

COLLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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September is here again. I do hope we will have some good weather for all the events planned as the working routine starts again and holidays seem such a long time ago not just a month or so.

Three dates for your diary, on Saturday 12th from 2:00pm – 4:00pm, there will be a celebration to say thank you to all the grant awarders, donors and sponsors of the refurbished Community Park. There are also some more consultations about the possibility of future work at the Park and we hope to see you there.

Saturday, September 19th is the Collingham Show which described in a nationally published magazine as one of the best traditional agricultural show in England. A sentiment with which I am sure we all agree.

Saturday, September 26th the new Library will be opened at 71 High Street – look out for more information around and about on all three events.

September is also the time when hedges and trees can be cut back again as the bird nesting season is over. Please check that the hedges and trees from your property are not obstructing pathways or rights of way. The control of hedges and trees is the responsibility of the householder or landowner. We also receive complaints that some hedges are blocking the view of drivers as the turn out from side roads. Tree branches should give generous height clearance for people walking along pathways and rights of way – remember that heavy rain will weigh down branches.

The perennial problem of dog fouling has been the subject of several complaints recently. Under bye-laws agreed with Newark and Sherwood District Council it is an offence to take any dog on to the Community Park, with the exception of recognised assistance dogs, and anyone reported to the Dog Warden is liable to a Class 3 fine, currently £1000. There is a shaded area between the fence and hedge facing Swinderby Road where dogs may be tied up.

It is also a Class 3 offence if anyone allows their dog to foul in any land in the Parish of Collingham and does not remove the faeces (recognised assistance dogs excepted). This applies to all grass verges, paths and country lanes in the parish. Offences should be reported to the Dog Warden at Newark and Sherwood District Council as soon as the offence is noticed. Copies of the bye laws are available on the website or at the Library. We know it is only a minority of dog owners who do not clean up after their pets, but if you bag it and bin it you improve the life for everyone in the Parish.

Enjoy the events, hopefully in the lovely autumn sunshine

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.