



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

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

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Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888
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Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting 7th April 2026

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

There were no members of the public present.

Chair's Remarks

Cllr C. Hainsworth (Vice Chair) 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

SKDC Cllr B. Green reported: -

- SKDC have agreed a council tax increase of 2.99% at their previous council meeting. The 1.99% amendment with proposed savings did not succeed.
- Deliveries of food caddies have taken place to the majority of addresses with collections to begin in April. Cllr is happy to personally chase up missing caddies. Cllr wanted to reassure that collections are to operate in tandem with current collections and an initial roll of liners is provided. The waste will be going to anaerobic digestion.
- The local government re-organisation is now planned for 2028 and it now appears that smaller county units will be the preferred option rather than large areas keeping population units to 250,000 rather than 500,000. This would be around 3 councils for the Lincolnshire area with SKDC backing a merger with North Kesteven and South Holland. Questions remain over the cost savings to be found from the re-organisation.
- The proposed energy storage site off the High Dyke will not be on SKDC's April planning committee agenda but Cllr will keep a close eye on the situation. Cllr reported that Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue are against the plan as they do not have the staff to tackle a potential fire at the site.

LCC Cllr C. Vernon reported: -

- Really interesting feedback was received from a recent meeting with local residents about the A1 at Great Ponton as there was not support for full closure of the gaps although approx. 70% in the room wanted to create a one way in/one way out system for Great Ponton.

- As National Highways were also present at the meeting, Cllr took the opportunity to ask about the Woolsthorpe slip road (which National Highways refers to as the Colsterworth slip road). The representative related that there is an issue with a gas main that they are waiting for Cadent Gas to finish works on before they can begin work on the drainage issue. MP A. Kearns recognises the impact of the closure and is keen to get things progressing.
- The application for extended working hours at the Skillington Quarry has now been made.

SKDC Cllr D. Bellamy sent their apologies.

Web and Email Hosting for the Parish Council

It was resolved switch the council's current provider to a new package to allow for cost savings, increased storage and to comply with government recommendations to use a .gov.uk domain.

Old Post Lane Cemetery Extension

It was resolved to agree to SKDC's Draft Conditions of the Cemetery Extension Planning Application.

Parish Grass Cutting

It was resolved to sign the Lincolnshire County Council Parish Grass Cutting Agreement for 2026/2027 with a contribution figure of £6231.62.

Finance

Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

It was agreed to schedule an urgent Finance & Administration Committee meeting to review a proposal for locum cover for the Clerk.

Highways & Footpaths Working Group Report

No report this month. All Fix My Street (FMS) Reports can be found at <https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

Clerk's Report & Day to Day Business

Summary below – Full details can be found on the Parish Council Website **Council business – Colsterworth and District Parish Council (lincolnshire.gov.uk)**

1. Nuisance Parking Report made to LCC following Cllr T. O'Regan's report at the Parish Council meeting in March of cars regularly parked on the pavement on Colster Way.
2. In Touch advertising renewals invoices sent for accounts renewing for April 2026 to April 2027.
3. Enquiries sent in relation to Cemetery Extension Planning Application for quotations for a Written Scheme or Archaeological Investigation.
4. Invitations sent to local figures to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 21st April 2026.
5. Missing fixings identified on cradle seat of swing at the Colster Way Play Area. Replacement being sent from Wicksteed.

6. Woolsthorpe Road allotment holders contacted regarding responsibility to keep back path clear of obstructions.
7. Enquiries sent to request information about locum cover for the parish clerk.
8. Comment submitted on 1st April 2026 on behalf of the Parish Council in relation to Planning Appeal Reference: APP/E2530/W/25/3370866. Thank you to Cllrs Chatterton and Bellamy for drafting the revised comment.

Correspondence Received

Summary below: - Full details can be found on the Parish Council Website **Council business – Colsterworth and District Parish Council (lincolnshire.gov.uk)**

Council received details of correspondence received relating to the LCC Bus Shelter Grant Scheme, The Great Grid Upgrade project, temporary traffic restrictions, the SK Community Awards, access to the Woolsthorpe Road allotments, rubbish on the Nature Trail, and food waste caddies. Full details can be found on the website.

To contact the clerk, please email Eleanor Parfitt at clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk or call **01476 861888** and leave a voicemail.

SKDC Planning

SKDC Planning Applications

S26/0391 - Replace existing conservatory. Location: 1 Manor Court, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5ND

S25/2050 - Proposed residential annexe to the rear garden. Location: 7 The Row Rectory Lane North Witham Lincolnshire NG33 5LQ

S26/0525 - Single story front extension to increase size of lounge. Location: 3 Beech Close Colsterworth Lincolnshire NG33 5NG

SKDC Planning Conditions

S25/1979 - Cemetery Extension Location: Old Post Lane

PLANNING APPLICATION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

S24/0568 - Proposal: 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. Location: Development East Of Sewstern Industrial Estate South Of, Sewstern Road, Gunby, Lincolnshire, NG33 5RD In relation to Planning Appeal Reference: APP/E2530/W/25/3370866, applicant has submitted further information to the Planning Inspectorate relating to an Environmental Statement under Regulation 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

Matters Requiring attention.

