

The magazine for Rode, Tellisford, Woolverton and Farleigh Hungerford, part of Hardington Vale



JUNE 2023

Great Bus News

Outcome of Meeting About Rode Memorial Hall

FRANS Friday Cafés, Rode Barn Dance & More

A Special Father's Day Service

and much more local news and details inside...

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CHILDRENS' AND FAMILIES WORKER Vacant

HARDINGTON VALE WEBSITE

www.hardingtonvale.org.uk

Hemington and Hardington

are in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust Keyholder Peter Simper 01373 834315

THE LINK MAGAZINE is published by the Parochial Church Council which reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the PCC, the Rector or the Editor.

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Cubs Thu 6-7.30pm		110ward Russen		030040/07/30/39000
Scouts Wed 7-8.30pm				
Scouts Edor Explorer Unit				
Every other Tuesday 8-9.30pm				
NB During school terms only				
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Church Reflection, News & Events

REFLECTION

Having lived in the parish for 6 years, I've always been astonished to read about the huge range of activities and groups reported on each month. So many people are involved in so many things that benefit our communities.

This demonstrates very practically the theme of **service**, which was such a feature of the Coronation in May.

Right at the start of the ceremony in Westminster Abbey, we heard the exchange between the King and Samuel Strachan, Child of His Majesty's Chapel Royal and the King: "Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings". "In his name and after his example **I come not to be served but to serve**". Recently I came across a helpful acrostic explanation of what it means to serve.

To serve is to ...

- **S**upport: this includes helping folk, younger or older, to deal with life's challenges. There are so many ways this happens across the villages.
- Encourage: we all need this! How often have we felt a lift just from a friendly "hello"? Pope Julius II was sent a young artist with the following testimonial: "This is Michelangelo. His nature is such that he has to be drawn out by kindness and encouragement but, if he be treated well and love shown to him, he will accomplish things that will make the whole world wonder". Indeed!
- **R**esource: the number of clubs, societies, groups, teams, different kinds of provision provided within our parish is astounding. I remember listing them all on post-its and sticking them on a window a few years ago, as part of our research on church partnerships with the community– not much light was getting in by the end of that exercise!
- Value: our people, our places, our history we have so much to be thankful for in this beautiful part of Somerset, with all its biodiversity. From litter picking to reducing our carbon footprint, we are living out our values.
- Equip: providing what we need, to do whatever we need to do. It's certainly my experience that I can find someone who can lend me what I need around here!

So, thank you to everyone who serves, in any of these ways. You enrich all of our lives. Nelson Mandela described the African concept of Ubuntu as "*the recognition that we are only people because of other people*". Service only has meaning in community, as we serve each other.

Church Reflection, News & Events

For Christians, as we serve others, we are serving Christ, whose ultimate act of service was to give himself for us. We can be assured that he notices every act of service, whether big or small, public or very private:

"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." (Matthew 10:42)

Fergus Stewart

NEWS FROM ST LAWRENCE

Hopefully you heard the bells ringing over the Coronation weekend. It was great that the learners who only started last November were able to join in and ring on such a memorable occasion.



On the Coronation Day bells were rung across Hardington Vale in Farleigh Hungerford, Rode, Norton and Hemmington.

As a bell ringer it has given me (Sally) the opportunity to feel part of national events like the Coronation and the Queen's funeral last year.

Please see page 6 for an update on the Church Renovation and Appeal.

Geoff Banwell and Sally Pickett

SPECIAL JUNE CHURCH EVENTS AND SERVICES

4th June – Rogation Walk – see page 34 for details.

18th June – Father's Day Service – see page 36 for details.

For full details of all June Church Services please see inside the back cover of this magazine.



RODE HALL MEETING TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FUTURES

On 16th May, as highlighted in last month's Link and elsewhere, the Village Hall Committee held a meeting in the Hall to discuss the idea of a joint amenity in Rode, combining the functions of the Hall and the Pavilion and with a separate space for the Scouting groups, to be located on the Playing Fields.

The meeting was called to understand whether, if such a joint facility were to be realised, the sale of the Hall for this purpose would be supported. This would mean the Village Hall would be sold and the proceeds put towards the new facility, but that the Hall would remain in use for the Village until any new facility was ready. Following the Hall's Governing Conditions, *"the inhabitants of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards of the Parishes of Rode, Woolverton and Tellisford"* were invited to a meeting to vote on the Hall's proposal and, if agreed, to confirm *"by a majority of such inhabitants present at such Meeting"*. The meeting was attended by 58 people, with representation from all three parishes. The vote was preceded by a very useful discussion with a range of views expressed.

The following Resolution was agreed: "to explore the viability of the project to collocate the Hall, Pavilion and (as a separate space but collocated) the Scout groups and, (on the understanding that) if it proceeds, to discontinue the use of the Hall in its current location when the new facility is ready, to dispose of its assets to contribute to the new project and to continue the charitable objects of the Hall in its new location." 44 votes for yes, 7 for no and 7 abstentions.

While the proposal is to explore the co-location of the Hall with other facilities in a new location, the Hall Committee's firm intention is to ensure that the Objects of the original Trust will continue to be honoured. This means any new premises will uphold the original intention of the Trust, i.e. to provide for the "physical and mental training and recreation and social and moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library, lectures, classes, recreations and entertainments or otherwise as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parishes of Rode, Woolverton and Tellisford in the County of Somerset and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or of political religious or other opinions...".

This decision from the community in support of the Hall Committee's proposal now means that the Joint Committee can now move forwards to test the viability of the project and to develop more tangible plans, with village consultation and engagement to follow in due course.

Kate Robinson and Mark Dymond on behalf of the Village Hall Committee

LATEST BUS NEWS

£2 BUS FARE CONTINUES UNTIL NOVEMBER 2023 - The Government has



announced that its very successful \pounds_2 Flat Fare scheme will now continue through to November.

This means it only costs $\pounds 2$ to go on the D2 to Bath or to Frome. Morning, noon and (late) night. And that's now seven days a week.

On the X34, it's £2 to Frome and only £2 all the way to Chippenham (that surely must be one of the longer journeys for just £2).

The £2 fare is already attracting a lot of extra users for our village bus services. But remember the maxim: USE IT OR LOSE IT ... so please 'BUS IT' whenever you can.

FREE BUS TRAVEL ON FIRST BUS D2/D2x - THURSDAY 1ST JUNE - We

are pleased to announce that First Bus will be giving FREE travel on the D2 / D2x on Thursday 1st June! June 1st is during the school holidays so that could mean a bargain day out with the family!

Travel to Bath, Frome or anywhere in between - just turn up and travel for free from 4.30am till the last bus of the day. No tickets, vouchers or codes needed - just hop on the bus. It's really that simple! For more information:

www.facebook.com/Favbug

Peter Travis

Frome and Villages Bus Use Group



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH ROOF RENOVATION AND APPEAL

Things are moving on with the planned renovation of the roof of St Lawrence. This first phase is the Chancel roof. Following a meeting with the Contractor, whose tender has been accepted, it is hoped that work will commence in October this year.

Formal permission has recently been obtained from the Diocese and thanks to the Richard Oatley Foundation, funding is in place for this phase.



The next step is to have a bat survey carried out. This is a legal requirement. We have previously understood that we have a summer roost of long-eared bats. That remains to be confirmed, but they have become active again since the middle of May. Essentially, what the survey should establish is where the bats are getting in and out; we can then determine whether the roof works will affect them and what steps are necessary.

The Appeal to the village for funds has now reached a little over £43,500 including Gift Aid and matched funding. Our target was to raise at least £50,000 from the village. We, therefore, need another £6,500 to achieve that target. We are sure that there are many people who intend to donate but have not got around to it yet. If this applies to you, we look forward to hearing from you. All donations are much appreciated and very gratefully received.

Geoff Banwell and Sally Pickett

RODE CHAPEL CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

The Meeting Place held a last minute Coronation Tea and Cake Party in Rode Chapel on the Sunday of the Coronation weekend.

The event was well attended and we were spoilt for choice with the wonderful selection of cakes so many thanks to all those who provided them. The afternoon was enjoyed by everyone who came.

The Tea Party was followed by a music led Service based on kingship.

Valerie Parker

"OUT OF THE BLUE" LATEST

Things are moving apace on the Panto front!

Costumes and props are coming on nicely and it would be fair to say that they are going to create quite a stir when they appear on stage at showtime come October, particularly in the case of Richard our Dame and the rather unusual outfits that have been created for certain cast members.

