

COLLINGTREE NEWS

March 2015

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“The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley.”

Robert Burns



Bovis: The reasons for refusal.

Following its refusal of planning applications for the building of up to 1,000 houses on Greenfield land between East Hunsbury and Collingtree, Northampton Borough Council has now set out its reasons: These are paraphrased below:

- 1) The development is contrary to NBC's objection to this site being included in the Joint Core Strategy.(JCS)
- 2) The development would be contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the JCS on Highway grounds.
- 3) The development would have unacceptable impact on residential and general amenity due to the increase in traffic on the local highway network and therefore would be contrary to NPPF and JCS.
- 4) The development is close to the M1 motorway and the noise and air quality measures proposed fail to provide a satisfactory residential environment.
- 5) The development would fail to safeguard the setting of Collingtree Village and its Conservation Area and would be contrary to NPPF and the JCS.

The Applicant can appeal to The Planning Inspectorate within six months of the date of the refusal (2nd February 2015) although the Inspectorate does not have to allow an appeal if it considers that the Planning Authority had sound reasons for refusal.

Howden's: The opposition grows.

The planning application to South Northants Council (SNC) for a 2.67million sq ft Distribution Centre next to Collingtree, has provoked overwhelming opposition from local communities and this is recorded on the SNC website. To date there are approaching 400 objections from individuals and their Parish Councils based on traffic issues, air and noise pollution, loss of countryside. The application from Howden's (formerly MFI) is also contrary to the JCS and Local Plans.

Technical questions have also been raised by the Statutory Agencies consulted.

- 1) The Highways Agency state that the Transport Assessment supplied is not in line with pre application discussions and asked for a two month delay.
- 2) Northamptonshire County Highways also question the TA and oppose a new junction on the A508.
- 3) The SNC Transport Officer has objected and states that the proposed improvements to J15 will not increase capacity.
- 4) The Environment Agency have asked for evidence on the run off implications for Wootton Brook.
- 5) The NBC Environmental Health Officer has questioned the air pollution data supplied.

The application is expected to be considered during March. **See 'Parish Notices' on back page for further details of planned protests.**

Tom's Close - to the end

Part of the post war history of Collingtree Village will disappear soon, if Northampton Borough Council (Northampton Partnership Homes) gets its way.

Many of the 16 properties are now empty and those residents remaining face the threat of compulsory purchase unless they sell their homes to NBC. To obtain a CPO the Council will have to demonstrate that it is necessary for 'the public good'.

The estate is a mix of rented council rented houses and those occupied by owners who bought during the 'Right to Buy' programme of the Margaret Thatcher years. NBC argue that the cost of renovating their properties is around £80,000 (although this is disputed) and therefore wish to clear the whole site for redevelopment.

Between 1945 and 1955 around 26,000 of the largely concrete 'Airey' houses were built in Britain and for many Collingtree families, Tom's Close provided a first home after WW2. A Village Scrapbook produced in 1965 has a street layout giving the names of all residents at the time - family names that are still very much part of the history of Collingtree. The name of the road itself is taken from the old field name of 'Tom's Close' on which it stands.

If NBC do manage to clear the site it will mean, because of the large gardens provided years ago, that there will be 1.031 hectares of building land available. Quite how the already restricted Watering Lane will then cope with at least double the number of houses (and cars) remains to be seen.

ST COLUMBA'S +

Many people complain that going to church is a waste of valuable time. Some suggest the church consists of a lot of hypocrites. They also say, 'Why bother to go to Church when we can worship God at home? Is it really necessary for me to go to church to be a Christian?' Well it is true that one can pray anywhere and I believe that you can be a Christian in all respects without attending Church. However, the church is a great place if you are wondering how you can share your faith with others and indeed this is what Jesus wants us to do. I personally look forward to the fellowship both before and after Church. We laugh, sing his praise, have fun and share all the events of the week. Give it a go. Come and join us at St Columba.

Peter Skinner



Church Wardens

John Green 6 Watering Lane 763468

Peter Skinner 'Lynton' Barn Corner 768394

Deputy Warden

Chris Wright 8 Watering Lane 761930

Services for March

1st March

6pm Evening Service.

8th March

9am Parish Communion.

15th March (Mothering Sunday)

10am Morning Praise.

22nd March

10.30am Family Service.

29th March (Palm Sunday)

10.30am Benefice Communion.

The Service will be taken by the Venerable Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton and former Rector of Collingtree.

