

The Link

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



APRIL 2024

New Bus Timetable from 7th April

Proposed Solar Farm - Update

Cream Teas, Garden Parties, Coffee Mornings and More...

A New Editor!

and much more local news and details inside...

£1



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Sally Pickett – 01373 831796

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Andy Filkins, Susie Filkins, Brenda Graham,
Diana Lucas ¹, Rachel Stewart ², Anne Harkness,
David Mayall, Sally Pickett ³, Anthony Powell,
Nicky Robinson, Peter Stratford.

Deanery Synod Representatives

² Safeguarding Officer

³ Chapel or Deputy wardens at
Farleigh Hungerford, Rode and Tellisford.

HARDINGTON VALE WEBSITE

www.hardingtonvale.org

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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Community Speed Watch (CSW)	Malcolm Wood	mwood17@uwclub.net / 830301
Cricket Club (Rode) Seniors	Andy Pickett	andypickett2013@gmail.com/07775 805546
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1 st Rode Scout Group Beavers Wed 5.30pm - 6.30pm Cubs Thu 6.15pm - 7.45pm Scouts Wed 7pm - 8.30pm Scouts Edor Explorer Unit Every other Tuesday 8pm -9.30pm NB During school terms only	Group Scout Leader: Howard Russell	hdrussell01@gmail.com 830640/07736 739680
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Community Transport / Local Government / Closest GP

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NHS 111 24-hour medical care help	Contact 111 if you have an urgent medical problem and you are unsure what to do. Online: 111.nhs.uk Call :111	

Editor's Message...

INTRODUCING THE NEW EDITOR

Hello everyone, I'm Cathy Taylor and I'm excited to be taking on the role of Editor for our wonderful village magazine!

I know that you will all join me in giving a huge **THANK YOU!** to Gill for her ten years of hard work and dedication in editing The Link. She has no doubt seen many changes during those years and has made it what it is today. I would also like to add a big personal Thank You to Gill for all her help in ensuring such a smooth handover.

Of course, I couldn't do this job without the support of a wonderful Link team, all you lovely contributors and advertisers and of course you, our loyal subscribers. Thank you all.

Copy for future editions can be emailed to me: thelink@rodevillage.com or my contact details are below if you have any queries.

Gill will remain on the team as Advertising Manager. Advertising copy should be sent directly to her: gillhleonard@aol.com / 831072

Caroline Williams remains as Subscriptions Manager. Thanks are also due to her for managing our team of distributors and to the distributors themselves who deliver whatever the weather. For new subscriptions or renewals, please contact: carolinewilliams205@gmail.com/831046

We would love to include and promote more village groups and events, so if you've got an event coming up, or you have a regular club that isn't currently featured in The Link, please feel free to send a report or an advert (no charge for voluntary or charity groups or events).

Also, The Link is here if you would like to remember the life of a family member or friend or to celebrate and mark other events such as births, birthdays, engagements, weddings, anniversaries and more. There is no charge for this...

I look forward to enjoying future editions with you all!

Cathy Taylor

Editor

candn800@btinternet.com / 830460

Cover Photos of male kestrel, bluebell and wild garlic, photographed locally by Nick (husband).

Church Reflection, News & Events

REFLECTION

One of the delights of being the owner of a one-year-old dog is watching her sheer exuberance when we get to a field and I let her off the lead. At an hour when I feel barely awake, she charges off like a racehorse, gambolling around in her newfound freedom and joie de vivre. She's helped me reflect about freedom.

I remember the lasting impression of the film *Cry Freedom* back in the 1980s; it told the story of the anti-apartheid struggle through the eyes of journalist, Donald Woods, and the freedom campaigner Steve Biko. In his visit to London just last year, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky presented the Speaker with a pilot's helmet bearing the words "*We have freedom. Give us wings to protect it.*" Unfortunately, all over the world, most of the time, freedom has been under threat.

But it's a complicated idea, freedom. When, for example, does my right to freedom of speech endanger your right to be safe? Or my freedom to play my music infringe on your peaceful afternoon? Our "freedom" to burn fossil fuels in the developed world over the last century or two is now threatening the freedom to their way of life for various groups of people across the planet. We've watched with horror as the freedom we have given ourselves to access anything at all on our phones, has resulted in mental health problems, often severe, in our children and young people.

In 1941 President Roosevelt talked about freedom of speech, freedom to worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear. In our communities we are fortunate that we have the first two, most of us have the third – but what about freedom *from fear*? Is that possible in an increasingly complex and threatening world?

The good news of Easter is that Jesus, through his life, death and resurrection, *has* made true freedom possible. St. Paul declares, "*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free!*". The empty tomb on Easter Sunday shows emphatically that death could not enslave Jesus. So, God has, at infinite cost, made true freedom a reality as we follow the risen Christ, free of guilt and with his mandate to challenge any form of enslavement - personal or social. One translation of Psalm 119 contains the phrase: "*I run in the path of your commandments, for you have set my heart free.*" That takes me back to my dog – watching her running reminds me that I only find true freedom as I follow the way of Jesus.

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom.

Christ is risen! Happy – and free – Easter!

Fergus Stewart

Hardington Vale Reader

Church Reflection, News & Events

NEWS FROM THE PARISH

Announcement

It was recently announced across the benefice of Hardington Vale in our church services that Reverend Caroline Walker has been appointed as Interim Minister for Cam Vale and therefore will be leaving her posts as Rector of the Parish of Hardington Vale and Area Dean of Frome.

Caroline's last service in Hardington Vale will be on Sunday 30 June.

Parishioners across the benefice will undoubtedly miss Caroline but congratulate her on this latest appointment.

Goodbye and Thank-you from Jo

I arrived in Hardington Vale Parish at the beginning of June 2010 – it was during covid and that was a strange time for all of us - but despite that I received such a warm welcome from the parish and soon felt right at home!

I had a very happy 15 months living in NSP and then moved to Church Lane, Rode, where I have been for the past 2 1/2 years. I have loved getting to know people in this community through school assemblies, cub and scouts events, murder mystery plays, refreshments at the post office and pub, Wednesday night prayers in the chapel, walking the dog, and much, much more!

As a curate (vicar in training) I am so grateful to St Lawrence church and the wonderful people there, who have fed me (Sally Pickett gets a special mention!), encouraged me, taught me and allowed me to make mistakes and who have always been there to help and support me at any time (Geoff Banwell always goes the extra mile – even sorting out my boiler on Christmas eve!).

I have loved worshipping and growing in faith with you. So, thank you to everyone at St Lawrence for making this such a happy and fruitful time in my life - God has used you to bless me in more ways that you will know!

As I am a curate, my days among you have always been numbered and so my last day in the parish is the 28th April and then I will be moving up the road to the Beckington Benefice to become their priest-in-charge (vicar). It is sad to be leaving this lovely community, but I am so thankful to God for all the happy times I have had with you.

Thank you and God bless,

Jo Robinson

Curate

Church Reflection, News & Events

NEWS FROM ST LAWRENCE

On Mothering Sunday, we had a very enjoyable service with posies for everybody which were ably distributed by the children to the congregation.

