YOUR MAGAZINE FOR WHERE YOU LIVE...

Spring is here ...

... and many of us will be getting out and about to enjoy the fairer weather and fresh air. If you are driving, please help keep the air fresh ...



Leaving your engine running when your vehicle is stationary is called idling.

Vehicles idling while stationary cause unnecessary use of fuel, an increase in emissions, a noisy environment, especially for residents and businesses and is also an offence under the Road Traffic Act.

In modern cars, idling actually increases wear and tear on the engine as it leads to incomplete fuel combustion and the build up of residues. Idling causes damage to cylinders and the exhaust system.

By not idling, you reduce the level of harmful emissions being released into the atmosphere and help to make your local environment cleaner and safer for everyone.

Good neighbours build strong, vibrant & healthy villages that are a pleasure to live in ... please think of others in the community.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 10th of May 2022

Venue to be confirmed

Remember, stay Covid safe ...





Keep up to date with your Covid vaccines



Rode Runner Community Transport

HOW RODE RUNNER NORMALLY OPERATES

Please book as soon as possible and with at least 1 clear working day's notice before the trip.

Please let us know if you have any special needs such as wheelchair use.

(?) 0800 020 9614

Mon to Fri afternoons (if there is no answer please leave a message inc your phone number).

The service is supported by donations.
Suggested donation £3
(£7 on long trips)
Not compulsory

Disclaimer: Whilst the Parish Council endeavours to provide this service to the best of its abilities, it is run by the kindness of volunteers. We will endeavour to inform you of any changes to the service but it is a condition of booking that neither the Council nor volunteers shall be held liable for losses due to the late arrival or cancellation of a service.

APRIL:

Sat 2nd - Shopping, Barn Road Congleton

Wed 6th - Leek (market day)

Thurs 14th - Goostrey Home & Leisure

Sat 16th - Shopping, Barn Road Congleton

Tues 19th - Whitchurch

Wed 27th - Macclesfield Garden Centre and Town Centre

Sat 30th - Shopping, Barn Road Congleton



We are always looking for more volunteer drivers, passengers assistants, booking co-ordinators, fund raisers, etc. Full training given ... you decide how much time you give ... More information from the Parish Office on:

01260 291592 or







oddrodeclerk@gmail.com



MAY:

Thurs 5th - Lady Heyes Craft & Antiques Centre

Tues 10th - Wolstanton Retail Park

Sat 14th - Shopping, Barn Road Congleton

Wed 18th - The Range

Thurs 26th - Bodnant Gardens, (National Trust so will be an entrance fee)

Sat 28th - Shopping, Barn Road Congleton

Tues 31st - National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas



Rode Runner is a transport only service and passengers are responsible for all entry fees, cost of meals, etc. Any donation made to the Parish Council is towards the running costs of the minibus only.



what the head of the Environment Agency has called the "new narcotics" of fly-tipping and waste crime. The proposals would see checks on who is able to handle and dispose of waste, as well as a digital tracking system. Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of rubbish, like mattresses and bags of waste, in parks, or on pavements. There were 1.13 million fly-tipping incidents in England in 2020-21, a rise of 16% on the previous 12 months. The cost, which includes clear-up and lost taxes, has been estimated to be £1bn a year.

The government has announced plans to tackle

Did you know?

- To count as fly-tipping, waste must be larger than a black bin's worth. If less, it's considered a littering offence
- If caught fly-tipping a person can receive a penalty fine or even go to prison
- On-the-spot fines start at £400 and have been known to increase to £50,000
- Households can also be fined indirectly if they pass their waste on to an unlicensed party who then dumps it
- On public land it is the responsibility of Cheshire East Council to clear it up and prosecute. Last year, nearly half a million investigations and prosecutions were carried out in the UK.

You are responsible for making sure that anyone you ask to dispose of waste on your behalf (for example a builder or contractor) is a registered waste carrier. Always ask to see their certificate. Always get a receipt confirming what they have taken and where they have disposed of it and details of any payment made.

