

# RODWELL & WYKE GREEN MATTERS



AUTUMN 2024

## Dear Resident

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter. All details are correct as we go to press but some may have changed by the time we've delivered to all 7000 households. If you'd like to lend a hand please contact Val Graves on [val654@icloud.com](mailto:val654@icloud.com) and, as always, do contact us if there's anything we can help with.

With all good wishes

Clare Sutton,

[cllrclare.sutton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllrclare.sutton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

tel. 07453 369191

Claudia Webb,

[cllrclaudia.webb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllrclaudia.webb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

tel. 07769 973593



Dorset Councillors Clare Sutton and Claudia Webb

## Update from Weymouth Town Councillor for Wyke South Helen Toft

*"It was extremely interesting to visit the Wyke Water Treatment Plant with Clare and others this summer. In a smelly few hours we gained a better understanding of the processes and asked lots of questions about **sewage** discharges. We both swim near overflow pipes and were keen to learn all we could. You can track discharges online at [www.wessexwater.co.uk/coast-and-rivers-watch-map](http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/coast-and-rivers-watch-map)*

*"As councillors we are encouraged to support local associations and I want to share with you the details of **Wyke Regis Community Centre**, tucked away in Ryemead Lane and now under new management. The halls can be booked for events and there is a kitchen, outside space and parking. They have a new website and Facebook page and can be contacted via [ryemeadkaren@gmail.com](mailto:ryemeadkaren@gmail.com). For the term time Youth Club, go to Wyke Youth Project Facebook page or email [wykeyouthproject@outlook.com](mailto:wykeyouthproject@outlook.com) for further details.*

*"Working with fellow Green Councillors I am pursuing the installation of an Air Quality Monitor on Boot Hill. If we can prove that air quality here is already at dangerous levels we may be able to challenge developments which could add to the problem."*

Contact Helen on **07790 536963** or [cllrhelentoft@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllrhelentoft@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk)



Wyke Regis Water Treatment Plant

## Standing Together Against Racism: My Experience at the Weymouth Anti-Racism Protest

Claudia writes:

*In August I joined hundreds in Weymouth to stand against racism and injustice. This powerful protest brought together people from all walks of life, showing our community's dedication to equality and justice. Racism affects us all, demanding that we actively challenge prejudice. The protest's sense of solidarity was moving. Despite different backgrounds, we share a vision of a society rooted in dignity, respect, and equality.*

*As a councillor, I am committed to amplifying voices affected by racism, pushing for policies that address inequality, inclusive education, and representation within our institutions. Change begins with each of us, whether in homes, workplaces, or council chambers. Together, we can build a brighter, fairer future. The journey is challenging, but our community's strength and hope will lead us forward.*

# Rodwell and Wyke Round Up

Alongside many others, we have opposed the **Portland Waste Incinerator** from the outset and are dismayed that the government gave it the green light in September. As we go to press, Clare has made a further submission to the Environment Agency and is liaising with Dorset Council, our new MP and other parties about possible next steps, which may include High Court Review, while Dorset Green Party's new Chair Val Graves has asked Green MPs to press for no new incinerator permits and an immediate moratorium on environmental permits for approved but unbuilt incinerators, including Portland's. For the most up to date information, go to the Stop Portland Waste Incinerator's Facebook page.

Claudia has been working on recruiting new **Friends of Rodwell Trail** committee members so they can continue the great work they do, including replacing the missing station signs. She would also very much like to hear your views on preferred options regarding Sandsfoot Castle. It's both long-running, and complicated! You can find further details on our Green Party for Rodwell and Wyke Regis Facebook page.



Claudia on the Rodwell Trail

Clare has strongly supported the now-introduced **Cross Road 20mph zone** to make it safer for schoolchildren, elderly residents of Anning House and those using the Doctors' Surgery. Local resident and Vicar of Holy Trinity Juliet Stephenson said: "I am delighted with this. As our children learn about road safety, it's crucial that road users are mindful of buggies, bikes and scooters, and little ones holding hands as they cross the road, and I'm always grateful to see courteous driving. Everyone is benefitting."



Elsewhere, Claudia organised a **South Harbourside** litter pick with Bennett's which was good fun and raised awareness about keeping our harbour clean and, following concerns raised by **Newton's Cove** swimmers, Clare has liaised with Dorset Council staff to get a new handrail installed. Further work will be done in 2025 as part of a package focussing on wider coastal defence. They have also tried to help with many other issues raised by residents, including housing, ASB and planning objections - never a dull moment! We can't always resolve your issues but always do our best.

## Spotlight on Children's Services

Clare writes:

Other than local issues, my main area of focus as a Dorset Councillor has always been children and young people, so I feel honoured to have been appointed Cabinet Member for Children's Services. Ensuring the best chance in life for those who experience the greatest challenges, such as being in care or having special educational needs, is a massive task, particularly given year on year funding cuts, but Dorset is doing better than most Local Authorities, mainly because we're not just talking about early intervention but actually doing it. Examples include getting in there early where there are parental issues with mental health, domestic abuse or substance misuse to try to prevent family breakdown, and working with girls and young women at risk of domestic abuse. I know there are children, parents and carers locally experiencing difficult times. Please get in touch and I will help in any way I can.



Elsewhere, do come along to Chapelhay Community Playgarden's Autumn Family Fun Event 12-2pm Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November! All free, including a hearty lunch, but bring apples for pressing if you have any.