Breakfast church will be back in April (after a break for Mothering Sunday in March) at 9am on April 7th.

You will have probably heard that Jo our curate will be leaving us at the end of April to take up the post of vicar in Beckington and its associated parishes. I'm sure many of you will have met Jo both in church and around Rode and we would like to give her a send off on Sunday the 28th April with a United Service at St Lawrence at 10.30am and then a bring and share lunch in the Memorial Hall after the service, see page 24 for details.

We'd love to see you all there and hope you will join us in saying farewell to Jo and hoping we will continue to see her around Rode as she is not going far! No need to book for the lunch, please just turn up and if you're able to bring some food to share, that would be great, and we will be running a bar for drinks.

You will have seen the announcement on the previous page that Caroline will be leaving us at the end of June to take up a three-year post in Cam Vale, South Somerset. Caroline has been with us for 11 years and has overseen many changes in the parish. Using her experience from Hardington Vale she will be leading Cam Vale in similar moves forward over the next three years.

Her last service in Hardington Vale will be on Sunday 30th June and we will keep you posted of what will be happening on this day.

We are holding two cream tea events in May at St Lawrence to raise funds for the ongoing roof project, exact timings to be confirmed. Please see page 24 for details.

For an update on the church roof appeal please see page 6.

Happy Easter

Geoff Banwell and Sally Pickett

The Parish of Hardington Vale, Annual Parochial Church Meeting is taking place on Thursday May 25th. Please see page 25 for details.

The Tellisford Parish Meeting is taking place on Thursday 11th April. Please see page 27 for details.

Parish News

ST LAWRENCE ROOF PROJECT UPDATE

At last, the scaffolding is gone and Phase 1 of the re-roofing of the church has been completed.

The good news is that we have reached this point on budget and on time. Our grateful thanks go to West Country Tiling, our Architects Chedburn and Codd and all who have contributed financially to this once in a lifetime project. Particular mention must, as always, be made of the Richard Oatley Foundation, without whose support this simply could not have happened.



We are now obliged to let the bats do whatever bats do in the church during the summer, but Phase 2 of the project has been out to tender and we hope to be able to make progress with that later in the year. Phase 2 is the North side of the Nave plus the North Aisle and the Porch. The final phase will be the Chancel and the Vestry.

As with all old buildings, it is difficult to predict what the final cost is going to be. The current best estimate is £444,000, with around 90% of the funding in place.

We have two cream tea events in May at St Lawrence to raise funds for the on-going project, please see page 24 for details.

If you have not yet donated or arranged a fundraising event or activity, please think what you might do to help get the project over the line.

Geoff Banwell and Sally Pickett

REPAIR CAFE

Saturday 8th June, Rode Memorial Hall (from 2pm)

We are still on the look-out for more expert repairers to assist with the first ever Repair Café in Rode.

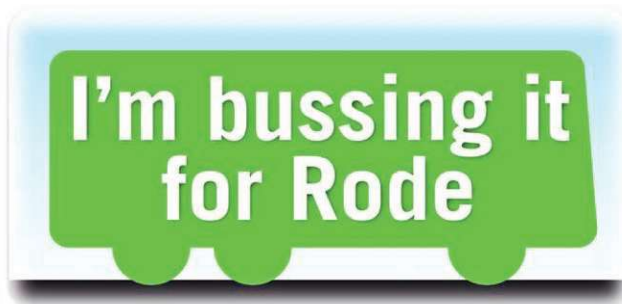
So - if you have some knowledge or experience of fixing household objects (be they electrical, mechanical, pottery, porcelain, clothing, or footwear....) please email me at jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com

And please pass on this request to anyone you know who may be interested in helping out.

Jim McAuliffe

RODE BUS TIMES CHANGE FROM APRIL 7TH

A new Rode bus timetable will arrive through your letterbox ahead of the April 7th bus timetable changes. This new Rode bus timetable has been produced by Rode Parish Council and is being delivered by Rode Councillors.



Changes to the Frome/Bath D2 are being made to improve the efficiency and punctuality of the D2 service that goes via Rode. The Frome/Trowbridge X34 is currently running well so there will be no changes this April.

Unlike most villages in Somerset, we have buses 7 days a week (even on Saturday and Sunday) and from early morning until after 11 o'clock at night. Ideal for having a night out ... no worries about parking and, more importantly, no worries about having the odd drink or two when you're coming back by bus.

Plus, it's only £2 ... free if you've got a Senior Card.

We do need to use our now excellent Rode bus service more. We have been told by First Bus that the revenue they're currently earn from their D2 coming via Rode is not covering the costs of coming through Rode. First have warned that unless there is an increase in passenger numbers from Rode, cuts may have to be made to the service at the September timetable review. It is especially at weekends where the number of Rode folk getting the D2 is a problem.

So we invite you (ask even!) that if you normally go to Frome or Bath by car, you think whether at least on some occasions you could leave your car behind and 'Bus It'.

By going by bus more often, you could be ensuring that buses continue to come via Rode which is so important for all those in our village who may not have access to a car. It's often the young and the old who are entirely dependent on travelling by bus.

If you can 'Bus It' more often, that will help all those in Rode who have to rely on going by bus.

Peter Travis

Rode Parish Councillor

Parish News

FRANS

At the end of March FRANS hosted their second ever colour run. At the time of writing, we are keeping our fingers crossed for glorious spring weather and hope to report back next month on what a success it was.

We do this in line with the Indian festival of Holi, marking the coming of spring. This year we are anticipating a bonus guest arrival in the form of 'Buster' the donkey who will be leading the Palm Sunday Procession; there's a chance that after the run he will be known as "Buster the rainbow donkey".

We have planned a small loop around the Mead in Norton St Phillip with several 'colour stations'. As all the runners enter a colour station they will be showered with coloured powder. For anyone out there concerned about the environmental impact of the run the powder is nontoxic and safe to the flora, fauna and animals. By the end we hope all runners are smiling, walking works of art. Currently we have 170 excited runners limbering up so we hope this will raise a good amount for FRANS.

All proceeds will be going straight into the school ensuring the children are fully equipped and have the best opportunities.

One focus at the minute is raising money towards a multifunctional and SEN space for the Norton St. Phillip site (reception and year 1 children).

If you would like to help towards school fundraising, we welcome any donations at any time, even direct transfers:

Friends of Rode and Norton Schools

Account number: 31419160 Sort code: 309875

RODE CHAPEL MUSICAL GARDEN PARTY

May 11th 12pm – 3pm

After the success of last year's indoor garden party which took place on a "beautiful" July day (when it rained relentlessly), but was great fun, nonetheless, we have decided to have another try, but in May!

This year we have pianists and a brass band lined up to provide the entertainment plus a few surprises on the way.

The entry fee of £5 includes a cuppa, a piece of cake and some amazing music. There will be plants to buy at the plant stall and those who would like more than a piece of cake will be able to purchase a Ploughman's lunch.

