

# In Touch

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

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

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**Saturday 10th May**

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Thursday 8 May 2025 marks 80 years since VE (Victory in Europe) Day when the Second World War came to an end in Europe. Back in 1945, crowds filled the streets in cities, towns and villages across the country – sharing the moment they had feared might never come. They celebrated the end of the war after five long years, giving thanks for victory, and the way of life it secured.



It is now time for the Nation to come together to learn about the stories of those that served and the VE Day generation, from the servicemen who fought, to children who were evacuated, and women on the home front. On Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May, the Nation is being encouraged to get together and share food; it could be something as simple as cooking up

a BBQ with your mates, a fry up, a curry night or a Big Lunch with your neighbours.

There are lots of ways to get involved: decorate your home with bunting and flags; encourage the children to draw pictures and put them in their windows!



### Local Connection

Lt. Col. David Hamilton re-visited North Witham airfield on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. He was the last surviving USAAF C47 pilot to fly from North Witham to Normandy on D-Day, delivering US 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Pathfinder para-troops. He was born in England but grew up a New Yorker, he passed away on 5<sup>th</sup> January aged 102

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# Parish Council Report

Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

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](http://lincolnshire.gov.uk))

## **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Below is a summary of the Public Forum, full details can be found on the Parish Council website under council Business.

Cllr C Hainsworth (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the sixteen fifteen persons present at the Public Forum. A spokesperson for those present stated that they were all present to voice their concerns and object to the SKDC Planning Application S25/0203. Change of use from Use Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) to Use Class C2 (flexible use under Part 3, Class V of GPDO) as a children's care home. 9A School Lane, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NW and presented their concerns.

Cllr C Hainsworth thanked Cllr M Childs for preparing a draft response to the Planning Application discussed above and offered to prepare a revised version in the light of representations made for Cllrs to consider further.

The Public Forum was extended to 8pm to allow all those present to speak.

## **CHAIR'S REMARKS:**

Cllr C Hainsworth (Chair) explained that the Clerk Sue Grant was absent due to illness and thanked those who had covered during her recent annual leave.

## **Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Councillors Report.**

County/District Councillor Report.

LCC Cllr C Vernon Reported: -

1. Is running for re-election and had nothing to report. LCC is observing purdah due to the mayoral elections.

SKDC Cllr D Bellamy Reported: -

1. Cllr Bellamy shared concerns about the extension to the quarry and landfill at Stainby which appears to have permissions granted in 2018. He will make further enquiries and share with Cllrs.

2. Cllr Bellamy also reported on the A1 and the litter clean up being carried out by SKDC. Also the current phase of closing some crossings are less contentious and a positive first stage in the safety of the A1. He was aware of support for the closure of the residents in North Witham of the closure of the Bull Hill Junction. There will be further consultations with Parish Councils directly affected. Cllr Hainsworth requested that Colsterworth and District PC is involved in these consultations due to the impact on all our villages due to diversions etc.

SKDC Cllr B Green sent their apologies. They had circulated a report to the Clerk and Cllr C Hainsworth earlier that day including the following updates: -

1. FixMyStreet Implementation  
South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) is now present on FixMyStreet, enabling residents to report community issues such as fly-tipping, graffiti, and dead wildlife. Reports are automatically

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888  
[clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk)

directed to the appropriate local authority, ensuring timely responses.

2. Proposed Council Merger

The Independent-led SKDC administration has voted in favour of a merger with North Kesteven, South Holland, and Rutland.

Given Rutland's substantially higher council tax rates, this merger could result in an additional £64 per year for Band D properties.

## **Updates for Council administration**

The Lincolnshire County Council Highway Grass Cutting Agreement for 2025/2026 was approved.

It was resolved to release the £1,000 earmarked for the Newton Project to support a Grant application for £1,000 to the Colsterworth Parochial Church Council towards the cost of the Clock repair at St John the Baptist Church.

