Colsterworth & District Parish Council

PARISH PLAN
2011-2021

Part 1 Current Position
Consultation Version
November 2010
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INTRODUCTION

Why do we need a Parish Plan?

We produced one in 2007 and the good news is that the aims and targets in that plan have largely been achieved notably Vehicle Activated Signs to remind drivers of the speed limit, and also our Website colsterworth.com, which endeavour to keep parishioners well informed.

We have also accomplished things that were not in the last parish plan such as the restoration of the War Memorial, extending the Old Post Lane cemetery, and organising the repair of the Colsterworth church gates, arch, and lantern for the benefit of everyone in the village especially those who appreciate that fine historic building.

Since the last parish plan we have been joined by the parish of North Witham so we are taking into account their views.

This Plan is not just an update but will contain more detailed information on the villages and will outline the way that we wish the village to develop in the future.

It meant to help and influence planners to make the right decisions by giving them a local perspective.

The Plan is divided into two parts, this Part 1 explains the current position, Part 2 will endeavour to set out guidelines for the future development of the villages in the Parish.

With the introduction of the new Government’s ‘Big Society’ it is hoped that our voices will be heard.

The previous policy of ‘one size fits all’ and strict targets has clearly not worked and has caused an imbalance in the development of the Parish.

By 2021, at the latest, we aim to have achieved our target of creating a healthy and well integrated self sustainable community with increased local employment, adequate shops, housing, leisure opportunities and sports fields, whilst also maintaining the right environment and habitat for nature and a biodiversity of wildlife.
The Parishes that make up 'Colsterworth and District are of course Colsterworth, Gunby and Stainby, and recently North Witham.

The villages of Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth and Lobthorpe are in the parish.

Woolsthorpe although very close to Colsterworth is keen to keep its separate identity.
THE VILLAGES

COLSTERWORTH
Situated on the B6403, once the Great North Road, it is now mostly on the west side of the A1 Trunk Road. There is an industrial estate on the west side, also further south on the west side of the A1 at Honey Pot Lane there are commercial and agricultural activities. Farm land surrounds Colsterworth.

Colsterworth has been designated a ‘Sustainable Settlement’ although it has only some basic amenities such as a Post Office and a small Co-operative shop. There is a church and chapel.

The character of the village has changed drastically since the 1960s when many stone properties were demolished in favour of 1960s style boxes mostly on the High Street.

The Woodlands Estate was built in the grounds of the old Colsterworth House in the 1970s, and the Glendale Estate (Colster Way) in the 1980s. At present there is the Newton Grange estate being constructed on the site of Colsterworth Business Park, which before that held the workshops for the railways that serviced the ironstone quarrying that was the major employer up to the early 1970s.

only two shops remain in Colsterworth, namely the Post Office and the Co-operative Food store. On the east side of the A1 there is a truck stop, diner, motel, garage and poultry unit that offer limited employment opportunities. On the west side of the A1 is a garage, chinese restaurant and a storage facility.

On the High Dyke, outside the parish is the Easton Cold Store, which does provide employment locally.

The farmland surrounding Colsterworth belongs mostly to large ‘Trust Estates’.

The village has one surviving public house, the White Lion. There are B&Bs, a doctors’ surgery, a police office, a nursery, pre-school and a primary school in the village.

Honey Pot Lane, south of the village on the east side of the A1, houses the largest farmer owned grain co-operative in the UK, a national crane supplier, a pig farm, wood yard, and a specialist vehicle business dealing in MOD and government surplus.
THE VILLAGES

WOOLSTHORPE
Situated on the Woolsthorpe Road which runs from Bridge End, Colsterworth (B6403) in the east to the New Road which joins Crabtree Road to the west. Old Post Lane runs south from Woolsthorpe to the B676, Bourne Road, and then on to North and South Witham.

Woolsthorpe is proud of its separate identity and especially of its connection with Sir Isaac Newton, Woolsthorpe Manor being where he was born in 1642.

Development has taken place in Woolsthorpe at The Close, Ingle Court, West End Close and Apple Tree Close.

There are no shops in Woolsthorpe.

STAINBY
Stainby is a small settlement on the B676 road to Melton Mowbray. It has a large church for the size of the village. There is an ancient fortification ‘Tower Hill’. The main activity is agriculture.

GUNBY
Gunby is south of Stainby and is also mainly agricultural. There is a variety of dwelling types and the church is famous for its pinnacles.

Sewstern Industrial Estate has several businesses offering employment locally.

NORTH WITHAM
Is situated on the Post Lane which runs from Woolsthorpe to South Witham. It is mainly agricultural. It has a village hall and a small caravan park, and it also has a church.

LOBTHORPE
Lobthorpe is agricultural, but there is a storage facility between Lobthorpe and Honey Pot Lane.
Amenities shared by Colsterworth and Woolsthorpe
Village boundary limit Colsterworth
Village boundary limit Woolsthorpe

conservation area designated 11/9/1997
Separation of Colsterworth and Woolsthorpe
Village boundary limit Stainby
Village boundary limit Gunby
Village boundary limit North Witham
Lobthorpe Village
Recent expansion of estates in Colsterworth

1. Woodlands
2. Glendale
3. East & West Grove
4. Newton Grange
Expansion of estates in Woolsthorpe over the years
Affordable and Social Housing Colsterworth
Affordable and Social Housing Woolsthorpe
Possible development land Colsterworth

Site 1. This would be ideal for a retail development.

