



**White Lion**

High Street, Colsterworth

01476 861466

[www.whitelioncolsterworth.co.uk/](http://www.whitelioncolsterworth.co.uk/)

**See page six for  
Xmas and Winter  
opening hours**

N.B. Last food orders taken 30 mins  
before the end of service

**Quiz Night - Thursdays 8pm**  
**Senior Citizens Meals - Mondays 12-3pm**  
(Excluding Bank Holidays)

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



## **Colsterworth & District Parish Council**

---

### **NORTH WITHAM AND LOBTHORPE**

Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

### **STAINBY AND GUNBY**

Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

### **COLSTERWORTH**

Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

Parishioners/Residents willing to be co-opted or stand for election to the Parish Council  
should make application to:

Eleanor Parfitt: Clerk to Colsterworth and District Parish Council.  
email: [clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk)

**Tel: 01476 861888**

# Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888  
clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk

There was no Parish Council Meeting on the first Tuesday in January 2026. There will be a full report following the February Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. This gives us an opportunity to use this - months, "In Touch" to explain a bit more about your Parish Council.

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.

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

Your Parish Councillors are unpaid volunteers who represent the residents of the Parish.

## PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

### Council Meetings

The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30 p.m. except in January and August when ordinarily there are no meetings. Before the meeting a public forum is held at which members of the public may speak. Notice of meetings and agendas are posted on notice boards and Minutes will also appear on this website. <https://colsterworth.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

### 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.

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

Tel: **01476 861888**.

Email [clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk)

### Clerks Report

1. HGV Lorry Route from Quarry top of Woolsthorpe Road to A1 North and South shared with Heritage Quarry Group avoiding Woolsthorpe Road. This has been shared with the lorry drivers.

2. Precept Form for 2026 / 2027 submitted on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 to SKDC for £44,801. Agreed at Parish Council meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025.

3. Local resident contacted the Clerk offering to re-fix the metal gate at Colster Way Play area at no cost to the Parish Council providing the Parish Council purchase the fixings. Fixings purchased at £24.97. Gate repaired on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Thank you.

4. Telephone request received to place a Memorial Plaque on a purchased plot at Old Post Lane Cemetery. Awaiting details to confirm all conditions met.

### Correspondence received

Council received details of correspondence received relating to the Weston Marsh to East Lincolnshire project update, the Community Car Park, and distribution of the In Touch magazine.

### SKDC Planning Applications

S25/2264: First floor extension over the existing garage and two storey extension to the rear of garage. 6 Turnor Close, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG335JH

### SKDC Planning Permission

S25/2034: Submission of details reserved by conditions 3 (ecology surveys), 4 (soft landscaping works), 6 (sustainable building report) and 9 (hard landscaping works) of planning permission S24/1425 (Construction of 2 dwellings and demolition of agricultural buildings).

Location: Twyford Farm Honeypot Lane Colsterworth

### SKDC Planning Appeal Adjournment

APP/E2530 /W/25/3370 866: Erection of an anaerobic digestion (AD) facility and carbon capture, improvement of existing and part creation of new access track, landscaping and other associated infrastructure. Development East Of Sewstern Industrial Estate South Of Sewstern Road Gunby

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.30PM IN THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL, BACK LANE, COLSTERWORTH.



## Current Councillors

**Chair to the Council Cllr Ellis O'Neill – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Joined the Parish Council at the back end of 2020. Ellis is a lecturer at Nottingham University. He is interested in planning, highways and footpaths and has a broad wealth of knowledge to bring to the Council.

**Vice Chair to the Council Caroline Hainsworth – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Has several years of experience as a Parish Councillor being Chair from May 2019 – April 2025. Caroline has previously been a member of several committees and the Highways & Footpaths working group. Caroline is very much into Community involvement and taking on projects such as the grant application for the North Witham new play equipment and worked closely the War Memorial project as a joint venture with Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance (CFoR).

**Cllr Colin Russell – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Planning & the Neighbourhood plan. Colin's wife is Margaret Winn who has lived in the village all her life and worked at Woolsthorpe Manor for over 25yrs. A font of local knowledge. Member of the Finance & Administration Committee and planning Working Group. A Community Speed Watch member. Colin is also Vice Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee.

**Cllr Lorna McShane – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Has an interest in all Council matters including Planning, Highways and Footpaths. Lorna is a working Solicitor bringing her valuable knowledge and experience with her to the PC.

**Cllr David Bellamy – Cllr for North Witham & Lobthorpe** – Currently also a South Kesteven District Councillor (SKDC). Has a wealth of experience particularly in Planning matters. A Community Speed Watch member.