## **Update on the Community Car Park (The Clerk)**

SKDC Legal Team are making further investigations into the original transfer of the Colster Way land to the Parish Council.

**Finance** - Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

## **Environment & Amenities Working Group Report.**

Lectern for War Memorial Restoration. War Memorial Information Board - Cllrs Russell, Hainsworth and Bouvie and Margaret Winn looked at possible placement for lectern. Position discussed and agreed. Cllrs M Childs and C Rowland to liaise with the Clerk to collect the lectern for installation.

## **Nature Trail**

On Monday 24/03/2025 the volunteers helped Graham Keiley litter picking over the A151 Fly Over.

## **Clerks Report & day to day business**

1. 65 x aqua sacs at £247 order placed with SKDC. Agenda item March 2024.157.

2. Order placed with Wicksteed Leisure Ltd for repair to play equipment on Colster Way. Agenda item March 2024.158

3. Observations on the state of the War Memorial. There appears to be an early deterioration in the repair with some limestone starting to crumble and the mortar on the faces of the base crumbling in the previously worst affected areas. The Clerk has contacted the Stonemason who completed the restoration to advise what action can be taken.

## **Correspondence received**

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

## **SKDC Planning Applications**

S25/0203 - Change of use from Use Class C3 (Dwellinghouse) to Use Class C2 (flexible use under Part 3, Class V of GPDO) as a children's care home.

Location: 9A School Lane, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NW.

Extension to the deadline for S25/0203 Planning Application (Change of Use) proposed Children's Home on School Lane before 22nd April 2025.

S24/0464 - Proposed erection of new boundary park railing fence, replacement of windows, installation of stone lintel and repoint stonework, removal of plastic. Manor House, Church Street, North Witham, Lincolnshire, NG33 5LH  
 S25/0442 - Extension of garden access balcony from kitchen and lower floor at rear of Property Location: The Old Stables, Woolsthorpe Road, Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NX

### SKDC Planning Permission

S23/1145 - Decision notice relating to the S106 Agreement for the Newton Meadows development – it does not affect any of the financial agreements already agreed under the S106 Agreement but “these changes, to be executed through a Deed of Variation, seek to amend a clause within the original agreement to assist with the sale of properties”  
 Link to the Officer’s delegated report: S23\_1145-OFFICER\_DELEGATED\_REPORT-2346810.pdf

**Date of the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Methodist Church Hall, Back Lane, Colsterworth.**



## Cranwell Military Wives Choir

Many thanks to the Cranwell Military Wives Choir, who entertained us so admirably during the latest church musical event. We know everybody enjoyed it and are looking forward to them returning in 2026. We would like to especially thank the Colsterworth Co-Op and CFoR, who both generously supported the event.

On the theme of recurring musical events, we have more planned for this year. The first one will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of June and will be an evening of song and dance showcasing talented children from Colsterworth and surrounding villages, presented by Julie Kirby.

The second event will be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of November, when we will be enjoying an evening of song featuring two choirs; Millstone Grit and It Ain't What You Do. One of which is an all male choir on one of which is mixed. Should be interesting.

Finally, on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December, we are thrilled to announce an evening of music with Carpe Diem, featuring Mark on acoustic guitar accompanied Fiona singing. More details of the evenings will be released nearer to the times. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jackie

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## Colsterworth WI Meeting March 18<sup>th</sup> 2025

A sparkling day. The early rime had lifted leaving that clear pellucid blue sky which sometimes follows a frost. The ladies of Colsterworth WI made their way to the village hall for their monthly meeting. Being March, it was the Annual General Meeting, a lot of discussion, a lot of decisions and hopefully, consensus about the year ahead. The WI Federation issues guidelines advising how an AGM should be conducted and our ever efficient and super-organised Helen had emailed these to all the committee members previously for their perusal. Well prepared and ready for action, acting president Rachel Popham rang the bell at 2pm to open the meeting, welcoming the 20 members attending as well as one visitor and Louise Reid, present in her official capacity as Federation trustee and advisor.

