

ROMSLEY NEWS

Your Update from Romsley Parish Council

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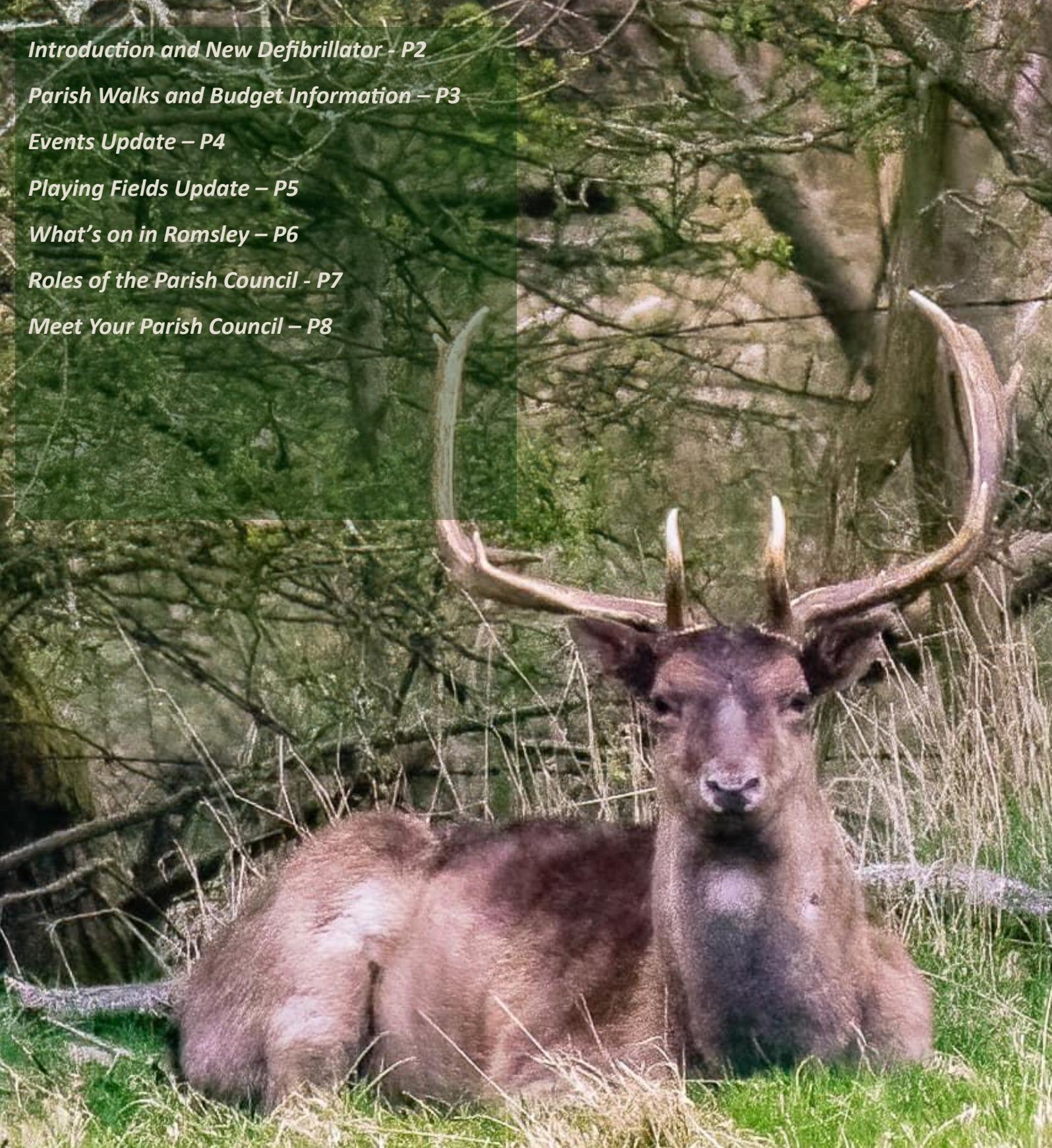
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Introduction and Update

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2022. We would like to thank **Taron Curtis** for supplying the stunning cover photograph for this issue.



We bid a fond farewell to Dave Powell who has been a member of the Parish Council since 2015 and Chairman for the last two years. He has worked tirelessly and enthusiastically throughout this time and was a particular driving force for Romstock.

We would like to welcome John Weston to Romsley Parish Council. John was co-opted onto the council in our meeting in January to fill a vacancy. Having taken early retirement from local engineering company Sandvik Ltd, John is keen to add his skills and experiences to the Parish Council, taking an active role in making sure allocated funding is spent in the best interests of residents and working to keep Romsley Parish a safe and pleasant place to live. We are all looking forward to working with John on our team.



