

In Touch

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

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

Edited by Stuart Whitcombe

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(Excluding Bank Holidays)



16th August 2025
at 8pm

The Singing Sisters

A Selection of 40s/50s music to celebrate VJ Day.

Free entry



Colsterworth Sports & Social Club Gala

Saturday 23rd August
Open at 12 noon



Bouncy Castle
Ice Cream Van
Stalls (Please book before the day)
Balloon Lady / Magician
BBQ
Dog Show
1pm The Mayor
3pm Nutty Boy
5pm Kaley
and much more....
Donations for two charities

Colsterworth Honey Farm Open Weekend

Meet the Beekeepers!

Friday 8th, Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th August

Come and see how honey is produced, from the hive to the jar!

Also, see the bees at work in our observation hive

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1 hour time slots - Visits by appointment only.

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Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888
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Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting 1st July 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:

Cllr C Hainsworth (Vice Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the one member of the public to speak. The member of the public said they had lived in Gunby for the last three years and along with others were having difficulty with the blind corners in the village. They thanked the Clerk for sending them the Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Highways Department stance that mirrors are not permitted to be placed on the highway and questioned why one had been put up on the Corby Glen to Swinstead road, near to the new housing estate.

LCC Cllr C Vernon said they would raise this with the LCC Highways Officer and arrange for them to come out to Gunby to look at the areas of concern.

A discussion followed regarding speeding, the prevalence of blind corners in Gunby and the potential hazards they present to both motorists and pedestrians. It was agreed that clear communication with the Highways Officer during their visit would be essential to highlight not only the specific blind spots but also the general increase in road safety concerns voiced by residents.

CHAIR'S REMARKS:

Cllr C Hainsworth welcomed everyone acknowledging that they were already aware and prepared that they would be chairing this meeting in the absence of Cllr E O'Neill (Chair).

Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Councillors Report.

LCC Cllr C Vernon reported: -

1. The Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire – Stage 1 public consultation will be on Friday 4th July 2025 at South Witham Village Hall, Water Lane, South Witham, Grantham, NG33 5PH, from 1pm – 7pm. They reminded everyone that this is a consultation event run by the developer.

2. Corby Glen Parish Council are suggesting forming an action group to speak with one voice in relation to the National Grid Upgrade.

3. They noted that the Kilinside Energy Park Consultation was an agenda item later in the meeting and they were already in contact with Alicia Kearns MP on these issues including the potential Anaerobic Digester plant at Gunby which was refused planning permission in February 2025.

4. Cllr C Russell showed an image they had produced of how the view across the fields would be compromised, with the increased housing and the line of pylons which contravenes the Colsterworth and District Neighbourhood Plan.

5. Cllr Vernon confirmed they had escalated the A1 Traffic Diversion for the B6403 High Dike, Easton - Advance Notice of Proposed Carriageway Resurfacing raised by the Clerk to the Highways Officer

SKDC Cllr D Bellamy sent their apologies.

SKDC Cllr B Green sent their apologies with the written report below: -

1. Upcoming Changes to Bin Collections. Every household will receive a letter in August.

2. Food-Waste Collections Starting March 2026

3. 400 kV Power-Line Proposal – Have Your Say

National Grid is consulting on a new overhead line from Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire. The draft route: South of Twyford Wood - Along Woolley's Lane - Across the A1 - Just north of South Witham.

4. Colsterworth Housing Allocation Increased from 70 to 310 Dwellings. Local Plan Consultation Opens This Month. They urge everyone to respond as soon as the portal goes live. They will keep pressing the administration for clear answers on school places, road funding and medical capacity.

VJ Day Beacon lighting 15th August 2025

Cllr T O'Regan volunteered to complete the Risk Assessment with the Clerk. Cllr M Childs suggested lighting the beacon at sunset, which will be around 8.30pm.

Updates for Council administration

The CAD Financial Regulations Policy was reviewed and adopted. No changes.

Update on the Community Car Park. Still waiting for an update from the SKDC Legal Department. The Clerk to escalate this with Cllr B Green.

Finance - Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

Planning Committee Report (No report this month)

Update on Planning Application S/24/0568 AD Plant Gunby. Cllrs D Bellamy and R Chatterton are preparing a document with residents in readiness for an appeal being registered following the SKDC Planning refusal in February 2025. Traffic monitoring equipment has been seen on the B676 Stainby Road during its closure at Saxby.

Changes in the SKDC Local Plan housing allocation for Colsterworth from 70 to 310 units consultation.

It was unanimously agreed to comment. The Consultation starts on 3rd July 2025. No other further information was available as of 1st July 2025. The Clerk will re-circulate the document prepared by Cllr Hainsworth to all Cllrs.

National Grid Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire electricity connector Consultation from 11th June – 6th August 2025.

It was unanimously resolved to join an action group of Parishes as suggested by the Chair of Corby Glen Parish Council up to speak with one voice where appropriate at Stage 1 and beyond.

