



Your Parish Council News

Dodington Parish Council | Spring - Summer 2023

www.dodingtonpc.org.uk E: clerk@dodingtonpc.org.uk T: 01454 866546 FB | dodingtonpc



Welcome to Dodington Parish Council's Summer Newsletter!

We are delivering a little later than usual as we wanted to give you all the updates following District and Parish Elections, plus we wanted to include our QEII Playing Fields Consultation.

Our Council meetings continue to be held on a Monday, which is working well for us currently. There is a chance at the start of all meetings for public participation, so if you have anything you want to bring to our attention please come along. You can find our meeting schedule on our website and agendas for each Full Council meeting are shared online a week before, plus on our Parish noticeboards. Agenda for committee meetings are available online only.

Later this year we will be undertaking some work at the Parish Hall, updating the Council Chambers and improving our office space. This work won't impact on hall availability, but it may mean that some council meetings are held in the Foxall Powell Room for a while (to the side of the Hall).

You will also notice some work being carried out at Woodchester play area soon. Following a successful consultation earlier this year, the consensus was that the embankment slide should be replaced, plus following feedback we will be installing a rope ladder on the embankment and improved balancing equipment. Thank you to everyone who responded to the consultation – we had 150 responses! We have taken all your other comments and suggestions on board and will look to follow up on some of these in the future.

Following the elections on 4th May, we have vacant seats in the North West and South wards of Dodington. If you would like to find out more, don't hesitate to contact me.

In the meantime, it would be appreciated if you are able to take time to complete the enclosed QEII Playing Fields Consultation and send back in the prepaid envelope provided.

With all good wishes,

Hannah Saunders
Clerk to Dodington Parish Council

Time Capsules for Dodington

Special time capsules to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee have been buried in Dodington. Dodington Parish Council invited the four schools in the Parish – Raysfield Primary, Abbotswood Primary, Wellesley Primary and Culverhill – to fill commemorative time capsules with memories from 2022. Items from the schools include lunch menus, toys, artwork and written accounts of school life. Parish Councillors have been delighted with the items selected by the schools and hope that future generations will enjoy the snapshot of life in Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee year. Some of the items include memories of the late monarch, who died in September 2022.

The time capsules have been buried in public open spaces across Dodington. They will be reopened in 40 years. During the burial of Raysfield Primary School's time capsule in Lilliput Park, the children talked about how old they will be in 2062 and what they might be doing. Parish Clerk, Hannah Saunders, said: "Councillors and I have loved working with the schools over the last six months. It has been wonderful to hear why the children felt the Platinum Jubilee was such a special and important event to be commemorated".

In addition to the time capsules, four oak trees have been planted in Wapley Bushes as part of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy.



Year 6 pupils of Raysfield Primary School and Ken Thomas, Estates Officer for Dodington Parish Council.

QEII Playing Fields Consultation

We are consulting again about a proposed circular exercise path at QEII Playing Fields on Kelston Close. There should be a form and pre-paid envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

We would be grateful if you have time to complete our consultation. You can also fill it in online at www.dodingtonpc.org.uk

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 (Vice Chair)

01454 866546

cllrjthomas@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Paul Hulbert 07771 562505

cllrphulbert@dodingtonpc.org.uk

David Fitt 07752 078142

cllrdfitt@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Louise Harris 07932 032045

cllrharris@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

cllrpearsonstong@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)

Christine Howard 07973 637273

cllrchoward@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Chris Zapata (Chair) 07795 511228

cllrczapata@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Clerk to the Council: Hannah Saunders

Deputy Clerk: Philippa Tymon

Dodington Parish Council
Dodington Parish Hall
Finch Road, Chipping Sodbury BS37 6JZ

Tel: 01454 866546

E-mail: clerk@dodingtonpc.org.uk

Website: www.dodingtonpc.org.uk

Parish Hall Keyholder

Malcolm Kitteringham (mob: 07860 111546)

Chair's Message

I was delighted to be re-elected both as South Ward Councillor and as Chair of Dodington Parish Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow councillors for their support and for the time they dedicate to the local area.