SALCEY BENEFICE SERVICES MINISTER: REVEREND MIKE BURTON 862284

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

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

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

Roade 1st March 10.30am Lighthouse—8th March 10.30am All Age Service 6.30pm Benefice Youth Group - 15th March 10.30am All Age Service.—22nd March 9.15am Parish Communion.

Additional Service: 29th March 10.30 am All Age Service at Ashton.

Fish & Chip Supper

On St George's Day

Collingtree PCC will be holding its annual Fish & Chip Supper at the Village Room on **Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm**. This very popular event includes fish and chips, apple pie and ice cream, all for £8. Bring your own cutlery, drinks and glasses. Tickets from Mick & Ann Marsh (766060) and Irene Skinner (768394)

Church Flowers Rota

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 March

Wilma McArthur 764734

W/C 16th & 23rd March

Shirley Flight 764433

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

PCC AGM

Collingtree Parochial Church Council will hold its AGM at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th April in the Village Room. All parishioners are most welcome.

Lent Lunches

Joanna Edmunds continues holding 'Lent Lunches' at her home at 4 Barn Mews, Collingtree Village.

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

Please do 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 beginnings.

We may only be at the beginning of March but we are also at the end of the gardening year. There are still some vegetables, such as parsnips, leeks and Brussels sprouts, that have survived the winter. These would have been a welcome addition to meals before supermarkets and a lot fewer food miles as well! All these are coming to an end and as the days lengthen and (hopefully) get warmer,

new seeds can be planted for the cycle to start again and we hear the first signs of spring as a lawnmower splutters into life. Food is a precious resource and having an allotment makes us realize that vegetables don't have to look uniform and 'pretty' to be tasty and nutritious.

For details of plot availability, contact *Martin Grosse 76270*

Milton & Collingtree Women's Institute

The next meeting is on Thursday 12th

March at 7.30pm in Milton Malsor Village Hall. The Speaker will be Barbara Everest and her subject 'Passionate about Pasta' The competition is 'La Dolce Vita' (The Sweet Life)

More details from Ann Marsh 766060

Collingtree Art Group

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

SPORTS CLUBS

Pub Skittles

On a social note, our trip to Towcester's new Greyhound Track was a brilliant evening enjoyed by all who attended. We are already planning for the next one. In general, match results have been good, with 3 victories and 1 defeat, leaving us with some work to do if we are to improve on last year—but we have the capability within our squad. We look forward to finishing the season strongly as we have always done previously.

To get involved call *Mark Underwood 07864 51876*

Tennis Club

Collingtree Tennis club is a friendly club located in the Playing Field opposite the Hilton Hotel. Club morning is on a Sunday, so come along and see us.

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.

At the recent AGM, there was only one change in the Officers, with Grant Jones

succeeding Mark Underwood as Treasurer.

Thanks to Mark for all his hard work.

The other Officers are: President Rob Flight - Chairman John Bishop - Secretary Karen Hopkins - Captain Chris Pedel - Vice Captain Tim Butler - Mid Week Captain Dan Harris.

We will be holding a Grounds Day on 28th March to prepare for the new season with the first match being a home game against New Bradwell on 12th April.

Anyone interested in joining the Club - please contact Karen Hopkins 07787786094

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

CHAIRMAN: MALCOLM BRICE 01604 764723

In May 2015 there will be a need for new Parish Council members so please think of putting yourself forward for election. If you are interested please contact the Clerk or any of the current councillors.

Parish Council Clerk; The new Clerk, who will take over in May, will be Mrs Shirley Wong. Shirley has agreed to attend the meeting on March 11th and April will be the handover period.

PLANNING MATTERS

Golf Course development In the brief space available in which this was last reported, the wording was not accurate. It would have been better stated that on 19th January, a meeting of the full council of Northampton Borough Council confirmed an objection to the allocation of the site for 1000 dwellings in Policy N5 'Northampton South SUE' The Bovis application was then considered by the Borough Planning Committee on 28th January when the decision was taken to refuse the application. The Managing

Director of Bovis Homes South Midlands Region has indicated that there will be an appeal.

Howden Proposal for just south 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 and there has been no further news.

Toms Close Northampton Partnership Homes have now taken over this matter from the Borough Council as part of the responsibility for Council Housing being passed to them. Further contacts have now been made by the Parish Council and the matter has been in the local media.

The intention still seems to be to continue with the scheme affecting these houses, through compulsory purchase if necessary.

Street Lights Lights 13, 35, 41 and 43 have recently been repaired but any street lights not working should be reported to the Clerk or Chairman (see above) as none of the Parish Council owned lights have been switched off to save energy. 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 and the Annual Parish (Public) Meeting will be on 22nd April

