

COLLINGHAM *Parish Council*

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

After a very mild and pleasant Christmas and New Year we have certainly entered wintertime. Colds and flu seem to be everywhere so please take care.

The Parish Council has a limited amount of funding available for local organisations through our grant system. We'd like to ensure there is as much equality of opportunity for those in the Parish to apply so please take a look on the Parish Council website at the application forms and let any clubs or groups you're involved with know they're available.

The Speed Watch volunteers are doing what they can to help the problems that seem to have sprung up again on the usual roads in the village (Swinderby Road, Station Road and Low Street) but they are limited, mainly due to needing more people to do it – if you're interested then full training will be given and you only need do as much or as little as you can; no commitment and you won't ever be doing it on your own.

The perennial favourite topic of the Parish Council has also reared its (turtle) head again – dog poo! It goes in cycles here; people leave it more in the winter months when it's dark than in the summer months when it's light. As well as really spoiling your day when you step in it, it can cause blindness in children if they come into contact with poo that has roundworm eggs in it. We would be incredibly grateful if we could get this problem resolved once and for all; it takes up too much time on agendas when we could be doing other things.

We now have three Community First Responders in the village which is a great asset and we thank them for giving up their time to do this. If you are interested in doing this fantastic voluntary emergency service please contact the Parish Council and we'll put you in touch with the right people. It's tough going sometimes but there's no better feeling than when you know you've saved a life. It's incredibly rewarding.

We've been told and seen ourselves that the yellow lines parking restrictions aren't being observed by a minority of people at school drop off and pick up times. The yellow lines are to help the flow of the vehicles, such as the bus and emergency services but also to ensure the children's safety. Please can everyone take note of the restrictions and park further away if there's no room. Nottinghamshire County Council will be undertaking surveillance of the area with the power to enforce the restrictions and issue tickets to anyone in contravention of them.

Lastly, apparently people are feeding the gulls on the Hemplands and its requested that people don't do that. It's far more fun to throw proper bird food in the air at the seaside and watch them swoop and catch it mid-air.

Rick Hatton and Gillian French

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.