Good neighbours build strong, vibrant & healthy villages that are a pleasure to live in ... please think of others in the community.

ON THE RODE Page 4

Parish Council News

Parish Council News

Parish Precept ...

The Parish Council agreed a small increase in its share of the Council Tax for 2022/23.



The increase is 2% on the parish element of the Council Tax, i.e. an increase of 94p per annum on a band D (total parish charge the for year £48.28). Those on bands below D will pay less and those above more.

Highways Improvements ...

Following on from the Parish Council's success in getting CEC to reduce the speed limits on Congleton Road North and the A50, and extending the 30 mph limit in Thurlwood, the Council has got agreement from the CEC ward councillors and both Church Lawton and Astbury Parish Councils (the other two local councils in the CEC Odd Rode ward) to apply for funding for a refuge island on the A50 between Cherry Lane and Sandbach Road.

The need was established in 2018 when CEC Highways noted, in response to the Parish Council's request, "drivers overtaking vehicles that try to turn left into Sandbach Road plus pedestrians find difficult crossing the main road - Proposed: Refuge Island, this could eliminate the overtaking and act as a traffic calming near the junction plus will assist pedestrians crossing the road ".

The Parish Council has been pressing CEC ever since and took advantage of a new funding mechanism this year to push the project forward. If successful, it will probably be a couple of years before construction. Other highways needs are also being investigated by the Parish Council.

ODD RODE

Environmental Enhancements ...

The Parish Council has created a wildlife friendly flower planter in Clare Street, Mount Pleasant.

Plants used are all acid loving hardies including heathers, ferns. blue berries and other berry bearing shrubs that will provide food for wildlife once established.





Do you have any suggestions for other local environmental enhancement projects? Please drop us a line (contact details on back page).

Member vacancies ...

Due to resignations for personal reasons, there are three vacancies for parish councillors to represent the Mount Pleasant ward. The vacancies are not restricted to residents in that ward and are open to any resident in the parish...

The Council meets once a month, with other meetings as and when needed, and members do not receive remuneration. If you wish to apply, or want further information, contact the Clerk (details on back page).

SUPPORTING OUR VOLUNTARY BODIES ...

Community Development & Engagement Grants

One of the ways that the Parish Council supports local voluntary and community groups by grant aiding them, Applications, which are considered in March each year, can be made for projects that are spread over more than one year (with a maximum grant of £1,500 per year).

Last year's grant's Scholar Green Village Hall (purchase of folding tables) £900.00; Rode Heath Village Hall (part refurbishment of ladies' toilets) £1,500.00; Rode Heath YPCC (repairs to roof) £1,000.00; Rode Heath Scout Group (new sound & lighting system) £1,500.00; Rode Park & Lawton Cricket Club (new nets) £1,500.00; Rode Heath Bowling Club (revenue expenditure – agreed as an exception to the usual policy due to the exceptional circumstances of the pandemic and in order to ensure the viability of the Club) £500.00.

The scouts can be seen here using their new equipment. The pictures also show the Cricket club's old and new nets.



ON THE RODE Page 6

Odd Rode News

Odd Rode News

Bird flu ...

The UK is facing its largest ever outbreak of bird flu with over 70 cases confirmed across the country since the start of November (6 being in Cheshire and 1 of these just to the west of Sandbach).

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has confirmed that the risk to public health is very low and the Food Standards Agency has said that bird flu poses a very low food safety risk for UK consumers and it does not affect the consumption of poultry or eggs.



Bird keepers should remain alert for any signs of disease, report suspected disease immediately and ensure they are maintaining good biosecurity on their premises.

The RSPCA was forced to put down 53 birds (42 geese and 11 swans) at the Winsford Marina following suspected cases of bird flu with the birds being 'very sick' and in an 'extremely poor condition'.

Residents are reminded to not touch or pick up any dead or visibly sick birds that they find. If they find dead wild swans, geese or ducks or other dead wild birds, such as gulls or birds of prey, they should report them to the Defra helpline.

Defra helpline 03459 33 55 77.

Scan the QR code for further information





Killer Mile ...

