

Your community guide for Colton, Easton and Marlingford **PLUS** The legend of St Walstan Local information page 16 Community interest What's on at the **Royal Norfolk Show** Church services (Benefice) page 28-29 page 18

Useful contacts		
St Peter's VC Primary School, Easton	01603 880553	
Easton College	01603 731200	
Easton College Tennis Centre	01603 731302 easton.tennis@ccn.ac.uk	
Colton Village Hall	Vicky Green – 01603 881336 vicky@mgarchery.co.uk	
Colton Carpet Bowls Club	Dennis Mickleburgh – 01603 880391 Avalon, The Street, Colton	
Easton Bowls Club Secretary	Jan Hudson - 01603 880811 eastonbowls.bh@btinternet.com	
Easton Crafters' Club	Mrs Janet Morris - 01603 471144	
Easton Football Club	Michael Cossey – 01603 880143 73, Marlingford Way, Easton	
Easton Good Companions	Pamela Hooker – 01603 880867	
Easton Gym Club	01603 960511 enquiries@eastongymnasticsclub.com	
Easton Judo Club Coach	Chris Abel – 0845 388 6895 chris@eastonjudoclub.co.uk 29, Goulburn Rd, Norwich	
Easton Junior Football	Gavin Tipple – 01603 731585 gtipple@easton-college.ac.uk	
Easton Sports Centre	Colin Brzeczek 01603 731263	
Easton Post Office	Open Tues and Thurs 9am-2pm 01603 880007	
Easton Village Hall	Roly and Christine Chapman 01603 880654	
Easton WI Secretary	Mary Blathwayt – 01603 880574	
Little Owls at Colton Village Hall	Katie Kemp 07790 276499	
Marlingford Village Hall Bookings	John Bailey M: 07986 609319 jaydeebailey@gmail.com	
Community Car Scheme for Easton only	Jean and Dave Ditton – 01603 880857	
Citizens' Advice Bureau	Wymondham 03444 111444	
Relate	01603 625333	
Samaritans	0330 094 5717	

Doctors surgeries	
Costessey,	
Roundwell	01603 744014
Beechcroft	01603 746683
Hethersett	01603 977477
Mattishall	01362 850227
Hospitals	
Norfolk & Norwich	
incl W Norwich	01603 286286
Julian & Hellesdon	01603 421421

Relling Police

Non urgent 101 or visit website: norfolk.police.uk/contact-us/6-report-it Urgent 999

01603 697300

01263 710575

Parish Council Clerks

Dereham, Northgate

Easton

Gina Lopes 07879 379181 clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Maria Hutson 01603 850118 marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

Councillor South Norfolk District and Norfolk County Margaret Dewsbury 01603 759693

6, Park Avenue, Barford NR9 4BA

Front cover: Hummingbird Hawk Moth in a garden in Colton. Picture: Annette Hudson

Advertisers can supply their own colour adverts to the correct sizes. (contact treasurer for details). They can be high resolution jpg or pdf files.

The Grapevine

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Advertising in The Grapevine

Contact the Assistant Editor or the Treasurer for more advertising details.

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Parishes of East	on, Colton, Marlingford and Bawburgh		
Benefice Rector	Revd Laura Montgomery 01603 eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com 172 Fairways, Queen's Hills, Costessey NR8 5GB		
Reader	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255	
St Peter's Chu	rch, Easton		
Churchwardens	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton	01603 880255 01603 880888	
PCC Secretary	Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton	01603 882265	
Treasurer	Vacancy	-	
St Andrew's Ch	nurch, Colton		
Churchwarden	Sarah Smith, 01603 75786. Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton		
PCC Secretary	Liz Plater, Church Cottages, 01603 880556 Church Lane, Colton		
Treasurer	Judy Scrivener, The Old Post Office, Norwich Road, Colton NR9 5BZ	judy.scrivener@ googlemail.com	
St Mary's Chur	ch, Marlingford		
Churchwarden	Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Road, Marlingford	01603 880846	
PCC Secretary	Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Road, Marlingford	01603 880846	
Treasurer	Carol Chiles carolachiles@gmail.com	01508 578352	
St Mary and St	Walstan's Church, Bawburgh		
PCC contact	Lin Gibson	01603 744683	