So come along and listen to the music. Who knows, it might even be fine enough to sit outside...

Ros Jackson



RPF LOTTERY WINNERS

Playing Field Lottery winners in February 2024, drawn by staff & customers in the Cross Keys:



1st - £50.00 Mrs. Aubree, Rode.

2nd - £25.00 Keith Sharman, Rode.

3rd - £25.00 Richard Priest & Kirsty McPherson, Rode.

Sunday Roast for two at The Cross Keys, courtesy of Mark & Hannah, The Jupp Family, Rode.

If you would like a chance to get a slice of this action, remember only 200 tickets available and a share of £100 & two Sunday roasts, possible all for £1.00 per ticket!

And remember you are supporting the Playing Field (which needs all the help it can get right now!) when you buy your ticket.

Tickets on sale at the Post Office, or directly from Jane and I.

Next draw Tuesday 30th April.

If you would like to do the draw or witness it, then please just turn up at the Cross Keys on draw night at 8pm.

Keith Sharman

T: 830408

1ST RODE MAJOR SCOUT GROUP 200 CLUB

The results for the Scouts 200 club for February were:

1st prize £50 - Wendy Gould

2nd prize £25 - Jim McAuliffe



Drawn at the Cross Keys by Wolsey & Frank Davis

Janet Jupp

Parish News



SILENT AUCTION SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2024
AT RODE VILLAGE HALL 1.00pm – 4.00 pm

We are looking for donations of Bric-a-brac, knick-knacks, unwanted gifts, books, toys and small items of furniture for the above event.

Items can be brought along to the village hall on **Friday evening 12th April from 6.30pm to 7.30pm** however, if you cannot get to the hall we can arrange to collect them during the week prior to the event, so please contact Howard on 01373-830640 07736739680.

Please note small items of furniture will be accepted at the discretion of the organisers.

On Auction Day bacon rolls will be served from 1 pm also tea, coffee and cakes

Each item will have a lot number and sheet, if you are interested in something just put your name down on the sheet along with your bid to bid, it is wise to check again as it is possible that you may get out bid, so you will then need to increase your bid if you really want the item, this makes it very exciting!!!

At 3.50 pm you will get a warning whistle giving you just 10 minutes to secure your bids.

At 4 pm the final whistle blows and everyone must step away from the tables, stewards will then highlight the winner of the lot and payment will be made by the winning bidder.

Come and join in:

- It's great fun bidding
- You can enjoy a delicious refreshments
- Help the scouts raise much needed funds
- Recycle unwanted items

FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Will Mortimer and Louise Perry are the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) for rural South and North of Frome; Will is accountable for the North and Louise for the South.

Will is the designated PCSO contact for Rode and works with PCSO Louise for all engagements which will mean you will have the opportunity to also speak to her at all future events at Rode.



On Saturday 16th March they held a 'Come meet us' event at Rode Post Office, which was well attended.

Will says: - "We have enjoyed a few community events which Rode's postmistress has kindly allowed us to hold at the post office. These have been very successful as so many members of the community use it, it's a fantastic local resource which sadly many other villages have lost."

I have been a PCSO for over 3 years and have enjoyed every day, as it allows me to help many people, some of which are having a very difficult time, some are sadly suffering poor mental health, loneliness and obviously affected by crime. I think I am privileged to be able to meet so many people and experience all the different communities that I serve".

Future dates for 'Come and Meet us' events at Rode Post Office are Saturday 13th April 10am- 12pm and Saturday 11th May 10am -12pm

Louise Perry & Will Mortimer
Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)

SOMERSET MOBILE LIBRARY

Rode - High Street BA11 6PB 11.15am – 11.45am

Visits on Fridays - every 4 weeks

2024 Dates: - 26thApril, 24th May, 21st Jun

Parish News

NEW RODE VILLAGE WEBSITE

A reminder that the new village website (www.rodevillage.com) has a section on the Climate Emergency, where you can find a range of information – including resources and advice in relation to household energy saving, installing solar panels, heat pumps, etc; access to grants and other forms of assistance; and all past editions of the Climate Emergency Group newsletter.

Jim McAuliffe

RODE AND DISTRICT MEMORIAL HALL

Have you considered using the village hall for a meeting or a party with its fantastic new floor?

Rode benefits from a large bright hall and meeting room with the potential to run a variety of events.



There is a fully equipped kitchen with range cooker and commercial dishwasher and Microwave.

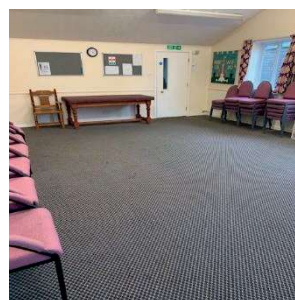
Alcohol licence is available on application at no extra charge.

The hall has a capacity of between 1-150 people depending on the type of booking.

Recently the hall floor has been sanded and varnished and not only looks fantastic it is great for dancing and exercise classes - it could be you dancing the night away for your private party!!

Many clubs and groups use the hall regularly but there is more booking space available and charges are very reasonable.

In addition, people living in the village of Rode, Tellisford and Wolverton receive a reduced rate.



Please check out the website for full details of the calendar and charges available from <http://rodevillagehall.co.uk/pages/1045/hire-costs>

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to give me a ring!

Martin Long

Bookings, Village Hall Committee

LAVERTON NEWS

A Pretty Alarming Sight in Laverton on World Book Day...

Miss Agatha Trunchbull, also known as Miss Trunchbull, or simply The Trunchbull, headmistress of Crunchem Hall Primary School, spotted marching purposefully across the fields towards Freshford Church School.



We sincerely hope the Freshford pupils were forewarned and that Matilda was also at school that day, to take care of the Trunchbull.



Sadly, we have to report that in spite of considerable effort, we failed to secure a photo of Tracey Sessions attending her own school's World Book Day - but thankfully there's only room for one Agatha Trunchbull around here...

Debby Hill Reports

Thanks everyone for the great work on Saturday (9th March), fortified by coffee and yummy cakes, for beavering away to get the church spring clean done in record time.

Special thanks to Ali Bowerman who found herself caught up in the party - the penalty for coming to stay in the barn. Here's a picture of the advanced guard. Tracey, Andrea, Andy and Hamish ready for action!



Wedding News

How lovely to be able to report another Laverton wedding!

On 1st March Flora Moore (now Flora Wordsworth Tapper) married Dr Rhys Tapper in The Guildhall, Bath.

The wedding was followed by a family celebration at The Pig near Bath.

On their return from California Flora and Rhys intend to have a church blessing and a big party!



Parish News



Celebrating India and the work of ASHA



FOOD - FUN - PHOTOS!!!

Caroline and Michael Walker and Mark Baines would like to share some photos (highlights) of their recent time in India with YOU...

Several people have been wanting to see photos and also to have an update on ASHA the charity that we support that works in the slums of Delhi.

You are invited to
St Philip and St James church
Friday 5th April
7pm

Bring your favourite curry or Indian dish
to share with others
Invite your friends
Indian attire - optional - but why not?!

