

Parish Council of Coleford

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August Newsletter

Mendip District Council Report

District Cllr Ham reported that the Transformation team have secured a Boots store in Truro, which will bring in £300K per year for the next 20 years and he confirmed that the purchase of Saxonvale, Frome has been agreed after a considerable amount work and effort. A business plan is currently being put together. Negotiations are also underway for a commercial unit in Frome and a solar battery farm.

Talks have been going on with Hampshire County Council regarding a shared legal service which would be run from Mendip District Council.

Moorlands Gypsy and Traveller site - The Judge decided that he would reserve his judgement for 5 weeks.

District Cllr Townsend reported that following a High Court Appeal, Mendip District Council Planning Board heard a resubmission of an application in North Wootton where the deciding factor was the Housing Needs Survey. The Parish Forum was poorly attended as usual. An update was given on the wide variety of options that were being considered for a possible Unitary reorganisation of Local Councils triggered by County. The Forum was very keen that any resulting proposal should be subject to a Referendum as happened before. A Recycling presentation emphasised that many more plastics can now be put in the Recycling bin.

Cabinet received a presentation from the Health and Wellbeing Board - an advice service is available for people who care for others who have a Hoarding problem, which causes a fire risk etc.

The Licensing Board approved a new Taxi Policy for the District.

Scrutiny received an update from Capita on Land Charges (Searches) - the backlog is now cleared and the target turnaround time of 8 working days should be the norm by the end of September. We also heard that at the end of the first Quarter the Financial Forecast Outturn for Year End is £51k below budget with no impact on services.



Police

If you would like to see information regarding your neighbourhood and crime statistics then take a look at the following websites: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/frome-rural-north/> or go straight to Crime statistics using link <https://www.police.uk/>

Highways

A meeting with Charlie Higgins from Somerset Highways department has been arranged when the following points will be highlighted:

- renewing white markings on the roads,
- the pavement outside the co-op needs addressing,
- traffic calming /extended 30mph limit on Newbury Lane leading to Dark Lane including signage to highlight the cows crossing
- overhanging trees in Common Lane
- remove the 20mph signs erected for resurfacing



Finger post signs

Contractor Chris Ingram; who had completed the renovation work on Leigh on Mendip finger posts, had been selected to undertake the renovation of the Coleford fingerposts. The posts at Lipyeate, the junction outside the Co-op and the sign at Newbury will be completed as phase 1.



Post Office & Café Update

The Post Office will be opening @ The Hub for the first time on Wednesday 22nd August from 9am til 11pm and again on Friday 24th August from 10am til 12noon, which will be repeated each week thereafter. Dagmar's Café will be open on the same days serving light lunches, drinks and cakes from 12.30 til 5.30pm on Wednesdays and 9.30 til 5.30pm on Fridays. Please support both of these services to ensure that they are here to stay.

Dog Fouling

Dog Fouling continues to blight the village and the Parish Council encourages all dog owners to act responsibly and clean up after their four legged friends. In conjunction with Mendip District Council Enforcement an Incident Report Form has been generated. The form is available on the Parish Council website for downloading. In order for a complaint to be logged with Mendip District Council Enforcement Office, all of the information must be completed. You must be prepared to make a written witness statement although your details will not be disclosed. However, you must be prepared to give evidence in Court if the matter is disputed. Without the statement no action can be pursued.

This will enable the enforcement team to follow protocol by sending out warning letters to offenders making them aware that if the issue is not addressed and they are reported again then they will run the risk of receiving a Community Protection Notice being issued. A CPN could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (£100 fine) or a prosecution for breach. Breach is a criminal offence, which could receive a fine of between £2500 and £20000 for bodies.



Coleford Parish Council encourages the public NOT to put themselves in danger when dealing with any Dog offences or whilst gaining intelligence in order to complete the form.

The form can be sent direct to Ian Glover, Mendip Enforcement Officer using email Ian.Glover@mendip.gov.uk his telephone number is 01749 341 532 or to the Parish Clerk at clerkcolefordsomerset@gmail.com on 07971 516916.

Speedwatch

Do we have any other volunteers interested in helping conduct speedwatch? At present there are 6 people interested, 2 of which have completed the online training, which must be done before the practical training. Anyone interested in getting involved can complete the online training using the Parish laptop at Dagmar's café at an agreed time in Wednesday or Friday. For more information please do contact the Clerk on 07971 516916 or email clerkcolefordsomerset@gmail.com



Next meetings

Wednesday 12th September 2018

Wednesday 26th September 2018

Parish Council Meeting

Planning Meeting

If you have any issues that you would like to bring to the Parish Council's attention please contact the Clerk on 01749 880428 or email clerkcolefordsomerset@gmail.com

Please check out the website www.colefordsomerset.info

Philip Ham, Chairman