Need a bus? Here are your local bus services

Bus services: Colton, Easton and Marlingford

There have been some changes to the bus services in Easton, Marlingford and Colton. Norfolk County Council has announced the following timetables which came into force on May, 2024: (All services are excluding Bank holidays)

Service 808 on Tuesdays and Thursdays only:					
From	At	Arrives	Connects to		
Marlingford Bell	09.08	Easton: Dereham			
Colton, The Street - Pond	09.13	Road bus shelter at 9.17	Konect 4 service from Easton to Norwich at 9.38, arriving 10.05		
Colton, Junction Norwich Road and The Street	09.14	Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 9.22**			
		Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 12.50 Easton: Dereham	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	12.58	
Konect 4 service from Norwich to Easton at 12.15	Colton, The Street - Pond		12.59		
arriving 12.42.		Road Bus Shelter at 12.55	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	13.04	
Longwater Retail Park,		**Additional Service from Longwater	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	11.23	
Link Road at 11.15 (Easton: Dereham Road		only	Colton, The Street - Pond	11.24	
Bus Shelter at 11.20)			Marlingford Bell	11.29	

For more information, visit: ourhire.co.uk

The Flexibus service will continue to be provided with the service now being supplied by Our Bus. In addition to the current arrangements, there will be a new per-booked service to the N&NUH at 7.50 and 17.45. To book a bus, call 01603 223956.

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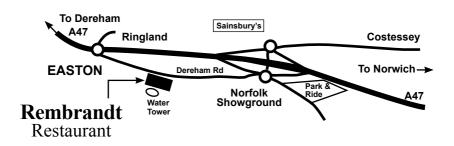
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I5 Norwich Street, Hingham, Norfolk, NR9 4LJ

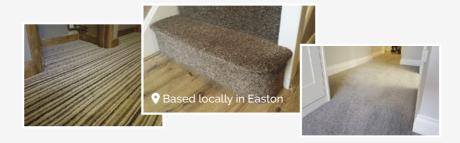
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Customer satisfaction is our priority.

Grapevine

Your community needs you!

Well, this month I think everyone has left the area! Ours is a vibrant. friendly community but quite honestly, I am struggling to fill these pages with anything that's happening in our part of the world. Surely, there are some folk out there who would like to contribute to this magazine in some way - be it story, poem or simply an article on something or somewhere you've been that has really impressed you. There's plenty of info about what's happening in Norfolk and Norwich but it would be nice to read about what YOU are doing - the people

who read this magazine!

Are there any budding photographers who would like to see their picture on our front page? Or craft groups who want to show us just how creative they are with words and pictures? It's so easy to do these days with mobile phones.

I'm throwing out a challenge by saying that Colton has so far been the best village for sending in contributions. Come on Marlingford and Easton – rise to this challenge!

Annette Hudson

Where you can find our online editions

You can access each issue of *The Grapevine* online on the Easton parish council and the Marlingford and Colton parish council websites, and it is always posted on the Nextdoor website. If you would like digital copies, please send your email address to: annettegh57@gmail.com and you will be added to a list of subscribers.

Our printed editions are published in Dec/Jan, March,

May, July/Aug and October and are distributed in Easton, Colton and Marlingford. If you enjoy reading *The Grapevine* and would like to make a donation towards the cost of more printed editions, you can do so by bank transfer:

Account name:

The Grapevine Magazine

Business account no: 20420956

Sort code: 20-99-08

Thank you!

Deadline for items for the June issue: Monday, June 17, 2024 Email as word doc to: annettegh57@gmail.com

Colton village hall

Coffee Morning

Saturday, June 15 - Catch up with friends and neighbours in the village and meet new people! Coffee, tea and cake will be served from 10-12pm.

Coming up

Summer BBQ

Saturday July 13

The popular annual BBQ - starts 6pm. Bring your own drinks and join in the fun! There will be a raffle too.

Horse Racing Night

Saturday, August 17 – Place your bets please! An evening of equine fun and frolics.

