

COLLINGTREE NEWS

February 2015

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Collingtree village & parish*

www.justcollingtree.co.uk

'Localism' under the spotlight

The two major development proposals affecting Collingtree are a big test for the Government's aim that local people will have more say in Planning Policy.

Bovis

To recap! In 2008 Bovis unveiled a speculative proposal to build 2200 houses on farmland and part of the Golf Course between East Hunsbury and Collingtree Village and with access from Windingbrook Lane and Rowtree Road. There was an immediate outcry from everyone who knew the layout of the area. It would be hard to find a site more likely to add to car use. It is hemmed in on three sides with limited access to nearby communities and little social cohesion. Bus services are few and traffic on the A45 and around the Toby roundabout is already nose to tail. Added to this were the very real fears about flood risk and noise and air pollution. The Hunsbury & Collingtree Residents Alliance (HCRA) was formed to represent some 500 registered supporters.

To everyone's dismay this speculative proposal was then 'cut and paste' (but with fewer houses) and absorbed into the 'Strategic Expansion Plan' being promoted jointly by the NBC, Daventry and SNC as the 'West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit'. Bovis subsequently lodged an application for at least 1000 houses to be built in two phases.

At every stage, since proposals for mass housing on this site were first made, there has been total opposition because of its environmental problems and lack of infrastructure. Residents have been supported in their opposition by local County and Borough Councillors, the two Parish Councils and the Member of Parliament for the Constituency. Following the Public Examination and adoption of the JCS by the WNJPU (on the casting vote of its Chairman from SNC), Northampton Borough Council voted (on 19th January) to adopt the JCS but only if the Northampton South and Hardingstone sites were dropped.

At its meeting on 28th January the NBC Planning Committee then voted unanimously (with 1 abstention) to REFUSE both the Bovis applications. (see back page)

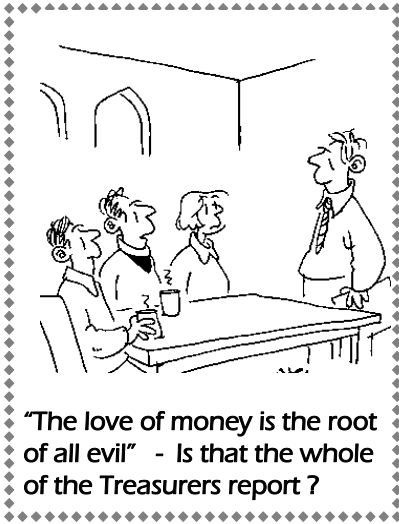
Howden's

Details of the proposal for a 2.67 million sq ft Distribution warehouse next to Junction 15 and close to Collingtree were outlined in the January 'Collingtree News'. After this had gone to print it emerged that a Planning Application was lodged with South Northants Council on 24th December. Despite Collingtree not having been formally notified (because it is in Northampton Borough) the Parish Council and 'Collingtree News' have made great efforts to publicise the application locally. As a result there have been an enormous number of objections from Collingtree sent to SNC, so many that they have been unable, so far, to register them all on their website. (*See snc.planning-register.co.uk and search for S/2014/2468 EIA*) These objections



are in addition to those sent in from Milton Malsor, Grange Park, Roade, Blisworth and villages as far away as Hartwell. The key responses will be on traffic and drainage issues from the Highways Agency, the Environment Agency and NCC Highways. All so far have queried the data supplied and asked for more time. The planning decision will be made by South Northants Council but our local Borough Councillors (Jonathan Nunn & Michael Hill) our County Councillor (Phil Larratt) and Constituency MP (Andrea Leadsom) have all been urged to oppose this monster of a warehouse as being in conflict with all local plans.

ST COLUMBA'S +



Church Wardens

John Green 6 Watering Lane 763468

Peter Skinner 'Lynton' Barn Corner 768394

Deputy Warden

Chris Wright 8 Watering Lane 761930

Services for February

1st February

6pm Evening Service

8th February

9am Parish Communion

15th February

10am Morning Praise

22nd February

10.30am Family Service

SALCEY BENEFICE SERVICES

MINISTER: REVEREND MIKE BURTON 862284

Ashton 1st February 9.30am Morning Prayer— 8th February 10.30am Sunday School - 15th February 10.30am All Age Service
22nd February 8.15am Holy Communion.

