

Rogate Parish Council – Chairman’s letter

The Parish Council would like to express its sincere condolences on the passing of HM the Queen. Our thoughts are with the Royal Family at this time.

We are currently working on the budget for the 2023/24 financial year. If you are thinking about a project and would like us to consider a grant please send the request by the middle of October. Forms for requests can be found on the Rogate Parish Council website or by emailing the Clerk.

You will have seen Kate O’Kelly’s report last month on concerns over ambulance response times. Another concern we have raised is the extremely low detection rate in the crime statistics that have recently been published in our area. We understand that a meeting is being arranged with the Police to discuss this issue. Both these matters of concern are clearly national problems and we have no control. Nonetheless, we feel that we should the voice our concern and call for improvements.

Until recently the Parish Council had a process whereby we looked at pre planning application advice correspondence and made appropriate comment. The National Park planning department felt that disclosure of pre planning applications generated a significant amount of additional work. We, with other Parishes, are now attempting to seek this information through freedom of information requests. We are also raising the issue within the National Park with the aim of reinstating the previous system.

Solving the flooding problem in North Street has moved forward. We have agreed a plan with a contractor and are awaiting quotes. We then need to seek two alternative and submit our preferred quotes for approval by WSCC before the work can commence.

To end on a positive note. Pupils travelling to Bohunt school from Rake are collected by a bus outside the Flying Bull. We arranged for a bus shelter to be constructed by the WSCC Sussex Volunteers before the pandemic. Since then the volunteers have been incredibly busy with work on housing for refugees. After a long wait, we expect work to start on the bus shelter in September ready for this winter.

Max
Chairman, Rogate Parish Council