Donations to the on going work of ASHA

Further details

Caroline Walker carolinehwalker@btinternet.com 01373 834258

Mark Baines mark@mar-com.net 07860 799426



Parish Environment

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE

Proposed Solar Farm

Rode Parish Council recently made an additional submission to Somerset Council, as part of the re-consultation exercise that concluded in mid-March.

Although the PC is strongly in favour of sustainable energy and formally declared a Climate Emergency in 2021, in line with the views of many local residents, the council believes this proposed development is flawed in multiple ways. In particular the PC is concerned about the scale of the proposed solar farm (which would be the largest in Somerset, and one of the largest in the UK), its proximity to the village, and its impact on the local countryside and a number of heritage assets.

The PC believed that the changes made to the scheme since the original consultation period were very minor in nature and did not materially address any of the concerns or issues previously raised.

The application will now be considered at the May meeting of the Somerset East Planning Committee, on 7th May.

Thinking about installing a heat pump?

The Climate Emergency Group is hosting a free online webinar for local homeowners – **“What you need to know before purchasing a heat pump”**.

The talk will be given by Philip Haile who runs Transition Bath’s Heat Pump Advisory Service and will take place on **Thursday 9th May at 7pm**.

If you’re interested, email jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com for log-in details, etc.

The talk will cover a range of issues, including:

- How do heat pumps work?
- Which homes are most suitable, cylinders, outside space
- Thermal insulation improvements, historic homes
- Temperature versus efficiency/cost/CO₂, weather compensation
- Locating a heat pump, noise, planning permission
- Do you run them 24/7? Most efficient ways of running them
- Installation costs
- How to go about getting quotes? Installers versus energy companies

Jim McAuliffe

Rode Parish Councillor

Parish Youth News & Events



RODE AND NORTON ST. PHILIP FIRST SCHOOL FEDERATION



The highlight of our Autumn term was our ‘**Museum of Me**’ exhibition which we ran in Rook Lane Arts Centre in Frome. Photos and exhibits celebrated family members who were World War 2 heroes, spies, inventors, footballers, rugby players, prisoners of war, famous ballet dancers and even pigeon fanciers.

The Spring term kicked off with ‘**Wonderful Words Week**’ where we explored writing poetry, adverts and song writing. During this week we also launched the national ‘**Poetry By Heart**’ Competition which sees children learn two poems off by heart. Their performances are filmed, and the national winners get to perform at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre in London. Fingers crossed!

We celebrated **World Book Day** on March 7th with a carousel of book themed workshops in different classrooms. One included writing (and mixing!) revolting recipes for ‘The Spider and The Fly’. There were also several ‘Mystery Readers’ who visited the classes to read their stories dressed as ‘The Princess and the Pea’, a wolf and an old lady from a gingerbread house!

Our topic this term is ‘**Tales and Teeth**’ and the children in all year groups have been learning about animals, their habitat, food and offspring. Two classes had a **visit from vet Chris Mangham** who brought in some animal skulls and teeth. Revolting! The children loved it!

Every class has been on trip this term to aid their learning. Reception went on a **Troll Hunt** in Rode and studied rivers and bridges. Year 1 and 2 visited **Longleat**. Year 3 spent **a day in Bath** at the Ladybird books exhibition in the Victoria Art Gallery and trying out experiments at the ‘Brilliantly Engineered’ workshop at the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. Year 4 journeyed to the new **Bristol Zoo**.

Parish Youth News & Events

On March 13th our Toot and Dood players (a modern recorder/flute) took part in a **concert at the Frome Cheese and Grain** alongside other local schools and professional musicians. It provided a wonderful opportunity for them to play as part of an orchestra.

As I type excitement is building for next week's Design Technology project '**The Great Big Mini-Egg Challenge!**



www.rodeandnortonschoolfederation.co.uk
Or call us on 01373 830523 or 01373 834327.
COME AND JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

MONTHLY YOUTH ACTIVITY SPACE IN NORTON

It runs from 7pm -8.30pm on the fourth Monday each month, so our next one is on Monday 22nd April.

The church is full of activities, including badminton, pool, table tennis, board games, crafts, etc.

We are also intending to start some creative options, so bring along your musical instrument and / or Drama skills!

The evening is open to all secondary age young people (school years 7-11) and isn't restricted to those who live in Norton St Philip - everyone is welcome as long as you have a safe way to get to us and home again.

We're asking for a small donation of £1 each to help cover costs, including a delicious hot snack and drink. An opportunity to enjoy food, games, crafts or just chill.

Why not drop in and see what's going on? For more information, contact me on 07789 838418 or fstewart660@gmail.com or 01373 834611

Fergus Stewart



Parish Youth News & Events

RODE SCOUTS

Scouts went adventuring on a Night Hike in the woods. There was a folly to explore and beautiful trees lit up by our torches in the darkness.....there was also some mud! Quite a bit of it, which some of us got closer to than others.



Claire Le Page

RODE WEEKLY PARENT/CARER & TODDLER GROUP

Mondays during term time

9.15am - 11.15am

Rode Chapel



TOTS AND TOYS

MUMS, DADS, CARERS AND GRANDPARENTS...

Are you at home with a baby, toddler or pre-schooler?

Would you like to meet up with others for a chat, tea/coffee and refreshments while the children play and sing?

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING 9.00am - 10.45am

in St Philip and St James church, Norton St Philip

£2 donation for refreshments

Further information, please contact Maria Fleming, Playgroup Leader email:

totsandtoysnsp@gmail.com

Parish Groups

RODE OVER 60'S



On Friday 8th March we held our Annual Dinner in the Memorial Hall.

A lovely occasion for all our members. A chance to dress up and enjoy a super meal we haven't had to prepare and cook!



Talking of food - we were very well looked after by Jo Pobjoy and her wonderful team. 30 members attended and enjoyed a delicious 3 course meal. Conversation and wine flowed, making the evening a complete success!

The next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 12th April, 2.30pm in Rode Memorial Hall.

If you are considering joining, come along and hear about our programme for 2024/25.

Membership subscriptions will be due. £10 for the year 2024/25.

The following members have birthdays in April:-

Mrs. N. Sparey - 4th: Mrs. R. Osborne - 7th: Mrs. M. Bertenshaw - 14th:

Mrs. J. Gayer - 15th

We wish them all a very Happy Birthday.

Gail Stinton

RODE CRAFT CLUB



We each bring along whatever we are working on, share ideas and skills and enjoy each other's company over a cuppa and biscuits. Weekly on Thursday afternoons, 2-4 pm at Rode Chapel. There is no need to book or to commit to coming every week.

We have knitters, embroiderers, crocheters, card makers, leather workers and cross stitchers. The list goes on! All abilities too. We all help each other.