In a first for us, we are recording the songs that have been specially composed for "Out of the Blue", and by the time you read this, most of the tracks will have been put to bed. It would be fair to say that singing on stage is quite a daunting challenge, but everyone has enjoyed the experience and there are most definitely some fine vocalists amongst them.

A lovely team atmosphere is developing and as always new friends are being made and hitherto talents discovered, and there is no doubt that everyone is really getting stuck in and enjoying the experience so far, regardless of whether they are first timers or old hands.

By the middle of June we will have increased the number of rehearsals and the plan is for everyone to be off the book by the time we get to the school holidays, although some bribery and whip cracking maybe required to achieve this goal.

From September we will be working in the Village Hall which will allow us to we will focus on stage movement and the detail of the characterisation and performance and of course the sets will be coming together as well and they are going to look terrific.

All being well, this will also be when tickets will become available for the 3 shows in October (Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st), but details of how to get them, cost etc, will be made public before then.

Gary Holloway

200 CLUB

The April 200 club has been drawn, the winners are as follows: 1st Prize £50 - Sharman Flindall 2nd Prize £25 - Lucy Clayphan



Jan Jupp



ONE YEAR DONE

It has been a year since I was elected to represent Frome North. And what a remarkable 12 months it has been! I have learned, grown, and explored, and loved every (almost) moment of it.

What I have learned about Frome North: Although each village, town and hamlet have their own personality, there is a strong sense of community across the area. The commitment to neighbours, the environment, heritage and local business has been wonderful to experience.



Each parish council is a collection of skilled, experienced, and enthusiastic people who are focused on only one thing – to make life better for everyone in their community. The amount of work these councillors put into everything they do, is often not noticed, or acknowledged, but utterly remarkable, and I know very much appreciated.

What I have learned about myself: As we get older, we become more comfortable in our own skin. I wonder if this is more about acceptance of the world, people, and ourselves. Although I have always be aware of my strengths and weaknesses, in my role as a Somerset Councillor I have found myself completely absorbed in what I love doing – learning. I want to know and understand people, processes, systems, and groups. Unless I have a foundation of how things (and people work), I cannot help, support, and grow (as a person and to be a better councillor) either.

I often reflect on our corner of the county and believe this to be not only an interesting part of Somerset, but it is also incredibly dynamic, forward-looking, and innovative.

To give you a flavour of what my role has be sprinkled with: Litter, potholes, paths, rivers, sport for young people, the elderly, buses, gardening, planning, parking, housing, fly-tipping, libraries, school placements, gritting, lighting, HGVs, business development, markets, road repairs, bridges, fire strategies, licencing, our Ukrainian community, and hosting the first (or many) Parish Roadshows, and more.

I have had the greatest pleasure meeting with: Fair Frome, Active and InTouch, deafPlus, Health, Heritage and Green Connectors, Focus Frome, the ME Association, Aging Well, Rode Climate Community, Frome Market Health Hub, BANDS (Bath Autism and Neurodiversity spectrums), Frome Birth Talk,

Aging without Children, Skill Up Somerset, Bus Partnership, SpeedWatch, Royal British Legion, Frome and Somerset Chambers of Commerce, Village Agents, Frome College, and Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership. And the year ahead is already filling up with more opportunities to meet with amazing organisations that have an impact on our lives, daily.

I have drunk hundreds of cups of tea and decaf lattes, and eaten way too much cake and biscuits, but every meeting has filled me with joy, and a list of action steps to take.

My aim is simply to ensure I am doing what I can to support these organisations, and to connect the community with them and each other.

The foundation of who we are is how we fit into the collective, and the impact we can have on it.

Here's to a very exciting second year representing you, learning even more, and hopefully making a difference.

Dawn Denton Somerset County Councillor for Frome North

CORONATION YARN BOMB

As many people will have noticed the postbox in Rode was yarn bombed for the Coronation.

Thanks go to Chris Lowe, Gail Stinton and Diane Party for their fabulous knitting skills.

The idea was hatched at the Rode Chapel Craft Club which meets on Thursday afternoons.

It seems that the topper has made many people smile. The Mirror newspaper also included it in their feature on Coronation yarn bombing.



Watch this space to see who will star on the next yarn bomb.

Valerie Parker

NORTON ST PHILIP CONCERT SERIES

On April 29th, we welcomed **Sarah McQuaid** to NSP for the second gig of her UK tour. The audience came not just from H.V. but also from Frome, Trowbridge and Bristol. A review entitled '*To Church With Sarah Again*' by Mark Studden, was published on the 'Afterword' the following day, part is reproduced here with permission:

"Last night's gig was another tour-de-force. I can't remember the last time I saw an artist open their show with an a cappella song delivery that hung everything on staggeringly accurate voice control and pitch perfection." "Sarah's ability to control, with great sensitivity, the volume and intensity of her vocal delivery is a wonderful asset – she got our attention, everyone was captured in the moment, and she used the silence of the room and the rapt engagement of the audience to drop everything down to a careful whisper, bringing emphasis to the critical lyricality of her song. At the end of the first number, in that tiny gap between breath and applause, I heard someone at the front – only 20 feet way – mutter a quiet "Wow". I knew then, even as I'd known before she started to sing, that the next hour and more would bring even greater delights. We heard smatterings from several of her back catalogue, all of which are laden with little gems. In her usual style, each song is introduced with a brief explanation of its provenance."

"We were treated to more of Sarah's songs, plus several covers of other writer's material. We heard a Dylan song (Tangled Up In Blue) given a fast, sparkling, effervescent bravura performance that made me grin like a fool, a heartfelt and sensitive performance of a John Martyn song (Solid Air) wherein I could clearly catch the lyric for possibly the first time I've ever heard the song performed, and an exquisite version of Ewan MacColl's perennial The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face. Every single one of her covers is a revelatory melding of the quality of the chosen song with Sarah's outstanding and very personal delivery."

Shortly after this concert, on May 4th we were treated to another magnificent Lunchtime Concert. This featured saxophonist **Iain Ballamy** and pianist **Huw Warren** - the Force was certainly with them!

We now look forward to the return of the **Band of Pilgrims** at our Lunchtime Concert on June 1st when we will again be serving coffee and cake from 12.30pm.

For details of the full programme of future concerts please see page 34).

David Lockley

THANK YOU...

I would like to thank all those of you who marked my recent retirement from Beckington Family Practice with your very kind words, cards and generous gifts. For those of you who made a financial gift, I was delighted to receive a beehive and lots of bee-keeping equipment to get me started.

Thank you! It has genuinely been my privilege and pleasure to have been able to practice the vocation that I love here.

When I arrived in 1997, we had 7,200 patients (now 11,200), 3 surgery buildings (now 2) and we would drop everything and leave our surgeries to be first responders to a heart attack or to assist with the delivery of a baby at Frome Victoria Hospital.

So much has changed, including faces, and with the NHS now facing the biggest challenges I have known in my 33 years as a doctor I am encouraged that I leave the practice in good hands, with a great, caring team doing their best.

It has been an extraordinary privilege to walk along the way with many, many people, as they have faced medical challenges or their final illness. I would like to thank all of you who have so trustingly shared your stories with me.

Each one of us is wonderfully unique and I am going to miss those personal encounters but hope that I will continue to meet some of you in other contexts or when I return as an occasional locum GP.

Dr John Beaven

CHANGES HAVE BEEN AFOOT AT

If you've not ventured in to see us for a while you may be surprised!



We are now dedicating more of our space to the Café, more tables and some armchairs too now! We will still be stocking all the essentials in the General Store and the Post Office carries on as ever.

Come and check it out, hope to see you soon ...

Sam Baker

LAVERTON NEWS

Well here we go with my final Laverton News. Likely you will have heard that Martin and I are moving from Laverton to Norton St Philip in the not too distant future. I've loved covering the 'goings on' in Laverton over the past few years and I have a lot of people to thank for their help and assistance. It's almost ten years since we turned up at Row Barn on a wet and dreary day in August 2013 but we had such a sunny welcome from our immediate neighbours Mhairi and Sara we knew we were going to be happy in this very special place.

I've been looking back over the past ten years and remembering all the fun times we've had! Laverfest, then the lovely village wedding of Matt and Suzy, a couple of quizzes including Norma's birthday quiz, numerous church fetes and bazaar's, the opening of the book exchange, welcoming our Ukrainian friends and probably the icing on the cake, the Platinum Jubilee celebrations last year, when just about everyone in the village and their families came together to celebrate. Talking of fetes - please make a note of this year's Fete on Saturday 22nd July see page 37 for more details.