After being suspended for two years due to the Covid crisis, the Killer Mile is back. It will be held on Thursday May 12th 2022 with the first race at 6.15 pm (the Under 12s) and final race at 7.30 pm (the second Fun Run).





The Killer Mile is supported by Odd Rode Parish Council

The race starts at Drumber Lane, Scholar Green, and ends at the High Street, Mow Cop, with 550 feet of climbing, at 25% gradient in places. All races finish in the car park at the castle folly, Mow Cop.

Scholar Green Art Group

57th Annual Art Exhibition

Sat 16th & Sunday 17th April 2022

10am - 5pm

At Scholar Green Village Hall



Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline - If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us.

At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who is struggling with the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you isolated and alone.

Calls are free and confidential - Call us on 0808 801 0688

Being able to access support whilst a loved one is dying is really important for a number of reasons. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end and having a sense of 'preparedness' helps both the person dying and their family gain as much control as possible.

Please visit www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service to find out more.



Church Lawton Memorial Hall, Liverpool Road West, Cheshire, ST7 3DA . 07936 185328 - Only manned on Tuesdays

01270 872157 - Only manned on Tuesdays

joyce@keystonesupportcentre.org.uk

Opening Times - Tuesday: 10am - 12pm Seasons Bereavement Group 1pm - 4pm Activities Group 9am - 4pm Nurse advice and complimentary therapies

We are a non-profit making organisation, funded by voluntary contributions.

We offer free social activities, support and guidance and complementary therapy for patients, their carers and families and also counselling and support for the bereaved.

Nurse Advice can be provided by appointment Tuesday 9am-4pm and an Informal Support Group is held every Tuesday 1-4pm.

Village/Route	Venue	Times
Mow Cop	The Hollows	10.00 – 10.25
Mount Pleasant	Clare Street	10.35 – 11.10
Mow Cop	Mow Cop Road (near Dales Green)	11.35 - 12.15
Mow Cop	High Street	12.25 – 12.45
Scholar Green	Travellers Rest	2.15 – 2.45
Scholar Green	Drenfell Road	2.55 - 3.20
Hassall Green	Charles Square	3.55 - 4.05

Bereavement Group

This is for adults who have lost a loved one. The bereavement group offers facilitator led sessions including support from others who are also grieving. We are very positive in our aim to be able to enjoy living even though we are missing our loved ones.

There is also the opportunity to have complementary therapy or private chat with one of the group leaders. We do not do counselling. We refer on if this is what is needed for any individual.

MOBILE LIBRARY DATES

Weds 30th March Weds 20th April

Weds 11th May Weds 1st June

Weds 22nd June

Use it or lose it! Search @CheshireEastMobileLibrary on

Facebook or Messenger



http://oneyoucheshireeast.org FREEPHONE 0808 164 320



ON THE RODE Page 8

THE REVISED HIGHWAY CODE ..

The introduction section of The Highway Code has been updated to include 3 new rules about the new 'hierarchy of road users'.



The hierarchy places those road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy. It does not remove the need for everyone to behave responsibly. It's important that all road users:

- are aware of The Highway Code
- are considerate to other road users
- understand their responsibility for the safety of others

The updated code clarifies that:

- $f \square$ when people are crossing or waiting to cross at a junction, other traffic should give way
- ☐ if people have started crossing and traffic wants to turn into the road, the people crossing have priority and the traffic should give way
- people driving, riding a motorcycle or cycling must give way to people on a zebra crossing and people walking and cycling on a parallel crossing (a parallel crossing is similar to a zebra crossing, but includes a cycle route alongside the black and white stripes).



There is new guidance in the code about routes and spaces which are shared by people walking, cycling and riding horses.

People cycling, riding a horse or driving a horse-drawn vehicle should respect the safety of people walking in these spaces, but people walking

should also take care not to obstruct or endanger them.