Val Parker

Parish Groups

RODE AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

48th Annual General Meeting of Rode and District Gardening Club

The Chairman highlighted how successful 2023 had been for the Club, with its mixture of garden visits in the warmer, lighter months and talks in the late Autumn and Winter. She thanked the committee for their hard work and support. Two committee members have resigned; thanks were expressed to Peter Simper, and to Margaret Clark, who is stepping down as our president. Her long service to the Club and the committee was marked with a bouquet and gift. Volunteers were sought to join the committee and share the workload. After the meeting Sari Gilbert was persuaded to take on the role of president.



The treasurer reported increased membership in 2023, which increased income. However, the increased costs of the coach trip and speaker fees meant there was a small loss of £25. This can easily be covered by reserves and in 2024 a proposed plant sale and monthly raffle ticket sales could offset this, so membership fees will not be increased.

We then welcomed Gill Hazell to talk about Classic and Unusual Bulbs. In 1967 Gill and her husband moved to Somerset where they began entering Sutton Show. Through showing they got interested in gladioli and ordered new varieties every year. When the grower advised them, he was going to retire they decided to buy the business. They discovered he not only imported gladioli but also many unusual bulbs to sew in the Autumn. This led them to travelling regularly to Holland to see new and exciting flowering bulbs. She was fascinated to discover the wide range of types of tulips, narcissi and hyacinths available since the introduction of the tulip for gardeners in 1600.

She talked knowledgably about a wide range of lesser-known bulbs, illustrating their size and colour ranges. Most can be safely grown outdoors here, but some need the protection of an unheated greenhouse. There were almost too many to choose from, but many will be planning to chase those that really appealed. Sadly, since Brexit it has become too expensive to import smaller amounts from Europe, so she no longer sells corms and bulbs. Other smaller, specialised companies are also ceasing to trade, so finding them could become more difficult.

This month will be the last one in the village hall for some months. Our speaker will be Carrie Pakenham, who will talk about herbs their cultivation and use on Monday 8th April. Guests are always welcome. Members are invited to bring any spare plants to sell.

Parish Groups

This month there is also a willow workshop in Rode Village Hall on Thursday 11th April, 10am -1pm, to make an obelisk for the garden. The cost is £29, which includes all the materials required and refreshments. There are just a few spaces left. Contact the club to book a place.
rodeanddistrictgardeningclub@outlook.com

We are planning to do Rode Open Gardens again this year, on Sunday 9th June, 11am to 4pm, where we hope to have a larger plant sale. More details will be available next month. This will be a chance to visit several different gardens in the village. A date for your diary.

Another date to add to your diary is Monday 9th September when there will be a coach from Rode to RHS Wisley, to visit these beautiful gardens in their autumn colours. This trip will be open to all villagers, so add the date to your diary if you would like to join us. Full details, including costs, will be in the magazine next month.

Sharman Flindall

MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Monday 8th April - 12.30pm

Mark, Hannah, and the wonderful lunch club helpers would be delighted to see you at our monthly over 60's lunch club.



Please book by contacting Hannah at The Cross Keys, pop in or give us a call 01373 830900 letting us know how many spaces and. of any allergens.
£5 per person - please bring cash on the day.

The raffle will be held as usual, please bring cash to buy tickets, and all donated prizes are very welcomed.

Thank you for your support of this non-profit village initiative, it's a really lovely afternoon; especially with Kim and her team of superstar helpers from Rode School joining us each month.

See you soon.

Hannah Lovell and Mark Warrener

Parish Groups

RODE WALKING GROUP (2ND THURSDAY IN THE MONTH)

The March walk from Monkton Combe to Midford and back, via Tucking Mill, was a great success! Many thanks to John and Sharman Flindall for leading, I know that the group appreciated this.



Next month's walk on Thursday 11 April will be from Heaven's Gate car park, meeting at 10 am. Take the A362 to Horningsham from the 2nd Warminster roundabout on the A36 and find the car park on the left approximately 1 mile after the Centre Parc and Longleat turnings.

Leaving the car park and walking down through woods towards Shearwater Lake there will be a coffee opportunity on reaching Shearwater Lake Tea Rooms before making the return journey to the car park. Approximately 6 kilometres of uphill and downhill walking through woods and beside the lake.

Please contact me for further details or offers/requests for car sharing.

Liz Dinnis
elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com
07788656337

OTHER CLUBS/GROUPS

News and information about other clubs and groups in the parish is always welcome for our readers or if you are thinking of starting a new group, we'd love to help in promoting it.

Please contact me: - candn800@btinternet.com / 830460

Cathy Taylor
Editor

Parish People

Hello, my name is Zib and I'm an artist living in Norton St Philip.

I have a degree in sculpture where I studied the human form. At college I learned the basics of mould making to create casts in plaster, concrete and occasionally bronze. Experimentation was key!



From college I started out at work. I fell into historic building conservation where I found Bath and the surrounding area rich in heritage. It was a privilege to work on buildings of such importance and I valued my time cleaning and repairing them. At one point I joined a team of conservators in Italy and worked on Parma Cathedral.



I am now working closer to home and on my own artistic practice.

My chosen medium is charcoal. You can see some examples here.

If you are interested in commissioning me to draw your portrait, please contact me on the number below.

I am moving out of my current workspace in Norton St Philip and am looking for an outhouse or secure workspace in Norton St Philip or Rode.

Can you help?

I would love to hear from you if you have a space I could use.

Zib Baines

T: 07990 573232



Forthcoming Parish Events

Farewell Service and Bring and Share Lunch, Sunday 28th April

United Service in St Lawrence, Rode at 10.30am on Sunday 28th April to give thanks for Jo's time as a curate in Hardington Vale. Followed by a bring and share lunch in the Memorial Hall

After the Service



Everyone welcome. If you are able to bring a plate of food to share at the lunch, please do so. A cash bar will be available to buy drinks.

Further details from Sally Pickett 831796 and Geoff Banwell 831139

Save the Dates!

Cream Teas at St Lawrence, Sunday May 5th and Sunday May 26th in aid of St Lawrence Roof Project. Exact times to be confirmed.



Forthcoming Parish Events

The Parish of Hardington Vale

Farleigh Hungerford, Hemington, Laverton, Norton St Philip, Rode, Tellisford and
Buckland Dinham

**Notice of The Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Thursday 25th April 2024 at 19:30**

To be held in St Lawrence Church, Rode

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

(note: All residents of the Parish of Hardington Vale and all those on the Electoral Roll may vote)

1. Election of churchwardens (Parish Wardens)

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

(note: only those on the Electoral Roll may vote)

Lorna Powell, Secretary to the Parochial Church Council
Hardington Vale



The Band
of Pilgrims



Thursday
11 April
12.30 for 1.00pm

Gospel = Folk = Blues
St Philip & St James Church
Norton St Philip

Admission just £5 on the door

The Lunchtime Concert



Saturday May 11th

Rode Chapel Musical Garden
Party

12 – 3 pm



Entry £5 includes cake & hot drink
& Live Music

Ploughman's lunches and plants also for sale.



Forthcoming Parish Events



RODE ROXY

FRIDAY 19TH APRIL
7.30 pm Memorial Hall

“What a gem of a film, one of the best films released in a while, great cast and acting, brilliant filmography and a good story that unfolds every step of the way” AND Maggie Smith!