Proposal received from the forestry agent for Buckminster Estate to consult with the Parish Council on some woodland creation proposals for the Estate. Focusing on 9 areas of the Parish along the A1. Unanimously agreed no objection.

Kilinside Energy Park – EIA Scoping and Consultation and Regulation 11 Notification.

It was unanimously agreed to comment. The Clerk to re-circulate the correspondence received on the Kilinside Energy Park to all Cllrs for comments to be collated by the Clerk and submitted by 21st July 2025.

Highways & Footpaths Working Group

Update on reports raised from the H&F Report 27/05/2025.

1. North Witham Public Footpath No 11 FMS enquiry No 2845010. Missing sign. Vegetation cut back to expose the footpath signpost.

2. Footpath GunS/5/1 Footpath opposite Bottom Farm, Gunby Road, Stainby. – Investigating.

3. Footpath GunS/3/2 Footpath off Colsterworth Road. Missing sign, report reference number 2844987. Work is planned.

Nature Trail

Work is planned to fix a middle rail to the steps at Bridge End.
Funded by an anonymous donation.

Clerks Report & day to day business.

1. Changes to SKDC wheelie bin collections. Every household is likely to see a change either to their collection day – or to the time of day their bins are emptied. The changes are expected to take place in September, with every household to receive a personalised letter through the post giving full details of the changes for their address.
2. The purchase of a new dog waste bin agreed at the May Parish Council meeting was installed at the West End of the Nature Trail at no cost to the Parish Council by Cllr C Rowland.
3. The defibrillator on the wall outside the White Lion Pub reported as not operational. Friday 13th June 2025 to Community Heartbeat and The Circuit. Battery light showing red. When the battery was re-inserted, it changed to Green showing 'Ready Status'. Defibrillator replaced in cabinet 20th June to be monitored. The Circuit and Community Heartbeat updated.
4. Recommendations from the H&F Report 27th May 2025 in process.
5. CAD Coronation Community Orchard. Request from SKDC on the survival of the fruit trees planted for Defra (Community Living Heritage Fund). Advised that two of the fruit trees did not survive.
6. Allotment inspection completed.
 - Stamford Road Wednesday 17th June 2025 Cllr T O'Regan and the Clerk.
 - Woolsthorpe Road Monday 23rd June 2025 Cllr R Brocklebank and the Clerk. Allotment holders written to.
7. HSBC Bank will be removing the £5 monthly fee from the Parish Council Charitable Bank Account from 1st July 2025 charging cycle.
8. Temporary Road Closure request completed for Remembrance Sunday Parade 9th November 2025. Ref 2533646

Correspondence received.

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

SKDC Planning Applications

S25/0962 - Replacement of existing conservatory with brick-built orangery. 14 Stamford Road, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5JD.

SKDC Planning Application for Lawful Development

S25/1074 - Proposed use as a children's home. 9A School Lane, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NW, App Type: Lawful Development (Proposed)

EN0110022 Kilinside Energy Park – EIA Scoping and Consultation and Regulation 11 Notification

SKDC Planning Permission

S25/1094 - Installation of one wooden telegraph pole (9m) for the deployment of superfast broadband. Street Record Northerns Close, North Witham.

S25/0823 - Replacement of existing window which consists of 4 frames. The Old Rectory 14 High Street, Colsterworth Lincolnshire NG33 5NF

SKDC Appeal

APP/E2530/W/25/3368705 - 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. Deadline for comments 11th August 2025.

**Date of the next Parish Council meeting is
Tuesday 2nd September 2025.**

Methodist Church Hall, Back Lane, Colsterworth.



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Colsterworth WI meeting Tuesday, 17th June 2025

It was a perfect June day. The sun was shining, the sky was blue and the hedgerows were festooned with wild roses and murmurous with the sound of insects as the ladies of Colsterworth WI met for their monthly meeting at the Village Hall. The committee have brought the setting up of the room to a fine art so all was arranged and ready in good time. Shirley was on the Welcome table meeting and greeting members, selling raffle tickets and distributing the new lanyards. At 2pm Helen, our President, rose and opened the meeting. After welcoming the 20 members attending, she presented birthday cards and good wishes to June, Christine, Jil, Sonya and Hazel. Helen then introduced the speaker Penny Wainwright, whose subject was 'Women in Aviation'.

Penny, a former teacher and consultant for Lincolnshire County Council is now a travel writer. Her interest in her subject was sparked in 2018 when she was commissioned to write an article for the Lincolnshire Life magazine on 'The RAF at One Hundred'. Penny was a fascinating speaker with a host of interesting stories to tell about the women who worked at Lincolnshire RAF stations during the second world war. Visiting local airfields during her research Penny discovered photographs women who worked as cooks, radio operators, equipment assistants, mechanics, drivers and a host of other occupations. She traced some of the women who still lived locally and talked to the descendants of others, sharing their stories with us. Penny spoke to Miriam, granddaughter of Daisy Lavender who worked at the Carhouse Works in Gainsborough. The Carhouse Works switched to aircraft production on the outbreak of war and Daisy was involved in making the wings for Bristol Fighter aircraft which was manufactured there. Recruitment for the WAAF began in 1939 and enlistment started in 1941. After basic training in Blackpool women selected the trade they wished to enter and were sent to an RAF station on a starting wage of 10/- (50p) a week.