Site 3. Has drainage problems and building on this land may cause further flooding.
**Land liable to flooding Colsterworth**

Colsterworth is situated on the River Witham in the Witham Valley.

The Environment Agency map shows in blue the area that is most at risk but historically flooding has been known to spread much further.

There are also numerous springs that drain into the River Witham that can cause localised flooding. Many of the villages have a ‘Water or Spring Lane’ that is evidence of a source of water.
Land liable to flooding North Witham

North Witham is also situated on the River Witham in the Witham Valley.

The Environment Agency map shows in blue the area that is most at risk.
Possible development land Woolsthorpe

Site 2. At present this land is used for recreation and it is the only field that the children of Woolsthorpe can use.
Land for recreation & Health Colsterworth
**Land for recreation & Health Colsterworth**

**Site 1**
The Old Post Lane cemetery is an open space.

**Site 2**
Sports and Social Club, membership is required to use this field.

**Site 3**
Church cemetery is an open space.

**Site 4**
This land potentially could make a sports field.

**Site 5**
This part of the field is by the river and should be left as it is.

**Site 6**
The primary school field could have more public use.

**Site 7**
Open space on Colster Way.

**Site 8**
The Bowling Club.

**Site 9**
This field could also have potential as a sports field.

**Site 10**
Could be used for recreation such as a BMX track.

**Site 11**
Stamford Road allotments are well used and should be retained at all costs.

**Site 12**
Open undulating farm land and is good for wildlife.

**Site 13**
Land adjacent to the Old Bypass should also be kept for nature.

**Site 14**
This is the field in which the Jubilee Pond is but is not open for public use.
Land for recreation & Health Woolsthorpe

Site 1
The dismantled railway line is an important corridor for birds and butterflies and footpath.

Site 2
Playground.

Site 3
Woolsthorpe Road allotments.

Site 4
Jubilee Pond nature reserve.
Land for recreation & Health

Parish footpaths
Demographics

population by age band
Parish Plan Questionnaire 2007

Colsterworth & District Parish Council Parish Plan 2011-2021
Part 1
Demographics

Population by employment

- In full time paid employment
- Self-employed
- In part-time paid employment
- Involved in voluntary work
- Employed on full-time household duties
- Unemployed
- Unable to work (illness or disability)
- Retired
- In full time education

Distance travelled to work

- Not applicable
- 0-5 miles
- 6-10 miles
- 11-20 miles
- Over 20 miles
The Future

BUILDING AND MAINTAINING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

To achieve a viable healthy community to be proud of by creating the right balance of housing, shops, employment and leisure.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

To maintain the character of the villages by having controlled growth that uses energy efficient materials and to minimise overall energy consumption.

To only build properties that sympathetically fit in with the character of the villages.

To be flexible on the number of affordable properties in any development.

To discourage development on sites liable to the risk of flooding.

To use developer contributions for the benefit of the community by paying for cycleways, fibre optic broadband, leisure facilities, highway improvements, car parks and street lighting.

EMPLOYMENT

To encourage employment opportunities to the Parish including retail shops and to support the use of the business park as a distribution centre.

HIGHWAYS AND POLICING

To work with the relevant authorities to improve the safety of the highway and to have speed restrictions enforced.

TRANSPORT

To lobby for the provision and maintenance of an improved bus service.

HEALTH AND LEISURE

To provide open space, sports facilities and allotments for exercise and healthy living.

To support having a locally based Doctor, Dentist, Optician and Vet.

AGRICULTURE

To support local farms in diversifying into other activities to make them more profitable.

EDUCATION

To encourage the support and maintenance of the Pre-school and the Primary School.

CARING FOR THE VULNERABLE

Set up channels of communication to make those of all ages who need help to get in touch with agencies who can assist them.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

To create and publicise an emergency plan.

RELIGION

To foster good relations with all the churches in the Parish.

PUBLICITY

To keep parishioners informed by the way of notice boards, ‘In Touch’ the parish magazine, and the parish website (colsterworth.com).
Since the early 1970s when the ironstone mines closed local employment has decreased.

With the closing of the quarries the number of local shops has also declined.

Both in Colsterworth and Woolsthorpe there has been a massive increase in house building mostly in large estates.

The building of some of the Glendale estate robbed Colsterworth of fields that were previously used for recreational activities such as gymkhanas.

Traffic and parking difficulties on Colsterworth High Street are a problem that needs solving. The Post Office and the Co-operative Food store are some distance from parts of the village so that locals like residents of other villages have to drive to them.

Speeding vehicles are a continuing problem in all of the villages.

Roads, especially the B676, are in a dangerous condition. The B676, because it has no weight restriction, and it is one of the few roads that HGVs can use to get to Melton Mowbray is particularly affected.

The number of residents that have dogs, in all the villages, has greatly increased. Most dog owners are responsible and do the right thing and clear up after their pets, but there has also been an increase in the number of those who do not.