

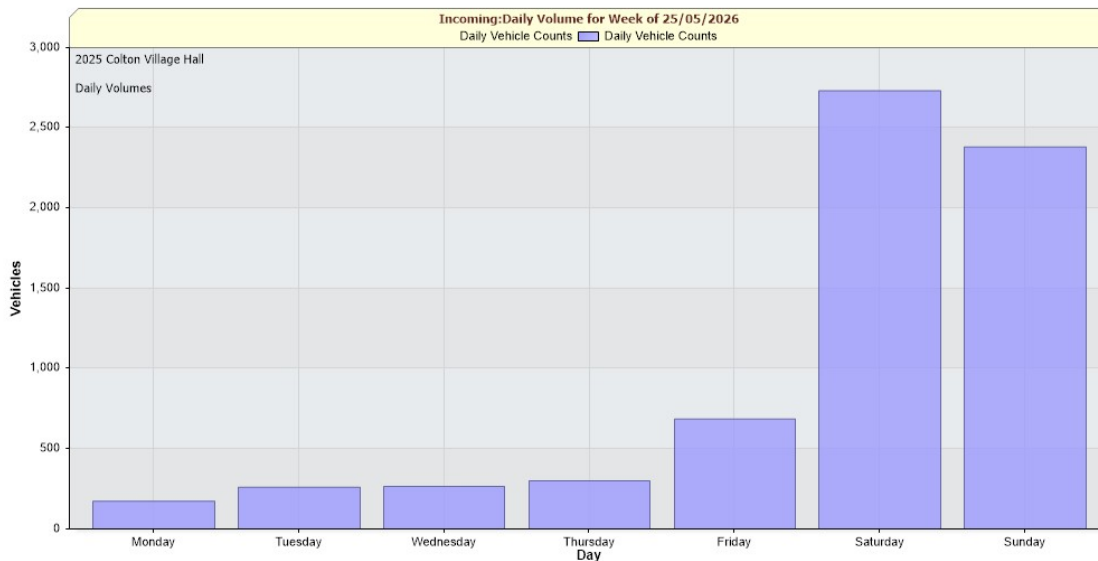
MARLINGFORD AND COLTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 20, June 2026

A47 Construction: Another Update

Following the continuing upgrade of the A47, this time due to the Lyng Road construction work, and the continuing removal of the Easton Roundabout, we have just downloaded and analysed the SAM2 camera data from outside Colton Village Hall, specifically to see the impact of the most recent activities over the weekend of 29th May until 1st June.

Perhaps there is no surprise here, but on the illustration, below, you will notice that traffic volume heading west along Norwich Road, increased from an average of between 250 and 300 cars per day, to approximately 2,700 cars per day on Saturday 30th, and not much less on the Sunday! Although we didn't have our other camera monitoring traffic heading east along Norwich Road, local observations concluded that there was a similar amount of traffic in that direction too, trying to pass each other by going onto the now-collapsed verges.



This is clearly unacceptable. As previously, we understand that the A47 construction must be completed, but we presume we are going to see a repeat of this problem for many weekends to come.

Food Waste Update

We have been advised by our District Council representative, Margaret Dewsbury, that waste food collection is about to be launched in three tranches. The first tranche will cover 28,000 homes starting in July, provided the collection vehicles are delivered on time, the second tranche of 48,000 homes will be launched in September and the last covering the more difficult areas, flats, etc, will begin in October.

Colton Village Hall News

Questionnaire

By way of a reminder, the questionnaire that was circulated with the April edition of this newsletter has generated an interesting response. Colton residents are however reminded that if you would like to submit your comments and observations about possible improvements to the facility, can you please do so by 15th June, so that your views can be considered at the upcoming Committee Meeting. Could you please therefore respond to members of the Village Hall committee, as included on the questionnaire, and not to the Parish Council.

Quiz Night

Six teams competed in the annual Quiz Night, on the 30th May. After a very closely fought battle "Five Alive" came a creditable first, with 211 points. Second were "Hot and Bothered" with a score of 208 and "Wildlife Warriors" came third with 205 points. Of the remaining teams, one comment, recently received was "...we woz robbed..."

Upcoming Events

Readers are reminded of the following upcoming events:

- Coffee morning plus plant and crafts sale **Saturday June 20, 11am - 1pm**. There will be delicious cakes, tea and coffee or soft drinks on offer plus plants and crafts for sale, and a Tombola. Come along and meet friends and neighbours!
- An Evening with Offshoot **Saturday June 20, 7.30pm** start Join local band Offshoot for an evening of music with songs old and not so old... Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30 start. Bring your own refreshments.
- The annual and very successful barbeque takes place on **July 18th**.

Annual Parish (& Council) Meeting

The combined Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting took place on 12th May, in Colton Village Hall. In front of ten members of the public, including our District Councillor Margaret Dewsbury, and our newly elected County Council representative, Malcolm Latarche, all the parish community groups presented their annual reports, which will shortly be uploaded onto the Parish Council Website.

Also in attendance were police representatives who were keen to make residents aware of their contact details, and their continuing commitment to serve our parish. Updated contact information for our Beat Manager, and their team, has now been added to both village notice boards.

As part of the Parish Council meeting, John Morse was re-elected Chairman, and Mark Pfeiffer re-elected as Vice Chairman. We were also delighted to welcome Greg Parton as our fifth (of a possible seven) representative onto the Parish Council

Greg writes: "I originally came from the North and spent my working life gradually moving southwards. My career started in high tech research and evolved into supply chain development and management. I've lived in the Parish since 2014, and I hope that by becoming a parish councillor I can help preserve and improve the villages."

Other items which were discussed included:

Dog fouling

Although we are very fortunate in having a vast majority of very responsible dog owners in our villages, there has nonetheless been an increase in dog fouling along our public footpaths. Dog faeces and filled bags are being left on footpaths. In some areas there are numerous bags being left. This is a health hazard, especially if inadvertently stepped in. The filled bags will not decompose adding to the littering problem further. Dog waste can contain harmful parasites such as *Toxocara Canis*, which may cause toxocariasis – a condition that can lead to serious illness and even blindness, especially in young children. Leaving dog waste in public places is unsightly and unhygienic and can contaminate soil and waterways, affecting both people and wildlife. The link below can be used for reporting someone not clearing up dog waste.

www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/pub/nuisance.ofml

The parish council has provided dog waste bins in both villages which are emptied weekly. If there isn't a dog waste bin nearby, you can still bag the waste and place it in your general household wheelie bin. Please do not leave bagged waste discarded in verges, kerbs or hanging on trees or bushes

Grass and hedge cutting of amenity areas.

The parish council is pleased to announce that Norse has taken on the contract cutting of the amenity area grass, in both villages, and trees along with maintaining the meadow area in Marlingford. Due to a break between contractors, it is hoped that, over the next few weeks, the areas will be cut and looking good ready to welcome visitors to the amenity areas. The parish council would like to thank Justin Ritchie for his time and effort over recent years undertaking this maintenance.

The Parish Council Returns to Marlingford

With a previous regular booking now having been being relocated to Barford Village Hall, we are delighted to advise that, with effect from our next meeting on **7th July**, the Parish Council will again be able to alternate the venue of our scheduled meetings. We therefore look forward to welcoming residents to Marlingford Village Hall at 7pm on that date.

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.marlingfordandcolton-pc.gov.uk or by E-Mail to clerk@marlingfordandcolton-pc.gov.uk