Hall hire

Colton village hall can be hired for events including children's birthday parties, wedding receptions or baby showers. The cost per hour is £7.50 for residents and £15.00 for others. For more details, contact Vicky Green on 01603 881336 or email vicky@mgarchery.co.uk

Marlingford village hall

Quiz night – Friday, June 7

This will be the last quiz at the village hall. Future quizzes will be at the Marlingford Bell. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for dates and times.

Easton Good Companions

June 5 – Lunch date at Bawburgh Golf Club

June 6 – Julie Virgo talking about **Hand Reflexology**

June 26 – Rex and Brenda's Bell's **Diamond Wedding Anniversary.**

The club meets every two weeks at Easton Village Hall from 2pm until 4pm and is open to anyone over the age of 55.

Tony Perry

Easton Pop In

We meet every Tuesday from 10am to 11.45am for coffee, tea and a biscuit for anyone who wishes to join us. All very informal – just come and go when you please. All welcome – 70p for a cup or 90p for a mug. Hope to see you sometime.

Brenda and Tony

Easton Crafters Club

Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Easton village hall between 1.30pm and 4.30pm doing various crafts



including cards, jewellery and flower arranging.

For more information, ring Janet on 01603 471144.

Mudlarks and Refugees

Colton quiz night was well attended in spite of the Eurovision Song Contest being held on the same night! Folk answered a variety of questions and listened to some challenging music and radio snippets which tested their memories. The result was close with just one point between the winners, The Mudlarks - and second place -I Thought It Was Bingo Night who, incidentally, only had two members in their team so well done them. Of the seven teams. The Easton **Refugees** came seventh and got a prize for their efforts!







Crime update from the Heritage Unit

The Forestry Commission Heritage Unit reported some criminal damage to a bronze age burial mound known as a barrow. It appears that a quad bike or similar has done donuts on the mound, ripping up the topsoil, which could contain unique archaeology. I visited the site and thankfully this seems to be reckless rather than intentional.

Thetford Priory which has stood since 1103 has again been targeted by individuals who have damaged the walls, knocking large flints and masonry out of situ.

The site which is run by English Heritage has now had to close various bits of the site to try and protect it from these vandals.



St Benet's Abbey. Picture: Sandy Gerrard/Geograph

St Benet's Abbey has seen further graffiti in the main part of the ruin where individuals have carved their names into the ancient brickwork. There are also signs of masonry being knocked out of the walls, potentially from people trying to climb up inside the ruins.

PC Chris Holmes

Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meetings

If you live or work in the area, come along and join your Local Safer Neighbourhood Team and raise any issues or concerns which can help inform our policing priorities.

The panel for Norwich West and South will meet on these dates:

Norwich West (Bowthorpe,

Wensum and University) **Tuesday, June 4 at 7pm** at Cadge
Road Community Centre, Cadge
Road NR5 8DD.

● Norwich South (Eaton, Lakenham, Nelson and Town Close) **Wednesday June 5 at 7pm** at United Reform Church, Ipswich Road NR4 6QR.



Members enjoying a visit to the Wymondham Heritage Museum

News from Easton Women's Institute

The WI visit to Wymondham Heritage Museum was a great success. We went on a lovely sunny day, enjoyed coffee in their tea room and learned a lot about Wymondham from Kett's Rebellion to the history of the two brush factories which provided employment for many Wymondham people for a long while into the 20th century. Some of us rounded off the visit with lunch and shopping at Wymondham Garden Centre! We also enjoyed the **Windmill** Handbell Ringers who entertained us at our May WI meeting and are looking forward to hearing **Ann** Reeve at our June meeting. Ann is coming to us from the Friends of Norfolk Dialect on Thursday June 13 at 7.30pm at Easton Village Hall. Anyone interested in learning the local

dialect can join us for that meeting. We are currently organising a trip to Dereham to see the **Dereham**Theatre Company production of Sister Act in July and more details about this will be in the next edition of *The Grapevine*.

Our meeting in July will be on Thursday July 11 when Wally Webb will come to tell us about his 40 plus years of Broadcasting for Radio Norfolk.