People cycling are asked to:

- not pass people walking, riding a horse or driving a horsedrawn vehicle closely or at high speed, particularly from behind
- □ slow down when necessary and let people walking know they are there (for example, by ringing their bell)
- ☐ remember that people walking may be deaf, blind or partially sighted
- not pass a horse on the horse's left



There is updated guidance for people cycling about positioning themselves which includes:

- ☐ riding in the centre of their lane on quiet roads, in slower-moving traffic and at the approach to junctions or road narrowings
- □ keeping at least 0.5 metres (just over 1.5 feet) away from the kerb

edge (and further where it is safer) when riding on busy roads with vehicles moving faster than them

The updated code explains that people cycling in groups:

- ☐ should be considerate of the needs of other road users when riding in groups
- acan ride 2 abreast and it can be safer to do so, particularly in larger groups or when accompanying children or less experienced riders

People cycling are asked to be aware of people driving behind them and allow them to overtake (for example, by moving into single file or stopping) when it's safe to do so.

The updated code explains that people cycling should:

- ☐ take care when passing parked vehicles, leaving enough room (a door's width or 1 metre) to avoid being hit if a car door is opened
- watch out for people walking into their path



You may cross a double-white line if necessary (provided the road is clear) to overtake someone cycling or riding a horse if they are travelling at 10 mph or less.

There is updated guidance on safe

passing distances and speeds for people driving or riding a motorcycle when overtaking vulnerable road users, including:

- ☐ leaving at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) when overtaking people cycling at speeds of up to 30mph, and giving them more space when overtaking at higher speeds
- passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 mph and allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space
- allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space and keeping to a low speed when passing people walking in the road (for example, where there's no pavement). Wait behind them and do not overtake if it's unsafe or not possible to meet these clearances.



The updated code confirms that people cycling may pass slower-moving or stationary traffic on their right or left. They should proceed with caution as people driving may not be able to see them. This is particularly important:

on the approach to junctions

 $\hfill \Box$ when deciding whether it is safe to pass lorries or other large vehicles

The code has been updated to clarify that when turning into or out of a side road, people cycling should give way to people walking who are crossing or waiting to cross.

There is new advice about new special cycle facilities at some junctions.

Some junctions now include small cycle traffic lights at eyelevel height, which may allow cyclists to move separately from or before other traffic. People cycling are encouraged to use these facilities where they make their journey safer and easier.

There is also new guidance for people cycling at junctions with no separate facilities.



The code recommends that people cycling should proceed as if they were driving a vehicle where there are no separate cyclist facilities. This includes positioning themselves in the centre of their chosen lane, where they feel able to do this

safely. This is to:

- make them as visible as possible
- avoid being overtaken where this would be dangerous

The code now includes advice for people cycling using junctions where signs and markings tell them to turn right in 2 stages. These are:

stage 1 - when the traffic lights turn green, go straight ahead to the location marked by a cycle symbol and turn arrow on the road, and then stop and wait

stage 2 - when the traffic lights on the far side of the junction (now facing the people cycling) turn green, complete the manoeuvre

The code clarifies that when people cycling are going straight ahead at a junction, they have priority over traffic waiting to turn into or out of a side road, unless road signs or markings indicate otherwise.

People cycling are asked to watch out for people driving intending to turn across their path, as people driving ahead may not be able to see them.



The code has been updated to clarify that people driving or riding a motorcycle should give priority to people cycling on roundabouts. The new guidance says people driving and or

riding a motorcycle should:

- not attempt to overtake people cycling within that person's lane
- $\hfill \Box$ allow people cycling to move across their path as they travel around the roundabout

The code already explained that people cycling, riding a horse and driving a horse-drawn vehicle may stay in the left-hand lane of a roundabout when they intend to continue across or around the roundabout.

Guidance has been added to explain that people driving should take extra care when entering a roundabout to make sure they do not cut across people cycling, riding a horse or driving a horse-drawn vehicle who are continuing around the roundabout in the left-hand lane.



The code recommends a new technique when leaving vehicles. It's sometimes called the 'Dutch Reach'.

Where people driving or passengers in a vehicle are able to do so, they should open the door using their hand on the opposite side to the door they are opening. For example, using their left hand to open a door on their right-hand side.