Book Exchange Book Sale and Coffee Morning - Despite the damp and dreary weather we were very pleased to see so many people here to raise funds for Dorothy House. Thank you to everyone who made cake, bought cake and ate cake and relieved us of a lot of books! Thanks also to those of you who helped erecting gazebos in the rain, washing and clearing up. Special thanks have to go to Mark and Maria for running the raffle in its entirety and to Emma for helping to sort books after the event. We raised an amazing £411.42 and we were able to donate the remaining children's books to NSP school. Thank you everyone!



So that's it folks, Norton St Philip awaits! Take care.

Jackie Moss

Editor's Note: Very sad to see the last issue of Jackie's Laverton News but not I trust the last of Jackie and Martin! Many thanks for all the time and effort you have put in to keeping us informed of that part of H.V. during the last few years Jackie. All my good wishes for the future go with them to their new home.

Parish Health & Wellbeing

GP NON-URGENT ADVICE SYSTEM VIA ACCURX

As a Practice we are always looking for ways to improve the services we offer, and a new initiative we have introduced is a way to contact us via an online form, cutting out the need to wait in a telephone queue. These online requests are picked up by the reception team, who direct them to the most appropriate clinician for triage.

You do not need to have online access via the NHS app for this service to work, you can simply go on our website and fill in the template provided.

You are also able to complete this on someone else's behalf, for instance children or someone you are caring for.

Should you not have access to the internet or have difficulty with the new system but would still be interested in filling out a form, you can call reception on either 01373 830316 or 01373 464731 and a member of the team will be able to fill this out on your behalf.

We can still be contacted in the usual way via the telephone system, but we anticipate that this new system will reduce the number of incoming calls to the surgery, as well as ensuring patient queries and requests are logged on the system promptly, in the patient's own words, for the attention of a clinician.

Please remember that if you need urgent assistance then call 999 or for nonemergency queries out of hours call 111.

Beckington Family Practice



Parish Environment

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE

Proposed Solar Farm in Rode - The drop-in event in the village hall on May 17th was well attended, with representatives from the company promoting the solar farm (Low Carbon) available to answer questions. And clearly there are some significant issues for parishioners to consider in relation to this proposed development.

On the one hand the solar farm would provide additional sustainable energy, which is vital if we are to address the climate emergency. On the other hand there are some very real local concerns (including the scale of the proposed development, potential loss of agricultural land, etc).

In addition to the displays at the drop-in event, Low Carbon has delivered a brochure to all local households and set up a website containing information about the proposal.

For those that are interested in finding out more, CPRE Somerset also has some very useful information on its website:

www.cpresomerset.org.uk/news/solar-power-in-somerset/

Great Big Green Week - The plans for the Great Big Green Week are close to being finalised. Events in and around Rode are part of the wider national event, and also included as part of Frome's Great Big Green Week.



Locally, the following will be taking place:

- A series of talks in Rode Memorial Hall on Saturday 17th June entitled "How do we tackle the Climate Emergency?". We're delighted that the headline speaker this year is Sarah Dyke, lead member for Environment & Climate Change on Somerset Council.
- A repeat of the "Green Open Doors" event held last year on Sunday 18th June (which includes guided tours of Tellisford Mill*).
- "Veggie Week" local pubs will be promoting their vegetarian and vegan meal options during Great Big Green Week, and some will be offering a few extra special veggie treats! Pubs taking part are The Cross Keys, The Mill at Rode, The Foresters (Beckington), The Woolpack (Beckington) and the Full Moon at Rudge.

Parish Environment

- The Scouts will be undertaking a Litter Pick in the village on Wednesday June $14^{\rm th}.$

*If you are interested in the tour of Tellisford Mill, you will need to book in advance (places are free but limited to 12 people per tour). To book, go to www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for "Tellisford Mill".

It's also worth checking out other events in and around Frome – a copy of the Frome Great Big Green Week brochure is available from the Post Office, The Cross Keys, and The Mill at Rode. You can also access a downloadable pdf version – go to the Frome Town Council website, and search for Great Big Green Week.

Full details of all the local events will also be posted on the village Facebook site in the coming days.



Get Involved/Keep in Touch - The Climate Emergency Group has a monthly newsletter, which now reaches 60 subscribers!

If you'd like to join them, drop me a line at the email address below, or enter this link in your browser:

https://mailchi.mp/4b503e0ba20c/initialsign-up (sorry for the rather un-friendly web address!)

The Climate Emergency Group is still small, and therefore the capacity to deliver projects on our own is limited. Primarily we aim to "initiate, inform, educate, encourage..." But we can also act as a focal point for residents to come together to deliver projects as a community. If you have an idea that could be worth exploring, please get in contact. And - if you'd like to join the Climate Emergency Group, you will be very welcome!

Our next meeting is Wednesday 28^{th} June, in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall (7pm start).

Jim McAuliffe E: jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com

Editor's Note: If you have any old tech you're no longer using see page 42

IST RODE SCOUT GROUP

It's our Annual Barn Dance, 1st July, see page 37 for details – hope to see you there! Now for some details of what we have been up to!



EXPLORERS: The Rode Explorers would like to say a big thank you to Richard for giving us a "behind the scenes" tour of Raves from the Graves record shop in Frome. It was an interesting and nostalgic evening surprisingly we have 3 Explorers who own and play their own record player/ vinyls.



The Explorers are winding down a little this month due to exams, we wish them all the best of luck with those but are looking forward to our narrowboat weekend with a group from Guernsey in October and 7 of our Explorers have World Jamborees in August so busy time for everyone.

Again we wish them all the best with their various exams and trips but most of all to have fun and enjoy their very special opportunities, can't wait to hear all about them. *Claire Le Page*



SCOUTS: Scouts have been busy!

In the past couple of terms we have been bouldering, kite flying, fire lighting and s'mores making, line dancing, night hiking and model making just to name of few of our activities.

Many challenges have been overcome and multiple badges have been deservedly awarded.

Fun times! Pandora Jacobs



BEAVERS: Bristol Avon River Trust invited our Beavers out on a trip to learn about our local river and see what invertebrates could be found. They all had a great time looking for and identifying the creatures they caught and then finished the session building mini rafts out of natural materials that could be found and then racing them down the river. Becca Beavery



FRANS LATEST

We had a right royal knees up at the FRANS Coronation Party in the Park last month. Despite the slight hitch of a fly away marquee and threatening downpours we managed to catch the sunshine and celebrate a new reign without rain. All the children seemed to have a blast with crafts, bouncy castle, music, football, and cake! Some enterprising BFGs (year 4) also managed to take on the challenge of face painting, raising even more money for the school. One day we may see them in the boardroom with Sir Alan. We raised about \pounds 700 pounds in total which was amazing.



It's always good to know how the fundraising helps the school. We're pleased to say that just last month we paid for fifteen new MacBooks which will be a fabulous resource for the children; one that otherwise would not be possible to provide under governmental budgets.

In June we will continue our fundraising with some Friday cafes after school on the Mead in Norton St Philip. When the weather is fine these are a great way to end the week and start the summer weekends so we are looking forward to more fun(draising) in the sun, see page 35.

If you would like to help towards school fundraising we welcome any donations at any time, even direct transfers, payment details: Friends of Rode and Norton Schools, Account number: 31419160, Sort code: 309875



CALLING ALL NEW FOOTBALLERS - BOYS & GIRLS ...AND LATEST ON OUR SUMMER FESTIVAL OF FOOTBALL

Freshford United Youth F.C. has now finished the season after a very good year with all age groups doing well in their leagues and looking forward to summer tournaments now.

We are already planning for next season and are looking for new players in all ages and will open the door to children who are starting Primary school in September 2023 to start the next age group with training every Sunday Mornings. We will have a team in every age group form Under 5's to Under 15's (Minus Under 12's unfortunately) plus our Adult team. Every team train weekly with most age groups playing regular games in the Mid Norton & District Youth League.

All teams are looking for more players of all ages, abilities, boys and girls so even if you want to test it out and not commit, we can offer a free tester session for 2 weeks to see how your child gets on before you have to commit to anything.

We also have our summer Festival of Football on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th July (see page 41) up at our pitch in Freshford opposite Homewood Hotel & Restaurant which will host over 100 teams entering the tournament in what is always a great weekend so please feel free to come along and support our teams or watch some exciting football. There will be food and drink served all day and a Large Raffle with various prizes.