Finally, a reminder that we will be holding an **Afternoon Tea** in Easton Village Hall on **Thursday August 8** to raise money for our funds. We are always happy for other people to come with us on outings if we have enough space. Visitors are also welcome to come to up to three of our monthly meetings before we ask them to join the WI.

Mary Blathwayt

Remembering the legend of St Walstan, the patron saint of farm workers and sick animals

Saint Walstan was born in Bawburgh around 975 AD, the son of Benedict and Blide (herself venerated as a saint and buried at Martham near Yarmouth). Benedict is thought to have had royal connections but more likely was of noble stock.

Walstan was brought up in rich surroundings but, at the age of 12, he gave up all his possessions and his privileged position and left home, walking to Taverham to take up work as a farm labourer. He worked at the farm for over 30 years and was renowned for

his piety and generosity, even giving away his meagre wages and shoes to those less fortunate. There are stories of sick animals brought to him for healing and people claiming to have been cured through his prayers.

During this time, the farm prospered from Walstan's hard work and, as a reward, the farmer gave him a cow (which later gave birth to two white bull calves) and a small cart.

Walstan had many visions including one final one which foretold his death within three days.



St Walstan's Well with Bishop Graham, 2023.

Picture: Tony Perry

On the third day he received the last rites from the local priest, and, when water was needed for the ceremony, a spring of water appeared at Walstan's command. He asked his fellow workers that. on his death, they should put his body on the cart harnessing the two oxen to it and then allow them to wander at will. Where they finally stopped, he should be buried. When Walstan died on May 30, 1016, his fellow workers followed his wishes. The oxen rested in Costessey woods where another spring appeared. The animals finally stopped in the valley below Bawburgh Church where another spring gushed forth.

The oxen then climbed the hill to the church where it is said the walls opened to admit them. Walstan was buried at the church with the Bishop Algar of Elmham officiating at the funeral and venerating his remains as the relics of a saint.

A tradition of pilgrimage to the church then arose with many miracles of healing recorded, both of people and animals.

A shrine chapel was built on the north wall of the church which, by all accounts, was beautifully decorated and adorned. It immediately became the focus for a large number of pilgrims, second only to Walsingham.

The pilgrims came from all parts of Britain and also from the continent. In 1275, a house for the six chantry priests who officiated at the shrine was built on adjoining land (the present Church Farmhouse). In the 16th century, the Reformation resulted in the destruction of the shrine chapel with St Walstan's bones and relics being removed, burned and scattered. Pilgrimages ceased at this time

Bawburgh Church still celebrates St Walstan's Day on the Sunday closest to the 30th May.

● This year it will be on June 2 at 11am, followed by a Bring and Share Lunch at Bawburgh Village Hall.

Lin Gibson



Detail of St Walstan as depicted in St Andrew's church, Great Ryburgh. Picture: Evelyn Simak/Geograph

Royal Norfolk Show goes on...for it's 177th year



The Prince of Wales attending the Royal Norfolk Show in 2023.

Picture: Andrew Parsons / Kensington Palace

The UK's largest two-day county show is returning for its 177th year. The Royal Norfolk Show promises to be bigger and better than ever before providing a unique opportunity to promote amazing food, farming and countryside, all while celebrating the wonderful county of Norfolk.

This year's show theme is Young Achievers celebrating the region's amazing young people who contribute so much to their communities and overcome profound personal challenges. It will bring together hundreds of these exceptional youngsters for a Young Diamonds Celebration in the Grand Ring. The show will also help to highlight the range of opportunities available for young people across many sectors in the region.

There is much to celebrate at the

Royal Norfolk Show this year, including the 80th anniversary of Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, the 70th anniversary of the first show being held at Costessey and the 50th anniversary of the art gallery here at the Norfolk Showground.

