

COLLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Or visit in person in the library on Mondays 2-5 (during Library Opening Hours)

During the past month several items arose and were discussed at the Parish Council meeting which are worth noting.

Best kept village; as mentioned in an earlier edition of the Fleet. Collingham has entered the competition again and judging will take place in June, after coming second last year we hope to go one better this time. To help achieve this we would urge all villagers to go the extra yard over the coming weeks. Although most of us would think this is all about gardens and green spaces, which to a large extent it is, it should not be overlooked that well maintained fences, gates, signs even pillar boxes can give a good impression to the judges when touring the village. The judges are always on the lookout for weeds at the bottom of walls and along pavements. If any villager spots something which could be spruced up or improved, please pass this on to Councillor Lee Marshall or the Parish clerk.

Collingham Station adoption; This is moving on apace. After meeting with representatives of East Midland trains the Parish Council are drawing up a plan/list of actions we would like to see to improve the appearance of the station to both passengers and villagers alike. Many of the items needed will be provided by EMT at no cost to the village including general repairs and painting. When we are up and running any villagers who would like to join the team in helping to maintain the planters, flower beds and general tidiness etc. please leave their name with the Parish Clerk.

NHS/PPG; It is now six months since the Collingham Medical Centre PPG (Patient Participation Group) came into being, although it was one of the last to be set up in Nottinghamshire it has got off to a flying start and the enthusiastic members have set a challenging target to improve 2-way communications between the Centre and the patients within its catchment area.

Chaired by Linda Dales they will be producing regular updates for the Fleet magazine.

We have heard in the press over recent months about the need for improvement in mental health services. An announcement has just been made that "All of the health organisations and Local Authorities in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have decided to work together to develop a countywide, all age mental health and social care strategy" This will include input from all PPG's and mental health groups/charities throughout Nottinghamshire and help develop a strategy that covers the next two to five years.

Parking; This is a problem which is regularly raised at Parish Council meetings, either by complaints to individual Councillors or letters sent in by villagers. The main concerns are road junctions, particularly those onto the high street. Vehicles parked too close to the junction not only cause holdups but in extreme cases can prevent larger, and especially emergency, vehicles from entering or leaving the High St. It should be remembered that the Highway Code (how many of us have looked at this Code since we passed our test in the dim and distant past.) advises that all vehicles should be parked no closer than 15 metres from the junction to enable free flow in both directions. Can we please bear this in mind when parking anywhere in Collingham and surrounding villages, but especially near the High St.

Jim Barrie

Collingham Parish Council meets on the fourth Thursday of every month and the second Thursday in December. The meeting in August may be cancelled if there is insufficient business. The meetings are held at the Youth and Community Centre on Low Street and begin at 7:15pm. The general public are welcome at all meetings, though they have no rights to participate except at the beginning of the meeting or at the Chairman's discretion and with prior notice to the clerk. Once the meeting is under way the public are welcome and encouraged to stay and listen to the Council. There may be times because of the sensitive nature of the business being discussed that the public and the press are asked to leave though this happens very rarely.