Community Speed Watch – Cllr S. Jordan-Bird to pass on details to the clerk of potential volunteers.

Pot Holes – Cllr T. O'Regan reported a developing pothole hole on the High Street. Clerk reported to FMS.

Village Hall – The Parish Council recognises the value of the village hall as a community asset. Cllr T. O'Regan registered his urging for it to be retained for the village.

**Date of the next Parish Council meeting is
Tuesday 5th May 2026.
Methodist Church Hall, Back Lane, Colsterworth.**

Poet's Corner

Dilemma

My rabbit has got cataracts,
I don't know what to do.
I took him to the vet, who said
"It's really up to you.

"He will keep bumping into things
If staying in his hutch.
But when he's in the garden
It won't hinder him so much.

"The op. will be seven thousand.
I know, a lot that sounds."
"Too right!" I said. "The rabbit
Only cost me thirty pounds!"

P.G. Baldock

Spring Time

Lambs are growing,
Happy and free.
Skipping and jumping,
So full of glee.

Coltsfoot and cowslips,
Along the grass verge.
Violets and primroses,
All start to merge.

Blackbirds and thrushes,
In every tree.
Noisy black rooks,
As high as can be.

Enjoy the springtime,
Live life to the full.
With so much to see,
It's so beautiful.

J.D.D. Hincks

Colsterworth WI Meeting, Tuesday 17th March 2026

How quickly the March meeting of Colsterworth WI seems to come round each year. March marks the end of one WI year and the beginning of the next so it is therefore the month of the Annual General Meeting. This year's AGM was held at Colsterworth Village Hall on March 17th and, as ever, Helen our President was ready with copies of everything that might possibly be needed. Helen must have spent a considerable amount of time preparing for the meeting.

At 2pm she opened the meeting, welcoming 22 members and 4 visitors; one of whom was Louise Read our trustee and advisor and now the recently appointed chair of the South Lincs Federation. The first piece of business was to appoint a teller, in case of an election. Louise agreed to act in this capacity. Two visitors, Ruth and Helen had previously agreed to perform this role if there wasn't a Federation member available to attend. They were now able to relax, having been thanked for their willingness to give up their time and stand in.

President Helen moved smoothly on to matters arising on the record. Shirley gave a brief report on the recent Federation lunch held at the Robin Hood and Little John pub at Aslackby. It sounded a very enjoyable afternoon. Shirley reported that the food and service were excellent and the speaker, Joe Whitehead, head gardener at Burleigh House gave a fascinating and informative talk on Walled Gardens.

Details were announced of the proposed Colsterworth WI visit to Mrs Smith's Cottage, a NKDC property at Navenby. The financial statement was presented and adopted by members and Andrea McClaren was proposed by Rachel Popham and seconded by Louise Read

to act as independent examiner for the coming year. The annual report from the committee came next, which was read by Rosemarie. She was once again loud in her praise of the work undertaken by Gillian, Shirley and Sonia in producing such a broad, balanced and entertaining programme of speakers over the year. Rachel read out the results of the ballot for the 2026 committee. Rosemary and Christine who are stepping down were thanked for their time and work. Christine has recently organised the new monthly walking group. The new committee now has 7 members. Louise then explained that all committee members could stand for president and distributed papers for ladies to make their nominations. Helen, our popular and hardworking President agreed to stand for another year, much to everyone's relief.

A bit of welcome light relief next with the presentation of the trophies for 2025-2026. The 'Flower of the Month' competition was won jointly this year by Rosemary Haw and Helen Scorrer. They will each hold the trophy (known affectionately by members as Mrs Stafford's ginger jar) for six months. In joint second place were Brenda Nelson and Rosemarie Everitt. The beautiful wooden tazza which was commissioned and presented for the first time last year to the winner of the 'Item of the Month' was again won by Rosemarie Everitt who was thrilled to be taking this lovely piece home for another year. Four members tied for second place: Helen Scorrer, Liz Clark, Rosemary Haw and Pamela Harrison. After all this excitement the ladies were more than ready for the tea interval. Refreshment hostesses this month were Sonia, kindly standing in for Rosemarie, Margaret and Kathleen. The table, as ever was laden with a variety of delectable offerings. Fruit, cheese, cake and biscuits were washed down by cups of tea and coffee.

