

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

Edited by Stuart Whitcombe

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Parish Council Report

There was no Parish Council Meeting in August 2025. There will be a full report following the September Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 2nd September 2025. This gives us an opportunity to use this month "In Touch" to mention some of the highlights and achievements of the Parish Council since the beginning of 2025.

Coronation Community Orchard Project

The Parish Council were successful in being awarded a grant of £513.66 from South Kesteven District Council Coronation Community Orchards Scheme. 9 x fruit trees were planted and 2 x "Colsterworth and District Parish Council Community Orchard" signs installed into the ground on 15th February 2025 by Cllrs Ellis O'Neill, Mike Childs along with volunteers Alix O'Neill, Steve Grant and the Clerk to the Parish Council Sue Grant.

The location is close to Little Legs children's nursery school and Colsterworth Primary School. The Nursery and School could make use of the orchard with the children connecting with the natural world, watching the trees grow, learning about plant growth and care. The selection of plums will extend the flowering time. The location is easily accessible for all residents to visit.

War Memorial Information Board Project

On 2nd August 2024 the South Kesteven Prosperity Fund awarded a grant of £1,700 to the Parish Council to support the Installation of a public information board covering the War Memorial History, Restoration Project and funders. Thanks go to all those involved in putting together the information held on the information board, and in particular to Cllrs C Hainsworth, C Russell and his wife Margaret for keenly proofreading the draft before it went to print.

On 25/04/2025 The War Memorial Restoration Information Board/Lecturn was installed. 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 Lecturn.

Planning Applications and Consultations

This year the Parish Council has been fully engaged in supporting the community with

several planning matters and continues to do so with emerging planning issues.

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

We hope this summary highlights the work done by your Parish Councillors who are not volunteers in the common use of the word. They are elected representatives of the council and holders of public office. Councillors are summoned to attend meetings, have specific responsibilities, are bound by laws and are required to meet specific standards.

The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30 p.m. except in January and August when there are no meetings.

Currently there are 15 seats on the Colsterworth & District Parish Council covering the villages of Colsterworth, Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth, North Witham, Gunby, Stainby and Lobthorpe. There are two Councillor vacancies for Gunby & Stainby. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Sue Grant is the part-time Parish Clerk and is the contact point for all matters relating to the Council. She can be contacted at: clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk Tel: 01476-861888

Elected Parish Councils were first established in the Local Government Act 1894 to reinvigorate local communities and give them a voice. Since then, Parish councils have remained largely unchanged. It is not unusual for seats on Parish Councils to be uncontested, and for members to be co-opted where the number of candidates is fewer than the number of seats available.

Planning Applications - SKDC

S25/1312 - Change of use of site for workshop and plant hire, erection of workshop building, two site offices and associated hard standing. Land East Of A1 And North Of A151, Colsterworth.

S25/1159 - Section 211 Notice to remove Cherry tree (T1) to ground level and thoroughly grind the stump. 47 Newton Way, Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NP S25/0455 - Notification received of additional information received for this application. Construction of 3no. dwellings with associated car parking and external landscaping. Land Between 16-18 Bourne Road, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5JE.

S25/1330 - To carry out a crown reduction (T1) Oak tree by 30% to reduce shading to the property. 6 Chestnut Grove, Colsterworth. S25/1320 - Proposed two storey extension to the side and single storey extension to the front of existing dwelling. 11 Pasture Close, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5NA.

Consultation

South Kesteven District Council - Regulation **18 Local Plan Consultation** – 3rd July – 28th August 2025

CS71312 - Proposed base station installation upgrade at: Lobthorpe lane, Colsterworth, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG33 5LS. Upgrade to their existing telecommunications.

SKDC Planning Permission

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

S25/1377 - Compliance With Condition 1 (Time Limit For Commencement) of planning permission S18/1335. Jubilee Park Honey Pot Lane, Colsterworth.

S25/0752 - Compliance With Condition 1 (Time Limit For Commencement) of planning permission S18/1335. Jubilee Park Honey Pot Lane Colsterworth.

S25/1347 - Submission of details reserved by conditions 3 (Materials) and 4 (Full details of all proposed joinery works) of planning permission S25/0823. The Old Rectory 14 High Street, Colsterworth

S25/1159 - Section 211 Notice to remove Cherry tree (T1) to ground level and

thoroughly grind the stump. 47 Newton Way Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth, Lincolnshire NG33 5NP

More SKDC Planning information can be found on the SKDC Website: http://www.

southkesteven.gov.uk

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

Just search "Colsterworth & District Parish Council" and find the minutes and agendas under "Parish Council" https://colsterworth. parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/

The next parish council meeting will be held at the Methodist Church Hall at 7:30pm on Tuesday 2nd September 2025, followed by one on Tuesday 7th October 2025.

