

COLLINGTREE NEWS

December 2015

*Visit the only website dedicated to
Collingtree village & parish*

www.justcollingtree.co.uk



An Inspector Calls

A long running Collingtree drama to rival Priestley's classic thriller, nears its climax this month.

A Public Inquiry opens on 1st December at Franklins Gardens when a Planning Inspector will examine an appeal by Bovis against the refusal of its two planning applications.

The Developer has been trying for nine years, to build a thousand plus houses on the land locked greenfield site between East Hunsbury and Collingtree. The Bovis development would treble the size of the parish and funnel yet more traffic onto already congested residential roads and the frequently blocked A45.

Therefore the Inspector's task should be clear cut.

Northampton Borough Council has already rejected the site as a sustainable part of its expansion strategy - its Planning Committee has refused two specific applications - the development is opposed by all local councillors, both MP's, both Parish Councils and a broad alliance of residents groups surrounding the site. Recent research shows that the UK has unused brownfield sites that could accommodate over 1m new homes.

But - local councils are strapped for cash in fighting appeals. Already the threat of legal costs has forced NBC to back down on the three key issues of flood risk, traffic congestion and air pollution.

It is now left to local groups and individual politicians to make sure that the Inspector takes full account of all the issues affecting the site and listens to real life experience as well as the arguments of paid lawyers. A drive along Rowtree Road at peak hours should convince anyone!

Why not attend the public Inquiry and watch the drama unfold - for dates and times see back page or visit www.hcra2013.co.uk



Christmas in Collingtree

**Friends Coach Trip to
Birmingham**

Shopping & Christmas
Market

Saturday 5th December

Full Peal of Bells

Centenary of recasting
of Church Bells.

Saturday 19th December

Carols by Candlelight

St Columba's

6pm 20th December

Midnight Eucharist

St Columba's

11.30pm Christmas Eve

24th December

(See inside for event details)

ST COLUMBA'S + COLLINGTREE

Minister

Rev. Mike Burton

Church Warden

John Green 763468

PCC Secretary

Chris Wright 761930

Collingtree is part of the combined Salcey Benefice together with Roade, Courteenhall, Ashton & Hartwell.



The Friends of St Columba's

A voluntary group formed to raise funds for the fabric of Collingtree's ancient Church. To get involved call Peter Skinner on 768394

Services for December

Sunday 6th December

10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 13th December

9am Holy Communion

Sunday 20th December

6pm Nine Lessons & Carols

24th December Christmas Eve

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

There is a Benefice Service at Roade on Sunday 27th December at 10.30am.

Church Flowers Rota

Saturday 5th December

Cheruth Brown (Altar) Gill Berry (Memorial)

Saturday 19th December 10am

As many flower ladies as possible please to help decorate the Church for Christmas.



Friends of St Columba's

Saturday 5th December

Coach Trip to bustling Birmingham

A great chance to visit the famous Frankfurt Xmas Market & Craft Fair. With 180 stalls, it is the centrepiece of the city's Xmas calendar.

Attractions also include the revamped Bull Ring Shopping Centre and the new enormous John Lewis store.

A luxury coach (generously donated by Collingtree Coaches) will leave Collingtree at 8 am - and return at 6 pm.. Cost is only £15 per person.

More information and tickets from Mick Marsh 766060.



What's On at the Village Room

Each Monday Morning - 10 - 11am Cha Char Chimps Activity Group for up to 4yr olds.

Each Monday Evening - 7 - 8pm Shakers Group Meditation Class

Each Tuesday Morning - 11.40am - Pilates Exercise Class (£6)

First Tuesday Evening each month - 7 -8pm 'Paeon Frequencies' Relaxation & Meditation to Music Group.

Each Thursday Morning - 10am - 11.30am Adult Art Group.

All Groups are open to everyone and some make a small charge. **For more details or to book the Village Room for your event - call Esther on 07788 766616**

Carols by Candlelight

6pm Sunday 20th December

at St Columba's , Collingtree Village

Everyone is welcome at this traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols followed by Wine and Mince Pies.