We have a footfall of over 2,000 people on the weekend and every person attending will be given a program for the weekend - we are looking for sponsors if any local businesses are interested in this. We are still looking to add prizes to the Raffle and if any individuals or businesses would like to be so kind as to donate a prize it would be very welcome.

Please contact me - details below – if you would like information or like to get involved in any of the above.

As always, we welcome any support from the village and if you want to keep up to date with what is happening information is always available on our website www.freshfordunitedfc.com

Chris Birleson Club Manager T: 07738 741477 E: cb@dentons.net





TOTS and TOYS

VALE PARISH Our baby and toddler group is open Wednesdays 9.00 am -10.45 am at St Philip and St James Church Norton St Philip. No booking needed.

If you have just dropped your child at pre-school or school and you are on your own, you are welcome to pop in for a coffee and a chat with friends even for a few minutes. £2.00 per adult to include coffee and cake. Please bring your own refreshments for your child.



Parish Gardening

My two obsessions as I write this: the Irises that flutter and shimmer outside the back door and the sweet peas that haven't yet been planted out and are protesting in a rather mutely tragic way, still wedged into their speciallybought-for-the-purpose root training pots. They've been imprisoned since Boxing Day. Be kind. Don't judge me. Please.

The bed of Irises is at its absolute peak this morning, almost all of the buds open, with more appearing further down the stems. They seem very tall this year and I'm pleased they've survived last year's lifting and dividing - I know they like this tough love every four years or so, but actually doing it feels very risky after years of beautiful flowering. Still, all is well and the lifting and division brings further rewards - yet more Iris babies for a bit of planted border - creep in the orchard. The plan is to enjoy the Iris flowers and then once they've gone, mingle poppies and nigella with the glaucous sword-shaped foliage to catch the morning sun. Nigella is a thug when it gets going, but easy to weed out, whereas in my experience poppies generally refuse to germinate if you sow the seed, as opposed to them deciding to seed themselves somewhere else altogether, so I can only (as ever) live in hope...

I should add that the original Iris mothership started partly as a result of a generous gift from my neighbour Sara Jocelyn, who over the years has donated many foundation plants for new gardens in Laverton. The other Irises were from gardening jobs for clients where lifting and dividing produced more Iris babies than strictly necessary. Reader, I filched them. Moving on swiftly. Happily



they're all the same colour (Iris Jane Philips, I think?), and they create a rather gorgeous haze of pale but clear lavender blue. And I'm very happy with them, truly I am. Although...there's a lot of interest in the Benton Irises at the moment - varieties which have very subtle colourings (code for sometimes quite "off" colourings?) and were bred by the artist Cedric Morris at his house Benton End during the 1940s and 50s. They were 'lost' for many years but have now

been rediscovered and are being bred by new nurseries - expect to see quite a bit of coverage of them at this year's RHS Chelsea, especially the show garden created by Sarah Price.

And as for those sweet peas... What can I say? Definitely going into the ground this weekend, once I've cleared the space for them, set up the hazel poles, disentangled their tendrils and spoken very nicely to them and asked their forgiveness. They're the essence of high summer for me. On Boxing Day I put a seed in each pot and dream of the summer, now it's nearly here. Happy days!

"Muddy Fingernails"

Parish History

RODE - COMMANDER ARTHUR MAYNE NOAD, ROYAL NAVY

Commander Noad was born in Rode in 1809 and he lived at Southfield House.

The stained-glass window below, to the right, which can be found in St Lawrence Church, represents the Parable of the 'Good Samaritan' and was subscribed to by the village in memory of him.

He was the son of Emily Mayne of Exeter and Thomas Whitaker Noad and in his lifetime he was very active in the restoration of St. Lawrence Church. He died on Sunday 12th November 1882; age 74 years and he is buried here in St. Lawrence Churchyard. (Contributed by Lieutenant

(Contributed by Lieutenant Commander David Harries, R N and Mrs Dawna Pine).

Below are some details of his life taken from A Naval Biographical Dictionary by William R. O'Byrne. Esq., 1849

Arthur Mayne Noad entered the Navy on the 19th December 1823, as First-Class Volunteer on board the TWEED (28 guns, Captains Fred Hunn and Lord Hon. John Spencer Churchill): in which ship he was for upwards of seven vears employed, the greater part of the time as Midshipman, on the South American, Irish, North America and West India, and Cape of Good Hope stations.



In April 1831, having passed his examination in July 1830, he was appointed Mate of the RATTLESNAKE (28 guns, Captain Charles Graham), being fitted out for the Pacific, whence he returned in November 1833.

Parish History

He next, in May 1834, joined the CHILDERS (18 guns, Captain Hon. Henry Keppel), with whom he served on the Mediterranean and African stations (nearly four months of the period as Acting-Lieutenant) until May 1838. On the 28th of the following June he was officially advanced to the rank of Lieutenant.

His last appointments were—7th May 1839, to the SERINGAPATAM (42 guns, Captains John Leith and William Ward Percival Johnson), which ship was paid off on her return from the North America and West India station in November 1841—and 22nd February 1842, to the ISIS (44 guns, Captain Sir John Marshall), at the Cape of Good Hope.

On the 19th July in the latter year, while engaged in hoisting out the launch at Port Natal in South Africa, preparatory to the embarkation of the 25th Regiment, Lieutenant Noad sustained a dreadful accident in consequence of the boat's lifting-hook breaking.

He suffered a dislocation of the right hip, had both bones of his leg fractured, and received such severe contusions of the right shoulder and arm that "mortification was apprehended."

After being buffeted in this lamentable condition at sea for 12 days in very hard weather. he was put on shore and sent to the hospital at Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope.

In the following December he was invalided out of the Navy; and on 2nd of October 1843 he was awarded a pension. Agent—Joseph Woodhead, 1 James Street, Adelphi, London.

Our thanks to our "Rode History Man" Peter Harris for the above. Without him we would not be able to have these snapshots in to the history of Rode and its former residents.

Peter is a published author on the history of Rode and his books are usually available at Rode General Store.

On the following page we have another piece on local history - dating much further back – from another regular Link contributor, Anthony Battersby of Tellisford.

Editor's Note: We would very much like to feature more articles on the history of the parish and other parts of Hardington Vale too (particularly within the area covered by The Link) – if you can help with this please do get in touch.

Parish History

TELLISFORD - HOW THE BLUESTONES GOT TO STONEHENGE

Imagine it is spring 4,500BC news come upriver from the north, some 80 big stones weighing 2 to 4 tons each are being moved to create a monument up on the chalk hills to the south east. There is much to do, trees have to be felled to provide rollers and rails and to clear the path. Lots of people will be needed to move the stones. The ground will have to be levelled especially where the stones leave the Frome river valley to cross over to the Wylie river valley. The shortest point between the two rivers is 6 miles between Frome and Crockerton. The gradient along the Avon and Frome valleys is gentle, Frome is only 66m above sea level, so this route rises at a rate of 2m per mile.

The stones could have been dragged along the banks of the Avon from the Severn, then at Freshford up the Frome valley. At Frome the going got a lot tougher, the gradient increases to 40m per mile as the stones had to be hauled over the watershed to the Wylie at Crockerton.





It is thought that timber railways were constructed to give a smoother bed for the stone's rollers to roll on. An advance party would be needed to find the

best path, recruit people and provide food. Then a group would clear the forest and level the ground to receive the timber rails, a second group would lay the rails, a third group would then roll the stones along the railway so that the second group could then lift the rails from behind the stones and relay them to start the process all over again. All the while another group would be gathering food, preparing it and providing meals.

For many years in 4,500BC our valley must have been a very busy place. Maybe the flint tools we found when restoring Tellisford Mill were dropped by those workers. Nice thought.

Anthony Battersby

Parish Business

I have lived in Rode for the last couple of years and play in two bands, namely, "Sweet Machine" and an Abba tribute band "SOS". Both of which have played in the Rode village hall.

I am currently writing the music and songs for October's Rode panto and help run the local Cub group.

...I am also the owner of Raves from the Grave in Frome.



Raves from the Grave has now been trading for over 26 years... you have hopefully heard of it!

We've got a huge range of both new and second hand Vinyl, CD's and DVDs at Raves from the Grave.

We try to cater for all types of customer - we stock almost everything you can think of from 50's classics to the latest chart releases.