Tickets: £ 6.00 in advance from Rode Post Office - £ 6.50 on the door

- Doors open 7pm •
- Licensed Bar • Raffle

Forget-me-not Café 

When? April 15th 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, all Dementia Friends, who are looking forward to meeting you!



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact Jo for more information 321jorobinson@gmail.com 01373 831381

2024 NSP LUNCHTIME CONCERTS
FUTURE CONCERT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
THE CHURCH OF ST PHILIP & ST JAMES NORTON ST PHILIP
9 May: Charles Wiffen
Classical recital from an internationally renowned pianist

Forthcoming Parish Events

Tellisford Parish Meeting

The Villages of Tellisford and Woolverton

Thursday 11 April 2024 at 19:00pm

The AGM of Tellisford Parish Meeting
will be held on Thursday, 11th April 2024
at 19.00, venue Meadow View Woolverton.

The agenda will be circulated 14 days before the meeting.

All residents of Tellisford and Woolverton who are over the age of 18 are entitled to attend, speak and vote.



Scouts

1st Rode Major Scout Group

Silent Auction



Saturday 13th April 2024

At Rode Memorial Hall

1 pm – 4 pm

Refreshments served from 1 pm



Come along and grab a bargain!!

All successful lots to be paid for on the day by cash or cheques made payable to 1st Rode Major Scout Group

Forthcoming Parish Events

BAND IN A BARN

Saturday 22nd June

Tickets on sale in April

Norton Farm, Norton St Philip

www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp



Are hosting a coffee morning at
Rode Post Office

11.30AM TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

Please do come along and find
out more about us



RODE PARK FEST

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
13TH & 14TH JULY

LIVE MUSIC | BBQ | BAR
TRACTOR RIDES | TOMBOLA
COMEDY | RACES | DISCO
TRADITIONAL FETE GAMES
TALENT SHOW | SHOPPING VILLAGE
TUG OF WAR | CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING
.. AND LOTS MORE!

RODE PLAYING FIELD
ORNEAGE CLOSE
RODE

rodeparkfest@gmail.com



CAN YOU FIX THINGS?!

DO YOU HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE OR
EXPERIENCE OF FIXING HOUSEHOLD OBJECTS -
BE THEY ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, POTTERY,
PORCELAIN, CLOTHING OR FOOTWEAR...? IF
SO, WE NEED YOU FOR RODE'S INAUGURAL

REPAIR CAFE

SATURDAY 8th JUNE

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP, EMAIL
JIM.MCAULIFFE@BTINTERNET.COM

Parish Health & Wellbeing



It is estimated that 4.2 million people in England have undiagnosed high blood pressure. The only way to know if you have high blood pressure is to get a blood pressure test to lower your risk of a fatal heart attack, stroke, kidney disease or vascular dementia. A new campaign encourages all adults aged 40 and over to get a blood pressure check. It's a free, simple and a non-invasive procedure conducted in privacy at your local pharmacy, and you don't need to book in advance.

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where your to-do list seems endless, deadlines are fast approaching, and you find yourself saying 'Eek! I feel stressed!'?

But what is stress really, and how does it affect us?

April is Stress Awareness Month.

Time to find out and do something about it?

Visit stress.org.uk to learn more.



Building Your 'Mental Health House'

LITTLE BY LITTLE, A LITTLE BECOMES A LOT

Stress Awareness Month 2024 focuses on the idea that consistent small actions can make big impacts!

We encourage you to focus on making manageable adjustments to your daily routine. The cumulative effects of these habits can end up being profound!

Think of it like building a house - laying down a single brick may not seem to make a significant impact...

Each brick represents a conscious choice to prioritize and build your mental health and resilience.

They all add strength and stability, making you more resilient to the challenges that life brings.

These actions may seem small but they serve as the foundation of your mental wellbeing.

As you continue to add more bricks, your mental health house begins to take shape.

Overtime, the accumulation of these small consistent efforts leads to a remarkable outcome!



Parish Food & Drink



Calling adventurous cooks of Rode Village!

We sell foodie ingredients sourced from all over the world and write recipes to inspire you to cook new dishes at home. Head to our website and check us out! Ben & Alice xx

♥ Warehouse shop at Church Farm, Rode BALL 6AA – just off the A361 – we share a building with MasterChef Winner Ping Coombes and the Fussell’s Rapeseed Oil team
We are open on Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm. Come and say hello!

♥ Order online. FREE Same-day Local Delivery in our ZERO emission van Min order £20

♥ We also run small-group foodie cooking workshops!

♥ somerseetfoodie.com



- 400+ Wines
- 60+ Vegan Wines
- 30+ Fortified Wines
- 40+ Gins
- Christmas Gifts
- Tastings & Tapas



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GIN & WINE



Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5.30pm | Saturday 10am - 4pm
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Follow directions from the Budgens roundabout.



Parish Food & Drink



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★ Trustpilot



EXCELLENT | 4.9 out of 5

THE MILL

At Rode



Tel: 01373 673 112

Email:

info@TheMillAtRode.com

Website:

www.TheMillAtRode.com

Parish Food & Drink



**RODE GENERAL STORE,
CAFE & POST OFFICE**

More than just stamps

Open Monday – Saturday

32a High Street, Rode BA11 6PA

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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

**HAPPY
EASTER**

Closed Easter Monday



We look forward to welcoming you to our modern shop and café to enjoy a warm welcome, home cooked food and buy local produce and goods.



PARISH RECIPE

Do you have a favourite recipe that you'd like to share with our readers?

If you do, please send it in...

You'll receive a bottle of Fussels' Rape Seed Oil courtesy of Fussels' Fine Foods for your trouble!

If you have a photograph of the finished dish, please do forward a copy of that too.

Email: thelink@rodevillage.com



CHATLEY FARM BROWNIES

NEAR BATH

www.chatleyfarmbrownies.co.uk



Lovingly handmade on the farm
9 Delicious flavours
Delivered by Royal Mail

FREE Gift Wrapping & Gift card
Gluten free options
Local Collection from Norton St Philip

OUR MULTI BUY OFFERS

£8.50

For 1 pack

£8.00

each for 2 or 3
packs

£7.50

each for 4 or
more packs

Follow us on facebook! www.facebook.com/ChatleyFarmBath

Noticeboard

NEW TAI CHI CLASS - RODE VILLAGE HALL

Mondays 4pm - 5pm Free Pilot class 29th April

Are you looking to find a new way of dealing with the chaos of life around you, or would you like to do something for yourself that is a mindful, gentle flowing exercise. If being in the gym is not your idea, you may consider the health and well - being benefits of something far more gentle – Tai Chi.



Studies link tai chi to lower rates of insomnia, depression, and inflammation. You can get all the cognitive benefits from meditation – mental clarity and focus and positive thoughts and lower stress symptoms and you're also getting physical exercise.

No matter your age or ability, an experienced tai chi instructor will guide you, mindfully through the low impact exercise routine. Keep yourself in good shape and find a piece of calm.