The agricultural demonstration area will be returning to demonstrate the arable farming year cycle, with machinery featured from G&J Peck, Ben Burgess, Thurlow Nunn

Standen, Claas Manns, Earnest Doe & Nicholsons Stalham Engineering. A robot firing light beams to kill weeds, a smart bird scarer, a novel way to reduce lamb loss, new tools in the fight against viruses and alternative crops and water management for wetlands - all of this and more will be discussed in the Innovation Hub, curated by Agri-TechE and sponsored by BBRO. As always, there is a diverse programme of livestock and equine events, countryside displays, musical performances, educational activities, entertainment and much more. The Grand Ring programme will captivate the crowds with displays by the internationally renowned Ben Atkinson, Shetland Pony Derby and large-scale musical events involving

thousands of schoolchildren.
Mark Nicholas, RNAA Managing
Director said, "We look forward to
welcoming thousands of showgoers
to Norfolk's biggest event.
"The Royal Norfolk Show is a true

"The Royal Norfolk Show is a true celebration of our county and its vibrant agricultural sector.

The 2024 Royal Norfolk Show promises to be a stellar event with something for everyone".

The show continues to reflect all that this wonderful part of the world has to offer.

The Norfolk Showground will welcome hundreds of regional businesses and organisations to provide the ultimate shopping experience.

Tickets are available at: royalnorfolkshow.co.uk



An aerial view of the show from 2023.

Picture: James Bass

Here are a few things that are going on in June

Vintage Sixties Festival Saturday June 8 Cromer pier and promenade Start:1pm Finish: 5pm

The iconic Vintage Sixties Festival in June 2023 was a triumph with thousands of vintage lovers flocking to celebrate the sixties and the resurgence of interest in all things vintage on the pier and the promenade.

The festival has real credibility and is an opportunity for enthusiasts of the era to congregate, demonstrate and reignite their passion for the time that brought us Twiggy, Pirate Radio, The Mini, the MODs and so much more.

<u>cromerpier.co.uk/show-page/vintage-sixties-festival-day</u>



Cromer prom from 2023.

Picture: Brad Damm

Mozart's The Magic Flute Friday June 14 7.30pm

Fully staged opera in costume and sung in English by a cast of 12 singers with a chamber orchestra of 10 musicians. The production is directed by James Hurley, designed by Sophie Lincoln, and conducted by Orlando Jopling.

Norwich Theatre Playhouse norwichtheatre.org

01603 630000

Northern Soul Nights 15 June 07:30 pm Runs till November 9 but see website for details of dates.

Following the success of events in 2022 and 2023, Cromer Soul Club joins forces with Cromer Pier to present a series of "Keep The Faith" dance nights over the coming year. Club DJs Hitman and Halfnelson will continue to share their love of vintage vinyl as they deliver an exciting mix of Northern Soul, Motown, and Classic R&B in the iconic Pier Pavilion Bar. If available, tickets will be on the door at £12 each.

Please note: limited seating available to allow for more space on the dancefloor.

cromer.ticketsolve.com

01263512495

boxoffice@cromerpier.co.uk

The Lion Inside June 21 11:00 am June 22 12:00 pm

A heartwarming tale about confidence, self-esteem and a shy little mouse who sets out on a journey to find his roar.

Based on the best-selling story by

Based on the best-selling story by Rachel Bright and Jim Field, this brand new stage adaptation is directed by Sarah Punshon (The Jungle Book), with music and lyrics by Eamonn O'Dwyer (Brief Encounter).

norwichtheatre.org/whats-on/thelion-inside/

01603 630000 Ticket £9. Book at Eventbrite

A walking tour celebrating Norwich Castle's Royal Palace Reborn project Friday, June 21 Start:11:00 am Finish: 12:30 pm

Unearth Norwich's medieval past on this tour with Blue Badge and City of Norwich guides.

Meet at the 15th century Erpingham



The Maid's Head Hotel.. Picture: J Thomas/Geograph

Gate in Tombland, Norwich's original Market Place. Hear stories of the great Norman Cathedral, before heading past the ancient Maids Head Hotel and walking up Elm Hill. End the tour viewing Norwich Castle from above the Market Place. Medieval Norwich tour is run in association with the Association of City of Norwich Tourist Guides.

pauldicksontours.co.uk/tour-dates 07801 103737

Dinos at Night Saturday, June 29 Start: 6pm End: 10pm

Take the family to Dinos at Night and enjoy all of ROARR!'s fun-packed attractions.

Evening antics will include games stalls, live music from ENIGMA and street food from some well-known local favourites.