Rachel called the members back together for a lively session of the panel game 'Call my Bluff'. She explained the rules which seemed basically to be who can lie in the most convincing manner is the

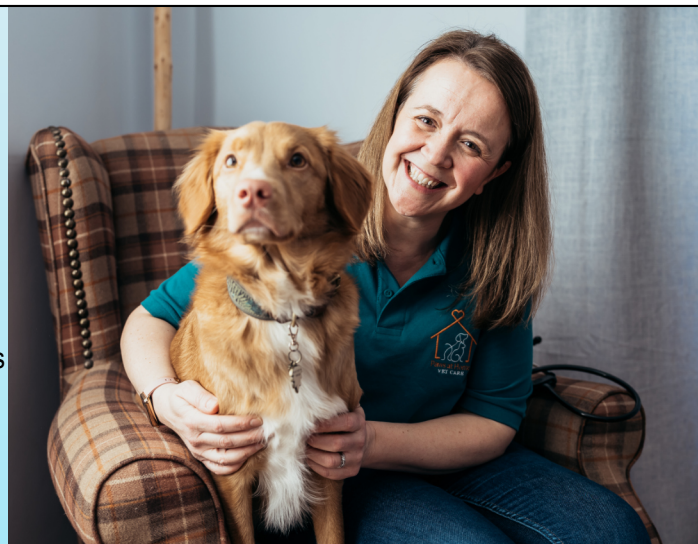
winner and then introduced the speakers: Pamela, Helen and Rachel herself. The first word 'beringian' had three definitions offered. All sounded equally unlikely. The second word 'philtrum' similarly had three bizarre options from which to make an educated guess. The third word 'pedology' seemed to look easier. It could be the definition to do with the feet or the one concerned with matters educational. But no! Of course, it means the study of soils! Heigh ho, nil points out of three was the score on this table then. Eventually a winner was announced. One of the visitors had triumphed and went home proudly clutching a Smarties Easter egg. Just time for a quick run through of left over business. The closing date for this year's Federation-run Take a Chance is looking at the end of the month. There is a needle felting workshop in April and members were reminded of this year's Lincolnshire Show competitions. The second 'Longest Yarn' exhibition is to be held at Peterborough Cathedral in June with a theme of Britain at War. The 2026 Resolutions selection results were announced. 91,998 votes were cast by WI members nationally. The two resolutions which topped the poll were accessible public toilets and action on women's homelessness. Colsterworth's choice of resolution to go forward to the annual meeting will be decided in May. The new round of competitions started this month with Sonia winning the 'Item of the Month' competition. The theme was a sign of the Zodiac, Sonia entered a crab necklace. Rosemarie won the 'Flower of the Month' competition with a lovely camellia blossom. The raffle was called. Thus ended a very busy, very productive meeting. A lot of discussion and lot of decisions made and as ever consensus about the year ahead. Helen thanked members and visitors for attending, announced our next meeting would be on Tuesday April 21st and the next will be the Resolution meeting on May 19th. She wished everyone a good afternoon and closed the meeting at 4pm.

Colsterworth Women's Institute

I'm Liz, an experienced mobile veterinary surgeon and the heart behind Paws at Home Vet Care. I am here to provide compassionate, high-quality vet care in your own home. After 15 years as a vet, I realised that the best care happens when pets (and their people) feel truly comfortable, relaxed and ultimately able to be themselves. So where is best? In their own home.

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- Surgical and emergency care – I am lucky to be supported by some great local partner practices, so should there be an emergency requiring hospitalisation or surgical care, I can support you with that (or I can support you to make your own arrangements to your practice of choice).

I'm here to change your experience of vet care by bringing a calm, compassionate, and bespoke approach to your own home. People are my passion, pets are my purpose and I can't wait to meet you and your furry family!

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Church of St John the Baptist Music Concerts 2026

Following on from a very successful series of concerts in the church last year, dates have been finalised for this year's events. As last year, entry to each event will be £10 per person and refreshments will be available before the start of the concert and during the interval. Profits will go towards the upkeep of our beautiful church.

Cranwell Military Wives Choir - 4th July, 7.30pm.

This is our first concert of the year. The Military Wives Choir entertained us last year with a fantastic range of music that was very much enjoyed by the audience. In fact, so successful was the event, that the Choir themselves asked us if they could return for another concert this year. And here they are. One not to be missed.

Kirton Brass Band - 26th September, 7:30pm. In the Village Hall.

Now, this is a first for our church. The Kirton Brass Band is a very successful band made up of accomplished volunteers from around the East Midlands. You can find them on the internet and I'm sure you'll agree it is going to be a great night. Please note the change of venue. The band are going to bring 30 musicians to our concert which is just too many to accommodate in the church. Hence, the Village Hall have kindly offered to host them. They plan to return next year with a smaller number of musicians that we can actually fit in our church. Don't miss this one either.

Carolina De Georgio - 13th December, 2.30pm. Christmas Carol Concert.