The taster class is free to see if it matches your interests and needs.

The approach explores the potential for healing and stress reduction rather than the martial arts aspect and incorporates mindfulness and meditation elements.

Enquiries: Tutor contact - Brian Wooding 07815692255
b_wooding@blueyonder.co.uk

DOLCE SINGERS

BRANDON HILL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: DANIEL ROBERT CUSHING

Allegri – Miserere | Haydn – Nelson Mass



SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024 – 7:30PM

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, CORSLEY

making
music

dolcesingers.co.uk

Dolce
Singers

Avon and Somerset Police

Elections for the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) take place on Thursday, 2 May 2024.

The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. They are responsible for the totality of policing. PCCs aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their force area.

For more information about the PCC election, visit aspcelections.co.uk

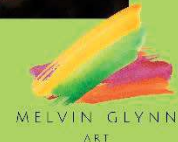
Noticeboard

NEW!

INTRODUCING MY NEW RANGE OF MIX
AND MATCH GREETING CARDS.
AVAILABLE NOW £2 EACH OR 6 FOR £10!



Free local delivery to Rode and surrounding villages - Postage available.
To place your order please email orders@melvinglynnart.com or call Mel on
07825 076 310.



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Francesca Walker 07738064014



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Noticeboard



ARE YOU THINKING
OF SELLING YOUR HOME?
LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

Selling and buying a home can be a stressful process if you don't have the right estate agent. That's where I can help. I am Melanie Lewis, your local Independent Property Agent. I understand that selling or buying a home is so much more than a transaction. Your home may be the place where you raised your family and made memories or you may not have moved for many years and things have changed so much. I will be alongside you at every step of the way, available either by phone or in person whenever you need me to give you any help, advice and support. I handle everything personally from initial valuation through to handing over the key so you only deal with me throughout. I accompany every viewing at a time that is convenient to you and I can even help you find your next home. I have a fantastic team of mortgage advisers and solicitors who all share my ethos and will guide you sensitively through the often confusing process of buying and selling. They will even do home visits if you prefer. Give me a call to see how different my service is and why it is getting such great results for my clients.



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MELANIE.LEWIS@EXP.UK.COM



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info@beckingtonpre-school.co.uk
Find us on

Charity no. 1035832

Here's a message from Andrea Dawson-Shepherd

Lavertonians, a fun get together is being organised to just enjoy each other's company on 20th April 11am onwards.

Please pencil it in your diary if you can and look out for a personal invitation coming through your door shortly

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
RODE MEMORIAL HALL
ON 11th MARCH 2024 AT 7.30 pm

UNCONFIRMED

Present:

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

In attendance: Hugh Williams – Clerk and 6 Parishioners

1. Parishioners Participation: All present had come for item on new village hall, so this item was moved up the agenda.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr M Salmon and Cllr D Denton and Cllr A Boyden (County Councillors).

3. Approval of the minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th February were approved.

4. Declarations of interest: None.

5. Community Hall:

There was enthusiasm to progress the project to develop plans for a new village hall to be located on the playing field site. However, members of the Committee working on the project were concerned that there were no terms of reference for the Committee and also there could be problems over liability which the Committee members could face once any contracts were entered into. Members were seeking the Parish Council (PC) take a lead in this and to provide an independent Chair for the Committee.

Discussions centred on how the PC could help and draw up terms of reference along with stages through which the project should progress. It was also important that liability was covered so no member of the Committee become liable and therefore documentation needs to be drawn up to protect members of the Committee.

It was confirmed that the aim was to keep the current Memorial Hall operational until the new one was ready.

It was reported that an outline draft for the new building and site should be available shortly.

AP requested the PC to vote whether it was in favour of the project progressing and desiring to assist in it. The meeting voted in favour by majority. It was agreed that the Parish Council members should meet with the current Committee to

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

agree a way forward for the project. (Dates of 27 or 28 March or 8 April were agreed for meeting.)

6. Actions from previous meeting:

i. Autospeedwatch: John Flindall reported that the new device was now fitted on Bradford Road and it recorded both vehicle number plates and speed. The PC will need to pay the annual fee each year to ensure data are still recorded. Repeat offenders are contacted by the police. The co-ordinator is subject to confidentiality and privacy requirements. He reported that in the first 4 days of operation 400 vehicles had been recorded as exceeding 40mph in the 30mph zone. This device really had to remain in a fixed location, however the other SID can be moved to the other agreed locations. The Autospeedwatch device did not give speeds to motorists so did not act as a way of getting motorists to slow down. It would be investigated whether the two devices could be located on the same pole as they might interact with each other.

A new Community Speed Watch co-ordinator was required for Rode following Malcolm Wood's retirement. The meeting thanked Malcolm Wood for his work as co-ordinator and agreed to give a gift to him.

ii. Bench at top of Marsh Road: The current bench is broken and considered beyond repair. John Osborne was present at the meeting and agreed to purchase and install a new bench and transfer the dedication. The meeting thanked him for his help and agreed to reimburse him.

iii. Paths at playing field: The new path had yet to be installed due to the continuing wet weather. It was hoped it could be done this month.

iv. The Mill: AP had received a reply from Somerset but there was still confusion over the new licence. It was agreed that the Clerk would try and arrange a Zoom meeting with Somerset (Phil Wake) to clarify the situation.

v. Paths from Barrow Farm: The Clerk reported he had a new quote and it was agreed this should be accepted after John Rottenbury had been approached.

vi. Drainage: There was no further update on work on Crooked Lane and Straight Lane.

vii. Litter bin: It was agreed a new bin (approx. £70) should be purchased for the top of The Shard to replace the present bin.

7. County Councillors Report: Cllr Denton had circulated a report to the Councillors. There was still no response regarding the slip road onto the A36. Possible funding for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points might be available.

8. Highways issues: Street Lights Turn off: The Clerk reported that the midnight turn off would not be done until the next financial year and a quote was to be obtained from Somerset once the new contractors start.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

9. Climate Change Group: JM had circulated report to Councillors. He said that the Group was seeking a new chair; EV charging was to be investigated, but any site might have to wait until new hall is built.

10. Planning:

i) New applications:

2024/0327/HSE and /0328/LBC: Extension to outbuilding to from annex (Retrospective) – The Old Coach House, Rode Hill. It was agreed comment should be made regarding the colour of the chimney.

2024/0356/HSE and /0357/LBC: Widen gated access and conversion of 2010 outbuilding to annex accommodation – Mayfield House, High Street. No objections.

2024/0421/CLE: Application for an existing lawful development certificate for existing residential use of Slodbrook Farm including the erection of a residential dwelling house with extension and stationing of static caravan – Slodbrook Farm, Rode Common. No objections.

2023/2183/FUL: Re-consultation: Construction and operation of a photovoltaic farm with battery storage and associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping – Land south and east of Bradford Road, Rode.

