



<https://colsterworth.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

News for the villages of Colsterworth, Woolsthorpe, Stainby, Gunby, North Witham and Lobthorpe

Edited by Stuart Whitcombe 5 Stephenson Close, NG33 5GP 0777 323 0815 InTouchCopy@gmail.com

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(Excluding Bank Holidays)



Colsterworth & District Parish Council

There is a vacancy on your Local Parish Council and we are inviting you to become a parish councillor.

What do Parish Councillors do?

Local councillors are the champions of their community who invest time in local projects and issues to the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood. Councillors attend to local needs of residents, local groups and collaborate with district councils to identify local needs, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community.

The Parish Council has regular contact with LCC Highways. There are ongoing discussions with LCC Highways on resolving the parking and speeding problems.

The Council is a statutory consultee in planning but has no decision-making powers.

Colsterworth and District Parish Council is made up local people of varied backgrounds who share a common enthusiasm to improve the Colsterworth and District community.

The role of Councillor can be rewarding and gives you the chance to contribute to your community, and to take part in shaping the place in which you live or work. At present the Parish Council has vacancies for two Parish Councillors for Colsterworth and one for Stainby and Gunby and one for North Witham.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor now or in the future, please contact the Clerk, Sue Grant.

Tel; 01476 861888;

Email clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk

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Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888
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Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting 3rd December 2024

Full minutes and reports are available on the Colsterworth and District Website

(Search "Colsterworth and District Parish Council" and find the agendas and minutes under "Council Business": **Council business – Colsterworth and District Parish Council** (lincolnshire.gov.uk))

PUBLIC FORUM:

Cllr C Hainsworth (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the one member of public present to speak.

The member of the public said they had again come to the Parish Council meeting regarding the proposed Anaerobic Digester plant at Gunby. They expressed their frustration with the delay in the planning application having not yet been heard by the SKDC Planning Committee. They stated that the core group representing the community were making someone available each month to attend the Planning Committee meeting to speak and answer questions. A discussion took place around the Planning Committee processes. They asked if the Parish Council could request that the application goes to the February 2025 Planning Committee meeting. Cllr D Bellamy said they would make the request but pointed out that even if it was on the agenda it could be deferred. Cllr C Hainsworth said with Christmas and The New Year holidays approaching it was bad timing and that the Parish Council were also frustrated with the delay and would keep communication open with the member of the public.

The public forum was extended to 7.52pm to allow the member of the public to speak and discuss the matter.

CHAIR'S REMARKS:

Cllr C Hainsworth (Chair) had no significant remarks and moved on to the next agenda item.

Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Councillors Report.

LCC Cllr C Vernon Reported: -

1. They thanked all that attended the meeting with Alicia Kearns MP regarding the A1 and road safety on 15th November at South Witham village hall. 106 people attended the meeting.
2. They urged people to comment on the National Highways Consultation on the proposals to close the gaps on the central reservation along the A1 in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland, between Blyth and Stamford. The closing date was 14th December 2024. Cllr Hainsworth added that the Chair of Great Ponton Parish Council had contacted Colsterworth Parish Council stating that the first proposed step merits support and would appreciate working together on this.
3. They were now Community Speed Watch (CSW) trained and volunteered to help with the Colsterworth CSW group. Cllr Hainsworth thanked Cllr C Vernon and said currently the Colsterworth CSW had no coordinator but would look to pick this up again after the winter months.
4. Parking issues on the High Street, Colsterworth continue to be an issue and they would chase up the LCC Highways Manager Rowan Smith to contact the Parish Council.
5. A reminder to use Lorry Watch to report the misuse of weight restricted routes by lorries.

SKDC Cllr D Bellamy Reported: -

1. Requested to send a written submission on the proposed A1 gap closures.
2. Local Plan Review – If changes to the National Framework Policy are confirmed of around an uplift of 30% of houses this will have to go out to Consultation again.
3. They along with Cllr C Russell and Margaret Winn went to the Colsterworth Community Action Group (CCAG) meeting, to date there had been no follow up and Cllr C Hainsworth said it was important to keep the link with the group.
4. They hoped that the Parish Council will support the UKSPF application for a temporary roof for the Church at North Witham. Cllr C Hainsworth moved straight to agenda item 2024.119 clearing a point of order that it should be Cllr D Bellamy's name against the agenda item not Cllr B Green.

SKDC Cllr B Green sent their apologies.

Annual Play Area Inspection by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd

Unanimously agreed to approve the amended quotation for Colster Way play area of £1,975.15 for repairs to the Cable Runway, Spring See-Saw and Overhead Rotator.

