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MINUTES OF THE COLLINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at 7.30 pm on 14 APRIL 2016
in the YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE, LOW STREET, COLLINGHAM

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllrs Barrie, Wright and Parkin. John Howkins & Di Birch

2. To receive the Minutes of the Parish Meeting of 12 March 2015

Copies of the minutes were available and accepted as a true record

3. Chair's report on Parish events

Appendix 1

4. Draft governance statement & financial report for the year 2015/16 and auditor's report for the year 2014/15

Appendix 2, Appendix 3 and [Appendix 4](#)

5. Open forum for parishioners comments and questions

- Question asked if those requesting an election could be made responsible for the costs involved as this has been a large part of the financial spend in the year
- Is there any progress on a bypass for Collingham? *In 2011 Collingham was removed from the Nottinghamshire County Council list and there has been no change to this.*
- Was the Parish Council going to accept the high cost of by-elections in future or were they going to do anything about it? *The Parish Council has written to Robert Jenrick MP and Newark and Sherwood Democratic Services about this with suggestions for a proportionate request of electors to request a by-election or all parish council elections to be funded by central government.*

6. Representatives of voluntary groups within the Parish to report on their progress in the last year and plans for the future

Collingham Village Care

The Chair of Collingham Village Care gave a short report on how CVC started and its operation now. Over £40k of donations have been made to the village over the years including, bulb planting, donation to the defibrillators, and the digi screen at the medical centre. They also transport people around to medical appointments or have difficulty accessing transport by other means. Anyone registered at the medical centre can access this service. Over the last year the CVC have taken over 200 regular customers on over 4000 trips. CVC are also working with the Parish Council to make the village dementia friendly. If anyone could offer time to drive or as a co-ordinator, this would be appreciated

Collingham Community Trust – May Fair & Scarecrow Festival

This will be similar to previous years. Refreshments and entertainment for all the family. All groups in the village are involved. All scarecrows in the festival will be greatly appreciated.

Notts Wildlife Trust – Collingham/Besthorpe Trent Vale Nature Reserve.

The reserve which lies mainly in Collingham Parish is operated by Notts Wildlife Trust (NWT) who have been in existence for 50 years and look after 1:3 of all SSSI sites in Nottinghamshire. They manage 67 nature reserves which attract over ½ mill visitors per year and vet over 8000 planning applications each year. 20% of Heron ringing in Britain takes place here. There is a diverse population of birds including Avocet, Little Egret and the endangered Turtle Dove. Making Tracks, a project to improve accessibility especially for disabled people is about to be implemented from the Besthorpe entrance in the very near future. We are all encouraged to take a trip down and explore the site

Collingham Tennis Club

Mini Courts and the practice wall are now progressing on site. This will be open access for anyone. Tennis rackets and balls available for no cost. Funding is currently being sought for grants to build a new club house in the future. Everyone welcome to come down and see what is happening at the club.

The new website is www.clubspark.LTA.org.UK/collinghamtennisclub.

Collingham & District History Society

The new facility in the Jubilee Room will be open late in May. It is important to keep local archives local. There is a new website and more information will be added along with lots of events.

Speedwatch and Notts Police Update

Appendix 5

Collingham Community Orchard

The orchard was started 5 years ago and all the work is now done. Signs have been improved, along with paths and oak posts for each tree, with the name and some information. The final item was the installation of 3 oak benches so that people could linger. The first cut of the grass for the year has just been carried out and the area is looking nice. The trees are still very young and an event is envisaged for the future when fully established.

7. Letters from John Blow School

A bundle of letters was received from years 5&6 with regard to the future use of the old LCS, with the suggestion of it being used as a gym. A selection of the letters were on display for everyone to view. A representative of LCS and Cllr Scott would visit the school.

8. Close of the Annual Parish Meeting

Thank you for attending

The meeting closed at 9:05 pm

18 members of the public present and 7 parish councillors

No members of the press present

Abbreviations

LCS - Lincolnshire Cooperative Society

SSI - Site of Scientific Interest