If anyone would like to bring along a small wrapped gift (labelled clearly whether suitable for a boy or girl and the appropriate age group) it will be placed under the tree during the service. All gifts will then be donated to the Women's Refuge in Northampton for those vulnerable children who may not have such a happy Christmas.



VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Allotments Association

The year is coming to an end and the shortest day is in this month, which heralds the slow advance towards next season. So take a bit of time to reflect on your successes and to consider what went wrong with some crops. Always remember, that there are no failures in gardening - it is always down to the weather, furry or feathered things or if all else fails, Acts of God. If you would like to give growing your own fruit and veg a go - now is the time to get in touch so that you will be ready to get off to a good start in 2016.

If you are interested come and have a look. Martin (762700) or Bob (761368) would be happy to show you round

Milton Malsor & Collingtree W.I

Milton Malsor and Collingtree W.I. are joining Blisworth W.I for a Christmas Party in Blisworth Village Hall on Thursday 10th December at 7.30p.m. Members are asked to take a small plate of savouries. Merry Christmas.

For further information call Ann Marsh 766060

Collingtree Art Group

The group usually meets each Thursday morning at 10am in the Village Room. Our Christmas break starts 10th December with a festive lunch and we begin again on 7th January. For more details call Agnes Barfoot 762389

Medicine Collection Rota

December

Weeks Commencing:

30th November

Shirley Flight 764433

7th & 14th December

Jo Clamp 761349

21st & 28th December

Ted Anderson 763264

There is an urgent need more volunteers to maintain this rota. If you can help occasionally with this voluntary service, please contact the Co-ordinator: Shirley Flight 764433

SPORTS CLUBS

Pub Skittles

A great year continues - a second loss of the season to last years champions Eykyn Arms, Gayton, but apart from that all wins - unfortunately our remaining 100 per cent winner Roo Smith was finally beaten at Litchborough last week. Oscar Simmonds is currently our top performer - no surprise as he has been the pub singles champion for the last 2 years. Check out the fixtures in the pub and come along one Thursday to experience the atmosphere of a home match. *Details from Tony Jones 07789 912796*

Cricket Club

On Friday 20th November the cricket team held a successful presentation evening at Greens. There was a good turn out of current players and supporters and an excellent compliment of past players, who had their own Legends table!

The awards were won as follows:- Batting Rob Flight, Sixes - Stuart Brown, Ducks - Oscar Simmonds, Bowling - Ashley Smith, Fielding - Chris Pedel,, Drops - Ashley Smith, Most Improved - Ish Hussain, Champagne Moment - Kevin Hopkins, Clubman of the Year - Grant Jones.

Winter Nets will start on Wednesday 6th January at County Ground 8 - 9pm.

For more details call Karen Hopkins on 07787 786094

Tennis Club

Collingtree Tennis Club would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and fantastic New Year.

To find out more about the Club visit our website: www.collingtreetennis.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PARISH CLERK: SHIRLEY WONG 01604 700691 E: collingtreeparishcouncil@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN: MALCOLM BRICE 01604 764723

Golf Course development The Bovis Appeal Inquiry starts on 1st December at the Saints ground. Members of the public are able to attend and may be able to speak at the discretion of the Chairman.

Parish finances The November meeting included discussions on the setting of the precept for 2016/7, the money the Parish Council seeks from your local taxes. The Parish Council is minded to ask for £16,000, an increase on the £12,00 this year but this may need to rise to £18,000 for highway matters. The final decision will be taken in the meeting on January 13th, 2016.

Playing Field matters The playing field gate must always be left locked as this prevents any traveller incursions! Should this not be possible, or it has been left open, please notify the Parish Council Clerk.

Streetlights Any faulty lights should be notified to the Parish Council Clerk or Chairman. It is possible for parishioners to report incidents or faulty street lights themselves if they so wish by using the numbers on the lamp posts.

