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

Edited by Stuart Whitcombe

5 Stephenson Close, NG33 5GP

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InTouchCopy@gmail.com

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Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888
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Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting 6th May 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))

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 invited the two members of the public present to speak.

The first member of the public spoke thanking the Parish Council for their support in objecting to the planning application for a proposed Children's Home on School Lane, Colsterworth (Planning Application S24/0203).

The second member of the public asked if a member of the Parish Council would be attending the South Kesteven District Council Planning Committee meeting at 1pm on 8th May 2025. Cllr Hainsworth said that this would be discussed as an agenda item later in the meeting. They advised that SKDC Cllr D Bellamy had submitted a written report in support of the Parish Councils objection.

The public session was extended to 8.44pm to allow those present to speak. Cllr C Hainsworth thanked those present for attending the meeting and moved onto the first agenda item of the meeting.

CHAIR'S REMARKS:

Cllr C Hainsworth (Chair) informed everyone that just prior to the start of the meeting they had received written communication from Cllr A Bouvie giving their intention to retire as a Parish Councillor.

Election of Chair & Election of Vice Chair

Chair - Cllr C Hainsworth advised that they was not seeking re-election this year as Chair and Cllr C Russell nominated Cllr E O'Neill seconded by Cllr C Hainsworth. Cllr E O'Neill was unanimously voted as Chair.

Vice Chair - Cllr C Hainsworth was unanimously voted as Vice Chair.

Election of lead Councillors for: -

Finance and Administration Committee

Cllrs C Hainsworth, E O'Neill, M Childs and C Russell were duly elected.

Environment and Amenities Working Group

Cllrs would volunteer on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Footpaths and Highways Working Group

Cllrs would volunteer on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Planning Committee x 4 Councillors

Cllrs C Rowland, C Russell, C Hainsworth and R Chatterton were duly elected.

Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Councillors Report.

LCC Cllr C Vernon sent their apologies.

SKDC Cllr D Bellamy sent their apologies.

SKDC Cllr B Green reported: -

1. They thanked the Parish Council for their patience and said they were back following the recent elections and that it was quiet on the SKDC front.

2. Following the County Council Elections the Conservatives were down to 14 seats with Reform UK having a large majority. The new leader will be voted for at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Cllr Richard Davies has taken over as leader of the opposition. The SKDC AGM will be in around three weeks, and they do not expect any major changes.

3. It will be interesting to see how the new Mayoral Office will operate.

4. There was a short discussion on the uncertain future of the unitary re-organisation of the County

VJ Day Beacon lighting 15th August 2025.

It was agreed to organise a beacon lighting event on VJ Day 15th August 2025 and invite local groups to support the event.

Updates for Council administration

F & A Committee meeting date to be agreed..

External Audit

The Annual Governance and Accountability Report sections 1 & 2 were approved and signed by Chair to the Council Cllr E O'Neill and the Clerk S Grant.

The following Policies were reviewed and adopted.

CAD Nature Trail Risk Assessment

CAD Freedom of Information Request

CAD Freedom of Information Decision Template

Review of the CAD Standing Orders deferred to the next F&A Meeting.

Finance - Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

Update on the Community Car Park. (The Clerk)

The Clerk met with an SKDC Legal Services team member on 4th April 2025. They are unable to identify the landowner of that the Electricity sub-station sits on and are making further enquiries with their SKDC Legal Team records.

Environment & Amenities Working Group Report.

Lectern for War Memorial Restoration. Installed by 25th April 2025 A big thank you to Cllr Chris Rowland for digging the holes, which was very hard work and Cllr Colin Russell for assisting with the positioning and levelling of the Lectern.

Clerks Report & day to day business.

1. Fly tipping Bridge reported Bridge End opposite the entrance to the Nature Trail.

Ivy has been removed from some areas of the Ingle Passage off Woolsthorpe Road exposing the fence panels

2. Vehicle collision Colster Way, Little Legs railings on the early hours of Sunday morning 14th April reported to the Police Ref: 2025 209-11239-25-3232-NEA04.

3. Storage of Parish Council Property: -

The Clerk is investigating storage options for Parish Council property.

4. The War Memorial Restoration Information Board/Lectern was installed on 25/04/2025.

5. The defibrillator outside Little Legs was deployed on 30th April. Returned to the cabinet on Friday 2nd May and updated on the Community Heartbeat Webnos and The Circuit systems. First aid kit missing, replacement ordered.

6. Following the Nature Trail update for the Annual Parish Meeting Cllr C Hainsworth has connected with the Community and Volunteer Coordinator at the Boothby Pagnel, Nattergal Wildlife Project to learn more about the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in terms of a S106 Agreement in any future planning process.

Correspondence received.

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

SKDC Planning Applications

S25/0455 - Construction of 3no. dwellings with associated car parking and external Landscaping. Location: Land Between 16-18 Bourne Road, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5JE.

S25/0769 - Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for use of Stoke Rochford Hall as a C2 class residential institution. Stoke Rochford Hall Village Street Stoke Rochford Lincolnshire NG33 5EJ App Type: Lawful Development

SKDC Planning Permission

S23/0309 - Extension to garage. 9 Ingle Court Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth Lincolnshire NG33 5PB. Permission with conditions.