Courteenhall 1st February 9.15 Communion—8th February 10.30am Morning Prayer— 22nd February 10.30am Informal Service.

Hartwell 1st February 10.30am All Age Service—8th February 10am Morning Praise—15th February 9.15am Parish Communion - 22nd February 10am Morning Praise.

Roade 1st February 10.30am Lighthouse—8th February 10.30am All Age Service 6.30pm Benefice Youth Group - 15th February 10.30am Morning Praise & Sunday School Club.—22nd February 9.15am Parish Communion.

Additional Service: 18th February Ash Wednesday 6pm Benefice Communion at Hartwell

Church Flowers Rota

7th February - 14th February

Agnes Barfoot (Altar) Ruth Marris (Memorial)

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 18th February so there will be no Flower Arrangements in Church until Easter Saturday on 4th April .

We ask as many Flower Ladies as possible to help on that date.

Queries to Joanna Edmunds 761759 or Ann Marsh 766060

Medicine Collection Rota

W/C 2nd & 9th February

Lesley Sellers 769407

W/C 16th & 23rd February

Catherine Thompson 761368

For anyone in Collingtree who has difficulty in getting to Roade or Blisworth Surgeries, help with collecting prescriptions can be a lifeline. If you can help contact: Coordinator: Shirley Flight 764433

Lent Lunches

Joanna Edmunds will be once again holding 'Lent Lunches' at her home at 4 Barn Mews, Collingtree Village.

The lunches (between 12.30 & 2pm) will be every Tuesday from 24th February until 31st March inclusive and all proceeds go to the 'Forever Angels' baby and toddler home in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Drop in and enjoy soup, a roll, cheese and an apple - all for £1 or a donation.

For more details call Joanna on 761759

VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Collingtree Allotment Association

New Year Resolutions!

Many people start the New Year with good intentions of what they are going to do for the year. Gym membership is a popular one (and expensive) however, having an allotment can be just as, if not more, beneficial. An allotment gives you exercise, fresh air, meeting people, can involve your family and you can even have your own shed! - as well as all the fruit and vege-

tables you can grow. All this starts for as little as £30 per year for a small 'beginners' plot to get started. This year, unusually, there are a few 'ready to go' plots available this spring—so you can get started straight away.

For details of plot availability, contact Martin Grosse 762700

Milton & Collingtree Women's Institute

The next meeting is on Thursday 12th February at 7.30pm in Milton Malsor Village Hall. The Speaker will be Steven

Bruce and his subject 'Murder, Mayhem & Mangled Helicopters' The competition is 'Valentine'.

More details from Ann Marsh 766060

Collingtree Art Group

The Art Group meets at 10am every Thursday (during term time) in Collingtree Village Room.

To find out more call Agnes Barfoot on 762389.

SPORTS CLUBS

Pub Skittles

Having finished last month well we started this year with 2 victories followed by a loss away to the Compass – it was though a match played, watched and enjoyed by many and we look forward to meeting up with them again soon. All in all we are in good shape for some tough fixtures ahead.

During the break we held our internal singles and doubles competitions and the winners that will be representing us in the league comps this year were: *Singles* Oscar Simmonds (for the second year running) *Doubles* Adrian Flowers and Chris Pedel

We are also looking forward to our annual social night which this year is a trip

on Saturday 31st January to Towcester's new Greyhound track.

To get involved call Mark Underwood 07864 51876

Tennis Club

The weather may not be perfect, but on a Sunday morning you will still find Collingtree Tennis playing, chatting and keeping fit in the fresh air. Please feel free to come and join us.

January also saw a Club Social Dinner at the Wooden Walls, Collingtree—a well attended fun night.

More details: www.collingtreetennis.co.uk

Cricket Club

Winter nets will take place on Wednesdays 8-9pm at the County Ground, running from 7th January until 25th March. For those interested in coming along, it is £3 a session. Look forward to seeing you there.