The contact for most village lights is E.ON on 01604 493743. For Collingtree Park lights and those in Glebe Farm Close, the contact is Balfour Beatty on 0300 126 1000 option 4.

Trees and bushes alongside pavements Will all residents please continue to check that any trees or bushes alongside pavements are kept pruned back so that the full width of the pavement is clear and fully accessible. There are several wheelchair users in the village and obstruction of pavements is an offence.

Watering Lane Vehicles parking towards the top of the road tend to cause drivers leaving the village to move towards the wrong side of the road. This results in

difficulties, especially when the low winter sun shines into their cars. As there have been several near misses, one involving a bus, at the bend in the road near Toms Close, the Parish Council is to seek double yellow lines to run from outside no 27 Watering Lane to Toms Close.

Parish Council contact

Please make any contact with the Parish Council through the Clerk, Shirley Wong, contact details above.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th January, 2016 at 7.30 in the Village Room.

Minutes of all meetings are placed in the Parish Council notice-boards and email versions can be gained from the Clerk.

Minutes and accounts now also appear on the Just Collingtree website :

www.justcollingtree.co.uk

Collingtree News is produced and delivered to every household each month, at no cost to the parish.

The support of the Parish Council and the Women's Institute is gratefully acknowledged. We also appreciate the support of our regular Sponsor, Central Foods.

A special thank you to all those who deliver the Newsletter door to every household, every month.

Compiler/Editor

Rod Sellers

01604 769407

Email rod.sellers@sky.com

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T: 024 7645 8833 E: studio@sharpemedia.co.uk

Planning Watchdog

Wrong Targets Green field land is being wrongly approved for housing development because local councils set building targets based on 'made up numbers'. New research by CPRE shows that council targets are artificially inflated and based on guesswork rather than fact. House builders are still only building at the same rate as they always did, but have many more sites to choose from. Increasingly they choose green field sites in the countryside and leave brown-field sites - that could provide up to a million homes - standing idle.



Bovis Appeal Inquiry The Inquiry will be held in the Conference Suite at the Saints Ground, Franklin Gardens, Weedon Road. It will start at 10am on Tuesday 1st December and is expected to last 10 days (1st to 4th December - 10th & 11th December - 15th to 18th December) The public can attend and at the discretion of the Inspector, express their views. More details from NBC Planning 01604 838466

Parish Notices

- Rhonda (Ronnie) Warwick and her late husband John, have been an integral part of Collingtree life for longer than most folk can remember. Ronnie has now moved to a new home nearer to the centre of Northampton. The move happened rather quicker than anticipated and Ronnie was not able to say farewell personally to all her village friends. She also would like to thank everyone who has sent her their good wishes for the future.
- Keith Rees, an online reader of 'Collingtree News' in Australia, has been researching the Manning family who farmed in Collingtree in the early 1600's. Amongst his documents he has the Will of a Mary Manning made in 1648. It is witnessed by Horatio Woodhouse who was Rector of St Columba's for 37 years and survived the Civil War, Oliver Cromwell and the Restoration of Charles 2nd. Keith would like to hear from anyone who has links to the Manning family and can be contacted on: krees51@opusnet.com.au
- A reminder from Churchwarden John Green, that on Saturday 19th December, starting at 10am, there will be a 'full peal' of Collingtree Church Bells. This rare event is to celebrate the centenary of the recasting of all St Columba's bells in 1915. A new 5th bell had been donated by the Sears family and although recast, the bells were not rung until the ending of WW1 in 1918. The full peal will take three hours and although many will enjoy this once in a lifetime experience, others may feel it a good time to do some Christmas shopping!

FILM SHOW - MILTON MALSOR VILLAGE HALL

"The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel"

Starring Judi Dench, Richard Gere, Maggie Smith & Bill Nighy

Friday 4th December 2015

Doors Open 7.00 PM Film Starts at 7.30 PM Tickets £5.00

Refreshments and Bar available - for details call 858418

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