hutton - 01454 866546
cllrahutton@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Bob Graham - 01454 866546
cllrbgraham@dodingtonpc.org.uk

North East Ward (‘Birds’ area of Chipping Sodbury)

Sarah Hurley - 01454 866546
cllrshurley@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Laura Pearson-Tong - 01454 866546
cllrpearsontong@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Richard Evans - 07923 913201
cllrrevans@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Sandra Jee - 01454 314390
cllrsjee@dodingtonpc.org.uk

South Ward (Dodington, Codrington and Wapley)

Philip King - 01454 866546
cllrphking@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Christine Howard (Vice Chairman) - 07973 637273
cllrchoward@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Chris Zapata (Chairman) - 07795 511228
cllrczapata@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Clerk to the Council: Hannah Saunders
Deputy Clerk: Philippa Tymon

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Website: www.dodingtonpc.org.uk

Parish Hall Keyholder
Malcolm Kitteringham (mob: 07860 111546)

Vandalism in our Parish

Vandalism in our public open spaces is a continuing battle. Every time the Parish Council needs to fix or replace an item which has been vandalised, it puts back our plans to enhance these areas.

Some examples of issues we've had this year include damage to play equipment at Lilliput Park (caused by a saw), graffiti to the QEII Memorial Garden and damage to the commemorative bench, safety fencing repeatedly pulled down at Goldcrest, and damage to new trees at Wapley Bushes.

We report vandalism to the police, but we ask that if you see vandalism in progress, please call 999.

WOODCHESTER PLAY AREA

The Parish Council is looking to improve the equipment for older children at Woodchester play area. The toddler play area had an extensive refurbishment in 2019. Now the Council would like to invest in some improvements to the remaining equipment. We unfortunately had to remove the popular embankment slide earlier this year because of vandalism. We are looking to replace this, either with a new slide or with other equipment.

We are also looking at improving accessibility and new equipment for children using a wheelchair or mobility aid. All these improvements will be done gradually.

We would welcome comments and suggestions via the online consultation form on our website, or by email to Liz Hazelby, Project Support Assistant:
info@dodingtonpc.org.uk

All being well, you will start seeing enhancements to the play equipment in 2023.



Useful Contacts

Off the Record – free confidential mental health support for young people aged 11 – 25 in the Bristol area – Tel: 0808 808 9120
Email: hello@otrbristol.org.uk

Samaritans – call free: 116 123

Age UK South Glos –
Tel: 01454 411707 Email: info@ageuksouthglos.org.uk

Shopmobility Yate – offering scooter or wheelchair hire to anyone with limited mobility so they can visit shops and leisure facilities in Yate. Also available for longer term hire.
Call: 01454 868718 or 07999 574474
Email: shopmobilitysouthglos@yahoo.com

Green Community Travel – Tel: 01454 228 706 Email: admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk

Power cut? Call 105 (free of charge) – you will be put through to your local network operator and they will give you help/advice.

Avon & Somerset Rural Crime Team –
Text:- 81819. Text not monitored 24/7. Remember – if crime requires immediate police attention, call 999.
Information can also still be passed on via independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

South Gloucestershire Council Many SGC services can be reached online via the website – www.southglos.gov.uk
However, if you need to telephone, the numbers are:
Streetcare – 01454 868000
Environmental Health & Trading Standards – 01454 868001
Benefits – 01454 868002
Council Tax – 01454 868003
Planning & Transportation – 01454 868000
Housing – 01454 868005
Leisure & Libraries – 01454 868006
Adult Care – 01454 868007
Children & Young People – 01454 868008
General Enquiries – 01454 868009

Golden Wedding Anniversary - Rose and Les Evans



Rose and Les Evans celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 27th May 2022. They have lived in Dodington Parish since March 1977, known each other for most of their lives and have a son, a daughter and five grandchildren.

Rose ran the Badgers group in the Parish Hall and went on to be County Badgers Leader. She also ran the Brownies group and worked as a parish warden.

They were both members of St John Ambulance for over 30 years, Les was superintendent at Chipping Sodbury before going on to County Staff.

Les still works as a service engineer and volunteers for Severnside Ambulance Service. Rose has now retired and looks after her grandchildren. They both enjoy going away in their caravan and walking their dog, Dylan.

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Evans!
If you know of a local couple who will be celebrating a special anniversary, please get in touch with the Parish Council: 01454 866546 / clerk@dodingtonpc.org.uk