Anyone interested in joining the Club - please contact Karen Hopkins 07787786094 or Mark Underwood 0786451876

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PARISH CLERK: TESS TAYLOR 07729784653 E: collingtreeparishcouncil@gmail.com

In May 2015 there will be a need for new Parish Council members to be elected so please think of putting yourself forward to replace some of those who have served several years. It would be particularly helpful to reduce the average age of the membership so if you are interested please contact the Clerk or any of the current councillors.

Ash Lane Traffic Calming. The meeting on 7th January decided to spend the money for a speed survey to be undertaken in Ash Lane in preparation for the traffic calming scheme.

Parish Council Clerk Three people have shown an interest in this post and interviews are being held on 29th January. The result will be posed in the notice-boards and the change over will be in April/May,

Planning matters

Golf Course development On 19th January, a meeting of the full council of Northampton Borough Council decided

this land should not be considered suitable for development and took it out of the Local Plan. The Bovis applications then had to be considered by the Borough Planning Committee when the decision was taken to refuse both applications!!

Howden Proposals for just south west of M1 junction 15 The Parish Council's response to the Howden's planning application was discussed in a lively session in the meeting on 7th January and the minutes are now in the notice-boards. An agreed statement was sent to South Northants Council (SNC) opposing this application.

Toms Close At the last meeting concern was expressed about some of the houses being left empty and possible dangers of theft and vandalism. Comments were sought from the Borough Council and copies of the response have been given to those living in or close to Toms Close. The response states the scheme is intended to continue and

some of the empty houses will soon be knocked down. Anyone else needing a copy of the response please contact the Chairman on 764723.

Street lights. Lights 14 & 15 have recently been repaired but any street lights not working should be reported to the Clerk or Chairman as above. It is possible for parishioners to report faulty street lights themselves if they so wish. 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.

Please make any contact with the Parish Council through the Clerk, (see above)

Minutes of all meetings are placed in the notice-boards and Email versions can be obtained from the Clerk.

The next meeting will be 11th March 2015.

'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

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Parish Notices

- Owen and Dylan Jones would like to thank all those who contributed donations to the Air Ambulance Service in memory of their mother Barbara Jones. The total of the donation was £404.31.
- In the Boxing Day Charity Football Match, the North gained their first win with a 6-4 triumph over the South. Over 30 players took part in the game, which raised a generous £120 for the Edinburgh based Mercy Corps which helps children in need around the World. Many thanks to those who contributed.
- One of the consequences of dark nights and mornings, is that irresponsible owners seem more likely to allow their dogs to foul the pavements. There is a particular problem on High Street South at the moment and offenders will know who they are.

Planning Watchdog

LATE NEWS

Visit www.HCRA2013.co.uk



At a highly charged Planning Meeting with many speakers against the Bovis applications, the committee refused both the outline and the detailed applications on the Hunsbury/Collingtree site. No doubt Bovis will appeal—so watch this space.

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1st Collingtree & Milton Malsor Scout Group

We are holding a 'Quality Fish & Chip Supper' at Milton Village Hall on **Friday 20th March** to raise funds for new camping equipment. Adults £10 & children £7.50 and includes complimentary drink. Call Selina Smith (01604 769439) to book tickets.

If you like a challenge and can help with the running of the Scout Group (including Beavers & Cubs) contact Tim Godfrey on 07584432473 or collingtreemiltonmalsorscouts@gmail.com

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FITNESS CLASSES

Feel all 'stiff' and uncomfortable sometimes? Not keen on working out in a Gym? Could you improve your flexibility?

Then come along to our new Fitness Class and s-t-r-e-t-c-h yourself fitter with *MetamorphASize-UK*

45 minute classes every Thursday at 7.15pm starting on 19th February in Collingtree Village Room. (Just £3 at the door)

Village Room Hire

Collingtree Village Room remains the only public meeting place in the village. It is equipped with comfortable seating, a stage, disabled access and a spacious kitchen. To enquire about hiring contact:

Helen Pearce

7 High Street, Collingtree Tel: 07590 037090 helen2504@sky.com

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