This will make them turn their head to look over their shoulder behind them. They're then less likely to cause injury to:

people cycling or riding a motorcycle passing on the roadpeople on the pavement



For the first time, the code includes guidance about using electric vehicle charging points.

When using one, people should:

- ☐ park close to the charge point and avoid creating a trip hazard for people walking from trailing cables
- display a warning sign if you can
- $\ \Box$ return charging cables and connectors neatly to minimise the danger to other people and avoid creating an obstacle for other road users

In total, 10 sections of The Highway Code have been updated, with 50 rules being added or updated.

You can find a summary of all the changes in The Highway Code updates list by using this QR code



You can read the full updated version of The Highway Code, free of charge, by using this QR code.

ON THE RODE Page 10



NEED TO CONTACT THE POLICE?

Phone **101** our **non-emergency number** or, if it is an emergency 999



Odd Rode community policing (there is no PCSO at present): PC 4692 **Kate Ritchie** and PCSO (pictured).

She can be contacted on Kate.Ritchie@cheshire.police.uk





https://www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk/

Local crime map: https://www.police.uk/cheshire/LP0009/crime/

Cheshire Police Alert is the community messaging system brought to you by Cheshire Constabulary and servicing the whole of Cheshire. By registering with Cheshire Police Alert, you receive news and appeals, local crime information and crime prevention advice - direct to you as an e-mail, mobile text or voice message. Registering with the site is completely free, and not only allows you to receive messages about your local area, but also allows you to feed back information to your local policing teams to help them better police your neighbourhood.

If you would like to give information regarding a crime anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Sheds and outbuildings ...

Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower. An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house.

First off, check that your insurance covers the contents of your shed or outbuildings from theft.

Think like a thief

Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in. It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grills. And keep it locked at all times.

Alarm it

Consider a battery-operated shed alarm. They look low key but they respond to movement or door contact with an extremely loud siren.

Lock it, hide it or mark it

Don't give them the opportunity or the tools to commit a crime. Lock everything away securely. Tools can be locked inside a locker or box or secured with a chain. Secure your bike to the ground or a lockable stand within a locked shed or garage. Visit Sold Secure to search for ground anchors and other locks designed to fix to floors and walls.

It's always worth draping an old sheet or blanket over the top of mowers or bikes to keep them covered from view.

Although it might sound like stating the obvious, never leave your garage or shed door unlocked if you're not around.

Property marking your items is advisable and some tools can be painted with your name or postcode. Forensic marking is also an option.

www.soldsecure.com



Mount Pleasant Village Hall





Our Village Hall lends itself to many events including wedding receptions, christenings and birthdays, and it is enjoyed by local clubs and groups of all ages.

licenced inhouse bar, a large main hall with raised stage area which has standing room for 250 people and a smaller separate annexe area.

Our prices: £15 per hour, £100 per evening (including bar), £50 children's party hire, £150 per full day (including bar).

For more information or to book please contact us Facebook: facebook.com/whatsonatmountpleasant/ Website: www.mountpleasantvillagehall.org.uk Email: mountpleasantvillagehall@gmail.com Telephone: Jen - 07894 572330, Alex - 07802 793148

Scholar Green Village Hall

Check out our website & Facebook page for details & photos of regular events held throughout the week

> Need a venue for your own event? 01782 784011

Nimble Fingers	DMIX	Art	Moo
Crafts	Dance	All Levels	Music
Tuesdays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Wednesdays

Superb Kitchen • Free Wi-Fi • Ample Parking

www.scholargreen.net



RODE HEATH VILLAGE HALL

Regular events are shown on the Rode Heath Community Facebook page. You can book the hall by contacting Chris on 01782 519694

USEFUL NUMBERS ...