After serving as a North West Councillor for more than 15 years (and as Chair in 2009/10) we say Goodbye to Mandy Sainsbury, who decided not to re-stand this year. Mandy's passions have been Planning and Public Open Spaces, particularly as she spends so much time walking her beloved dog around the parish. Thank you, Mandy, for all your hard work over the years.

Following the death of Linda Rush (previously Linda Boon, former councillor and chair) at the end of last year, and Robin Blake (former councillor and chair) during lockdown, two memorial trees have been planted on Wapley Common. The trees are also part of the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Canopy. We were blessed with good weather for the planting ceremonies in March.

Two more trees have been planted in QEII Memorial Garden on Kelston Close, to commemorate the lives of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Councillors chose Liquidambar, an American tree that was introduced to the UK in the 17th Century. The trees will grow maple-like leaves which will produce some brilliant colours in the Autumn.

You will note that work has started on redeveloping the car park by the Tern Inn on Heron Way. A local convenience store will be a welcome addition to the Birds estate. The Parish Council has entered into an agreement to lease some of the car parking spaces for the local community. To find out more about this, please contact the Clerk.

Chair Cllr Chris Zapata

Grants given to local good causes



Councillors consider grant applications from the local community and will help fund local worthy causes that benefit the residents of the Parish. In 2022/23, the Parish Council granted £15,363 to local groups. Examples of the sort of things funded are:

- Funding to help Yate Heritage Centre run its popular free workshops;
- Replacement batteries for the mobility scooters at Shopmobility South Glos;
- Help towards the provision of a Swap Shed, run by Friends of Raysfield PTA, enabling families at the school to swap uniform and keep the costs of buying new uniform as low as possible;
- Money towards hi-visibility vests and outdoor noticeboards for the Sodbury and Yate Clean Up group.

These are just a few examples of what Dodington Parish Council helps to fund in the local area.

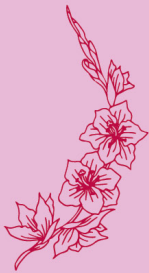
To find out how your group or organisation can apply for funding too, please visit our website – www.dodingtonpc.org.uk or contact the office.



Ways of remembering loved ones in Dodington

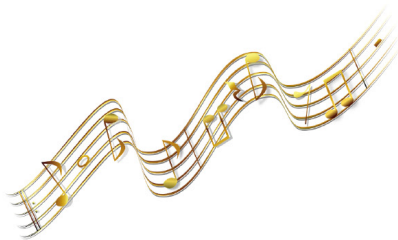
The Parish Council can offer placement of memorial plaques for loved ones at our QEII Memorial Garden, just off Rodford Way.

Please contact the office if you would like to discuss this further –
01454 866546 / clerk@dodingtonpc.org.uk



Dodington Parish Council &
Dodington Parish Band present...

Brass on the Grass



Sunday 30th July 2023

2:30 — 4:30pm

Lilliput Park, Chipping Sodbury

A free afternoon of music, everyone is welcome!

Bring a chair, blanket, picnic and enjoy watching
our local brass band. Refreshments also available
for a donation to charity.



Culverhill School Duke of Edinburgh Award

Students from Culverhill School who are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme have been working with the Council in various parts of the Parish as part of the volunteering section. The volunteering section of DofE is about choosing to give time to help people, the community or society, the environment, or animals.

The volunteers have been working on path laying in both Wapley Bushes and Lilliput Park, clearing undergrowth and pruning overhanging vegetation as well as creating a new den building area in Wapley Woods for use by local children.

Working in partnership with Culverhill School, the Parish Council are supporting the DofE scheme for the foreseeable future.



Useful Contacts for Local Services

South Gloucestershire Council – many SGC services can be reached online via the website, www.southglos.gov.uk
However if you need to phone, the main numbers are:

General Enquiries – 01454 868009

Streetcare – 01454 868000

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

Power cut? Call 105 (free of charge).