**Cllr Mike Childs – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Joined the Parish Council in July 2023 and is interested in all Parish matters. Currently Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee.

**Cllr Rebecca Chatterton – Cllr for Gunby & Stainby** – Joined the Parish Council in October 2023. Interested in Planning and Highways and Footpaths.

**Cllr Tony O'Regan – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Joined the Parish Council in February 2025 and is interested in all Council matters. A Nature Trail volunteer.

**Cllr R Brocklebank – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Re-joined the Parish Council in February 2025, interested in all Council matters in particular Highways and Footpaths.

**Cllr Stephen Jordan – Bird – Cllr for Colsterworth** – Joined the Parish Council in October 2025. Interested in planning and was a founding member of the Colsterworth Collective Action Group (CCAG).

**Cllr Debi Heath French - Cllr for Colsterworth** – Joined the Parish Council in October 2025. A founding member of the Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance. (CFoR).

**District Councillor** – Cllrs Dave Bellamy and Ben Green. South Kesteven District Council.

**County Councillor** – Charlotte Vernon Lincolnshire County Council.

## USEFUL NUMBERS

Anti-Social Behaviour Reporting		08001 830279
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	Dawn Prentice	07960 036477
Bell Ringers	Hilary Winstanley	01476 861160
Book Club	Anne Prothero	01476 860952
Bootcamp	John Crewe	01780 460017
Bowls Club (Chairman)	Barrie Grosse	01476 860756
Bowls Club (Captain)	Kevin Atter	07834 815076
Buckminster Primary School & Pre-school		01476 860315
Colsterworth Festival of Performing Arts	Julia Kerby	01476 860329
Colsterworth and District Parish Council	Sue Grant	01476 861888
Council - Lincolnshire C.C.		01522 552222
Council South Kesteven District		01476 406080
Councillor SKDC & LCC	Charlotte Vernon	07887 558015
Councillor SKDC	Dave Bellamy	07890 313561
Councillor SKDC	Ben Green	07471 838698
Doctor's Surgery Back Lane Colsterworth		01476 860243
Doctor's Surgery Bourne Road Corby Glen		01476 550056
Doctor's Surgery St John's Close Corby Glen		01476 550251
Floodline		03459 88188
FOCUS	Brian Ostler	01476 860465
Football and Coaching	Rachel Jones	01476 860364
Gardeners and Allotment Holders	Rod Young	07836719496
Gas Emergencies		0800 111999
Highways, Lincolnshire C.C.		01522782070
Ingle Charity Correspondent	Margaret Winn	01476860404
Little Legs Nursery	Sarah Moore	01476 860053
Luncheon Club	June Jessop	01476 861400
Mobile Post Office	Andy	01778 570221
Neighbourhood Watch	Steve Bill	01476 861399
Newton's Players	Hazel Taylor	01476 860605
Police Non-Emergency		101
Rolling Stones New Age Kurling School, Colsterworth C of E Primary School, Colsterworth PTFA	Christine Cope (Secretary)	07931345932
South Witham Children's Centre		01476 860569
Sports and Social Club	Claire Hilliam	01572768876
Village Archive Group	Margaret Winn	01476 860279
Village Hall, Colsterworth	Sandra Cox	01476 860404
Village Hall, North Witham	Jane Clark	07748090655
White Lion, Colsterworth	Bob Prentice	07762 851265
Women's Institute (Secretary)	Rachel Popham	01476 861466
Woolsthorpe Manor		01476 860312
		01476 860338

## ONLINE REPORTING WEBSITES

Report driving offences: Op Snap at <https://www.lincs.police.uk/police-forces/lincolnshire-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/op-snap/>

Report potholes, broken paving slabs, or street lighting, overgrown footpaths etc at <https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

Report issues and concerns such as fly tipping, anti-social behaviour, defective streetlights etc to South Kesteven District Council at <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8953>

**AN ADVERT THIS SIZE COSTS  
ONLY £125  
FOR 12 MONTHS**

[InTouchCopy@gmail.com](mailto:InTouchCopy@gmail.com)

# theWI

## INSPIRING WOMEN

**Colsterworth WI meeting,  
December 16<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Colsterworth WI meetings are always jolly affairs; full of interest and a lot of fun. Add to that mix eventful, with a dash of drama and a perfect description of the last meeting of 2025 emerges.

As usual, all was activity and movement from 1.30 onwards on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at the Village Hall. The committee were responsible for the refreshments and very seasonal and appetising they looked as they were carried in. Christmas jumpers added to the festive feel as the various tables were set up. Welcome, Flower of the Month, Item of the Month, Raffle tables all in their customary places. Gradually, as always, the room took shape and members started to arrive.