May Meade was a cook at RAF Scampton and Scarlett, her granddaughter, recounted how, when currant buns were being made, no more than five currants were allowed in each bun. May was posted to RAF Manby

where she cooked bacon and eggs for air crew before each mission and again for those who returned safely. Eileen Strawson from a Lincolnshire farming family joined the WAAF in 1942. Based at RAF Scampton, she was Guy Gibson's driver using a black Dodge vehicle. She met Winston Churchill and Barnes Wallis. Eileen heard all about the planned Dambusters Raid but had signed the Official Secrets Act so kept silent. Penny told of Peggy Meek who was a driver at RAF Spilsby. She drove bombs and air crew out to the waiting planes. On one such journey a Lancaster crashed onto her truck killing all on board except Peggy who was thrown through the windscreen. Sustaining dreadful facial injuries, she was taken to RAF Hospital Rauceby which acted as a crash and burns unit for downed pilots from RAF Cranwell. The famous plastic surgeon, Archie McIndoe, was on one of his regular visits there to treat injured pilots and operated on Peggy Meek. Penny showed us a photograph of Peggy in her 80s, she looked wonderful- a true testament to the skill of Archie McIndoe.

Penny finished with a story, not of WAAF girls, but still fascinating. During the war, Hoppers Jewellers in Boston was asked by the government to move from selling high end jewellery to making precision instruments for aircraft. Eighteen local women, hairdressers and dressmakers because of their nimble fingers were recruited and worked in rooms above the jeweller's shop. Again, they had signed the Official Secrets Act and stayed silent about their work. A reunion featured in the Boston Standard in 1973 was the first that people knew about what had gone on above that jewellers shop all those years ago. Penny sat down to enthusiastic applause, her talk, illustrated with some lovely photos of her subjects, had held members spellbound recounting the part that many women had played during World War two. Pamela Harrison gave the vote of thanks and the applause rang out once more.

Time for tea. Lots of chat and discussion as members helped themselves to the delectable goodies provided by tea hostesses Rhona, Rosemary and Sonia. Before she departed, Penny judged the Item of the Month competition: 'An Aviation Item' and members were reminded to vote for their favourite entry in the Flower of the Month competition. After the break Helen called the ladies back together for the second part of the meeting, the business section. Members were reminded that the Federation newsletter had been received and was displayed on the noticeboard as were details of the next Ladies' Lunch to be held in July at Burghley Park Golf Club.

Several members are attending the 'Christmas in July craft event at Cranwell and details were announced of the popular 'Speakers' Corner'. This event introduces speakers new to the WI circuit. They have 10 minutes to impress! Speakers can be selected from a list circulated by the Federation, but Gillian, Shirley and Sonia do like to attend 'Speakers' Corner' if possible to listen to potential guests

Names were taken for the forthcoming visit to Easton Walled Gardens to see the sweet peas and members were asked to add their names to a list for the VJ Day party to be held on 15th August. At the Village Gala this year, the Colsterworth WI stall will support and reflect the 2025 resolution recently adopted at the NFWI Annual Meeting held in June: 'Bystanders can be Lifesavers'. To that end, a qualified instructor has been booked who will be on hand to guide and assist people as they practise CPR techniques on the dummies provided. There will also be a 'Green Tombola', items on the stall being either green in colour or green as in 'eco'. All proceeds from the Tombola will be donated to the instructor's chosen charity.

Competition winners were announced. The Flower of the Month winner was Rosemary with Helen as the runner up and the Item of the Month winner was Lynn with a photograph and details of her uncle who was awarded the DFC. The runner up was Rosemarie with a wooden blade from a propeller. The raffle was called. Helen thanked everyone for attending and announced our next meeting would be on 19th August, the speaker a LEBBS Blood Bike volunteer. She closed the meeting at 4pm.

Advance Notice

The September meeting of Colsterworth WI is to be an Open Meeting. The speaker is Sharon Hall, a serving police officer who specialises in Fraud Prevention. Sharon will outline the latest scams and cons that criminals use to try to part law-abiding people from their hard-earned cash. She will give advice and tips to raise awareness on this important subject. The meeting will be held on September 16th at the Colsterworth Village Hall starting at 2pm. All are welcome, there is no charge for entry or refreshments. Raffle tickets will be on sale. *Colsterworth Women's Institute*

Contact number: Rachel Popham 01476 860312

Diary Dates

August 19th 2 pm, C'worth Village Hall
September 16th 2 pm, C'worth Village Hall