Southern Brooks – for support accessing community services – call 0333 5774 666

Citizens Advice Bureau South Glos – 0808 278 7947

Warm and Well Advice – 0800 500 3076 or visit www.warmandwell.co.uk

One You South Glos – for wellbeing support – 01454 865 337 or visit www.oneyou.southglos.gov.uk

Age UK South Glos – call 01454 411707

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 – call 01454 228 706 Email admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk

Samaritans – call free on 116 123

Off the Record – free mental health support for young people aged 11-25 – call 0808 808 9120 or email hello@otrbristol.org.uk

Diamond Wedding Anniversary – Bruce and Maxine Gates

Bruce and Maxine Gates celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 16 January 2020. Unfortunately, due to the covid lockdown they have only recently been able to celebrate properly on their 63rd anniversary. Chair Councillor Chris Zapata presented them with a bouquet of flowers.

The couple have lived happily in Rodborough for the last 20 years and say they are very fortunate to have such lovely neighbours. They both love their garden and enjoy visits from all their family members who live close by. They have a daughter Jane and a son Steven. Tragically, their son Simon died following a car accident in 1980. They have six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The couple met at RAF Little Rissington near Bourton on the Water in 1958 and married in 1960. Bruce was with the RAF until 1970 and was stationed at RAF Thorny Island when they first got married. He was due to be stationed in Singapore but at that time wives weren't allowed to accompany their husbands – Maxine's response to that posting was "On your bike". Maxine says if he had gone their lives would have turned out very differently and they wouldn't be where they are today. Bruce was also posted to RAF Butterworth on the island of Penang on the Northwest coast of Malaysia and RAF Colerne near Chippenham.

Bruce left the RAF in 1970 and officially retired in 2000 after working as a manager for a kitchen company in Avonmouth and in a local shop. Maxine also kept busy with office work and at one point was working near her husband in Avonmouth. She retired at the age of 60. They both agree that the secret to a long and happy marriage is tolerance.



Bruce and Maxine Gates

Do you know of a Dodington couple celebrating a significant anniversary soon?

Please contact us at the office to talk about arranging a celebration bouquet.



Golden Wedding Anniversary



Chair Cllr Chris Zapata was delighted to present Cllr Paul Hulbert and his wife, Margaret, with flowers on their golden wedding anniversary in April.



Paul and Margaret were both involved in the same young people's group. Margaret lived in Exeter and Paul was working in Weston Super Mare. They met at an area dance in Taunton. The next weekend Margaret was visiting her sister in Bristol, and so their long-distance relationship began.

Paul got a permanent job with the Electricity Board in Bristol, and when they married Margaret was able to transfer to the Bristol branch of her employer, a wholesale chemist. They bought a house off Shire Way 50 years ago, and they have lived there ever since. Their children and grandchildren all live locally.

"We love living here", they said, "We appreciate the open green areas, the parks and having easy access to the countryside".

Celebrating a 100th birthday!



Dodington resident, Elsie Gosling recently celebrated her 100th birthday. Vice Chair 2022/23, Cllr Christine Howard, was delighted to present Elsie with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the Parish.

Elsie came to live in Dodington Parish with her granddaughter, Michele and her family, who have lived in Yate for 48 years.

Nine years ago, Elsie became very poorly and the family suggested she came to stay with them until she was well enough to go back home. After 4 months of recuperation and enjoying family life, she asked if it was possible to stay permanently. A family meeting was held and it was agreed. Elsie left her home in Frenchay. From time-to-time Elsie stays with her daughter, Linda who has also lived in Yate for 51 years.

Elsie's granddaughter, Michele, said: "It's an absolute pleasure having Elsie, we wouldn't want it any other way. She is so independent that we don't have to do much, Elsie looks after herself, it's remarkable as nine years ago she really poorly and we didn't think she was going to make it, we were all preparing ourselves for the worst, now look at her. We just make sure she has regular meals and that she takes her medication on time. She is remarkable".

Elsie says the secret of a long life is good food and having a little of what you fancy, keeping active and having her family around her.