Problems with pot holes, street lights, etc: please report highways problems on the Cheshire East website www.cheshireeast.gov.uk, click on the "Roadworks & reporting highways faults" button, then on "Report a problem". If you don't have access to the internet you can ring the freephone number 0300 123 5020 with the exact location of the problem, the nature of the problem and your contact details. If you are unable to contact Cheshire East, please give the details to the Parish Clerk and he will ensure the problem is reported. There is also an out of hours emergency phone number: 0300 123 5025

Problems with your bins: if you want to report a lost, stolen or damaged bin, report a missed bin collection or just want to clarify when your next collection is, go on the Cheshire East website above, click on "Bins & Recycling", then choose the relevant tab to click. Alternatively, phone 0300 123 5011.



COMMUNITY **DEFIBRILLATORS**



Community Defibrillators (all 24/7) are located at:

- Woodcocks' Well School, Church St, Mow Cop.
- Ex-phone box Woodcocks' Lane/Primitive St, Mow
- Ex-phone box Mount Pleasant village green, Clare Street
- Ex-phone box Birch Tree Lane/The Bank junction.
- Ex-phone box Congleton Road, Scholar Green
- Church of The Good Shepherd, Sandbach Road, Rode Heath.
- Rode Heath Village Hall, Sandbach Rd, Rode Heath



These units are simple to use & speak to you (they tell you how to use them). No training is needed & they cannot harm anyone but they can save a life!

North West Ambulance Service MIS

BUILDING A BETTER PARISH FOR ALL GENERATIONS



Rode Heath

Ward

Odd Rode Parish Council serves the communities of Mount Pleasant, Mow Cop (Cheshire part), Rode Heath and Scholar Green.

Your Councillors

Barbara Lawton*

David Connolly

Andrew Shaw*

Brian Griffiths

Ruth Griffiths

Jane Brammer

3 vacancies

Joe Meakin

Chris Clowes (Chair)* Stuart Cope Craig Harwood (Vice-chair)* Mike Hulme Rode Heath

01270 873543 07984 659313 01270 489264 Michaelhulme7480@hotmail.com 07584036066

Mount Pleasant

01782 523305 01782 782557

Scholar Green

07812 717084 07967 716034 briangriffiths1@me.com 07717 669 456 jbrammer.orpc@gmail.com

Clerk: Gary Roberts* 01260 291592

oddrodeclerk@gmail.com

Cheshire East Councillors:

Liz Wardlaw 01260 272752 liz.wardlaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Patrick Redstone 01270 882200

patrick.redstone@cheshireeast.gov.uk

ODD RODE PARISH

Scholar Green

Ward

The Council usually meets on the third Wednesday of the month (details of any meetings will be placed on notice boards and the website).

All meetings are open to the public.

* Newsletter editorial team

www.oddrode.org.uk

Mount Pleasant

Ward

Our website contains meeting dates, times & venues as well as agendas, minutes and other information about your council.

Public notices are also placed on the council's notice boards at:

Mount Pleasant - (1) junction of Clare Street/Chapel Street.

(2) by the post box at The Bank.

Scholar Green - (1) Drenfell Road, opposite the hairdresser.

(2) outside the McColl's shop, School Road.

Rode Heath - (1) Sandbach Road, opposite the Broughton Arms.

(2) corner of Sandbach Road/Heath Avenue, on bus shelter.

ODD RODE Parish Council

Newfield House

Brook Lane

Astbury

Congleton

Cheshire

CW12 4TJ

Phone/fax: 01260 291592

E-mail: oddrodeclerk@gmail.com

Website: www.oddrode.org

Future editions:

Want your event or news in *On The Rode*? It's free to community groups. April/May 22 deadline 15th March 2022

Please send copy (in *Word* & pictures as *jpegs*) to oddrodeclerk@gmail.com

COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR HIRE

Contact details for bookings or further information.

Mount Pleasant Village Hall — phone: Jen 07894 572330 or Alex 07802 793148

> Rode Heath Village Hall — phone: Chris 01782 519694

Rode Heath YPCC — phone:

Clare 0742 872 8268

Scholar Green Village Hall — phone: 01782 784011



Those that fail to pick up after their dog in any public place within Cheshire

East borough risk a Fixed Penalty Notice

(FPN) of £100. A failure to pay the FPN may lead to prosecution and a potential maximum fine of £1,000.