We quickly got down to business, there was a lot to get through. Helen, in her role of treasurer, spoke first, taking members through the financial statement. She explained that the annual subscription has been raised from £48 per year to £51. However, the committee has decided to reduce the Colsterworth WI share by £1 thus capping the increase at £50. Federation will get £12.05, NFWI get £13.85 and Colsterworth WI get £24.10. The tea and raffle charge will remain the same at £1 and the visitor fee at £5. Members were happy with this and also agreed that Andrea MacClaren should continue as our independent advisor. First decision made! The annual report from the committee came next. This was written and read by Rosemarie who was loud in her praise for the breadth and balance of the speakers who had entertained us throughout 2024. She thanked Gillian and Rachel for researching and booking such an admirable selection and was confident that Gillian, Sonia and Shirley would provide us with another excellent year of entertainment, education and enlightenment in 2025.

Rachel then stood to give the president's address. She touched upon the challenges we had faced last year: the departure of our president, Vanessa, as she and her husband

moved to the South Coast, the move from the Sports and Social Club to the Village Hall and the sad deaths of several of our much-loved members. She thanked the committee for their hard work and determination and the members for their continuing support. Rachel then moved seamlessly on to the results of the ballot for committee members. There had been 15 nominations for the committee. Nine ladies were willing to stand and the other six were happy to help out in any way they could without formally being on the committee. Colsterworth WI runs with a committee of nine. Liz Clark, who has been a hardworking member for five years has decided to step down. Fortunately for us all, Liz is willing to continue her duties at the Welcome desk, greeting members and visitors alike with her lovely smile. Liz has also said she will continue to organise the Bring & Buy stall which boosts our coffers twice a year. With Liz stepping down and Vanessa's departure the committee was down to seven. Therefore, we were very pleased to welcome to the team Rosemary Haw and Christine Whittle.

Time for our Federation Trustee to step in. Paper and pencils were handed round for members to nominate a candidate from the committee to be president. Louise checked the papers and found several names had been put forward. She then passed another paper to each nominee to request whether they were willing to stand. Thankfully, our lovely Helen Scorrer circled yes, she was willing to stand. Members were very pleased as all appreciate the vast amount of work Helen puts into the WI and realised we were in a safe pair of hands. Another decision made!

A bit of light relief now after all the serious stuff. It was time for the presentation of the trophies for the year 2024-2025. First of all the lovely new wooden Tazza which was commissioned last year in memory of our dear Dot Williams to replace the silver rose bowl which, being full of years, was showing its age. This trophy is presented to the member who has, over the year, accrued the most points in the 'Item of the Month' competition. Rachel announced the winner, it was Rosemarie who was thrilled to be the first recipient of this beautiful piece of craftsmanship. The next award was the presentation of what is fondly known to members as 'Mrs Stafford's Ginger Jar' for the member who has gained the

most points in the 'Flower of the Month' competition. Rosemarie was amazed to hear her name again as the winner. A clean sweep! After all this excitement, the ladies were more than ready for tea. A lot to discuss and yet more decisions to be made, but this time only deciding between the delicious offerings laid on by Jil, Brenda and June who were busy as tea hostesses. The new competitions start this month and members remembered to put their coins by their Flower of the Month choice and our advisor, Louise, was invited to judge the 'Item of the Month'. The subject this month was 'Weather Related' and Louise had a tricky job deciding between the large number of items our enterprising members had placed on the table.

Rachel gathered the ladies back together for the final part of the meeting. The business bit. She brought members up to date on the resolutions that had been voted on at the last meeting. Of the four resolutions put forward for consideration by all WIs in the country, 'Bystanders can be Lifesavers' received 36% of the total votes and will go forward to the Annual Meeting in June to be discussed. Members were reminded that the S Lincs Federation is managing the WI Marquee at this year's Lincolnshire Show and were given advance notice that chutneys, pickles and jams will be required as well as the usual cakes.