We pride ourselves on paying the best prices for used collections. If you have one you're thinking of selling we're open 9-5 Monday to Saturday so pop in anytime and someone will be there to take a look.

We also do mail order so if you can't make it into the shop do please give us a call to place an order and we can post it out to you with the most affordable postage prices.

If there's something you're particularly looking for that you can't find on our shelves (or at another store) we will always be happy to take a look at tracking a copy down for you, We work with all the leading companies and suppliers and are always happy to help.

So pop in to meet me - or Debbie, Tom or Jim for all your music and film needs.

Or alternatively give us a call on 01373 464666 or email us at ravesftgrave@gmail.com

Richard Churchyard



Parish Groups

RODE OVER 60'S

On May 11th we took our first coach trip of the season. The weather smiled kindly on us for our visit to Portland Bill and the Emporium at Wardon Hill. The drive through Portland with views of Chessell Beach was amazing!

We arrived at the Lobster Pot Restaurant which is situated very near the lighthouse in time for a lovely fish and chip lunch. Tables had been reserved by committee member Tom Ryan, a wise man as the restaurant became very busy!

Afterwards a stroll around the base of the lighthouse, a good breath of sea air and an ice cream for most of us. The visibility was very good and we watched the fishing boats circling shoals of sea bass.



We then moved on to our afternoon destination - the Emporium at Wardon Hill trading post. An interesting place, aptly named! We browsed around the bric a brac, jewellery, clothes etc and a very nice garden centre. Many of us (me included) carried away lots of plants at very reasonable prices. We enjoyed afternoon tea before setting off back to Rode. The raffle was drawn. A very nice enjoyable day out!

The next meeting is our coach trip to Sidmouth Thursday 8th June. A popular destination with members. If anyone would like to join us please ring Pat Smith on 830559. Visitors are very welcome. Members £18, Visitors £20.

Gail Stinton

RODE CRAFT CLUB

We each bring long whatever we are working on, share ideas and skills and enjoy each other's company over a cuppa and biscuits.



There is no need to book or to commit to coming every week. All abilities too, we all help each other. Weekly on Thursday afternoons, 2-4 pm at Rode Chapel.

Val Parker

Editor's Note: See page 9 for some news on what some members of the Group have been up to!

Parish Groups

RODE WALKING GROUP

The 4 mile walk in May took us from Westwood to Stowford, along the river to Farleigh Hungerford, continuing to follow the river to Iford Manor and returning to Westwood. A delightful walk with very little rain but plenty of mud!



Next month sees us walking on Tuesday 13 June. Although returning to the Iford/Freshford area we start in a different place, the car park adjacent to the A36 at the end of Branch Road that leads to Hinton Charterhouse. Meeting at the usual time of 10 am we walk downhill through Friary Wood to the river following it to Iford Manor. After crossing the river we walk back along the opposite bank in the direction of Freshford where we cross again and climb back to the car park. This distance is approximately 4 miles, however an extension can be taken through Freshford for a coffee stop at the shop/cafe. Please contact me if further details are required or for transport arrangements.

Liz Dinnis E: elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com T:07788 656337

N.B. This will be the last Tuesday walk, from July the monthly walks will be on THURSDAYS, the first date being Thursday 13 July.

MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Please make a note of the dates for June and July Lunch Clubs:

- Monday 5th June
- Monday 3rd July

Our next meeting is 5th June when we look forward to seeing all our regulars and new members at The Village Hall, 12.15pm... £5 for a freshly cooked 2 course meal, bring your own wine or tipple of preference if you fancy a drink with it (the Hall is Licensed). So, don't sit at home on your own - come and meet new friends and have a great meal at the same time - all of this served by the fabulous Year 4 children from Rode School!

Please let me know well in advance if you'd like to come - just give me a ring. If you need help with getting to the Hall please let me know and we can arrange transport. Please bring cash as we have no facility for card payments. Look forward to seeing you there!

Alex Sing and the Lunch Club Team T: 01373 830836/07828 600095

Parish Groups

RODE & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB - GARDEN VISITS

We were lucky that the first garden visit on Monday 15th May proved fine and many members and a few guests met at 6:30 pm outside a townhouse in Devizes. Although the frontage was not wide this garden proved to be a hidden treasure of plants and sculptures.





with plants springing from it in wild abundance, including many scented herbs. Once round in the long back garden, the planting was lush with an interesting tree canopy, climbing shrubs and perennials interspaced with ground cover plants. The mixture of flowering plants like roses and peonies with tulips, alliums and other spring-time plants provided a wide colour palette but it was the wide choice of unusual specimens of interesting shaped and coloured leaved plants that caught the eye. Interspaced with small sculptures and arrangements of broken pots this added enjoyment to exploring this garden. There were many varieties of heucheras and hostas, cleverly arranged in pots; all without any holes. The owner told us she kept them in wire wheeled plant movers and the slugs and snails seemed to avoid climbing them. A large specimen of a plant commonly named spotty dotty was much admired. We all agreed it had been an interesting garden to visit with ideas we could use in our own spaces.

Next month we are visiting Kettle Farm Cottage. There are still places available for our day trip by coach on 10th July to Rosemoor, the RHS Garden in N.Devon. Anyone is welcome to join us. We will be leaving Rode around 9:00am and returning about teatime. The cost for non-members is £20 and members £15. To book or for more information please contact Averil on 830686 or our new email address is rodeanddistrictgardeningclub@outlook.org

Sharman Flindall

Club email: rodeanddistrictgardeningclub@outlook.org





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USUAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.00-17.30
Tuesday	9.00-17.30
Wednesday	9.00-13.00
Thursday	9.00-17.30
Friday	9.00-17.30
Saturday	9.00-13.00



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PARISH RECIPE

PINSA ROMANA WITH ARTICHOKES, BURRATA CHEESE & TOASTED HAZELNUTS – BY BEN TOLLWORTHY OF SOMERSET FOODIE

Pinsa Romana are a type of pizza base, and as the name would suggest they come from Rome. They're made from a blend of different flours including wheat flour, rice flour and soy flour, this makes them beautifully crispy and really easy to digest. These flat breads are incredibly tasty and versatile, you can drizzle them with olive oil, sprinkle over some rosemary and salt crystals and enjoy them just as they are. Or top them and create your own pizzas.

I'm a massive fan of summery, fresh 'pizza bianca'. In this recipe I've used Burrata which is a gloriously creamy and indulgent cheese from Puglia. Cooking Burrata would be a crime but tearing it apart over a freshly cooked pizza base with some peppery rocket and a fruity extra virgin olive oil is just heavenly. I've added in some artichoke hearts, and a few sun blushed tomatoes and toasted hazelnuts. This recipe is delicious - well worth a try!

Serves 4/5

3 x Pinsa Romana Bases	125g Hazelnuts, toasted and lightly			
1 x Pack Burrata Cheese (3 x	crushed			
100g), defrosted at room	A sprinkling of Guajillo Chillies,			
temperature	finely chopped (optional)			
280g Artichoke Hearts - sliced	70g Fresh Rocket			
100g Sunblushed Tomatoes -	A good drizzle of Extra Virgin Olive			
sliced	Oil			
6tbsps Basil Pesto, defrosted				

1. Fully defrost the Pinsa Romana pizza bases at room temperature. 2. Pre-heat your oven and a pizza stone or baking tray to its maximum temperature. You want to try and recreate a pizza oven by having something hot to cook the Pinsa Romana on. I actually find that the bottom part of the oven works best.

3. Drizzle some extra virgin olive oil over the Pinsa and using your hands, rub it all over to create a thin coating. Then spoon over a couple of tablespoons of pesto and smear that all round the base, leaving a small gap along the edge. 4. Scatter over some artichoke hearts, sun blush tomatoes and guajillo chilli and cook in the hot oven for 4-5 minutes. This time will vary depending on how hot your oven is, but you want the edges to start crisping up a little. 5. Remove the Pinsa from the oven and let it cool for a minute. Tear up one of the balls of Burrata and scatter over with some rocket and a few roasted hazelnuts. 6. Finish with a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil and enjoy.

Go on... cook something new this week!

NORTON ST PHILIP CHURCH MUSICAL CONCERTS DETAILS & DATES

Lunchtime Concerts - These take place on the first Thursday of the month, 1pm to 2pm. Tickets are £5 available on the door.