In this issue, we will update you on initiatives that we discussed in the previous newsletter such as the new defibrillator at St Kenelm's C of E Primary School and our proposed new benches in the village.

We are also pleased to announce our final lineup for the return of Romstock on 18th June this year, which is promising to be a fantastic event, and update you on the new circular path in the playing fields in Romsley. Since opening this facility just before Christmas, it is already proving to be well used and liked by our community. This is the first phase of several proposed improvements in the playing field area that we are currently considering. There is more on this on page 5.

Staying with issues about the playing fields, it is disappointing that there has been a marked increase in dog poo being left on the field, during the shorter days. The playing field is a much cherished facility that is well used by adults and children alike. Contact with dog poo poses health risks. We wish to continue to allow dogs in all areas, however if risks from dog poo become unacceptable (especially on the football pitch), then we may need to consider excluding dogs from some areas of the field.

Sending our Best Regards

Romsley Parish Council

New Defibrillator

Good news: A second Defibrillator has been installed in the village. It is located at the school gates of St. Kenelm's CE Primary School, Bromsgrove Road. As well as being available for use by the school, this will also cover the south area of the village. Our other Defibrillator is installed in the phone box on St. Kenelm's Road at the junction with Hillcrest Road.

Although we hope it is never needed, this is a valuable addition to the village.

If you would like to know more please contact us.



Parish Walks – Stuart Smith Paths Warden

New Year Walk

Thirteen brave souls turned out on 8th January to join me and Nina on the first parish walk for a couple of years. This was half the number of previous New Year walks but a good turnout nevertheless considering the less-than-ideal weather. Visibility was down to a hundred yards for much of the walk over and around Walton Hill and the normally splendid views were non-existent. Despite this we all enjoyed the walk in good company.



ROMSLEY PARISH WALKS 2022

14th May Wild Garlic walk 10am The Sun. A 3.5-mile circular walk to Dowery Dell and hopefully an abundance of wild garlic

30th July Out of Parish Walk - 10.30am at the Lickey Hills Visitor Centre Warren Lane. A 6.5-mile circular walk with a pub stop halfway.

10th September Frankley Walk - 10 am The Swallows Nest. A 3.6-mile circular walk to Frankley and Waseley

Budget April 2022 – March 2023

Parish Council Spending Plans 2022-23

Romsley Parish Council plays a vital role in making our village such a pleasant and safe place to live. Parish Councillors are all volunteers and, as such, are unpaid. Part of our role is deciding how to spend the precept. The precept is money allocated to the Parish from Council Tax that all residents pay to Bromsgrove District Council. This year's precept was £55,675.00. We are conscious of the difficult financial times facing residents and therefore took the decision not to raise our precept amount from last year's budget.

When calculating the precept, the Parish Council takes a range of factors into consideration, including:

- The current year's spending levels for ongoing services for which it is responsible, for example recreation facilities, litter bins, dog waste bins and gloves, insurance and grass cutting.
- The costs of additional spending plans or projects.
- Provision for contingencies and reserves.
- Levels of anticipated income from services it is responsible for e.g., Allotment rents
- Grants received.
- Supporting local groups and organisations that keep the heart of our community beating.

We organise Romstock Music Festival from which money raised is spent to further improve the environment of Romsley Village and stage free-to-residents events such as St. Kenelm's Day celebrations. Our aim, in the coming months, is to enhance Romsley Park with planting and additional seating, and to refurbish the children's play area.

Romsley Parish Council continues to look for ways to operate efficiently. To find out more about how we look after our wonderful village please come along to one of our meetings.

Events Update



Romstock
SATURDAY 18TH JUNE 12pm - 9pm
Gates open 12.00pm
Romsley Playing Fields - St Kenelms Rd, Romsley

Ange & David DRC
COLIN HALL'S GYPSY BLOOD
SUPERNOVA

Paul Shakespeare as **ELVIS**

Strictly ABBA

DB Dan Budd Tribute to Robbie Williams

Bhangra Smash Up

The SKAstuds

THE Killerstream weekend Anthems BAND

Tickets only on www.romstock.co.uk (limited numbers)

Early Bird - to 31st May £15 Adults £3 Child
June Price (including on day) - £20 Adults £5 Child

All sales are subject to our Terms and Conditions.
These are available on the Romsley parish council website along with further details and FAQ's



We are pleased to announce the full line up for Romstock . This is shown on the official event poster on the left.

Please be aware that to meet the conditions of our alcohol licence and in direct response to the recent pandemic, we have had to make the following amendments to our working practices for 2022.

