

# Parish Council of Coleford

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## Newsletter for April 2026

### Somerset Council

The monthly report had not yet been received but would be is now available on the Parish Council website. Cllr Ham reported that:

- He had made an official complaint to the CEO of Somerset Council in reference to how Full Council meeting was conducted in early March ref Abuse, Debate curtailed, Bias opinions , and conducted outside the rules of the Constitution. Receipt has been acknowledged but he awaits a reply.
- The two applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites (The Pines, Gypsy Lane, Frome and at Tytherington, Frome ) were both refused at the planning board.
- The planning application for 1700 houses at Selwood Garden has been approved.
- Fusion Leisure who run leisure centres in Frome, Wells, Shepton Mallet, Glastonbury and Street have gone in to administration. All facilities will continue to run as normal for the next three months after professional services company S&W was appointed as administrator to run Fusion on a temporary basis. Somerset Council is working towards getting a new operator in place as soon as possible.

### PCSO

The report is available to view on the Parish Council website but the crime stats for March were:

- 2 x Arson & Criminal Damage
- 1 x Non-Recordable
- 1 x Sexual Offence
- 2 x Violence Against a Person

### Highways

The following defected items were reported:

- Charmborough Lane, again - priority requested to repair potholes already reported between Hill Farm and Lipyeate House
- Vobster/Stockhill, again - previously reported pothole now worse
- Mendip Vale - loose kerbstones opposite no's 87 and 97
- Springers Hill - pothole at top
- Ham - line of potholes along utility trench.
- Charlton Rd to Charmborough Lane potholes on junction
- Farley Dell to Anchor Rd junction - line of potholes

Also:

- Graffiti opposite Lipyeate bus stop obliterated after reporting to police and Highways
- Anchor Rd - successfully persuaded utility to avoid full closure of Anchor Rd with dangerous diversion via Church St, High St, Springers Hill and install temporary traffic lights.

## **New bins**

A contractor has been instructed to install 2 new bins which will take both litter and dog waste. These are to be installed at the bottom of Beacon View and the back of Mendip Vale which we very much hope will help to keep Coleford tidy.

## **Slowing traffic through the village**

There has been talk about purchasing a speed indicator device for use at Stockhill and Lipyeate for some time. A quote for an Elan Evolis Solar Powered Speed Indicator Device for £2,589.99 + VAT was presented. The Clerk was disappointed that Somerset Highways had ignored the requests made since last September seeking approval of possible sites at both locations. After discussion it was proposed that 2 devices should be purchased, however it was agreed that no purchase would be made until Somerset Highways had agreed the locations.

## **Consider year end accounts 2025/26**

The Clerk had shared the year end figures which showed the headlines are:

Budget Receipts:	£87,807.00
Actual Receipts:	£97,214.26
Difference:	£ 9,407.26 more than budgeted
Budget Payments:	£77,786.31
Actual Payments:	£69,626.07
Difference:	£ 8,160.24 less than budgeted

It was always the Councils intention to replenish the reserves during the year to ensure that they were back to the required level. The Council also agreed carrying forward £3215 as earmarked reserves towards the repair the notice board, purchase of the speed indicator device, hard court goal / hoop and professional fees.

## **Update on leveling of the playing field**

The fence is up and the stripping of the top soil has commenced. Penny's representatives were disappointed that an amount of glass had been found, which meant that it could not be used for reinstatement as topsoil at the end of the levelling process. A quote will be sought to provide sufficient top soil for completion, although it is hoped that the glass has only been found in a small area of the field meaning that minimal top soil would need to be purchased, if any.

The creation of a road into the field is complete which will help to reduce the amount of mud carried out onto the road (which would be cleaned with a road sweeper if needed) and the first loads of soil have been brought in.

Fortnightly meetings will be held with Pennys. Any updates or information will be shared on social media and the website. Any issues, complaints or questions should be directed to Wayne Frapple on 07355 607171 or Cllr Matthew Allen on 07814 934618

## **Date of Next Meetings:**

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026      Planning meeting  
6<sup>th</sup> May 2026        Parish Council meeting

It was agreed that the meeting originally planned for 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 would be bought forward by a week

If you have any issues that you would like to bring to the Parish Council's attention, please contact the Clerk on 07971 516916 or email [clerk@colefordpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@colefordpc.org.uk) Check out the website [www.colefordpc.org.uk](http://www.colefordpc.org.uk)

**Philip Ham**  
Chairman of Coleford Parish Council