COLLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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September has been a busy month in the Parish with various celebrations and our wonderful Collingham Agricultural Show.

On Saturday, September 12, the Community Park Committee wanted to say thank you to all the people who contributed so much time, money and effort into the refurbishment of the play equipment on the Park. Not least was the Committee itself who met for over three years to channel the information from the community consultation to the final work. An especial thank you to Chris Allen, who started it all in June 2012 when residents of the Parish had plans to improve the Park, and has seen the whole project through.

It couldn't have been done without everyone who worked so hard for the refurbishment, took part in our consultations and wrote letters of support. Thank you all.

The editor of a national magazine (Country Living) has written that the best small agricultural show in the country was in Nottinghamshire, in a village called Collingham. How true: beautiful weather, lots to see, lots to buy, lots to eat and drink and lots of friends to meet. Thanks to everyone involved in the organisation of the annual event, it was fantastic.

It is with a feeling of excitement that the new Parish Office will open in the new library building. This will help the Parish Council to be more visible to those they serve and give everyone the opportunity to feel more involved and better understand the role of the Parish Council. The Clerk will generally be available on a Friday morning (during library opening times) and it will also provide a meeting place (by appointment) at other times. Thank you to all those venues who have welcomed and hosted the clerks meetings in the past and we look forward to you now visiting us! Planning applications are readily available on line (via the Newark & Sherwood website), but many members of the community still remain without a computer or the skills to access them. These will now be available to view (by appointment) in paper format, or people can be shown how to access them online and the benefits of so doing.

Rosie Scott and Caron Ballantyne

Collingham Parish Council meets on the fourth Thursday of every month except August and December. The meetings are held at the Youth and Community Centre on Low Street and begin at 7:30pm. The general public are welcome at all meetings, though they have no rights to participate except for the 15 minutes prior to 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.