



# Rural Review

The Newsletter of Wem Rural Parish Council  
Issue 39 Winter 2023

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**WELCOME....** to the Winter issue of Rural Review.

Due to the Royal Mail industrial action before Christmas our Autumn 2022 Newsletter was not distributed to parishioners. As a consequence we are sending out an updated version of the Winter newsletter along with this one page edition of our Winter edition.

We have several great updates as we enter 2023 including details of our new Councillors and Deputy Clerk, community grants and an update on the Annual Parish Meeting.

At the January meeting of the Parish Council set its Budget for 2023/24. There will be additional expenditure next year due to increase in insurance premiums, subscriptions and training of the Deputy Clerk. The Council has funded these increases partly from its reserves and from the Precept, the amount collected from the council tax. The percentage increase equates to an increase of 5p per week for the average Band D council tax payer.

**Huw Edwards**  
Chair, Wem Rural Parish Council



## Rural Review

is produced by  
Wem Rural Parish Council  
Orchard Cottage  
Rowe Lane  
Welshampton  
SY12 0QB

For further  
information  
please contact us.

**Clerk:**  
Carole Warner  
Tel: 01948 710672  
Email:  
clerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk  
www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk

**Deputy Clerk:**  
Helen McCabe  
Tel: 07720 854185  
Email:  
deputyclerk@wemrural-  
pc.gov.uk  
www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk

## Half-Price Trees for Communities

People in Shropshire are to be offered trees at half price in a new initiative funded by Shropshire Council and HM Treasury this planting season.

Residents, landowners, farmers, community groups, businesses and charities can apply for 'bundles' of 20 native trees and shrubs to plant in order to maximise the benefits for landscape and wildlife in Shropshire.



## Action Plan 2023/24

Wem Rural Parish Council has a Business Plan to focus its work on behalf of the community. Over the last few years the Business Plan has had to take second place to national priorities. However with new Councillors and extra staff to manage projects, the Council is keen to make significant progress with fulfilling the actions identified in the Business Plan.

An Action Plan is agreed for each financial year and now is the time to contact your local Councillor and share your views on the parish to ensure they are considered in the development of the Action Plan for 2023/2024.



# Wem Rural Parish Council

[www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/wemruralPC](https://www.facebook.com/wemruralPC)

## Welcome to new 2 Councillors and Deputy Clerk

We are welcoming 2 new Councillors and a new Deputy Clerk to Wem Rural Parish Council

We have updated our Winter Newsletter with details of our new councillors. Firstly we welcome Denise Morgan who is representing the Roden Ward. Denise has lived in the parish for over 30 years and ran a local business in Wem, until she recently retired. Denise is passionate about providing facilities and services for older people in the community.

William Minty was co-opted onto the council at the meeting held in January and he will represent the Edstaston ward. William is a local farmer and land owner, and is looking forward to contributing and sharing his experience from his work, passion for the environment and the charity sector.

We are pleased to also share that Helen McCabe has been appointed by the Council as our new Deputy Clerk. Helen will be assisting the Clerk on a wide range of council business. Helen is a Wem resident and has worked in a number of local government roles in other parts of the country,

### Community Grants

Due to the Winter Issue of our Newsletter not going out we have extended the deadline for the Community Grants. Please look in the updated version for the new date.

Please email [deputyclerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk) if you would like an application form.

### Councillor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for a Councillor for the Newtown Ward of the Parish. This is following Stella Whyte moving out of the area.

If you would like to join Cllr Julia Goode representing Newtown, and Nothwood and surrounding areas please contact the Clerk

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[www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk)

#### Deputy Clerk:

Helen McCabe  
 Tel: 07720 854185  
 Email:  
[deputyclerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk)  
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## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Each year Wem Rural Parish Council organise an annual meeting for those living in the area to meet Councillors and to share their views on how they would like to see the area develop in addition to raising any concerns.

This meeting will take place in April or May 2023. The date will be finalised very soon, The meeting will be advertised on the website and posters on the local noticeboards.

We value hearing back from residents and would appreciate your support by attending this important meeting.



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