Low Carbon had attended a premeeting with the Parish Council to inform on the changes that had been made to the previous application. They also answered questions from Councillors. However, the Parish Council remained concerned over the scale of the solar farm which had not really been altered, the lack of information on why this site had been selected (it appeared very limited area had been looked at) and the continued use of access to the site, particularly Monkley Lane both during construction and during operation of the solar farm. Low Carbon had made no significant changes to the application and had not answered any of the PC's previous comments.

It was therefore agreed that the PC would submit a comprehensive objection to this planning application.

Mendip Local Plan Part II – Sites and Policies update. None of the areas proposed for the 505-house shortfall were in this area and the PC agreed to support the proposals.

ii) Somerset decisions:

2023/2446/HSE: Rear two storey extension, replace house/garage roofs, removal of parapet, demolish room on south and east elevation, replace/add new windows/doors and amend existing access – Hill View House, Bradford Road. Approved.

2023/1747/LBC: Single storey rear glazed extension – Mayfield House, High Street. Approved.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

11. Buses: PT said that there would be minor changes to the times of the buses through Rode from April and a new timetable would be printed and circulated. The D2 service costs an extra 6% to come through Rode but only gets 2% more income. This was putting First West under pressure to reduce the service through Rode and changes could be made to the September timetable. Another use the bus or lose it campaign would be run. A survey of bus use focusing on bus links with other buses/trains was to be conducted. Parishioners who had bus passes but could afford the £2 fare were to be encouraged to pay and not use their passes. It was also noted that some buses arrive full in Rode and residents cannot board these, this information should be gathered and First made aware.

12. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pitches: Concerns had been made by Selwood and Berkley Parishes however it was agreed this was not currently an issue in Rode and this response would be made.

13. AGM:

It was agreed to hold the AGM on 13th May before the Parish Council meeting, starting at 7.00pm.

14. Financial matters:

Payments: The following payments were agreed:

Clerk Salary	£265.31
HMRC PAYE	£64.60
Rode & District Memorial Hall	£135.00

14. Any other business:

i) Conservation area: AP had spoken to Context Planning regarding both the Neighbourhood Plan and Conservation Area, this had been helpful and it should be possible to link the two conservation areas and include extra properties. Also providing no changes to the Neighbourhood Plan are made which affect residents this should be acceptable.

ii) The Link: It was agreed the Parish Council would give Gill Leonard a gift in appreciation of her editing The Link for 10 years now she was standing down. An invite to the April meeting would be made.

iii) Top of Rockabella: This had become uneven and would be investigated.

15. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting would be held in the Committee Room at the Memorial Hall on: **Monday 15th April at 7.30pm** (A pre-meeting for the PC starting at 7.00pm for Councillors only will be held to review the Rode Neighbourhood Plan)

The meeting closed at 10.30pm.



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RODE CHAPEL APRIL 2024 SUNDAY SERVICES

6pm Meeting Place Sunday 7th April
10.30am Sunday 14th April Rev Andrew Prout (HC)
10.30am Sunday 21st April Digital Service
6pm Meeting Place Sunday 5th May

AND FINALLY.....

Muddy Fingernails

Is feeling quite muddy, and not just under the fingernails, so I'm taking a short break to allow the water table in Laverton to lower, to allow more time for my soggy boots to dry out and time to scrape the claggy mud from my garden tools and sharpen and polish them to perfection.

When I'm back, I'll blather on as usual about sowing seeds, mulching the borders, new planting ideas for your summer pots and much more, as you'd expect.

But for now, I'm busy considering how much longer I can put off bringing the lawnmower out of its winter hibernation.

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DATE	TIME	SERVICE	LEADER
Tuesday 2 April	9.45 am	Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Holy Communion	
	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 3 April	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 4 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 7 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Informal Breakfast	A & S Filkins C Walker D Gatcliffe
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence , Holy Communion	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Holy Communion	
	6.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Meeting Place	
Monday 8 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 9 April	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 10 April	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 11 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 14 April	9.00 am	Rode St Lawrence , Informal Breakfast	A & S Filkins J Robinson /M Harrison
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , Holy Communion	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Matins	
	11.00 am	Buckland Dinham , Iona Service	
Monday 15 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 16 April	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 19 April	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 20 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 21 April	9.00 am	Farleigh Hungerford , Holy Communion	C Walker/B Day C Walker/B Day F & R Stewart
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence , Holy Communion	
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , Informal Worship	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Matins	J Robinson
	11.00 am	Buckland Dinham , Holy Communion	
Monday 22 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 23 April	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 24 April	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	4.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 25 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 28 April	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence , United Holy Communion	C Walker J Robinson C Walker
	6.00 pm	Buckland Dinham , Evening Service	
Monday 29 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 30 April	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	

April 2024 Diary

Mon 1st April	Bank Holiday – Easter Monday
Fri 5th April	7pm Celebrating India & ASHA, NSP Church – see page 14
Mon 8th April	12.30pm Monday Lunch Club – see page 21 7.15pm Rode & District Gardening Club - see page 20
Thu 11th April	10am Rode Gardening Club Willow Workshop – see page 21 10am Rode Walking Group - see page 22 12.30pm for 1pm NSP Church Lunchtime Concert - see page 25 7pm Tellisford Parish Meeting - see page 27
Fri 12th April	2.30pm Rode Over 60s AGM - see page 19
Sat 13th April	10am-12pm PCSO Come and Meet Us - see page 11 From 1pm Scouts Silent Auction – see page 10
Mon 15th April	2.30pm - 4pm Forgot Me Not Café - see page 26 7.30pm Rode Parish Council Meeting - see page 40
Fri 19th April	7.30pm Rode Roxy - see page 26
Sun 21st April	Copy Deadline for May Link
Mon 22nd April	7pm- 8.30pm Monthly Youth Activity Space – see page 17
Thu 25th April	7.30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting – see page 25
Fri 26th April	11.15am - 11.45am Somerset Mobile Library Rode High Street
Sun 28th April	10.30am Farwell to Jo - Service and Lunch – see page 24
Mon 29th April	4pm- 5pm Tai Chi taster Class - see page 34
Tue 30th April	11.30am Fitness with a Difference Coffee Morning – see page 28 8pm RPF Lottery Draw, The Cross Keys - see page 9
Year Planner	
Sun 5th May	Cream Teas at St Lawrence Church - see page 24
Thurs 9th May	12.30pm for 1pm NSP Church Lunchtime Concert - see page 26
Sat 11th May	10am-12pm PCSO Come and Meet Us - see page 8 12pm – 3pm Rode Chapel Musical Garden Party – see page 25
Sun 26th May	Cream Teas at St Lawrence Church – see page 24
Sat 8th June	From 2pm Rode Repair Café – see page 6
Sun 9th June	Rode & District Gardening Club Open Gardens
Sun 16th Jun	Father’s Day
Sat 22nd Jun	Band in A Barn – see page 28
Sat 13th July	Rode Park Fest – see page 28
Sun 14th July	Rode Park Fest – see page 28
Mon 9th Sept	Rode Gardening Club Visit to Wisley

WASTE COLLECTIONS						
Apr 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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