- 1 June: Band of Pilgrims Back by popular demand... but this time it's the full band!
- 6 July: Poetry and Music with Josephine Corcoran and Guests

Evening Concerts:

- Saturday 7 October Hungrytown Americana/celtic singersongwriters
- Saturday 25 November The Magnificent AKs. The singing blokes of Ashton Keynes who can lower the tone, be supremely silly and move you to tears in one evening.

Hardington Vale Rogation Walking The Parish 2023 Sunday 4 June



Laverton - Hemington

(3.8 miles - easy/moderate)

2.00 pm set off from the church at Laverton - via Hardington

3.00 pm onwards ... arrive at Hardington - short talk

Hardington - Hemington (1.3 miles easy)

4.00 pm onwards ... arrive at Hemington for tea - contributions (£5) to CCT

for more information please contact Michael Fowler on 01373 834925

Everyone is welcome including non-walkers and well-behaved dogs
Forthcoming Parish Events





Forthcoming Parish Events



Forget-me-not Café

When? June 19th 2.30 – 4 pm (3rd Mon of every month) Where? St Philip and St James Church, NSP

Come and enjoy a cuppa and friendly people to chat with



We have a great café team who are looking forward to meeting you! ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact Jo for more information <u>321jorobinson@gmail.com</u>01373 831381



Talking cafes are a place to meet new people, make friends and chat to a community sign poster about activities, support groups and services in your community ...and coming to Rode!

Sadly due to unforeseen delays the date for first "Talking Café" still to be confirmed at time of going to print – look out for details in Rode Post Office and other venues and on Rode facebook once June details are confirmed.



Interested in helping to keep Rode a great place to live? Got ideas of things to do? Willing to help out once a month for 2 hours?

The next Rode Hoedown is on Sunday 25th June and it would be great to hear from you...

Contact Mike Salmon on 07818 097030/mikesalmon123@icloud.com OR Jonathan Bowler on 07340 221152/jbowlerii@icloud.com



Forthcoming Parish Events

The Annual Barn Dance

at Osborne's Barn a Scouts Fundraiser



1st July 2023 Gates open from 6.30pm Peter Barnes with The 'Road Worthies Barn Dance band'

Music and dancing from 7pm

- Real Ale Bar
- Cayford Pulled Pork Rolls
- Barbecued Hot Dog Sausages
- Vegetarian Options
- Ice creams
- Raffle

Tickets available from the Post Office or on line at Ticketebo.co.uk

£12.50 adult and £7 child



HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE LOCAL GROUPS ACTIVITIES TOO?

THERE ARE DETAILS IN THE GROUPS PAGES OF THE MAGAZINE AND IN THE BACK PAGE DIARY...

WE'D LOVE TO INCLUDE AND HELP PROMOTE MORE GROUPS AND EVENTS...

JUST SEND IN THE DETAILS TO gillhleonard@aol.com



Frome Pride is an annual celebration of LGBTQIA+ people, run by the community of Frome and the surrounding area. In 2022 they ran the UK's shortest Pride.

In 2023 they are holding the first ever Frome Pride Season. Throughout June, local businesses, performers and residents of Frome will be coming together to show their love and appreciation for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Find out more on their website: fromepride.org

Friends of St George's BECKINGTON OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY 11th JUNE 2pm – 5pm £5 (children under 12 free) Start outside the WOOLPACK

> Teas and Plant Stall No dogs please.







Website bradfordonavonbowlsclub.org.uk facebook BoA.Bowls.official —--Tel 0798 6972984 We are situated at the end of Culver Close, close to the Tithe Barn. BRADFORD ON AVON BOWLS CLUB

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TRY US FOR FREE!

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and can take you to a deeper level of relaxation.

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To book contact Stephanie directly:

E: yogawithstephanieharrison@gmail.com T: 07780 601 381 https://www.facebook.com/yogawithstephanieharrison

BRADFORD ON AVON FLOWER CLUB

In **June** there will not now be a Club demonstration night due to other Club commitments, sorry to disappoint but inot too long to wait till the next demonstration: **7.30pm Holt Village Hall on Thursday 6th July.** Refreshments available + a raffle for the flowers. Visitors welcome, price \pounds 7.50.

For more on Club news check our Facebook page (Bradford on Avon & District Flower Club), or you can contact our Club Chair, Sharon Ecob, on 01225 309208 with any enquiries.



YOU TOO CAN DONATE YOUR OLD TECH...

There was no shortage of donations at the second Tech Amnesty held at Frome Town Hall a couple of months ago, the weather may have been chilly, but the steady stream of people resulted in an even bigger haul than the first amnesty!



145 smart phones, 41 tablets, 76 laptops were just some of over 300 items that were donated in order to be refurbished and given to someone who needs it in our community or to be sustainably recycled. In addition the Health Connections team at Frome Medical Practice received several refurbished items that had been collected at the December amnesty, ready to make their way back out into the community and starting helping people become digitally connected.

If you missed the amnesties there are two permanent drop off points in Frome:

Frome Town Hall, open Mon-Thu 9am-5pm and Fri 9am-4:30pm.

Welsh Mill Hub, open every day from 10am-4pm.

Please remember, if you are donating an Apple device, please ensure it is free from iCloud lock as we are unable to turn these into donations or return them to you.

Take a look at the lists below for items that are welcomed: Devices to donate Items that can't be donated

Laptops*	CRT screens/displays/monitors**	
Tablets*	Plug in telephones**	
PCs*	Keyboards and mice**	
Mobiles/Smartphone*	Printers**	
Servers*	Photocopiers**	
Hard drives*	Fax machines**	
Games consoles and accessories*	Scanners**	•
Digital Cameras*	All in one printers**	

*Including if relevant power supply, AC adaptor, mains power and ancillary accessories to allow re-use.

** All these can be handled in the other Household Waste Recycling Centre streams however bear in mind some may still be data bearing and need data wiped.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN RODE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 11th APRIL 2023 AT 7.30 pm

CONFIRMED

Present:

Cllr Andy Pickett (AP) – in the Chair, Cllr Ann Edney (AE), Cllr Pat Restorick (PR), Cllr Jim McAuliffe (JM), Cllr Peter Travis (PT) and Cllr Jonathan Bowler (JB).

In attendance: Hugh Williams – Clerk and no parishioners.

<u>1. Apologies for absence</u>: Cllr M Salmon, Cllr D Denton and Cllr A Boyden (County Councillors)

<u>2. Approval of the minutes</u>: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th March were approved. There was concern over the minute 15 regarding David Warburton and this is dealt with in minute 14 of these minutes.

3. Co-option of new Councillor: Moira Punt was co-opted onto the Parish Council and this brings the Council up to full strength. She signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and would complete the Notice of Registerable Interest Form.

4. Declarations of interest: None.

<u>6. Report from County Councillors:</u> Cllr D Denton had circulated a report to the Councillors but no issues were discussed at this meeting.

7. Actions from previous meeting:

- i. **Trees: Merfield/The Mead:** The Clerk confirmed that these were due to be pruned on Tuesday 18th April. The work was going ahead despite the sad death of David James.
- **ii. Hoedown:** The Hoedown on 26th March had collected around 40 bags of rubbish plus old tyres from around the village. JB reported that the waste had been collected as agreed by Mendip and thanks were given for its help. The next Hoedown was planned for 30th April and would probably concentrate on litter clearance again. Discussion was held whether the village still had credit for another street sweep by Clive Harrington (Note: it has been confirmed we do). It was agreed to consider where and when this should be done.
- **iii. Footpaths to and from Church Farm:** JM reported that he had failed to make contact with Mendip as his emails and calls had not been returned. It was uncertain whether Simon Trafford was still employed by Somerset. (Cllr Denton would be asked to investigate). The developer is not interested in the path outside the Church Farm development and although

agreement indicated it was the developer's responsibility the path from the development to the S106 land appeared not to be maintained.

iv. Road verges: The issue extended beyond roundabouts and it was agreed that both Beckington and Norton St Philip should be approached on this issue to add weight to contacting Somerset to try and get something done about the litter along the roads in the area.

8. Climate Change Group:

i. National Green Week: JM reported that this was taking place between 10th and 18th June with Rode planning to re-run the green open doors day where people could show off green initiatives on Sunday 18th June. There would also be talks on the afternoon of Saturday 17th June in the Memorial Hall. Discussions were ongoing regarding a 'veggie week' during which the Cross Keys, The Mill and other pubs would be offering vegetarian meals. Frome was also doing similar things during the week. JM reported that there were now 53 subscribers to the green newsletter.

ii. Rewilding: AP that the digger had been hired and the surface removed from the area by the Memorial Hall and at the same time the ditch had been cleared. Thanks were given to the Osbornes and John Flindall for the help they had given. The digger hire costs were approved by the meeting. Part of the area had been smoothed and part left rough and when seeded it would be seen which performed best. (Again, seed costs were agreed). A proposal for a drainage pipe to be put in the ditch was to be considered at a subsequent meeting.