Replacement parts for the cradle seats at North Witham and Colster Way Play areas are on order.

Updates for Council Finance and Administration (F&A)

2025/2026 Budget & Precept Setting.

Cllr E O'Neill explained the draft budget had been amended from £42,429 Minute Ref October 2024.88.1 to £43,588 due to the Autumn Budget increase in employers National Insurance Contributions from April 2025. Increasing the Band D Charge increase from 2.2 % in October to 4.9% which will be shown on the Council Tax Bill.

Parish Councils are not entitled to claim Small Employers Relief or entitled to any extra funding.
It was resolved to agree the draft 2025/2026 Budget.

It was resolved to agree the 2025/2026 Precept Setting of £43,558.

Planning Committee Report – No Report this month

A discussion took place on the closed Footpath 10 in relation to the proposed development off Bourne Road by Hereward Homes. Cllr C Vernon said they would investigate whether a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) or a Definitive Map Modification Order (DDMO) should have been applied for.

Highways & Footpaths Working Group.

National Highways proposals to close gaps in the central reservation along the A1 in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland, between Blyth and Stamford. Deadline 14th December 2024.

It was unanimously agreed to comment that the Parish Council is supportive of the proposals and looks forward to the next steps of the safety of the A1.

Finance - Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

Environment & Amenities Working Group Report.

Update on the Lectern style information board. Minute Ref 2024.109.1&2.

The content and photos put together by Cllr C Hainsworth has been sent to Shelley designs to create the artwork for the Lectern.

Nature Trail

Work is planned to repair the fence at the Bridge End entrance of the Nature Trail caused by the large limb which fell from the diseased tree dismantled by KWR.

The bench to replace Jane's bench on the Wild Flower meadow was installed by the volunteers on Tuesday 10th December. Thank you to the Rotary Club, a generous anonymous donation and the funds raised at the White Lion quiz night and book sale. Also, thank you to Dave Ostler for transporting the new bench to the Flower Meadow.

Clerks Report & day to day business.

1. The diseased tree at the Bridge End entrance to the Nature Trail was taken down and made safe by Kevin Russell of KWR and his team on 14/11/2024.
2. The Hedge along the track at Stamford Road Allotment minute ref November 2024.104.2. The resident has been advised to contact the Diocese of Lincoln who are the landowners.
3. The allotment inspections were carried out by the Clerk and Cllr C Rowland. Letters have been sent to the tenants of those allotments in need of some work.
4. Fallen tree and branch across Footpath 2o from Spring Lane to the River reported to Fix My Street ref 2824652 & LCC Rights of Way Ref 2348939.
5. Notification received from HSBC that they will be reducing the interest rates on Business accounts from 28th January 2025.
6. Work has been scheduled to cut back the overgrown weeds from the stream on Water Lane which are falling into the road.

Correspondence received.

Council received details of correspondence received relating to speeding vehicles, lack of police presence, fly tipping and potholes.

Planning Applications – SKDC

S24/1425 - Construction of 2 dwellings and demolition of agricultural Buildings. Twyford Farm, Honey Pot Lane, Colsterworth.

S24/2011 - Extension to existing farmyard area, including formation of perimeter bund and surfacing. Manor Farm, Church Street, North Witham, Lincolnshire, NG33 5LH.

S24/2087 - Garden structure - Pergola (Retrospective). 35A High Street, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NE,

SKDC Planning Permission

S24/1606 - Installation of two rapid electric vehicle charging stations and ancillary equipment within the car park. Location: McDonald's Restaurant Great North Road.

S24/1244 - Proposed erection of 2no. Commercial (Use Class B8) units. Location: Land At Honey Pot Lane Colsterworth.

S24/1672 - Section 73 to vary conditions 2 (approved plans) in relation to planning permission reference S22/1805 - Proposed raised patio and attached rear timber pergola. Beech House 7A Woodlands Drive, Colsterworth Lincolnshire NG33 5NH

S24/1221 - Proposed retention of existing stables, removal of existing storage containers and erection of replacement hay barn. Land Off Woolsthorpe Road Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth NG33 5NU

Date of next Parish Council Meeting

Date of the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 4th February 2025. Methodist Church Hall, Back Lane, Colsterworth.



GROW YOUR OWN

Ever thought of having an allotment? There are vacancies on both Stamford Road and Woolsthorpe Road allotments. If you are prepared to commit to some hard work, then reap the benefits of fresh home-grown fruit and vegetables. Contact the Parish Clerk.

Tel: **01476 861888**

or email clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk

Poppies and Concert

I would like to thank the many volunteers who stepped forward once again to make this year's poppy display in the church of St John the Baptist such a success. The church looked beautiful and the creative talents of our poppy ladies, school children, beavers and cubs and the Little Legs Nursery were on display for all to see.