In Voice, the singing group who were to entertain the ladies set up their music stands, a very smart electric piano appeared and members settled themselves to listen. All this time the overhead lights had been doing a passable imitation of the recent Belton House spectacular with a synchronised flickering on and off up and down the two rows. Waiting for them to settle didn't seem to be working and when one member asked, "Can we do anything about the lights?" our President, Helen, harnessed her inner Duke of Norfolk (he of the 1953 Coronation organising fame, who, you may recall, when asked, "What happens if it rains?" replied, "We get wet!") Helen replied to the question posed with, "We can switch them off!" So it was, in half lighting (still flickering, but not so noticeable) Helen opened the meeting. After welcoming 22 members and 2 visitors Helen presented birthday cards and good wishes to herself and Rosemarie who was sitting next to her, not many footsteps clocked up on the pedometer yet!

She then introduced the singing group, In Voice, who were ready and waiting. Jenny Walker, their hugely talented leader and pianist thanked Helen for her welcome and explained that the eight ladies present were part of the group, others were absent through illness. They

launched into their set with a really jolly number, followed by a medley of carols. The audience was spellbound, here was a singing group displaying wonderful harmony and a beautiful sound. When InVoice began to sing 'O Holy Night' the stillness and emotion from the audience was palpable. With barely a pause, the members were entertained with a mix of Christmas carols, familiar Christmas songs and some very clever numbers written, it transpired, by their leader Jenny. As the first part of the set ended and the singers regained their breath. Jan, one of the singers, stepped forward and read two poems which she had written herself. The first 'Crescent Moon' was a powerful plea for love, unity and coming together - made all the more powerful by the crashing to the floor of some of the stacked tables- as Jan spoke. This, with the continual flickering of those pesky lights had some members glancing anxiously over their shoulders! The second poem, delivered without added percussion, was an evocative description of snow and beautiful snow scenes.

The group opened the second half of their set with the ever popular 'Carol of the Bells' feet were tapping and hands softly beating time on knees as the audience enjoyed the performance. More familiar carols and an amalgam of 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' 'Jingle Bell Rock' and 'Rocking Robin' closed the set to hugely enthusiastic applause from the audience. In her vote of thanks Rachel said how the group's performance had really captured the Christmas mood, lifting spirits and ringing in the Christmas season.

Definitely time for a tea break and a bite to eat. The table, laden with mince pies, sausage rolls, fruit, cakes and biscuits, was soon seeing brisk service as members, visitors and singers helped themselves to the delectable goodies on display. During the break, Jenny judged the Item of the Month competition and members placed their coins by their choice of blooms on the flower table. As ever, in December, entries were down as garden flowers very sensibly hibernated.

Time was getting on and Helen (very wisely as it turned out) called the ladies back together to attend to the business section of the meeting. With one eye on the overhead flickering lightshow and conscious of the drop in the room temperature, she rattled through the

correspondence received. The Federation newsletter was displayed on the noticeboard. Pamela and Christine volunteered to attend the forthcoming Resolutions Discussion Day on January 16<sup>th</sup>. This is where the background, facts, figures and current research concerning this year's selected resolutions are explained. Attendees listen, take notes and return to their WI to disseminate the information gathered. A Federation lunch to be held at Aslackby was announced which sounds interesting. Jo Whitehead, head gardener at Burghley House is the guest speaker. The Federation annual meeting at Spalding, this year to be held on a Saturday, is always a popular event. The consistently high quality of the selected speakers and a chance to do some shopping seems to appeal. Wondering how the lunch arrangements will pan out adds a certain spice! Members were reminded that this year's NFWI annual meeting will be online. Brief reports on the recent coffee morning, the trips to the National Arboretum and Ely Cathedral were presented by Helen, Pamela and Rosemarie. Feedback on the Birthday Lunch held at the White Lion was positive with comments from members on the excellent food and service.

So very nearly at the end of the meeting when the inevitable happened...the lights failed completely and the hall was plunged into Stygian gloom. Undeterred, with the spirit of generations of past presidents at her shoulder, Helen took out her phone, switched on the light and announced the competition results by torchlight! The 'Item of the Month' was won by Liz with a very pretty crystal hedgehog. Rosemarie was in second place with an interesting crystal cube. The Flower of the Month competition was won by Christine with Helen and Rosemarie in joint second place. The raffle was called in record time still by torchlight and ably assisted by Eileen. Helen, anxious for the safety of the members, closed the meeting early. Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas, she asked everyone to gather their belongings and leave as quickly as possible. As previously mentioned, a meeting full of jollity, interest and fun. Eventful with a dash of drama, that's the WI for you!

A belated Happy and healthy New Year to all.

*Colsterworth Women's Institute*