SKDC Planning Approval of Prior Notification Details

S25/0343 - Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of new single storey extension with flat roof to the rear elevation with sliding doors and roof light to the flat roof Location: 50 Colster Way Colsterworth, Lincolnshire.

SKDC Planning Refusal

S25/0203 - Change of use from Use Class C3 (Dwelling house) 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.

Date of the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 3rd June 2025. Methodist Church Hall, Back Lane, Colsterworth.

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.

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Email clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk

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INSPIRING WOMEN

Colsterworth WI meeting April 15th 2025

It was a day of April showers. After what seemed like weeks of endless sunshine, the sky was overcast and grey. Fortunately, the rain had abated by the time the ladies of Colsterworth WI gathered for their April meeting. Due to unforeseen circumstances (as they say) there was a different arrangement of furniture at the Village Hall this month. The Welcome table was still in place with Liz at the helm, the competition tables were rapidly filling up with floral and printed word exhibits and the tea table groaned invitingly with a selection of goodies.

The difference was, in place of the usual rows of chairs awaiting members, there was, instead, an arrangement of tables with the numbers 1 to 5 stuck on them. The change in circumstances was a sad affair. Our speaker, whose talk members were keenly anticipating had cancelled in the early hours of the morning because her husband was very poorly in hospital. Fortunately, our ever-resourceful Rachel had agreed to step in and organise a Beetle Drive and had been very busy with Helen and Gillian setting up the hall.

At 2pm, with everything shipshape, Pamela Harrison, standing in for our new president Helen Scorr, opened the meeting and welcomed the 19 members present. As she explained the reasons for the change of agenda members expressed their sympathy and understanding at the worrying circumstance facing our intended speaker and hoped she would be able to attend sometime in the future.

Pamela then presented birthday cards and good wishes to Rachel, Jane and Kathleen. She then announced to members the Officers for the coming year. As already mentioned, Helen has agreed to become President; Rachel will continue as committee secretary,

Rosemarie as meetings secretary. Pamela is stepping in to be treasurer and Gillian, Sonia and Shirley will continue as programme secretaries. With Rosemary and Christine joining the committee, we will have a full complement of nine members with the added back up of many willing non-committee helping hands.

As this was the first meeting since the sad news of Audrey Wheatley's death, her funeral arrangements were made known to members. Audrey was our oldest member, a lovely, gentle lady with the sweetest smile, she will be much missed.

Rosemarie then read a report on the recently held annual meeting of the Lincolnshire South Federation. Four members had travelled to Spalding to attend. Pamela gave advance notice of three forthcoming trips planned by the committee. The first, a visit to Wymondham Mill for shopping and afternoon tea in May. The next, a return visit to Easton Walled Gardens in June to see (and smell!) the beautiful displays of sweet peas. An autumn trip to the Cranwell Aviation Museum to visit the 'Women in Airforce Blue' exhibition was the third outing mentioned. All seemed to be welcomed by the members.

Rachel then stepped forward to organise the seating for the Beetle Drive. This was greeted with some mystification by many of the members who had never experienced such an activity before. As the ladies moved themselves and their chairs to the new places, Rachel was heard to comment that she had played this game with five-year-olds who had found it easier than the Colsterworth ladies! However, soon the rules were explained, questions answered, paper and pencils distributed and a dice and holder placed on every table.

The first game commenced, quite slowly and quite quietly; members were concentrating. Then the second game. By the time the third game was underway, the noise level had increased, gales of laughter were heard and the pace had picked up. After each game scores were calculated and the highest scorer on each table moved one way and the lowest a different way. This only

added to the general confusion and hilarity. After five games the final scores were added up and the champion with 147 points was Shirley who was presented with a packet of chocolate beetles. The booby prize went to Rosemarie and Hazel who didn't even get to a century, only managing 97 points, but seemed pleased with their winning packet of chocolate Freddos.

Tea hostesses June, Rosemary and Angela were kept busy filling tea cups as members helped themselves to fruit, biscuits and delicious cakes. During the tea interval the competitions were judged. The item was an 'An old publication' this had attracted a large number of entries from old newspapers, books and magazines to leaflets and pamphlets. In the absence of our speaker Rachel had volunteered to undertake judging duties. The 'Flower of the Month' was, as ever, judged by the members. Having placed a coin by the flower of their choice, members then perused the noticeboard for information of forthcoming Federation events. It is noticeable that very few members now jot down the relevant details, most just take a photo on their phone, how modern are we!

Pamela called the members back together for a brief while, with only a few items of business remaining. Our next meeting on June 17th will be speaker Penny Wainwright who will talk to us about "Women in Aviation". The competition winners were announced: winner of the 'Flower of the Month' was Shirley with Rosemary in second place. The 'Item of the Month' was won by Rosemarie with a copy of the very first edition of the 'Nottingham Evening Post'. Runner up was Liz with a copy of the final edition of the News of the World'. The words sublime and ridiculous were on several lips! After the raffle was called, Pamela thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 4pm
Colsterworth Women's Institute

Diary Dates

Tuesday June 17th Colsterworth Village Hall 2 pm
Tuesday July 15th Colsterworth Village Hall 2 pm