FIX MY STREET REPORTS

Thank you to those who regularly makes Fix My Street reports for various issues on the highways and footpaths around Colsterworth.

Potholes, broken paving slabs, or street lighting etc can be reported using the following link:

https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk/









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INSPIRING WOMEN

Colsterworth WI Meeting Tuesday, July 15th 2025

It was one of those 'will it, won't it' days. After weeks of wall-to-wall sunshine, wet was needed. Rain was forecast but it had been so many times before and not actually fallen. Lawns were yellow, plants wilted and fields of grain looked thin and starved. But, as the ladies of Colsterworth WI gathered at the Village Hall for their monthly meeting on the 15th July- St Swithin's Day, the heavens opened. Only briefly mind, but still rain fell and succoured the parched land for a few brief hours. The committee had been busy behind the scenes. Split into two teams- one arranging the tables and chairs then setting them neatly with pretty table cloths, cups, saucers, plates and very attractive strawberry decorated napkins; the other team busy in the kitchen preparing the food for the much -anticipated strawberry tea.

As ladies started to arrive, the competition tables were ready and Pamela was on duty at the Welcome table, ready to greet members and guests. At 2pm Helen, as president, rang the bell to open the meeting. After welcoming the 21 members and 2 visitors, she presented birthday cards and good wishes to Dee and Rosanne. As there was no guest speaker this month, it was decided to bring the business section of the meeting forward to allow for plenty of time to enjoy the social time later. Two members had expressed an interest in the visit to RNLI Skegness planned for September 4th. Details of a talk about the stained-glass windows at Ely Cathedral hosted by the Hereward group and to be held at Elsea Park Community Centre were given out.

From NFWI we heard that the resolutions process for next year has already begun! The 2026 Annual Meeting will again be a virtual gathering. Individual WIs are, once more, encouraged to hold a 'Watch Party'. Some WIs did this last year. The NFWI Constitution has been amended with changes to the appointment of trustees. Helen had studiously waded through the document and picked out the important points which she explained to members. She then signed the copy.

Sonia gave a brief report on the recent trip to Easton Walled Gardens. The sweet peas were delightful with beautiful colours and scents. Poor Sonia was stung by a bee whilst walking round, but quick-thinking Gill immediately extracted the sting then pulled out of her bag tissues, wipes, gel and various others things she thought might be needed. It was like walking round with Mary Poppins, what else was in her bag?

August looks like being a busy month for Colsterworth WI. As well as the usual meeting, there is to be a VJ Day Party on Friday 15th in the Village Hall. Members felt that as we commemorated VE Day, it was fitting and respectful to do likewise on VJ Day. The Village Gala is on 23rd August and the WI will be present with a stall. This year it has been decided, in line with the 2025 resolution 'Bystanders can be Lifesavers', to invite a trained CPR volunteer along to give people to opportunity to practise this vital skill under expert tuition. Alongside this activity, there will be a green tombola, the proceeds of which will be donated to a charity chosen by our volunteer.

With business over attention turned to the main event of the day- the strawberry tea. The ever-busy Helen had devised a strawberry themed quiz which kept the members flummoxed as the sumptuous spread was being laid out.

Questions such as:
On average a strawberry has how many seeds?

Which year did the Beatles release the song Strawberry fields forever?
Which country has a museum dedicated to strawberries?
Where was the first garden strawberry bred?

How many tonnes of strawberries were eaten at Wimbledon this year? were among the many to generate earnest discussion, a few educated guesses, many wild ones and much laughter at the tables as the ladies worked their way through the questions.

The quiz was put aside as members tucked in to the delectable feast laid out on the tables. Scones with strawberry jam and clotted cream, a bowl of strawberries, a colourful platter of green and black grapes with melon slices along with a plate of shortbread were all enjoyed by the ladies as they exchanged news and chatted with

each other. Gradually the groaning tables lightened as the food was devoured. Members all agreed it was a delicious spread. When all were replete, Helen read out the answers to the quiz questions which lead to more laughter and many groans as the ladies totted up their scores. There were no prizes just a lot of entertainment and a realisation that most members don't know much about strawberries, other than they taste good.

The answers to the quiz questions, for those who are interested are: 200,1967, Belgium, France and 38.4 tonnes

The competition winners were announced. 'The Item of the Month' the subject being fruit was won by Rosemary with a still-life painting of an arrangement of fruit. In second place was Helen with a Banksia fruit from Australia. The 'Flower of the Month competition was won by Rosemarie with Rosemary in second place. The raffle was called. After a most enjoyable afternoon of good food and friendship, Helen thanked members for attending, announced our next meeting detailed below, and closed the meeting. The ladies left in sunshine; the earlier rain having been blown away.

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

September 16th 2 pm Colsterworth Village Hall

October 21st 2 pm Colsterworth Village Hall