

Parish Council of Coleford

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Newsletter for April 2025

Police report

The Council was concerned about the March report which showed 11 crimes reported in Coleford which was a significant increase on previous months. PCSO Will Mortimer had contacted the Clerk concerned about anti-social behaviour at Highbury Playing Field car park and asked whether the gate could be closed at night for a period of time in an attempt to stop this from happening. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek volunteers to help with this.

Footpath Warden report for the Village

The council would like to thank our Footpath wardens for producing the Spring reports which highlight issues which ideally need to be addressed by Somerset Rights of Way. The report has been sent to our new Rights of Way officer Daniel Gordon with a request to address the points raised.

Daniel has given an update on the damaged bridge on footpath *FR 4/62*. *He confirmed that* discussions are in early stages to make a safe way across avoiding the problem area, but there is a long lead time for contractors. It is hoped that a safe crossing should be "Soon".

If you find any issues whilst walking the village footpaths, including overgrown vegetation, please report immediately via this link: <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map>

Planning

2025/0383/VRC - Variation of condition 2 (Plans List) on consent 2018/1279/FUL. (Erection of 2 dwellings). Old Meadow House, Lipyeate, Coleford

Coleford Parish Council recommended that the decision should be left to the planning officer.

Update on the Gladman and Rainier applications

Somerset Cllr Ham said that Somerset Council had made a decision that they would not fight either application due to the costs. A meeting has been arranged for Coleford Councillors to meet with the Planning Officer to ask whether Somerset Council is able to give a deadline to Gladman, given that they had already had so long to address the reserved matters.

Highways including:

Coleford Councillors had met with Charlie Higgins from Somerset Highways on 3rd April. A guided tour of the following locations was undertaken and issues highlighted at:

Anchor Rd/Brewery Lane
Dark Lane
Charmborough Lane

Stockhill
Doors Hill
Underhill/High St

Defects on Whitehole Lane and Cherry Gardens Lane were also reported for attention.

They asked about the Highways Working Group for the Local Community Network but there appears to be no date set for a meeting.

Another incident on Charmborough Lane had occurred where a vehicle had mounted the verge at the junction with Cherry Gardens Lane and knocked an arm off the signpost. The Council will request that Somerset Highways replace the finger which is now missing.

Somerset Highways had asked if there were any areas which needed the white lining refreshed. It was suggested that every single Marking in the Parish needed immediate attention however it was agreed that a review would be conducted with photographs of the worst being submitted to Sara Davies of Somerset Highways for competition.

Date of Next Meetings:

23 rd April 2025	Planning meeting
14 th May 2025	Parish Council meeting