

COLLINGTREE NEWS

November 2014

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Collingtree village & parish*

www.justcollingtree.co.uk

Town Planning - Then and Now

On February 3rd 2015, it will be fifty years since the then Housing Minister, Richard Crossman, announced in Parliament that Northampton, Ipswich and Peterborough were to be expanded. Each of them would have to accept induced growth of 70,000 people from the South-East Region by 1981. This came as a shock to councillors, landowners and small communities like Collingtree that were drawn into the areas to be expanded. The southern boundary of Northampton Borough was re-drawn along the route of the M1, thereby bringing rural Collingtree into the urban Borough for the first time. The body newly created to push through the whole expansion process was the Northampton Development Corporation (NDC) which took on all the designation and acquisition of land, the building of new housing estates, shopping centres, leisure facilities, employment areas like Brackmills and Moulton Park. For 16 years the NDC actively promoted the town to new residents and business investment.

Despite their initial shock, the County and Borough authorities worked out a partnership approach with the NDC that was unique in New Town planning and one that enabled an unprecedented rate of growth. Although the Expansion Programme got some things wrong (even then there were worries over the over reliance on warehousing and distribution) overall it worked well and followed a Master Plan that tried to protect the more rural areas like Collingtree. The open fields between the new estates of East and West Hunsbury and the Motorway, were left as 'Important Local Landscape', unallocated for development. Protection Orders were placed on most of the fine trees, especially those in the old parkland created by Pickering Phipps and the ancient village High Street became a Conservation Area.

Crucially, the NDC working with the partner authorities, ensured that the infrastructure needed to support all this rapid growth, was either in place or planned. In its 16 years the NDC built 44 miles of new roads (and kept them lit), provided 400 acres of Parkland and Playing Fields, and built 20 new schools and colleges. Development was governed by the Master Plan which set the ground rules for what should be built and where. The NDC wound up its work in 1985.

Thirty years later Town Planning for Northampton seems to work very differently. The 'Joint Core Strategy' promoted by a joint planning unit of Northampton, Daventry & South Northants Councils, will allow 39,000 houses, mainly around the Northampton boundary and with no clear guarantee that the infrastructure will be provided. Most of the sites earmarked (including the 1000 houses proposed for Collingtree) have been put forward by developers and with their consultants providing most of the 'independent' site surveys. At every public consultation, these sites have been overwhelmingly rejected by the surrounding communities, by local parish councils, all locally elected councillors and members of Parliament.

Without the vital infrastructure, critics say that Northampton will become like an overfed, overgrown Christmas Turkey - too big for its supporting structure and likely to collapse under its own weight.

As things stand, the Planning Inspector appointed to examine the 'Joint Core Strategy' has largely approved it, even though Northampton Borough councillors on the Joint Planning Committee, voted against it. It was only adopted on the casting vote of the Chairman, a councillor from Daventry. The Leader of NBC has said that he is 'disappointed' at the Inspector's decision to approve the expansion plans which place most of the impact on Northampton, but with the shots being called by Daventry and South Northants.

With council elections next May, just how well strategic Town Planning is now being handled, is likely to be a concern for many voters - along with how to prevent Northampton being dumped on by decisions of the adjoining councils of Daventry and South Northants. (see back page)

ST COLUMBA'S +


Remembrance Sunday
 In this Centenary year of the beginning of the 1st World War, our Remembrance Service will be held at St Columba's
 6pm
 Sunday 9th November



Church Wardens

John Green 6 Watering Lane 763468
 Peter Skinner 'Lynton' Barn Corner 768394

Deputy Warden

Chris Wright 8 Watering Lane 761930

Services for November

2nd November

6pm Evening Service

9th November

6pm Remembrance Service

16th November

10am Morning Praise

23rd November

10 30 am Family Service

Sunday 7th December (from 2.30pm)

Decorated Christmas Tree
 Competition in St Columba's Church
 Together with Afternoon Teas & sale of paintings by local artists in the Village Room. Paintings will be attractively priced and ideal for Christmas gifts.

Look out for more details.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper held on 6th October in the Village Room together with a Raffle raised £ 435 for Church Funds.

Thank you to all who supported this event.