The Dereham Theatre Sister Act cast will also be entertaining the crowds with an all-singing-and-dancing performance exclusively for ROARR!

Tickets from £10.95 per person, 20% discount for Annual Pass holders (free for children under 90cm) tickets.roarr.co.uk

01603 876310

• For more information and to check times and dates on events in Norwich and Norfolk, click visitnorwich.co.uk/whats-on

Perfect weather for happy couple's wedding day

The sun shone for Alyce
Westwood and Matthew
Wilson who took their
wedding vows at
St. Andrew's Church, Colton
on May 18. Matt works for
Honingham Thorpe Farm as
a gamekeeper which was
very much the theme of
the wedding. Alyce decked
the church in wild flowers

which also followed through in her bouquet. The bride, her bridesmaids and mother arrived at the church in a gun bus towed by a tractor.



Following the service, a photo shoot was held behind the church against a backdrop of fields. The bride and groom left the church in a gator decked in ribbons for their reception in Bawburgh. Guests were treated to picnic baskets filled with snacks laid out on bales

of straw followed by a BBQ of wild game.

Colton PCC wish Alyce and Matt every happiness.

Mobile library 2024 – June dates Marlingford – Route: CEN 423 Thursday: June 13				
Stop no	Arrives	Departs	Postcode	
18: Colton Road near Home Farm	10.25am	10.45pm	NR9 5HS	
20: Mill Road	10.40am	11.00am	NR9 5HL	
Colton –Route: CEN 319	Wednesday	: June 12		
38: Ex post Office	9.45am	10.00am	NR9 5DB	
Easton –Route: CEN 423	Thursday: J	une 13		
6: Parkers Close	11.15am	11.35am	NR9 5EE	
8: Marlingford Road	11.40am	12.00pm	NR9 5AD	
10: Marlingford Way	12.05am	12.25pm	NR9 5HB	
12: Kennedy Close	12.30pm	12.50pm	NR9 5EY	
14: St Peter's Drive	12.55pm	13.15pm	NR9 5HF	
Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both				

on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquiries call 01603 222303.

News from St Andrew's church, Colton

As I write, Spring sunshine is making Colton and Marlingford look wonderful – cow parsley on the verges and hawthorn blossom dripping from the trees is glorious. Those who have ventured into Colton churchyard will know what a delight it is too.

We are so pleased with the look of the car park, the wild seed planting should soon be leading to a greater diversity of wild flowers and, thanks to our team of mowers, all looks lush and well tended. We continue to be very grateful for the legacy received from Alan and Dorothy Falgate, part of which has paid for the car park improvements. To mark their memory, we will be placing a new bench at the east end of the church which we hope will enable all to sit and enjoy the peace and views.

The bench will be dedicated on Sunday, July 14. There will be a service in church at 10am followed, at 11am, by a short dedication



St Andrew's Colton.

Picture: Annette Hudson

service outside where coffee and cake will be available. All are very welcome to join us and the family at either or both events.

Liz Plater

Volunteers needed for churchyard tidy-up

A call-out to those who have some time and energy to spare!
On **Sunday**, **July 14** there will be a church and churchyard clear-up at **Marlingford Church** when we

would welcome some volunteers to help out in various ways.

Please note the date and further

Please note, the date and further details will be in the July/August printed edition of *The Grapevine*.

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors: Mr J Morse, Chairman Vice Chairman Mark Pfeiffer

Cllr Deborah Perfect Cllr David Woods

Election of councillors

Following the Annual Meeting of the parish council held on Tuesday, May 14, **John Morse** has been re-elected to the role of chairman. The role of vice -chairman vacated by Paul Hammerton has been filled by **Mark Pfeiffer**.

They are joined by councillors **Debbie Perfect** and **David Woods**. However, there are still three remaining vacancies on the parish council.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a councillor, please contact the clerk or one of the councillors:

John Morse, Chairman
Johnmorse_mcpc@outlook.com
Mark Pfeiffer
mark.pfeiffer67@icloud.com
David Woods
davidwoods@millwoodmedia.co.uk
Debbie Perfect
debbieperfect.mcpc@outlook.com
Parish clerk:

E: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

Maria Hutson

Footpaths

As we move into the summer, vegetation can grow rapidly. Please ensure that boundary hedges are maintained to keep paths and roads safe for all users.

