

Rolleston on Dove Parish Council



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Summer 2026

Rollestonian of the Year Award 2025

Lee Cooke was voted the 2025 Rollestonian of the Year at the March Parish Council meeting. From the nominations received from members of the village, Lee was selected as the person most meeting the award criteria. As well as congratulating Lee, the Parish Council wish to thank everyone who put forward nominations, many of whom would have been worthy winners. Please bear them in mind next year when the time comes to nominate again. Lee's ongoing commitment and dedicated service to the village over a sustained period of time is inspiring and cannot be overstated. Much of what Lee does goes unseen, as she works diligently behind the scenes coordinating services, arranging visiting clergy, organising events and promoting them on social media and ensuring everything runs smoothly. Over the past year in particular, with no rector in post, she has played a crucial role in making sure church events and services have continued without disruption. The church is a vital part of Rolleston's community life and losing it would mean losing a true cornerstone of the village. Lee's dedication and commitment have helped protect and sustain that foundation. Lee reaches out constantly to the community to make sure the church is seen as a welcoming beacon in the community. As Bell Tower Captain, she keeps the team of bellringers focused on providing bells for celebrations and for memorials and works hard to draw in members of the community to share the weekly coffee morning so they have a special place to enjoy regular company. The award will be presented at the April Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 27th April which all are welcome to attend.

Flooding Matters Update

A meeting organised by the Environment Agency (EA) and the Parish Council together with other relevant authorities and chaired by our MP, Jacob Collier was held in February for the properties directly affected by flooding from the

Brook. In addition, residents who fall into the 1 in 100 year identified properties were also invited to the following meeting to discuss any concerns they might have. The EA advised that the findings from their early-stage business case (Strategic Outline Case) suggested that Property Flood Resilience (PFR) is currently the preferred option to take forward for further development. As part of this assessment, they considered a range of other potential measures including traditional flood defences, upstream storage, de-silting and weir removal, and Natural Flood Management. Each were evaluated against technical feasibility, environmental considerations and value for public money. PFR includes measures designed to help reduce the impact of flooding on individual properties, such as flood doors, barriers and other resistance or resilience features. However, due to government funding rules, the EA are only able to offer PFR to those properties identified as being at the highest level of flood risk. Residents within this higher risk area have been contacted separately to invite them to register their interest in a potential scheme.

The Parish Council understands that Jacob Collier will be writing to all residents in Rolleston on Dove with an update about flooding matters.

Rolleston on Dove has been assigned a Community Flood Officer by Severn Trent Water (STW), Emma Sharp, who is keen to hear from residents affected by surface water flooding. Emma attended the March Parish Council meeting and stressed how important it is that customers report any issues directly to STW as well as SCC, to ensure incidents are logged, investigated and prioritised appropriately. Without these reports, STW may not be aware of any ongoing or recurring problems. Contact details are Email: communityflooding@severntrent.co.uk or for sewer flooding Tel: 08000 783 4444.

Please see further details of actions on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page. Flooding is an agenda item at every Parish Council meeting and Councillors welcome comments, ideas and thoughts from all residents on this matter.

Current Project Updates

Completion of maintenance to part of the Jinny Nature Trail footpath

The Parish Council's successful application to the Staffordshire County Council (SCC) 2025 Community Fund (supported by Councillor Philip White),

part funded work to repair the surface of the section of the Jinny Trail path (from the steps to the Rolleston/Stretton boundary gate). Over the last couple of years with the help of several grants from ESBC and SCC, and monies from the PC project reserves pot, it has now been possible to repair this part of the footpath surface, to replace the steps and handrails on both sides of the Trail leading up to the fields behind Craythorne Farm and up to the path alongside Blue Cross, and to rebuild and repair the historically important cattle dock wall, plant around and on top of it with native species, wildflowers and bulbs and install new interpretation panels. It is hoped to be able to complete the remaining section of the Trail from the gate on Station Road to the steps at some point later in 2026/early 2027, subject to available funding as the final piece of the Jinny Trail project.

Brookside and Burnside - ongoing improvements to the white railings and removal of vegetation

The Parish Council, assisted by a number of residents and volunteers from Civic Trust, have resumed the white railings cleaning and painting project in March, which will continue over the next few months. Four volunteers kindly volunteered half a day of their work time as part of the volunteering opportunity provided by their company to assist with this project. Reeds, Himalayan Balsam and debris will also be removed from sections of the brook by the Parish Council.

Spread Eagle Island Garden

The planting and display of various bulbs on the Spread Eagle Island has looked wonderful over the last few months. The grass area which is sadly not looking as good will be scarified and reseeded in the Spring by the Council's Contractor. The PC would like to thank the two volunteer residents for all their hard work and skill in maintaining this garden area so delightfully.

Tree Survey and Maintenance Works on Parish Council Land

The tree survey of all trees on Parish Council land commissioned to identify any required remedial requirements found that two of the very tall Limes on The Croft, adjacent to the brook, require felling as they are infected with *Ganoderma Adspersum* (Southern Bracket) fungus. A resistograph survey was undertaken to identify the safest approach to this work and these works will be done during the Summer after nesting season. Possible replacement trees can then be considered and we welcome your views on this!

Tree works in Tafflands as well as on The Croft and Burnside have been progressed including pollarding of the two large Weeping Willows alongside Burnside by the brook. A diseased Plum tree has been removed from The Croft, replaced by a Ginkgo Biloba, commonly known as the Maidenhair tree.

Public footpaths and stiles

Improvements have been made to footpath 9 which runs between the bottom of Knowles Hill alongside Brook Hollows through to Tutbury Road. The overgrown path alongside Brook Hollows has been cleared and a new metal gate and fencing have been installed. The PC is grateful to the Public Rights of Way team at SCC for providing the gate free of charge and "The Friends of Brook Hollows" for restoring the path and installing the gate. Rolleston has a number of popular and well used footpaths. If you notice any areas, including stiles, on public footpaths that require maintenance, please report these to the Parish Council Clerk. Footpath walks leaflets are available from the Clerk and may be found on the website (rollestonondove-pc.gov.uk).

Parish Council meetings

Meetings start at **7.00pm** and are held at the Old Grammar School Room. Everyone is welcome to attend. The agenda for each meeting can be found on the Parish Council's website, Facebook page and on the Parish Council noticeboards the week before the meeting is held.

Should you wish to ask the Parish Council any questions or raise any points with us, 15 minutes at the beginning of each meeting are set aside for you to do so. The full list of Councillors and contact details can be found on the Parish Council's website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026

Monday 27th April 7.00pm – Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 11th May 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting
Monday 8th June 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting
Monday 13th July 7.00pm – Parish Council Meeting



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