SALCEY BENEFICE SERVICES MINISTER: REVEREND MIKE BURTON 862284

Ashton 2nd November 9.30am Morning Prayer— 16th November 10.30am All Age Service - 23rd November 8.15am Holy Communion

Courteenhall 2nd November 9.15 Communion—9th November 10.30am Remembrance Service—23rd November 10.30 am Informal Service

Hartwell 2nd November 10.30am All Age Service—9th November 10am Remembrance Service—16th November 9.15am Parish Communion— 23rd November 10am Morning Praise

Roade 2nd November 10.30am Lighthouse—9th November 10 am Remembrance Service 6.30 Benefice Youth Group – 16th November 10.30am Morning Praise & Sunday School Club— 23rd November 9.15 Parish Communion

Additional Services 2nd November 6pm Commemoration of the Faithful Departed at Hartwell - 30th November 10.30am Benefice Communion at Ashton

Church Flowers Rota

1st November - 8th November

Catherine Thompson (Altar) Pauline Wright (Memorial)

15th November - 22nd November

Joanna Edmunds (A) Jo Clamp (M)

29th November - 6th December

Selina Smith (A) Elizabeth Anderson (M)

There will also be an Exhibition of decorated Christmas Trees.

The 'Flower Ladies' of St Columba Church have sent a donation to the Air Ambulance Service in memory of Barbara Jones, their organiser for so many years. Thanks to everyone for your support.

Queries to Joanna Edmunds 761759 or Ann Marsh 766060

Medicine Collection Rota

W/C 3rd & 10th November

Joanna Edmunds 761759

W/C 17th November

Margaret Joll 767277

W/C 24th November

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

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 15th November

2pm - 4pm

Collingtree Village Room
 Country Kitchen - Cake Stall
 Sale of Christmas Wreaths

Fortunate Finds

Contributions for the Fortunate Finds and Country Kitchen & Cake stalls would be very welcome - contact Peter Skinner 768394

Advance orders for Christmas Wreaths (£17.50 & choose your own colour) can be made through Pam Jackson on 674999. Delivery will be late November/early December.

VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Collingtree Allotment Association

At the Associations AGM on 23rd October Bob Thompson was re-elected Chairman and Kevin Hopkins became Treasurer and Martin Grosse Secretary on the retirement of Irene Skinner and Graeme Joll respectively.

Julia Brown joined the committee on the retirement of Rod Sellers

For details of plot availability, contact Martin Grosse 762700

Milton & Collingtree Women's Institute

The next meeting will be on Thursday 13th November at 7.30pm in Milton Malsor Village Room. The Speaker will be Dusty Roades and the subject 'Country Superstitions'.

The competition topic will be 'Country Charm'

More details from Ann Marsh 766060

Collingtree Art Group

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

Exhibitions of our work are arranged from time to time and the Group are always keen to welcome new members whether experienced or a complete beginner.

To find out more call Agnes Barfoot on 762389 or drop in one Thursday.

SPORTS CLUBS

Pub Skittles

A mixed start to the season having played 5 league games, we have won 3 and lost 2 with victories over The George at Tiffield, A & B sides and also the Butchers Arms at Greens Norton. Losses have been to Eastcote Arms and our old friends at the Compass, Milton Malsor. We were also beaten in the cup competition by the Compass. Special mention to Kevin Hardisty, Oscar Simmonds and Glen Bass who still have 100% winning records in the league so far. We look forward to a more consistent November

To get involved call Mark Underwood 07864 51876

Cricket Club

We look back on a successful season and thank all our supporters who have come and cheered on the team. Twenty Sunday (40 over) games have been played with 16 wins and 4 losses. We also played several midweek 20/20 games with mixed results. In September we had a successful tour to Majorca and won both games. We have welcomed new players during the season who have settled in well. We look forward to our Annual Awards Dinner at Greens on 21st November. For information contact:

Karen Hopkins 07787786094 or Mark Underwood 0786451876

Tennis Club

As the nights draw in and winter approaches, it is important to remain fit and active. The Club is an all year round facility with all weather courts and floodlights, so any day is a tennis day. Club sessions are Wednesday evening and Sunday morning throughout the Winter and new members are always welcome.

We look forward to some crisp, sunny Autumn days.