9. Playing Field: The soil from the cleared area had been put on the playing field S106 land. The plan to extend the cricket pitch had been agreed but work to level the area within the S106 land had still to be done and it was agreed the Playing Field Chairman should be approached to request that some of the S106 monies be used to get this done. The meeting also felt that at the same time a request to get the remaining S106 land developed as had been originally agreed should be made. Apart from some tree/bush planting along the boundary fence little had been done in the last year. The Clerk would write to Steve Eyles.

10. Highways:

i. Drainage repairs: Lower Street drainage works had now been completed and work was due to commence on the High Street.

ii. Street Lighting: The Clerk reported that the survey results indicated that residents were in favour of turning roughly half the lights off at midnight (128 in favour, 11 against and 4 no opinion). The Clerk would draw up a final list of lights to be turned off; some changes had been requested by residents. Somerset were compiling accident figures for Rode and once these and the final list was agreed the Police would be consulted over the proposal to turn off street lights. Once approved Somerset would be approached to action the turn off.

iii. A36 Slip Road: Cllr Denton was still working on this and would progress after Easte.

<u>11. Planning:</u>

i) New applications:

None

ii. Somerset decisions:

2023/0313/TCA: Reduce height of willow by approx. 5 metres and reduce lateral branches by up to 2.5 metres and remove dead wood and split and hanging branches – Halfpenny Row. Approved. This work was due to be carried out on 18th April.

iii. Appeal ref: 3292838:

Planning proposal to build up to 49 dwellings on Barbara's Field, Church Lane. The decision was still awaited.

<u>12. Website:</u> Slow progress was being made on this as the Clerk and JM admitted they had had little time to work on this. It was likely this would now not be launched until sometime in the summer.

13. Buses: The new timetables had been printed and distributed to all parishioners. There were now more buses coming through the village than there had been for many years. First Bus were looking at ways to increase usage but the \pounds 2 flat fare helped. The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Peter Travis for all the work he had done to get a good bus service for the village. The meeting agreed to fund all future printing of revised bus timetables.

14.David Warburton MP: There was discussion over the wording of the phrase 'and that he theoretically was still an MP even if performing no duties', it was agreed that this should stand but it was noted he was now more active again so is not now correct.

The meeting was pleased that David Warburton had replied to the concerns over his inactivity. It was agreed to accept his offer to meet with Councillors and he would be asked for possible dates. It was agreed that prior to a meeting Parishioners' concerns/questions would be sought to be raised with him. Additionally, PT also reported that David Warburton had responded to him on a bus issue.

<u>15.</u> Solar Farm: A large 49.9 MW farm was being proposed on land off Bradford Road, Rode Hill and near the A361. A consultation on this proposal was due to start soon and a meeting with Rode residents was to be planned. There could be financial benefits for the PC. It was agreed that discussions on this should be not made until the consultation started.

16. Financial matters:

i. Asset Register: The asset register, previously circulated to Councillors, was approved with amendment proposed by Mike Salmon.

ii. Internal Auditor: It was agreed to appoint Alan Aked as internal auditor for this year.

iii. Payments: The following payments were agreed:

Passion for Somerset CIC (Somerset flag)	0	£16.20
P Travis for Frome Printers (bus timetable	es)	£155.00
Zonkey Solutions		£1,197.00

Clerk Salary	£247.29
HMRC PAYE	£60.40
17. Parish Meeting/AGM: It was agree	d to hold this on Monday 15th May at
7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.	
18. Date of next meeting:	
The next meeting would be held in the Co	mmittee Room at the Memorial Hall
on: Tuesday 9 th May at 7.30pm	
The meeting closed at 9.45pm.	

Signed

Date

Print

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN RODE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 9th MAY 2023 AT 7.30 pm

UNCONFIRMED

Present:

Cllr Mike Salmon (MS) – Chair, Cllr Andy Pickett (AP), Cllr Ann Edney (AE), Cllr Pat Restorick (PR), Cllr Peter Travis (PT), Cllr Jonathan Bowler (JB) and Cllr Moira Punt (MP)

In attendance: Hugh Williams – Clerk and 1 parishioner.

1. Parishioners Participation: Concern was expressed over the new proposed solar farm as only the views from the proposer, Low Carbon, had been circulated and with the initial consultation due to close on 25th May the Parish Council (PC) was asked if it could circulate more information. It was noted that the PC had given information on the Zoom call on 10th May and Consultation afternoon in the Memorial Hall on 17th May but if any other body wished to provide information on solar farms the PC would publicise these as well. The PC would be given the opportunity to reflect the views of parishioners once the planning application was submitted to Somerset but currently was not in a position to reflect any views for or against the plan. Discussion was held whether a body such as the CPRE could inform villagers on this issue and this would be up to parishioners to arrange. The PC could not be seen to be promoting views either for or against as this could invalidate any future comments at the planning consultation phase.

<u>2. Apologies for absence</u>: Cllr J McAuliffe and Cllr D Denton (County Councillor)

3. Approval of the minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th April were approved.

4. Declarations of interest: None.

5. Actions from previous meeting:

- i. **Trees: Merfield/The Mead and Halfpenny Row:** The trees along The Mead had now been cut down and the tree on Halfpenny Row pruned back.
- **ii. Hoedown:** The Hoedown on 30th April had again concentrated on litter picking. Less was collected this time and another Hoedown was planned for 28th May which would include some weeding along with a litter pick.
- **iii. Footpaths to and from Church Farm:** No progress had been made however the state of the path which was the responsibility of the Parish Council around the children's play area was in a very poor condition and more or less unusable. It was agreed the PC would get quotes to have either a 'tarmac' surface or boardwalk built along this stretch.
- **iv. Road verges:** There had been some improvement along some of the roads. It was agreed JB would contact Somerset to enquire what had been done and what plans it had for verge cleaning.

6. Climate Change Group:

i. National Green Week: It was confirmed that presentations on Climate Change/Emergency would be made in the Memorial Hall during the afternoon of Saturday 17th June. Additionally, there will be 'open houses' showing off a range of initiatives on Sunday 18th June.

ii. Rewilding: The seed had been sown on the area by the Memorial Hall and this would be monitored.

<u>7. Highways:</u>

i. Drainage: The repairs to the drains in Rode were now complete.

ii. Street Lights: The meeting agreed the final list of lights to be turned off at midnight. The Police were to be approached with the list along with the accident figures supplied by Somerset to obtain approval for the turn-off. The meeting expressed some concern over the accident figures that Somerset had recorded for the Bradford Road/Rode Hill junction as these appeared to have omitted a several known accidents. It was agreed all future accidents would be reported to both the Police and Somerset.

iii. A36 Slip Road: Cllr Denton was still chasing this as there had been no response from National Highways.

iv. SpeedWatch: The trial was still ongoing by Gloucestershire Police and Somerset and Avon were assessing the results. It was expected this should be completed in a couple of months after which Auto Speed Watch devices could be approved. The Clerk was asked to chase up Somerset regarding the new posts for the current SID to be installed as agreed last year.

8. County Councillor's Report: Cllr Boyden reported that the Bradford Road/Rode Hill improvements should be in place by the end of June as these had been agreed. He said that there had been no update on the 20mph restrictions in the village and this would be chased up. The LCN meeting was planned for June and would be a mixture of in person and online meeting; the Chair agreed he would remain as the Rode representative and PT agreed to deputise if necessary.

He added that there was a 'screening letter' available in connection to the Bluebell Wood Solar Farm proposal which gave a lot of useful information and it should be read.

Finally, he reported that Farleigh Swimming Club was looking to get the stretch of the River Frome it used designated as official Bathing Water; which would put pressure on Wessex Water to reduce pollution. The PC backed this initiative.

9. Planning:

i) New applications:

2023/0625/TPO: To reduce the height of oak tree by 1.5m and branches by 2.5m and two ash trees by 1.5m in height and branches by 1.5m – Langham House. There were no objections to this on-going work at Langham House.

