

Parish Council of Coleford

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Newsletter for June 2017

Councillor Appointment

We are pleased to welcome Karla March as our latest Councillor. Mrs March lives in the village with her young family and is actively involved in village life and in particular with the Coleford Scout group.

Decisions on Previous Planning Applications

2016/3130/PAA - Owls Nest Farm, Luckington Lane, Coleford

Application for Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural storage building to dwelling house (Class C3) and for association operational development (Additional plans received 03.02.17)

Gone to appeal

2017/0044/VRC - 2 Hillside, Church St, Coleford

Referred to the planning board but withdrawn



2017/0597/LBC and 2017/0596/FUL - Hill Farm, Lipyeate, Coleford

Insertion of conservation roof light within north roof slope and the creation of a door opening in screen wall (not boundary wall). Erection of an oak framed car port and work shop and detached timber greenhouse.

Both approved by Mendip District Council with conditions

2017/0527/FUL - Hippys Farm, Hippys Farm Lane, Coleford

Conversion of disused agricultural building to holiday letting cottage

Approved by Mendip District Council with conditions

2017/0891/TPO - 26 Preachers Vale, Coleford

Oak (A) - Proposed works are: To lift the crown by removal of lower branches to a height of 5 m above ground. Reduce the crown to leave a finished crown spread of 8m high and 6m wide. Remove all dead or decaying limbs, branches and foliage.

2017/0759/HSE - Melrose, Highbury Street, Coleford

Proposed single story extension to West elevation

Approved by Mendip District Council with conditions

2017/1164/APP - Newbury Manor School, Tinkers Lane, Newbury, Frome

Discharge of conditions 3 & 4. Replacement of modern roof coverings with slate. Replacement of 2 modern roof lights

Mendip District Council came to a split decision

Memorial Safety Testing in Coleford Parish Cemetery

As part of its rolling memorial safety programme the Parish Council will undertake testing memorials in Coleford cemetery during August 2017.

As the land owner, Coleford Parish Council is obliged to undertake this work to ensure that its cemetery is a safe place for the public to visit. Under this safety testing programme all memorials over 625mm in height will be tested by trained staff using industry approved testing procedures.

Any memorials found to be unsafe are either: laid flat; secured with a temporary stake; or cordoned off to ensure that they do not present a risk to visitors to the cemetery.

Coleford Parish Council does not fix any memorials, but can - on request - make a memorial safe by digging it into the ground. There would be a charge for this work.

The Parish Council endeavors to carry out this with minimal disruption. However, we would ask that any visitors to the cemetery take note of the warning signs and exercise caution near memorials during this testing.

Progress on the BMX Pump Track

The Parish Council wanted to take this opportunity to bring you all up to date with the exciting BMX Pump Track plans. The planning application has been submitted to Mendip District Council seeking to create a new access to the Highbury Playing field from Newbury Lane. This will be a worthwhile addition to the field for Village Day and will certainly help during the installation of the BMX track.

Meetings have been held with two track designers to get an idea of a suitable design to suit the needs of a wide range of BMX, scooter and skate board users. We want everyone to be able to benefit from the track from the inexperienced to the professionals!



We now have a list of materials that will be required and the local quarries will be approached in hope that they will donate or at worst sell to us at cost to help keep the costs down. The Council have also been busy investigating potential funding sources and grants. There have already been kind offers from parishioners offering to hold a music event, a Bar.B.Q and we even have a Councillor who has offered to jump out of a plane at 13,500 feet to help raise funds!

The Council is committed to making this happen but we now really need the support of the Coleford residents. If you have any questions or would like to help to raise funds for this project, then please contact the Clerk on 01749 880428

Community Pay back scheme

The Council has secured a regular slot with the Community Pay Back scheme and have been compiling a list of potential projects for the team to complete ranging from litter picks to renovating the village benches. We now need to ensure that we have the required materials ready for them to undertake the jobs and ensure that we have appropriate work for both wet and dry weather. This scheme offers great value to the Council and it is hoped that they will be able to make a real difference in some areas of the village.

Anyone for Tennis?

The tennis nets will be erected in the hard courts at Highbury playing fields for everyone to make the most of this lovely weather! We really hope that young and old will get out there and use the courts to have some fun and get some exercise. This will be self-managed so please be tolerant if someone is using the court when you arrive.

Butterfly Bank

We will again be looking for volunteers to help with the ongoing maintenance of the Butterfly bank:

Sunday 23 rd July 10am to 12.30pm	Summer Maintenance - to clear brambles and thistles and tidy the paths (Combination of the work programme May and July events)
Tuesday 22 nd August 2pm to 4pm	Summer event for youngsters - planned joint event with the new Coleford Woodcraft Folk Group. (To include some clearance to encourage seed setting, as per the Work Programme)
Sunday 14 th January 2018 10am to 1pm	Main Winter Clearance. With Somerset Wildlife Trust.

Village Website

The new website is looking fantastic! Please log on to www.colefordsomerset.org and take a look for yourself. You'll find information about the village along with copies of the Parish Council agendas and minutes. There are still areas that need to be updated which will be completed over the coming months.

Date of Next Meetings

Tuesday 27th June 2017

Planning Meeting

Wednesday 12th July 2017

Parish Council 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 clerk@colefordsomerset.org

Please check out the NEW website www.colefordsomerset.org

Philip Ham, Chairman