- We can now **not** allow Alcoholic Drinks to be brought onto the site. **All Alcohol consumed must be purchased on site.** This is a mandatory requirement under conditions of our licence. The price of drinks sold at Romstock will be in line with Romsley's local pubs.
- All tickets will be sold online via a dedicated website. This is to simplify our event administration, give us a detailed view of the number of tickets sold and increase security by avoiding the need to hold cash on the day.
- We cannot allow personal Gazebos on site. This is to comply with HSE Fire Regulations and to prevent trip and obstruction hazards. This will also help to ensure that all patrons have a clear view of the show. We will provide cover if heavy rain or strong sunshine is forecast. Camping chairs are acceptable.

We trust you will understand that these changes to the process have been brought in for everyone's convenience and safety. They are also necessary to ensure that the event continues to operate under its current licence.

www.designmynight.com/birmingham/whats-on/live-music/romstock-festival-2022

St Kenelm's Day

We are planning to hold our St Kenelm's Day celebrations this year on **16th July 2022**

This is a free event for residents and friends and you are invited to bring a picnic and seating to relax and enjoy the experience.

We are pleased to announce that Stourport Brass Band will be returning along with the Bluebird Belles. We will release further information on this event in due course.



The events that the Parish Council are running this summer come very close in date to **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee** and we will, therefore, not be running an organised event. We would encourage residents to decorate the village and have a get together with friends and neighbours. You might like to look at www.platinumjubilee.gov.uk for some ideas.

Romsley Playing Fields – Circular Path



The path was completed at the end of last year thanks to a lucky break with the weather. The Parish Council have plans to place signage around the walk to give information on the length of the path and any features of interest.

Since its completion, the path has been well used giving the opportunity for residents to use the park for exercising whatever the weather.

'I used to walk down to the Scout Headquarters and back but now I have a much longer and nicer walk.' (Pam)

'I'm not steady on my feet and the path makes walking my dog so much easier. I'm looking forward to using the new benches.' (Bronwyn)

'My granddaughter loves to ride her bike around the path on her way to the playground.' (Claire)

New Benches and Cherry Trees

As part of a national initiative to plant Cherry Blossom Trees as a memorial to those who lost their lives during the COVID 19 pandemic, Romsley Parish Council have received a grant, from Bromsgrove District Council, to buy trees to plant in the village and to buy three rainbow benches.



Two trees will be planted at the top of Hillcrest Road and others will be planted in areas of the playing fields. **Some of the trees to be planted have been sponsored by residents.** The benches are sited around the path in the park.

What's On in Romsley

ROMSLEY SCOUT CENTRE

- **Beaver Scouts** [6 - 8 years] - Monday 6pm
- **Cub Scouts** [8 - 10 years] - Tuesday 7pm
- **Scouts** [10 - 15 years] - Friday 7.30 pm

Contact : romsleyscouts@hotmail.com or 07970 744417

- **Toddler & Parent Dance Classes** –
Tuesdays 9.30 - 10.15am

Contact : Jayne@timminsacademy.com or 07985 734294

- **Translucent Dance Studio** [Dance sessions for 4 - 11 year olds] - Every Wednesday from 4pm

Contact : www.translucentdancestudio.co.uk - 07311 307077

- **Romsley Art Group** - Tuesday 12 noon

Contact : Jean Cockin – jeanmcockin1@gmail.com

- **Rainbows** [5 - 7 years] - Thursdays
- **Guides** [10 - 14 years] - Wednesdays

Contact : Debbie Carter - 01562 710329

- **Stay and Play** – Monday 9.30 – 11.00

Contact – Laura - 07525476339

- **Baby Ballet** – Monday – 1.00pm

Contact Emma – 07968700181

- **Toddler and Parent Ballet and Dance**

Contact – Jayne – 07985734294

- **Translucent Dance Studio** (Sessions 4-11yrs) –
Wednesday from 4pm

Contact Anna Lines – 07311307077

- **Me Time Fitness** (Mum and little one) Thursday
9.30am

Contact Rachel Cunningham – 07491222554

- **Moo Music** (Making fun music and movement –
Thursday 1.15pm

Contact – Angela - 07852234440

ROMSLEY CHURCH HALL

- **Brownies** [7 - 10 years] - Thursdays

Contact : Debbie Carter - 01562 710329

- **Romsley Toddlers Group** - Wednesdays 10 am
[Term Time]

Contact : Kelly Marie – 07460062162

- **Worship4All** - 1st Sunday of every month at 4 pm
Family friendly service and craft making

Contact Selina Tromans on 0121 550 8577

- **Sensory People** (Care and Therapy for young people
Every weekday afternoon, except Monday

Contact – Marion - 07879431371

- **History Society** - 4th Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm

Contact – Paul Share – 01562 710197

- **Hillside Ladies** - 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm

Contact – Sue Holloway – 01562 710414

- **Tea and Cake Afternoon** - Mondays 2.00 - 3.30 pm
Fortnightly from 19th April

Contact – Selina Tromans – 0121 550 8577

- **Ballroom Dancing** - Thursday – 8.30pm

Contact – Richard Finlow – 07914119052

OTHER VENUES

- **Mobile Library Service**

First Tuesday of every month.