For more information visit:

www.collingtreetennis.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

Ash Lane Traffic Calming. The scheme was discussed further at the Parish Council meeting on 10th September and a proposal has been put to Northamptonshire Highways for a 20 mph limit in Ash Lane, ideally without road humps, and the possibility of an additional flashing speed sign. A request for a pedestrian crossing with protective railings for the east of the crossroads has also been included. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Planning matters

Golf Course development. The Planning Inspector's report allowed for SUE 5 to be developed but did stipulate certain conditions that have to be met. The revised version of the Bovis planning application has been submitted. The application numbers are N/2013/1035 and N/2013/1063 and parishioners should make their comments directly to Northampton Borough Planning Department.

Howden Proposals for just south west of M1 junction 15

An additional consultation meeting was held on 24th October at the Hilton Hotel and leaflets were delivered to houses in the village. Some changes have been made but the impact of the proposal in terms of visual detriment, pollution, vastly increased traffic and 24 hour noise remains considerable. The Parish Council will object to this strongly when any planning application is made.

Parish Council Clerk This position is becoming vacant in the near future. Anyone interested in this part-time, paid position should contact the present Clerk as below or the Chairman on 01604 764723

Street lights 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, the contact is Balfour Beatty on 0300 126 1000 option 4.

Parish Council contact

Please make any contact with the Clerk, Tess Taylor, Minutes of all meetings are placed in the Parish Council noticeboards and email versions can be gained from the Clerk. (see above)

The next meeting will be :

12th November, 2014 at 7.30pm in Collingtree Village Room.

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.

Compiler/Editor

Rod Sellers

01604 769407

Email rod.sellers@sky.com

Parish News is printed by Sharpe Media

Wooden Walls of Old England

Pub quiz – Sunday 16th October at 7.00. Tables of 4 entry £5 with cash prizes! Please book your table as spaces are limited.

Charity night – Friday 21st November with Rob Horn, the King of Swing. In aid of the Bedford MS Centre. To book, please ask at the bar or call 01604 760641

As we are approaching the season of goodwill, we are now taking bookings for our Christmas menu available throughout December. Please ask for details

Planning Updates

Consultants for Bovis have submitted further documentation in support of the Phase 1 application for 378 houses (part of the 1000 proposed) on the Collingtree/East Hunsbury SUE 5 site. This is mainly in response to queries from Northamptonshire Highways about the layout of road junctions within the site. There is now a further period of consultation until 14th November. More details on www.HCRA2013.co.uk

A second exhibition of proposals for a 2m sq ft Distribution Centre next to J 15 was held at the Hilton Hotel. This would run the whole length of the boundary with Collingtree and is three times the size of the village. Concerns over the air pollution caused by the large number of diesel HGV's that would operate from the site were countered by claims that the J15 improvements would 'eliminate congestion at peak times' An application to South Northants Council is expected before Christmas and will be opposed by Collingtree, Milton Malsor and Roade Parish Councils.

Parish Notices

- *Trinni Crake would like to thank everyone who supported the 'Big Coffee Morning' held on 26th September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The event raised a wonderful £370 for the charity. Thank you for your generosity.*
- *Collingtree CCEVA Primary School continues with its open days for Reception Entry 2015 parents. The next open days are on 20th November (10 - 11am) and 9th December (2 - 3pm) For more details call the School office on 761469*
- *An 'Afternoon Christmas Tea' will be held at 11 Spinney Drive, Collingtree between 1 - 5pm on Sunday 16th November. Come along and enjoy festive treats, mulled wine and other delights. The event is to raise funds for the Daisy Garland, a charity that helps children with epilepsy. More details from Kerri Platt 07734107269.*
- *Volunteers would be greatly appreciated at Collingtree Park Care Home. Help with activities, talking and reminiscing with residents can make a real difference and brighten someone's day. Find out more on 763623.*
- *The Friends of Collingtree School are holding a 'Christmas Shopping Evening' on Thursday 13th November in the main school hall from 7pm until 9pm. Lots of local suppliers will be on hand to help with Christmas shopping ideas. Admission is free.*

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

Coach Trip to the National Memorial Arboretum

The visit organised by the Friends of St Columba to the NMA on 4th October, proved an uplifting experience on a day that began with rain but steadily brightened. The visit coincided with the annual 'Ride to the Wall' by over 5,000 motorcyclists of all types and ages, many who were ex - service personnel. The day climaxed with a moving open air service with a congregation of around 20,000

The trip was made possible by the generous donation of a coach and driver (plus Raffle Prizes) by Collingtree Coaches and the event raised £400

This results in the Friends having raised £1,127 through the three events held this year.

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