

# Parish Council of Coleford

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## Newsletter for October 2025

### Village Defibrillators



The defibrillator at the Kings Head needs a new battery and a new cabinet as it appears that rain has started to seep inside. Unfortunately, there is a national shortage of the battery that is needed, so we just have to wait until stocks have been replenished. Until then, please spread the word that the defibrillator usually found outside the Kings Head, is not available. The nearest available 24 hours a day is outside of the old Co-op at the junction of Anchor Road with Church Street. We will of course let you know when the defibrillator is action ready again.

### Planning

2025/1590/FUL - The Eagle Inn Highbury Street Coleford

Proposed change of use and conversion of former pub into 3no. residential units (C3) comprising of a house, a detached bungalow and first floor flat.

Coleford Parish Council recommended that the application be approved subject to the planning officer looking at the parking requirements and that the electric charging points only being used for personal use.



2024/1898/REM - Land South Of Suncroft Anchor Road, Coleford, Radstock

Reserved matters approval for details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline planning permission reference 2019/2345/OTS (Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved for the erection of up to 63 dwellings).

Coleford Parish Council agreed that a response outlining concerns would be submitted to the Planning officer.

### Highways

Diversions - the roadworks at the junction by the Vobster Inn caused dangerous and unnecessary diversions, which has been highlighted to Somerset Highways.



Somerset Future Transport Plan – Cllr Townsend said that he had submitted a response in a personal capacity. The Plan talks about sustainability and reducing the need for travel by private car and these should be prime criteria in planning decisions for housing development.

Issues with overgrown hedges – Somerset Highways have said that the majority of hedges bordering the highways are in private ownership. Landowners and occupiers are required to maintain their boundary and it is recommended that any maintenance should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (1 March - 31 July). They said that landowners should ensure that their hedge, tree or shrubs do not obstruct highway users nor obstruct visibility splays, road signs etc. The Highway Authority can serve notice in accordance with the Highways Act 1980 but they do request that the Parish Council raises any initial concerns in an informal way with the landowner / occupier first which generally works better.

Cllr Ham had a meeting with Somerset Council Traffic Engineer, Sara Davies and discussed the following points:

1. Parking at junctions: The situation at Careys Mead seems worse. It was discussed whether the Parish Council might take on an area by the phone box to create a hardstanding for parking.
2. Renewing the white lines, rumble strips and 30mph roundalls throughout the village.
3. 20mph for Church Street: Sara will look into this but it may be that different signage is required as 20mph is not enforceable and needs police support.
4. Newbury Manor School: Will look at more signage and renewing the rumble strips and will ask for more education through the school regarding driving safely in the lanes.
5. Floral planters at the entrance to the village: Sara asked for the proposed locations (What3Words) and size /design of the planters.
6. Vobster 20mph: This is being consulted on. Mells PC have approx. £10K to install. Police are not interested. Sara will be working with them on improved signage and chevron signs.
7. Leigh on Mendip school: There is a wish to extend the 30mph further out of the village and to stop parking from outside of the school.
8. Chantry & HGV access: Due to an accident at Railford Bottom an HGV driver was sacked and the company banned from the quarry. Heidelberg materials have agreed to provide new signage and extra instructions to all drivers using the quarry to stop them from taking short cuts. Sara will work with them to agree signage.
9. Kilmersdon: Parking opposite the Jolliffe Inn. Sara will be working with the Parish Council to solve the problems.
10. Other hotspots for accidents continue to be Terry Hill crossroads, the junction at Beacon Cross, the road width from Waggon and Horses Inn to Beacon Cross and the A361.



### Coleford Shedders

The renovation of the Memorial Gates from the entrance to Coleford Playing Field is progressing well but work on the rocking horse will be delayed until the spring. It was agreed that details for the village entrance planters would need to be discussed so that this can be approved by Somerset Highways before work starts. Now that new members have joined the group, larger premises need to be found. It was agreed that further thought would be given to the proposal.



The Coleford Shedders meet each Tuesday @ The Hub, Church Street, Coleford from 10am to 12pm. Meeting together to work together on projects or just sit and chat. For more information contact Chris on 07944 309 849

### Date of Next Meetings:

5<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
26<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Small Grants Working Party meeting  
Parish Council meeting  
Planning meeting



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