<u>ii. Somerset decisions:</u>

None

<u>iii. Planning Appeals:</u>

2021/0071/OTS ref: 3292838:

Planning proposal to build up to 49 dwellings on Barbara's Field, Church Lane. The Planning Inspectorate had rejected the appeal and the meeting expressed its thanks to Cllr Barbi Lund, Cllr Jim McAuliffe and Cllr Peter Travis for the work they had done in getting this rejected. The meeting agreed that the money spent getting Context Planning to help, had been money well spent as the views of Rode Parishioners had been upheld. (The cost to parishioners was under £10 per household for each of the last 2 years).

2022/0932/VCR ref: 3312171:

Planning proposal by Autograph Homes to sell 'affordable' homes on the free market at Church Farm. The meeting agreed it did not have an opinion on this proposal and would not make any further comments.

10. Buses: The flat rate £2 fare had seen an increase of 15% in bus use. However, this flat rate was due to end at the end of June and there was a big uncertainty over what will happen to the bus service. It was agreed the PC would write to Bristol Water regarding the extended closure of Church Lane which had affected bus services – the works had continued over the bank holiday weekend due to lack of tarmac.

<u>11. Playing Field:</u> The Chair of the Playing Field Committee had responded to the Parish Council's concerns over the S106 land and the possible funding of the levelling of an area to extend the cricket outfield saying these issues would be discussed fully at its next meeting in mid-June.

<u>12.David Warburton MP</u>: The Clerk had sent an email to David Warburton requesting a meeting with the Parish Council but had not had a response. It was agreed the Clerk should chase this up during w/c 15th May. Issues for discussion would include River Frome water quality, bus fares and services.

13. Bluebell Wood Solar Farm: This had been discussed under the Parishioners' Participation.

14. Financial matters:

i. Insurance: The meeting approved the new quote from BHIB for the annual insurance.

ii. Payments: The following payments were agreed:

Downlands Tree Surge	ry		£660.00
Eagle Grounds Mainte	nance		£792.00
Somerset Association of	of Local Councils		£35.00
Clerk Salary			£242.36
HMRC PAYE			£60.40
R B Carpentry Services	5		£100.00
A Pickett (Digger and s	eeds for rewilding area)	£280.44
4 Annu ath an huain	0001		

15. Any other business:

Conservation Area and Neighbourhood Plan: AP reported that he had reviewed the Conservation Areas for Rode which basically were two areas; one in the centre of the village and the other along the Frome Road. An extension to cover the whole of the village, i.e. merging the two areas into one would be best but it would be difficult to justify including all roads. However, there were areas which should be included and this was agreed. Initial approaches would be made to Peter Harris for historical information and Context Planning would be contacted with an initial hour consultation on what they could do to help.

The Neighbourhood Plan should be reviewed and updated; this had been highlighted by the Inspector at the Planning Inspectorate hearing during the Barbara's Field appeal. It was agreed to hold a separate meeting in late June/July to discuss this fully. Councillors were asked to review the current Plan. Again, some professional advice might be required.

16. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting would be held in the Committee Room at the Memorial Hall on: **Tuesday 13th June at 7.30pm**

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Signed

Date

Print

Website: rodevillage.com/parish-council

...and finally

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POEM OF THE MONTH

Strawberries that in gardens grow Are plump and juicy fine, But sweeter far as wise men know Spring from the woodland vine. No need for bowl or silver spoon, Sugar or spice or cream, Has the wild berry plucked in June Beside the trickling stream. One such to melt at the tongue's root, Confounding taste with scent, Beats a full peck of garden fruit: Which points my argument.

Robert Graves, 'Wild Strawberries'





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- Gutter Cleaning and Cleaning

For a free quote with no obligation, contact Andy on 07944 280490 andyswindowsfrome@gmail.com

HARDINGTON VALE CHURCH SERVICES – JUNE

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	LEADER
Thursday 1 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	LEADER
Sunday 4 June	9.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Informal Breakfast	F & R Stewart
Sunday 4 June	10.30	Rode St Lawrence, Holy Communion	J Robinson
	am	Laverton, Holy Communion	C Walker
	-	Rode Chapel, Meeting Place	C Walker
	11.00 am	Rode Chapel, Meeting Place	
Mandau 5 June	6.00 pm	Neuten St Dhilin Menning Durang	
Monday 5 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 6 June	9.45 am	Rode Chapel, Ecumenical Holy	
	5.00 pm	Communion	
		Laverton, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 7 June	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 8 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 11 June	9.00 am	Tellisford, Matins	
	9.00 am	Rode St Lawrence, Informal Breakfast	F & R Stewart
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Holy Communion (+	J Robinson
	11.00 am	baptism)	
		Laverton, Matins	
Monday 12 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 13 June	5.00 pm	Tellisford, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 14 June	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 15 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 18 June	9.00 am	Farleigh Hungerford, Holy Communion	C Walker/M Harrison
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence, Holy Communion	C Walker/M Harrison
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Family Father's Day	J Robinson/B Day
	11.00 am	Laverton, Matins	
Monday 19 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 20 June	5.00 pm	Laverton, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 21 June	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
-	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 22 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 25 June	9.00 am	Tellisford, Holy Communion	J Robinson/C Walker
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence, Informal Worship	B Day
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Holy Communion	J Robinson/C Walker
	11.00 am	Laverton, Matins	
Monday 26 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 27 June	5.00 pm	Tellisford, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 28 June	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 29 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
	-		

www.hardingtonvale.org.uk

RODE CHAPEL JUNE 2023 SUNDAY SERVICES – 10.30 a.m. Sunday 4th Mrs. T. Mugridge Sunday 11th Mr. A. Stevenson Sunday 18th Rev Michael White (HC) Sunday 25th June Mrs J. Cobb

	JUNE 2023 DIARY			
Thu 1 Jun	1pm-2pm NSP Lunchtime Concert see page 34 for details			
Sun 4 Jun	2pm Rogation Walking see page 34 for details			
Mon 5 Jun	12.15pm Monday Lunch Club see page 27 for details			
Thu 8 Jun	Rode Over 60s Trip (guests welcome) see page 26 for details			
Fri 9 Jun	3,15pm Weekly (term time) Café in the Park Restarts see pages 18 & 35 for details			
Tue 13 Jun	10am Rode Walking Group see page 27 for details 7.30pm Rode Parish Council Meeting see page 49 for details			
Fri 9 Jun	11.15 – 11.45am Mobile Library, High Street, Rode			
10 – 18 Jun	"The Great Big Green Week" see page 14/15 for details			
Sun 18 Jun	Father's Day 10.30pm Special Father's Day Service see page 36 for details			
Mon 19 Jun	2.30-4pm Forgot Me Not Café see page 36 for details			
Thu 22 Jun	COPY DEADLINE FOR JULY LINK			
Sun 25 Jun	1.55pm Rode Hoedown see page 36 for details			
Fri 30 Jun	ri 30 Jun 8pm RPF Lottery Draw, The Cross Keys s			
	YEAR PLANNER			
Sat 1 Jul	6.30pm Rode Barn Dance see page 17 for details			
Mon 3 Jul	12.15pm Monday Lunch Club see page 27 for details			
Mon 10 Jul	Rode & District Gardening Club Trip (guests welcome) see page 28 for details			
Thu 13 Jul	10am Rode Walking Group NB Change of day see page 27 for details			
Sat 22 Jul	10.30am-12.30pm Laverton Summer Fete see page 17 for details			
Mon 28 Aug	BANK HOLIDAY - Summer Bank Holiday			
Mon 25 Dec	BANK HOLIDAY - Christmas Day			
Tue 26 Dec	BANK HOLIDAY - Boxing Day			
Mon 1 Jan	BANK HOLIDAY – New Years Day			

WAST COLLE	E CTIONS	_{is} Jun 2023					Hi-Fi Not Working? Record Player
Mon	Tue	Wed	/ed Thu Fri Sat Sun		Sun	Skipping? Can No Longer Play Your	
			1	2	- 3	4	Cassettes?
5	6	7	8	= 9	10	11	has been repairing audio
12	13	14	15	-16	17	18	equipment and Hi-Fi full time for over 40 years
19	20	21	22	=23	24	25	Free local collection and a free estimate
26	27	28	29	=30			Martin Moss 07831 836615 info@mapleaudio.co.uk
REFUSE RECYCLING GARDEN						RDEN	I also buy old and unwanted Hi-Fi

Content for 'The Link' always welcome - email gillhlleonard@aol.com The Link is published by Hardington Vale PCC, which reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Clergy or PCC