Carolina is our very own West End singer and started the whole concert sequence going with our very first concert on Christmas 2024. Now she's back by popular request. It goes without saying that this is going to be an equally fabulous afternoon. So, you know what I'm going to say by now, get yourself in the Christmas mood and definitely don't miss this one.

Publicity will be placed around the villages prior to the events. Tickets for the Cranwell Military Wives Choir will be available from 1st June. Contact Jackie Taylor on: **07535 691136** and Pete Wheatley on : **07765 126402** to reserve yours. Hope to see you all there.

Jackie Taylor

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Colsterworth & District Parish Council

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FOR TEMPORARY COVER FOR THE PARISH CLERK/RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

Colsterworth and District Parish Council would like to invite expressions of interest for temporary cover for the Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) who will be taking a period of leave from the start of July for four months.

If you have administrative experience and would like to help in your local community, please contact Eleanor Parfitt via email to:

clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk
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Contacts: Rector In Vacancy
Church Warden Peter Wheatley 07765 126402
Treasurer Carol Wheatley 07936 437018
Secretary Peter Baldock 860293
PCC Members Jan Sweetland 07969 666525

Services for May at St John the Baptist Church unless otherwise shown:

3 rd May	11:00am Morning Prayer	Peter Wheatley Churchwarden
10 th May	11:00am Morning Prayer	Angela Grimwood ALM
17 th May	11:00am Holy Communion	Revd Jill Potts
24 th May	11:00am Morning Prayer	Steve Potts Reader
31 st May	10:30am Joint Morning Service	Methodist Church Back Lane Colsterworth

OTHER EVENTS

Coffee Morning: 5th May 10:00 -12:00. Host: Rosemarie Everitt, 7 Walnut Grove Colsterworth

Church Cleaning: 12th May 9:30am with coffee and chat after

Church Open: Daily 10:00am – 4:00pm

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. Wedding, Baptism 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 or Peter, Churchwarden.



Minister: Rev'd Neil Maynard,
142 Princess Drive,
Grantham, NG31 9PY
Tel: 01476 564191
Email: neil.maynard@methodist.org.uk
Village Contact :
Pamela Harrison – 07716 427995



COLSTERWORTH METHODIST CHURCH May 2026

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 or phone 07921 914461 for more details.

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Flowers
3 rd	10:30am	Morning Worship	Ian Thacker	Gill Dexter
10 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rev'd Andy Fyall	Margaret Winn
17 th	10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Neil Maynard	Cheryl Sutcliffe
24 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rowena Ward-Barrow	Gill Senescall
31 st	10:30am	United Service	Elaine Robinson	Lynn Lewis

Open Door Lunch –Wednesday 13th & 27th May 11:45am – 1:30pm.

Join us over lunchtime for a filled roll followed by 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 jigsaws library will be available for you to browse and borrow from.

Games/Craft & Chat Group – Wednesday 6th & 20th 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.

Villages Diary May 2026

Tue 5 th	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning	7, Walnut Grove, C'worth
Wed 6 th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Wed 13 th	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Tue 19 th	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 20 th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 21 st	12noon-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
Wed 27 th	11:45-1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
June			
Tue 16 th	2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall

Weekly

Mondays	10am-noon	FOCUS Kurling	Village Hall
	12:30pm	Merry Widow(er)s (1 st Monday)	White Lion
	6:30pm-7:30pm	Pilates	North Witham Village Hall
	7pm - 8pm	Tigers Dance Class Alternate Mondays, not term time.	Village Hall
Tuesdays	Dementia Singing Group (1 st Tuesday)		South Witham Village Hall
	1pm	Free Chair Yoga (2 nd Tuesday)	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	Yoga	Methodist Church
Wednesdays	6pm-7pm	Beavers (Term time)	Village Hall
	11:45am -1:30pm	Open Door (2 nd & 4 th Weeks)	Methodist Church
	12:30pm	Lunch (3 rd Wednesday)	North Witham Village Hall
	6:30pm -7:30pm	Pilates	Methodist Church
Thursdays	2pm-3:30pm	Craft & Chat (1 st & 3 rd Weeks)	Methodist Church
	10am-noon	Rolling Stones Kurling	Village Hall
	6pm - 7:15pm	Cubs (Term time)	Village Hall
	6:30pm-7:30pm	Pilates	North Witham Village Hall
Fridays	7:30pm-8:45pm	Scouts (Term time)	Village Hall
	Saturdays	10am-12noon	Football Coaching Sports Field
	10am-11am	Breakfast (1 st Sunday)	North Witham Village Hall

Copy for next month's issue of In Touch must arrive by noon on Tuesday 12th May 2026

Email contributions to 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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017505 983986



NORTH WITHAM VILLAGE HALL

Contact Jane Clark on 07762 851265, north.witham@gmail.com
for Village Hall matters and bookings

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