

# COLLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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The first 'Fleet' of 2016, I wonder how long it will take to get used to using that date? One of the first jobs for February, if you haven't already done so, is to reply to the budget consultation for Nottinghamshire County Council. This is your opportunity to agree or disagree with the proposed cuts for 2016/17. Copies of the proposals are available on line on the Nottinghamshire County Council website or paper copies are available in the Library. Replies must be made by February 5.

One of the key topics of this winter is 'Devolution' and the North Midlands' bid has been featured in the news recently. The bid, submitted in December 2015, is available on the Newark and Sherwood District Council website and we will arrange for a copy to be available in the Library. The parishes along the A1133 had a briefing meeting with Anthony May on Monday, January 18, organised by CC Maureen Dobson. We will ensure that, as we receive information, it is put into the Fleet, on our website and in the Library.

Please note that Nottinghamshire County Council is also acting on complaints about parking that blocks dropped kerbs. The County will begin to issue penalty notices to motorists who park their cars across dropped kerbs which are there to help pedestrians. These crossing points are essential to assist all pedestrians when crossing the road and are particularly important for the disabled or those with pushchairs.

Bird nesting will start soon, so this is the last month to cut back hedges, shrubs and trees near pathways and road signs. Hedges should be cut back to boundary lines so that new growth does not obstruct pedestrians walking on pathways or drivers emerging from road junctions. Tree branches should allow pedestrians to walk freely on pathways without encountering side or overhead obstruction. Please remember that rain weighs down branches and we do seem to be having a very wet winter.

Many of you will know that there have been changes on the Parish Council. Stuart Dove resigned in 2015 and following a by-election Jane Guest was elected to the Parish Council in January. Our thanks to Stuart for his work since 2007 and welcome to Jane in her new role.

*Rosie Scott*

*Collingham Parish Council meets on the fourth Thursday of every month, second Thursday in December. The meeting in August may be cancelled if there is no business to transact. All meetings are held at the Youth and Community Centre on Low Street, except June which is at the Chapel in Brough and begin at 7:15pm. The general public are welcome at all meetings, though they have no rights to participate except for the first 15 minutes 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.*