Results of this month's competitions were announced. Brenda won the Flower of the Month competition with Helen in second place and Sandra took first place in the 'Weather Related' Item of the month competition with a very clever handmade sculpture showing a variety of different weathers, with Liz the runner up with a pretty weather house. Our next meeting is our Resolution discussion on May 20th which will go to the AGM in June, with a Beetle Drive afterwards. After a very busy and productive session, 4 o'clock approached and Rachel, thanking everybody for attending, closed the meeting.

### *Colsterworth Women's Institute*

#### Diary Dates

Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup> 2pm  
Colsterworth Village Hall  
Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> 2pm  
Colsterworth Village Hall

# COLSTERWORTH

*Festival of Remembrance*

## Military Plaques Required

Have you ever served in the Armed Forces or have a family member that has in the past? If so then we would love your contributions to our military wall within the White Lion.

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](mailto:davidheathfrench@gmail.com)



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- 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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# COLSTERWORTH WAR

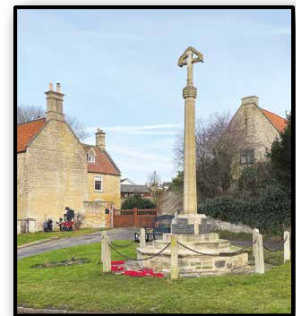
In 2023 a partnership between the Parish Council and the Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance (CFoR) demonstrated the community's collective support for the restoration of the War Memorial.

FCC Communities Foundation provided a significant grant for the project and the fundraising embraced the vision to safeguard the Memorial and preserve its historical significance for future generations.



**THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD, AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD:  
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM, NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN.  
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,  
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.**

The Memorial is made up of a twenty feet (six metres) cross executed in Clipsham stone. The designer/architect of the Memorial is unknown.



- 1919 Memorial was erected
- 1949 War Memorial was refurbished, and the concrete posts and chain were installed
- 1984 Designated a grade II listed structure
- 2009 Concerns over the on-going structural stability of the Memorial
- 2010 Some restoration work was carried out
- 2019 Further accelerated deterioration of the stone at the base of the Memorial
- 2020 Due to the Covid Pandemic and lack of funding the project was delayed
- 2023 Funding was secured for the work and the project reinstated
- 2024 Restoration completed 12th September 2024



There are thirty four names on slate plaques gilded with inscriptions on the War Memorial; these names are representative of families still living in the Parish including the small hamlet of Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth, notable as the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton.



# MEMORIAL RESTORATION



In addition to the War Memorial there are other military memorials within the Parish Church of St John the Baptist further along the High Street including a stained glass window dedicated to Captain Charles Bland (First World War). The Church is also the Custodian of the Rolls of Honour to those parishioners lost in WW1 and those who served and were lost in WW2 along with the Royal British Legion Standard. There are further Rolls of Honour to be found in three other villages in the Parish at North Witham, Gunby and Stainby.



Another connection close by and linked to the heritage of the War Memorial is Twyford Wood which was the site of the Second World War airfield, RAF North Witham, where the allied US Forces played a crucial role in the D-Day operations.



Although their names are not recorded in the village, this Memorial also allows us to remember those servicemen and servicewomen who have been involved in the many wars and conflicts that have taken place both before and since the two World Wars.

Other commemorative items have been donated and placed on the small green surrounding the Memorial by CFoR and members of the community including a metal bench, planters and lone Tommy Statue including a tribute to Animals at War.

The War Memorial gardens are maintained by Volunteers.



The serving and veteran members of the Armed Forces are evident in the Parish with a Military Plaque Wall at the local White Lion Public House on the High Street, Colsterworth acknowledging our military history and Heritage.