Many thanks also to the groups and organisations that have taken part in this year's Christmas Tree Festival. It has grown considerably over the years and this year we had the grand total of 28 trees, which created a very colourful and festive atmosphere for the Carol Service. The imagination shown in the design of the various trees never ceases to amaze and amuse.

Special thanks go to Greg Arrowsmith and Carolina Di Gregorio for the fantastic Christmas Concert they performed in aid of the church funds. This had a tremendous response from the villagers and the event was a sell-out. Thank you to everyone involved in making it such a successful and entertaining evening.

With our thanks.

Jackie Taylor and Carol and Peter Wheatley.

Colsterworth WI meeting, 21st November 2024

The sun was shining, the snow was deep and crisp and not very even as the ladies of Colsterworth WI gathered for the anniversary lunch - the 107th anniversary of this venerable institution. The weather might have been bitterly cold but the welcome was as warm as ever at the White Lion pub on the High Street.

Once all the 22 members were seated with drinks before them, quiet descended. Helen, the acting president, welcomed everybody and gave birthday cards and good wishes to Gillian Dexter, Brenda Nelson, Liz Clark and Sue Taylor. Helen then asked Rachel to give a resume of the recent coffee morning. Rachel began by commenting on what a super atmosphere had prevailed throughout the morning. There had been excellent support from members and the community at large. The raffle proved to be very popular, largely due to the artistic efforts of Sonia and Helen who had packed some really superb hampers for prizes. These were very well received by the winners along with some bottles and gift boxes. The cake stall did a brisk trade with Pamela and Rachel kept busy servicing requests for the various goodies on offer.

The morning raised a staggering £368.10. (Helen, our treasurer, is still scratching her head over the odd 10p, but heigh ho, every little helps). The monies will be equally divided between Colsterworth WI and RNLI, two organisations so close to our dear departed Dot's heart. Our thanks again go to Bob and Phil of the White Lion for their help and support in making the coffee morning such a success.

Helen explained to members that until the next AGM the committee would operate a rotating presidency for both the general and committee meetings, with Helen in the role for November and Rachel in

December. Helen then invited members to attend a committee meeting to see how they work and help them to decide whether they would like to join. With Vanessa's departure, Pamela has agreed to step in and co-ordinate the delivery of greetings cards. This meant that, under the current GDPR regulations, members needed to agree to have their details passed to Pamela. All present agreed with no hesitation and Helen moved onto the next item. This was the appointment of our new auditor, Andrea Maclaren from South Leverton who is a forensic accountant. All hands were raised in favour. Finally, two forward events were flagged up: the resolutions meeting on Friday 17th January and a Federation quiz evening on February 20th. This ended the business section of the day and Bob and the lovely Ellie began to bring the food out.

Members chatted happily as they tucked into their first courses. Prawns, mushrooms or duck were all equally popular and dispatched with relish. The main courses were laid at places accompanied by dishes of steaming potatoes and a variety of freshly cooked vegetables. All the meals looked most appetising and members agreed the food was, as ever, excellent. A few members had ordered pudding instead of a starter. They looked and tasted delicious. Tea and coffee followed accompanied by the drawing of the raffle. More chatter followed as members moved to speak to different friends and the afternoon sped by. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st at 2pm with Adam O'Meara talking to us about Bread and Cheese who has a stall at Bourne Market on a Thursday. The shadows were lengthening and the temperature dropping back below zero as the ladies said their goodbyes. Replete with good food and happy with cheerful companionship, the homeward journey began.
Colsterworth Women's Institute

Diary Dates

January 21st 2 pm Colsterworth Village Hall

February 18th 2 pm Colsterworth Village Hall

A Winter Stroll

We walk down the street
Dressed in warm attire,
Just as the church clock
Is striking the hour.

Roofs and footpaths
Glisten with snow,
As stars in the sky
Are starting to show.

It's a cold frosty night
As we trundle with care.
The smell of wood smoke
So strong in the air.

We have taken the air,
Now it is our desire,
To go back inside
And sit by the fire

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If you have any Unit, Division, Corps or Single Service plaque then we would love to see them placed on the village military wall.

Any donations to Bob Prentice

This is in support of the Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance (CFoR).

Any questions to David Heath French at davidheathfrench@gmail.com



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- Old Post Lane junction Water Lane
- West End of the Nature Trail
- The Nature Trail behind Woolsthorpe Play Area
- Footpath 18 near river
- Stamford Road near allotment
- School Lane where it meets footpath 20



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A Cautionary Tale

The only bit of me that's thin
Is the skin upon my shin.

