

# MARLINGFORD AND COLTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 6, June 2023

## FRANK CURTIS (OCTOBER 1926 – MARCH 2023)

By way of a reminder, everyone that knew Frank Curtis is invited to attend a Memorial Service / Celebration of life, which will be held at the Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> June.

If you would like to attend, please contact his son Simon by email, or phone below.

[simoncurtis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:simoncurtis@hotmail.co.uk)  
07768 50 55 88.



## DOG FOULING

The Parish Council have been made aware of several incidences of Dog Fouling along the footpaths leading to Colton Wood.

Whilst we acknowledge that most of our residents tidy up after their dogs, we would like to remind those who do not that it is illegal not to do so, and is punishable by a fine of up to £1,000.

It is your responsibility to always keep your pet under control, and please clean up after them, and place the waste in the bins provided.

## THE RESULTS ARE IN

As previously advised, the Parish Council has now downloaded and analysed the first set of Speed Camera Data from two adjacent positions, on the eastern approach to Marlingford, along the Bawburgh Road.

Between 21/4/23 and 19/5/23, over 11,000 vehicles entered the village.

The 85% percentile average speed drops from 36.4 mph to 34.8mph between the first and second cameras. This implies that on average, drivers do take some notice of the cameras, but a significant number of users are still travelling at more than the statutory speed limit!

The vehicle volumes at both camera sites are at a maximum, at about 5pm.

Maximum speeds appear to be recorded at both sites between 04:30 and 05:30 in the morning.

We'd be happy to share the actual data with anybody that would be interested.

We are now carrying out the same exercise of the western side of Marlingford, on the Barford Road.

## COLTON AMENITY AREA

As an update, you may now be aware that, following Elona Moore's recent and excellent fundraising efforts, to which we have added a significant portion our Community Infrastructure Levy, the Amenity Area has now been equipped with a new Nest Swing and Slide.

The choice of what to buy and install has been entirely based upon the results obtained from our recent questionnaire. We have had a very good response, and we are most grateful to all of those who returned their questionnaire. The majority of returns said that they were looking for these particular items of equipment, and those specifically designed for children up to the age of 5.

We hope that this is the start of further improvements in the Amenity Area. The Parish Council would like to purchase some benches for use by parents, guardians, and siblings, whilst the children are using the new equipment, but our funds are now very limited. If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of these benches, Elona (and her parents) has kindly agreed to keep her Just Giving page active. If you would like to contribute, please contact us at the address over page, or visit the site:

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/coltonplaygroundfundraising](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/coltonplaygroundfundraising)

## NORFOLK SHOW TRAFFIC ISSUES

This year's Norfolk Show will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June. While it is exciting to have such a high-profile event on our doorstep there is an increase in traffic, particularly through Marlingford. The Show organisers work hard to reduce inconvenience to residents. This year, the traffic arrangements are the same as last year, with no signposted entry route onto the Showground through Marlingford. There is however an exit route along Bawburgh Road and on into Barford. We are promised multiple signs through the village asking drivers to slow down and respect residents.

## CALLING ALL MARLINGFORD RESIDENTS – YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

The villages of Marlingford & Colton are served by a single Parish Council, which does have an important role in oversight of issues such as highways and planning applications, along with responsibility for care of the amenity & play areas in both villages. Councillors have no political affiliation. Serving on the council is a rewarding experience, getting to know the residents and helping to maintain a sense of community in our villages.

I feel the time has come for me to step down, after having served for almost eight years on the Parish Council, much of that time as either Chair or Vice-Chair. With increased pressure of work at the University I was not going to stand for re-election this summer, but that would have left the Parish Council with no representative from Marlingford. I have decided that I will step down in March 2024 to allow time for other Marlingford residents to volunteer to serve our village. We have a great set of councillors from Colton but there are three vacancies, so new volunteers could be co-opted onto the council. This would allow a transition period while I am still Vice-Chair of the Council. It would be a real shame if no one from Marlingford was prepared to serve on the council.

We would invite you to consider offering yourself for Co-option onto the Parish Council. It is vitally important that both villages are represented. If you would like to be considered, and would like to find out more about it, please come along to one of our meetings on June 13<sup>th</sup> or July 11<sup>th</sup>. The latter meeting will be held at Marlingford Cricket Club, so you won't even have to travel to Colton.

Paul Hammerton (Vice-Chair, Marlingford and Colton PC)

## BUS SERVICES

We have been advised that, following a consultation process, Norfolk County Council are proposing some changes to the bus timetables serving Colton and Marlingford, which are due to take effect from September.

The Council advises that it does recognize the importance of rural transport and does subsidise contracts for services at an average cost per passenger journey that reflects this. For example, a service may cost £10 per passenger journey, however, if it's the only service for that community then the case to maintain the service is obviously greater.

The Tuesday and Thursday service to Longwater offers two different travel times. 0932-1115 or 0932-1250, with the option of connecting to the Konect 4 service, which serves the city centre via the hospital. This would offer 1 hour 45 minutes in the city centre. These times will not suit every passenger, but the Council believes these times are reasonable.

There will also continue to be a pre-book service to Wymondham s on Mondays but not as presently on Fridays as well.

The Council also recognises from its passenger consultation that these changes mean a change in routine for some passengers. However, they have had to consider such adjustments in the context of a wider review of services throughout the county, and they say that it is not always possible to keep all services and timetables the same when making wider changes.

## MARLINGFORD CRICKET CLUB

We are a small club who only play friendly matches with like-minded other clubs. A good proportion of players live, or were brought up, in Marlingford. Upcoming Sunday games at home include Tivitshall (June 18<sup>th</sup>), Hardingham (July 2<sup>nd</sup>), Bodeian CC (July 9<sup>th</sup>), St Andrews (July 16<sup>th</sup>) and Easton FC (July 23<sup>rd</sup>). Games usually start at 13:00 and all are welcome to stop by to watch and chat with locals.

Paul Hammerton (Chairman of MCC)

## WHATS ON AT THE MARLINGFORD BELL IN JUNE

Live music returns to the Bell on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June with Sam and the Swingtones performing in the garden (weather permitting). By popular demand, street food comes to the Marlingford Bell with "The Bucket List" in the car park on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and "Pokenom" on June 28<sup>th</sup>. On both nights, the vans will be open in the car park from 5-8pm.

**We would appreciate your comments on any of the issues raised in this Newsletter. Please contact any of the Parish Council, whose details will be found on the Notice Boards in both villages, or our Clerk, Maria Hutson on 01603 850118, via our website: [www.marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk](http://www.marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk) or by E-Mail to [marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com](mailto:marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com)**