Supported by:



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FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund



SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL



War Memorials Trust



Balfour Beatty HOMES



Local Community Fund



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Colsterworth Methodist Chapel



St John the Baptist Church

Colsterworth Village Hall and Sports and Social Club

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**Services for May at St John the Baptist Church:**

4<sup>th</sup> May 11:00am Morning Prayer Peter Wheatley Churchwarden  
11<sup>th</sup> May 11:00am Holy Communion Revd Jill Potts  
18<sup>th</sup> May 11:00am Morning Prayer Steve Potts Reader  
25<sup>th</sup> May 11:00am Morning Prayer Hilary Winstanley ALM

**Other Events**

Church Cleaning: 13<sup>th</sup> May 9:30am with coffee and chat after

Coffee Morning: 6<sup>th</sup> May 10:00 – 12:00 Hosts: Carol & Peter Wheatley  
29 High Street Colsterworth

*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](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-John-the-Baptist-Colsterworth) or Peter, Churchwarden.

**Mobile Post Office**  
Stopping by Colsterworth Bowls Club  
Mon 0900 – 1100  
Tue 0900 – 1000  
Wed 1345 – 1545  
Thu 0900 – 1100  
Fri 0900 – 1030  
Contact Andy on 01778 570221

**NORTH WITHAM VILLAGE HALL**  
Contact Jane Clark on 07762 851265, [north.witham@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:neil.maynard@methodist.org.uk)  
Village Contact:  
Pamela Harrison – 01476 861864



**COLSTERWORTH METHODIST CHURCH  
May 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](mailto:helenscorror@outlook.com) or phone 01476 860126 for more details.

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Flowers
4 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	Morning Worship	Tony Charles	Lynn Lewis
11 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	Morning Worship	Geoff Cawthorn	Cheryl Sutcliffe
18 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	Morning Worship	Ian Thacker	Betty Neal
25 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rowena Ward-Barrow	Gill Dexter

**Open Door –Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> May - 11:45am – 1:30pm.**

We will be serving filled rolls with 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 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> May – 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.

**Mini-Fete – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 2:00 – 4:00pm in aid of Church & Prostate Cancer Research**

Homemade cakes, refreshments, games, plants, books, bric a brac.

**Villages Diary May 2025**

Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12:30pm	Coffee Morning Parish Council	29, High Street, C'worth Methodist Church Hall
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Garden Club	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	12-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
June			
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	Mini Fete	Methodist Church Hall
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall

**Weekly**

<b>Mondays</b>	10am-noon	<b>FOCUS Kurling</b>	Village Hall
	12:30pm	<b>Merry Widow(er)s</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	White Lion
	6:30pm-7:30pm	<b>Pilates</b>	North Witham Village Hall
<b>Tuesdays</b>	10am	<b>Free Wellbeing Walk</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	<b>Yoga</b>	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	<b>Beavers</b> (Term time)	Village Hall
<b>Wednesdays</b>	11:45am -1:30pm	<b>Open Door</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Weeks)	Methodist Church
	12:30pm	<b>Lunch</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)	North Witham Village Hall
	2pm-3:30pm	<b>Craft &amp; Chat</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Weeks)	Methodist Church
<b>Thursdays</b>	10am-noon	<b>Rolling Stones Kurling</b>	Village Hall
	1pm	<b>Free Chair Yoga</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	Methodist Church
	6pm - 7:15pm	<b>Cubs</b> (Term time)	Village Hall
<b>Fridays</b>	6:30pm-7:30pm	<b>Pilates</b>	North Witham Village Hall
	7:30pm-8:45pm	<b>Scouts</b> (Term time)	Village Hall
	7:30pm-9:30pm	<b>Weekly Bingo</b>	Sports & Social Club
<b>Saturdays</b>	10am-12noon	<b>Football Coaching</b>	Sports Field
	10am-11am	<b>Breakfast</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)	North Witham Village Hall

**Copy for next month's issue of In Touch must arrive by noon on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
Email contributions to [InTouchCopy@gmail.com](mailto: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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