

Parish Council of Coleford

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Gallant Hill Farm
Foxcote
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BA3 5YB

Newsletter for January 2017

PCSO report

PCSO Mike Storey provided the report for the rural beat North, which highlighted the following incidents:



Criminal Damage - 3
Dwelling Burglary- 0
Non Dwelling Burglary - 4
Theft from a vehicle - 2
Theft of a vehicle - 1
Anti-social behavior - 7

PCSO Mike Storey said that the last report of youth related anti-social behavior was received on the 17th December, which is encouraging. Over the Christmas period a youth admitted to vandalising the village Christmas tree and is now being dealt with by the Youth panel. Sergeant Gould commented that the tree incident seems to have been a tipping point for many residents and at the community meeting held at the British Legion many additional episodes were highlighted although they may not have been reported at the time they had happened.

After the Community meeting at the RBL, Cllr Ham filed a Community Trigger application on behalf of the Parish Council and Coleford Revival Group around the anti-social behavior, which is like making a formal complaint. A letter has been received acknowledging the trigger and the panel will be sitting soon to discuss the situation and the future policing of it.

It was reiterated that it is important to report ALL occurrences so that a true picture of the problem can be established. John Gould reminded the Council that crime can be reported using 101 and using the Avon and Somerset Police website: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/contact-us/report-a-crime-or-incident/

Councillor vacancy

We still have a Councillor vacancy. If you would like to find out more about the role of the Councillor and what would be involved then give the Clerk a call on 01749 880428 or email clerk@colefordsomerset.org

Somerset County Council report

County Cllr Ham reported that:

- They have been working hard to produce a sound budget for the next year 2017/18.
- A much improved children's service report has been received, which had benefitted from additional funding received in the autumn statement.
- Devolution is under the microscope. There will be some big meetings coming up when this will be discussed.



Mendip District Council reports

District Cllr Townsend reported that at the full meeting held on the 12th December Chief Constable Andy Marsh gave a presentation. He has a good understanding of rural parishes and highlighted a concern over the rise of digital crime. He said that most police officers are now wearing body cameras whilst going about their business, which has proved to be a useful tool whilst fighting crime and providing evidence.

At the Scrutiny meeting a full report was given on the 2016 Glastonbury Festival. The main concern was the traffic chaos which happened as a result of rainfall on the set up and opening days of the festival. Those attending ignored the warnings to delay their arrival, which meant the surrounding roads were gridlocked preventing locals from getting to work, students missing exams etc. The Glastonbury team have been asked to put together a contingency plan.

The 4 day Wells Christmas market was very well received.

District Cllr Ham reported that the Local Development Plan Part II has a forward timetable and includes Gypsy and Traveller sites, CIL's and are working towards a single plan and a national planning reference. It was started in 2006 and needs updating every 5 years so by 2021 it will be out of date!

Decision making around Transformation - Permission has been given to borrow up to £40 million pounds and controls are now in place to account for, ensure commercialism, adhere to confidentiality and act in a timely way. The Phoenix Sponsorship board have agreed the structure.



Sort it Plus - It has been agreed that recycling will be collected weekly but the general waste bins will no longer be collected fortnightly but will be rolled out to every 3 weeks.. The items taken by the recycling team will be extended to take tetra packaging, cartons etc and extra collection boxes will be available. This will be phased in gradually across the county. After 2024 there will be no more expensive landfill. A new fleet of lorries will be provided which will have the ability to carry additional card board which has increased over

recent years. This has cost £20 million. Mendip District Council has lent £5 million to Somerset Waste Partnership who will pay it back over the next 7 years.

Planning applications

2016/2434/FUL - Erection of 2 agricultural buildings and temporary (3 year) permission for the siting of agricultural workers accommodation. Re-submission 2016/1488/FUL

Spring Water Farm, Anchor road, Coleford, BA3 5PG

Approved with conditions by Mendip District Council

Highways and Footpath Issues to include:

The following items were reported:

- The road markings at the bus stop have been completed.
- The faulty light bulb at the pedestrian crossing has been repaired.
- The work completed on Cherry Tree Lane at the bridge has been completed although the repair looks flimsy and is a concern.
- The pothole located opposite Lipyeate House, has been repaired.

A draft of the proposed new HGV signage for the village have been received. These will be reviewed by the Council and amended if required. It's hoped that the improvement in signage will reduce the number of incidents whereby HGVs use inappropriate routes through the village.

Parish Precept 2017/18

Over recent weeks the Council has been deliberating on how much the precept for 2017/18 should be. It has finally been agreed that the precept should be £35,000, which is an increase on last year, but it was needed to ensure that we are able to continue to deliver the services required. The increase relates to an increase of £0.21p per week to a Band D homeowner for the Parish element of the Council tax.



Illustration by Chris Gash



New dog waste bin for Rope Walk

The Council has agreed to buy an additional dog waste bin to be fitted at the entrance to Rope Walk Farm. When you are walking your dog, please pick up after them and use the bins provided.

Allotments

We still have one allotment plot available! If you would like to be producing your own fruit and veg this year then get in touch with the Clerk on 01749 880428 or email clerk@colefordsomerset.org

Street cleaning.

The street cleaning team have finally started to clean the streets in the lower part of the village. It has been noted that on Church Street it is particularly bad from Ashill down, which the Council will highlight to the contractors.

Dog worrying sheep

Complaints have been received of dogs worrying sheep when using footpaths throughout the Parish. Please remember that when walking your dog please keep them on a lead.

Date of Next Meetings:

Tuesday 24th January 2017

Planning Meeting

Wednesday 8th February 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 website www.colefordsomerset.org

Philip Ham, Chairman.