11.05 – 11.20 – Yew Tree Place

11.25 – 11.40 – Dark Lane

11.45 – 12.05 – Hillcrest Road

- **Sidemoor Mobile Chip Van** - Every Friday in the playing
field car park 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

- **Fitness Bootcamp for all** – Tuesday 7.00am, Wednesday
6.30pm, Friday – 9.30am on the playing field

Contact – Jordan - 07971332777

Street Food Festival – May 14th on the Playing Fields

Roles of the Parish Council

Parish Councils are made up of volunteers and have a variety of powers and duties, all of which impact directly on the community. They are the first and most local tier of Government. Romsley is one of nineteen Parish Councils within Bromsgrove District Council.

The Parish Council has a role in consultation with Bromsgrove District Council and Worcestershire County Council in certain areas and the opportunity to influence those bodies for the benefit of the parish. It is funded through the Bromsgrove District Council by the `precept` which is part of the Council Tax. The Parish Council is accountable to external audits for monies spent. All councillors follow the Council Code of Conduct, and the Parish Council follows rules, regulations and procedures laid down – ultimately by Central Government.

In certain areas of activity, the Parish Council may act alone. However, this must be under the local Government Plans and within the legal powers imposed by Acts of Parliament.

The following are all under the remit of local councils. The list below is not exhaustive and is pertinent to Romsley parish:

- Allotments
- Bus Shelters
- Bye-laws – the power to make bye-laws concerning baths and washhouses (swimming pools), cycle parks, mortuaries, and pleasure grounds
- Community Centres, Conference Centres, Halls, Public Buildings
- Drainage – of ditches and ponds
- Entertainment and the Arts
- Footpaths
- General Spending – parish councils can spend a limited amount of money on anything they deem of benefit to the community that is not covered by the other specific responsibilities described in this list
- Gifts – parish councils may accept gifts
- Highways – lighting, parking places, right to enter discussions about new roads and road widening, consent of parish council required for diversion or discontinuation of highway, traffic signs and other notices, tree planting and verge maintenance
- Land – acquisition and sale of
- Legal proceedings – the power to prosecute and defend any legal proceedings in the interests of the community, power to take part in any public enquiry
- Litter – provision of litter bins and support for any anti-litter campaigns
- Planning – parish councils must be notified of, and display for residents, any planning applications for the area.
- Any comments submitted to the planning authority by the parish council must be considered
- Postal and Telecommunication Facilities – the power to pay a public telecommunications operator any loss sustained in providing services in that area
- Recreation – provision of recreation grounds, public walkways, pleasure grounds, open spaces, village greens, gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps and boating ponds
- Rights of Way – footpath and bridleway maintenance
- Seats (public)
- Signs – danger signs, place names and bus stops signs
- Tourism – financial contributions to any local tourist organisations allowed
- Traffic Calming
- War Memorials

Water Supply – the power to utilise stream, well or spring water and to provide facilities for general use

Meet your Parish Council

Shaun Bolar — Vice-Chairman

Shaun Lives in Dark Lane. He is a Cost Consultant and Project Manager, working within the construction industry.



Lesley Gray — Councillor

Lesley lives in Dark Lane. She is a retired teacher and spent most of her career in a school for children with special educational needs.



Jack Strain — Councillor

Jack is currently a university student studying Computing and lives towards Dayhouse Bank.



John Shaw — Councillor

John lives on Dayhouse Bank. He is a retired Automotive engineer and the facilities director at Stourbridge RFC.



John Weston — Councillor

John lives in Winston Drive and is a retired Business Development Manager having worked locally for many years.



Ray Carr — Councillor

Ray is a semi-retired financial adviser and lives in The Hedgerows.



Parish Council Meetings

Our forthcoming meeting is detailed below.

It will be held at :

St Kenelms Church Hall on Bromsgrove Road, 7.30pm.

5th July 2022

The meetings are open to all with a public forum in which any matters can be raised with the Council before moving onto the main Council meeting.

We would be extremely pleased to see you there.

Contact the Parish Council

Ruth Mullett - Clerk to the Council

Address: 167 Bromsgrove Rd, Hunnington, West Midlands. B62 0JU

Tel: 07970 976915

Email: clerk@romsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ed Sheppard — Lengthsman

Ed is our Lengthsman responsible for highway tasks and clearance / drainage



Nigel Williamson — Maintenance

Nigel lives in Dark Lane and is responsible for maintenance activities across our Parish.



Ruth Mullett — Parish Clerk

Ruth lives in Hunnington and brings a wealth of experience and local knowledge serving as Parish Clerk for Romsley and Hunnington

