

# MARLINGFORD AND COLTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 7, September 2023

## DOES YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP SEEK ADDITIONAL FUNDING?

At our last Parish Council Meeting, it was agreed that organisations serving Marlingford and Colton, would be able to apply for a Grant to support their activities. An Application Form and Instructions on how to complete the process was approved.

If any group is interested in making an application, could you please get in touch with the Clerk using the contact details over page. Maria will be pleased to supply the necessary paperwork.

Organisations should however note that this is time limited, and applications will close on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September, and be finalised at our next Parish Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

## MARLINGFORD SPEEDING

As previously advised, we have been continuing to monitor traffic volumes and speeding through Marlingford. Over the past 4 months, we set up both our SAM2 cameras at the entry points into the village, on Mill Road, Barford Road and Bawburgh Road (twice).

Regrettably, we must report that on all occasions, we see speeding traffic entering the village from all directions.

Traffic does seem to recognise the presence of the outer camera, because in all datasets, the speeds recorded at the innermost camera do show a reduction. However even there, a significant number of vehicles are still travelling at more than 30 miles per hour.

Could we therefore remind all residents always to observe the posted speed limits on these narrow and dangerous roads?

## HETHERSETT SURGERY LATEST

Colton residents will be aware that recently, the Hethersett Surgery sent out letters advising that as the village was outside their catchment area, they would be required to transfer to another practice. The matter was raised with Margaret Dewsbury, our Norfolk County Council representative, who in turn has spoken to the NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB).

Although the surgery initially said that they would assist residents to find another practice, they subsequently decided to put the initiative on hold, partially because it was understood that the next nearest practice, at Mattishall, was not taking new patients.

More recently, we have been advised by the ICB that the practice will, having been instructed to do so by Sue Marsh at the NHS, continue to serve Colton residents, and that families and others may re-register at Hethersett. Further, we are advised that the ICB will be writing in due course, to local practices, to ask them to voluntarily extend their boundaries.

We will continue to monitor this issue. We are not yet aware however whether Hethersett Surgery will be writing to residents to clarify the situation. In the meantime, if anybody has any queries relating to this or other similar matters, they have asked us for residents to contact them directly, by e-mail to: [nwicb.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:nwicb.contactus@nhs.net)

## RAISE YOUR ISSUE WITH THE POLICE

We are aware that there have been several recent incidents in Colton where cats have disappeared, been shot at, and puddles have apparently been poisoned with antifreeze. We were also advised of some anti-social activity taking place in the Amenity Area.

Having raised the issue with our new local Beat Manager, can we please remind you that for any action to be investigated, these issues should be raised directly with the police, and not the Parish Council.

## CALLING ALL MARLINGFORD RESIDENTS (AGAIN) – YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

We apologize for going on about this, but we are still looking for interested volunteers to serve on Marlingford & Colton Parish Council. To reiterate our previous articles, the Parish Council 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.

Councilors 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.

We are particularly keen to invite residents in Marlingford to join us. As we summarized in our previous newsletter, our only current representative, Paul Hammerton, is due to stand down in early 2024 and unless another volunteer is found, there will be no representation from the village.

Please do come along to our meeting, in Colton Village Hall, on 12<sup>th</sup> September. See what we do, who we are, and how you could help.

## FOOD HUB UPDATE

Following a recent presentation, the operators of the Food Hub on Church Lane will shortly be seeking approval, through an LDO, to develop Phase 2 of the facility. As part of the application process, there will be an opportunity for the public to have a say on the proposals. We understand that there will be several local community meetings, probably in September, although we have not yet been told of the dates. We will let you know when we hear more about this meeting.

## NEW BUS TIMETABLE

We previously reported that there would be some changes to the bus services in Marlingford and Colton. Following their consultation process, and contract re-procurement, Norfolk County Council has announced the following timetables which will come into force on September 3rd:

**Service 808, on Tuesdays and Thursdays only:**

FROM	AT	ARRIVES	CONNECTS TO	
Marlingford Bell	09:18	Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 09:27 Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 09:32**	Konec 4 service from Easton to Norwich at 09:38, arriving 10:05	
Colton, The Street, Pond	09:23			
Colton, Junction Norwich Road, and the Street	09:24			
Konec 4 service from Norwich to Easton at 12:15, arriving 12:42		Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 12:50	Colton, Junction Norwich Road, and the Street	12:58
		Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 12:55	Colton, The Street, Pond	12:59
			Colton, Junction Norwich Road, and the Street	13:04
Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 11:15 (Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 11:20)		<b>**ADDITIONAL SERVICE FROM LONGWATER ONLY</b>	Colton, Junction Norwich Road, and the Street	11:23
			Colton, The Street, Pond	11:24
			Marlingford Bell	11:29

The Flexibus Service will also continue to be provided, with the service now being supplied by *Our Bus*. In addition to the current arrangements, there will be a new pre-booked service to the N&NUH at 07:50 and 17:45. To book a bus, call 01603 223956.

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW BEAT MANAGER

We have a new Beat Manager, PC James Smith, who may be contacted by email at [SNTCostessey@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:SNTCostessey@norfolk.police.uk). James says: "I'm thrilled to be your new Beat Manager; covering the area in the last few years on response and having personal connections means I have a lot of passion for the area, and I look forward to tackling issues to make a difference for the local residents." He goes on: "Currently the most identified issue seems to be anti-social behaviour, so I'll be working closely with local partners to identify suspects and tackle problem locations."

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

We are aware that Marlingford and Colton does not have a current Neighbourhood Plan. We have been in contact with Richard Squires at South Norfolk Council who is their lead officer for this initiative. He has offered to come to either of the September or October Parish Council meetings to give more details about how a plan is created, and whether there is a demand for one. Below is some more information about Neighbourhood Plans, which provides some useful background information.

However, the creation of such a document is a significant undertaking and would only be feasible if some of our residents were to provide additional resources to complete it. We would therefore be pleased to hear from you a) if you think such a document would be useful, and b) whether you would be prepared to volunteer to help. Please contact us if you would like more information, and/or, you could help.

[Neighbourhood Plans – Broadland and South Norfolk \(southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk\)](http://southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

[How to create a Neighbourhood Plan: Your step-by-step roadmap guide - Locality Neighbourhood Planning](#)

**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)**