The oven door was loose, fell out,
Fell down, hit shin, caused me to shout.

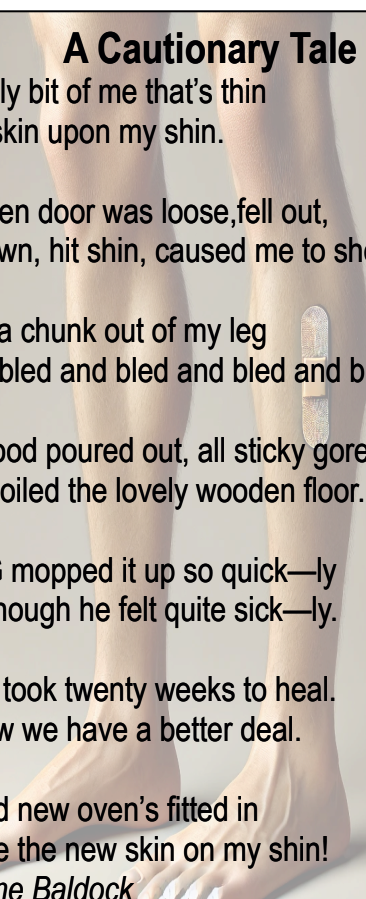
It took a chunk out of my leg
Which bled and bled and bled and bled.

The blood poured out, all sticky gore,
And spoiled the lovely wooden floor.

But PG mopped it up so quick—ly
Even though he felt quite sick—ly.

My leg took twenty weeks to heal.
But now we have a better deal.

A brand new oven's fitted in
To save the new skin on my shin!
Christine Baldock



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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS GRAND SWITCH ON ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Thank you to Carol and Peter Wheatley and Colsterworth Primary School Choir. It was a great turn out and clearly the members of the school Choir and all those involved had worked very hard to make the Christmas Lights switch on 2024, a very festive success.



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An explanation about what flood warnings are and what to do is available here www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-alerts-and-warnings-what-they-are-and-what-to-do

You may find this document helpful on surface water flooding <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-risk-maps-for-surface-water-how-to-use-the-map> but if you do have concerns regarding surface water flooding, this will be addressed by your local authority.

Who maintains the flood risk asset near me?

Structures or features that help manage the risk of flooding or coastal erosion can be designated as a flood risk management asset. Please use the following government link to find out who is the maintainer of these assets: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/asset-management/index.html>

What more can I do to protect my property?

You can find out how to put together Flood Plans for your home, business or community here www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding

If you think you are about to be flooded (i.e. flood warning or severe flood warning issued) then please:

- Turn off your gas, electricity and water supplies, if it is safe to do so – do not touch an electrical switch if you're standing in water
- Move your family, vehicles, pets and important items to safety e.g. upstairs or higher ground
- Use flood products if you have them e.g. flood barriers or air brick covers
- Follow advice from the emergency services or local council – you may be asked to evacuate

For information on Flood Products to help reduce the impact of flooding on your home e.g. flood doors, airbrick covers, visit www.bluepages.org.uk. Alternatives include putting soil in bags to go across doorways, and down the toilet/sink.

You could prepare an Emergency Bag of essential items. This might include spare glasses, waterproof coat, medication and a copy of any recent prescription, water, food, insurance documents and pet food. You could consider hand sanitiser and a face covering too.

Do shop around to find the right insurance policy for you. Why not see if Flood Re can help – www.floodre.co.uk. This is a joint initiative between Government and insurers aiming to make the flood cover part of household insurance policies more affordable. For advice about insurance look online here: www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding/get-insurance.

If you have any queries, please contact Inenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

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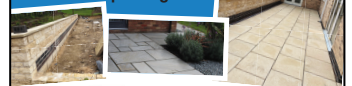
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Contacts: Rector In Vacancy
Church Warden Peter Wheatley 07765 126402
Treasurer Carol Wheatley 07936 437018
Secretary Peter Baldock 860293
PCC Members Jan Sweetland 07969 666525
Hilary Winstanley 861160

Sunday services for January at St John the Baptist Church:

5 th January	11:00am Morning Prayer	Hilary Winstanley ALM
12 th January	11:00am Morning Prayer	Steve Potts Reader
19 th January	11:00am Holy Communion	Rev'd Jill Potts
26 th January	11:00am Morning Prayer	Peter Wheatley Churchwarden

Other Events

Church Cleaning: 14th Jan 9:30am with coffee and chat after

OPEN DAILY 10.00am – 4:00pm for visitors & contemplation

We would like to thank all who have helped 'your church' during 2024. We are very grateful to those who have given their time and energy for cleaning, grass cutting, clock winding, flower arranging and organising events such as the Christmas Tree Festival and the Christmas Concert, especially our star performers, Carolina and Greg. We have also benefitted from regular financial donations as well as those of Foodbank food, flowers, the church Christmas tree, jam and books. Thank you everyone, it is through your support the church continues to be there when you need it.

As we are without a resident vicar our services are led by visiting clergy or lay volunteers, with tea, coffee and biscuits after each service. Baptism, Wedding or Funeral Services can be arranged, please contact Peter, Churchwarden.

For more information on services, or the church, please see social media, our website www.achurchnearyou.com/St-John-the-Baptist-Colsterworth or Peter, Churchwarden.

Mobile Post Office
Stopping by Colsterworth Bowls Club

Mon 0900 – 1100	Contact Andy on 01778 570221
Tue 0900 – 1000	
Wed 1345 – 1545	
Thu 0900 – 1100	
Fri 0900 – 1030	



**NORTH WITHAM
VILLAGE HALL**

Contact Jane Clark on 07778 393872, north.witham@gmail.com
for Village Hall matters and bookings

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Minister: Rev'd Neil Maynard,
142 Princess Drive,
Grantham, NG31 9PY
Tel: 01476 564191
Email: neil.maynard@methodist.org.uk
Village Contact:
Pamela Harrison – 01476 861864



COLSTERWORTH METHODIST CHURCH
January 2025

Our services will be in the church, however we will also be zooming 2 services a month from the building internet permitting. If you are interested in joining our services by zoom, please email helenscorror@outlook.com or phone 01476 860126 for more details.

Our services for January are:

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Flowers
5 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rowena Ward-Barrow	Helen Scrorr
12 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rev'd Ray Hinch	Lynn Lewis
19 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Jennie Fytche	Betty Neal
26 th	10:30am	Covenant service	Rev'd Neil Maynard	Cheryl Sutcliffe

Open Door –Wednesday 8th & 22nd January - 11:45am – 1:30pm.

During the Winter months we will be opening over lunchtime and serving soup and a roll plus either a hot pudding or cake plus of course offering lots of chat. We welcome people of all and no faith to join us and of all ages. Our book and jigsaw library will be available for you to browse and borrow from.

Games/Craft & Chat Group – Wednesday 15th & 29th January – 2:00-3:30pm.

Bring your own craft along and join our group for a cuppa, a chat and maybe an opportunity to learn new skills. Or alternatively come and have a chat over a game of dominoes. Everyone welcome.

Used Postage Stamps

We are collecting used postage stamps for the RNIB Open Christmas Stamp Appeal. Please contact Helen to arrange collection or drop off at one of our events.

Villages Diary January 2025

Thu 2 nd	12-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
Tue 4 th	7:30pm	Parish Council	Methodist Church Hall
Wed 8 th	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Mon 13 th	7:30pm	Garden Club	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 15 th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Tue 21 st	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 22 nd	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Wed 29 th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 30 th	12-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
February			
Tue 18 th	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall

Weekly

Mondays	10am-noon	FOCUS Kurling	Village Hall
	12:30pm	Merry Widow(er)s (1 st Monday)	White Lion
Tuesdays	10am	Free Wellbeing Walk (3 rd Tuesday)	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	Yoga	Methodist Church
	6pm-7:30pm	Cubs (Term time)	Village Hall
Wednesdays	11:45am -1:30pm	Open Door (2 nd & 4 th Weeks)	Methodist Church
	2pm-3:30pm	Craft & Chat (1 st & 3 rd Weeks)	Methodist Church
Thursdays	10am-noon	Rolling Stones Kurling	Village Hall
	1pm	Free Chair Yoga (2 nd Thursday)	Methodist Church
	7pm-8:30pm	Scouts (Term time)	Village Hall
Fridays	5:45pm-6:45pm	Beavers (Term time)	Village Hall
	7:30pm-9:30pm	Weekly Bingo	Sports & Social Club
Saturdays	10am-12noon	Football Coaching	Sports Field

Copy for next month's issue of In Touch must arrive by noon on Saturday 11th January 2025

Email contributions to InTouchCopy@gmail.com
The deadline date is final and copy may not be included if there is a shortage of space. Please submit your copy as early as possible.
Images and/or artwork submitted in digital formats **MUST** be at a resolution of 300dpi. Ensure that you put your contact details on any submission.
Send or deliver hard copy to **5 Stephenson Close, Colsterworth NG33 5GP (Tel:07773 230815)**.
Remember to give dates of future meetings if you want them to appear in the Villages' Diary.
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