Public footpaths running adjacent to boundaries must be kept clear of obstructions at all times to allow for the continued enjoyment of those using them.



Picture: David Pashley/Geograph

Hornsea 3 Wind Farm

Hornsea 3 Wind Farm is under development and work has already begun in this and neighbouring parishes. The liaison team will be attending the parish council meeting on July 9.

This is a great opportunity for you to come along and find out more about the project and how it will affect you. More information here: hornseaproject3.co.uk



Parish council meetings and public inclusion

The parish council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of alternate months. Meetings are held at 7pm.

• The next parish council meeting

is being held on **Tuesday July 9** venue to be confirmed.
Come and find out about what has been happening in the villages over the last 12 months. Enjoy light refreshments while meeting others from the villages. The agenda is published on the website a minimum of three working days before each meeting and is also displayed on the village notice

boards. Members of the public are welcome to attend. At each meeting there is an opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise any issues they may have. You are also welcome to simply come along and listen. Councillors look forward to welcoming residents to the next meeting.

Maria Hutson,

Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council,

T: 01603 850118

E: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com W: marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk

Easton Parish Council

Your parish councillors: Chairman – Peter McCarter Vice-chairman – Vacancy

Cllr David Lewis Cllr Des Fulcher Cllr - Vacancy

Easton Parish Council AGM
At the AGM of the parish council last month, Cllr Peter
McCarter was voted in to take the position of Chair.
Cllr Ben Moye produced this Annual Report for 2023/24:

"Regrettably I have decided to step away from EPC. I was looking to leave the PC once the ECC and Neighbourhood Plan update were both finished, however, a car accident along with other personal circumstances has brought forward my departure. During my time on EPC, much has been achieved, including renovating all the play areas, updating the Neighbourhood Plan and responding to dozens of planning applications including the sizeable Persimmon ones. We have also completed numerous smaller jobs such as refurbishing the bus shelter and village sign as well as replacing and installing bins and a bench to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. We have

continuously worked with

community groups to solve ad hoc

issues around the village. It is very often the negatives that are brought to light and not the positives.

Many of these things go unnoticed but take a lot of time and energy and have been achieved by a very small group.

I would like to extend an enormous thanks to Cllrs Milliken, McCarter and Lewis, Clerk Gina and RFO Francis for all of their time and hard work which has been vital to deliver our objectives. I wish the next parish councillors and chairman the best of luck and hope residents step up to support them".

Cllr McCarter added his thanks to fellow councillors, to clerk, Gina Lopes, and to Francis Woodcock, the Responsible Finance Officer for the Council.

Update on the Easton Community Centre project

The new building has progressed well and the construction is in the final stages now. It is hoped the construction works will be finished by the end of May and the building site cleared. The project will then move on to internal fixtures and fittings. This will include a functioning kitchen for hirers' use and a bar area. Furnishing of the building will be done in the last stage to ensure all items stay in a pristine state.

Lastly it is hoped to plant up the outside flower beds and make the site aesthetically pleasing.

There are unexpected extras which have caused some delay, mainly the three-phase electric supply which is currently under discussion with UKPN. In addition, there are streetworks needed and again this was not costed into the original project. Councillors are working hard to re-evaluate the project and

find the best way forward to ensure delivery as soon as possible. Each time councillors have visited the site, the progress is obvious and the sense of achievement immense. The centre is going to be a huge asset to the community once completed and has many different spaces offering multiple options and opportunities. We ask residents to bear with us as we work through these last phases of what has been an all-consuming and massive project for a council as small as Easton. The delivery of this centre will be of benefit to all residents as it will offer state-of-the-art facilities for all ages. It is our aim to make this building the new hub of village life and a social space for all our residents and families.



Aerial view of the work progressing on the community centre





Picture: Freepik.com

Let's not put pressure on our children

that thousands of year 6 pupils (including my son) were sitting their SATs - the culmination of four years of preparation. Yet these are tests which, in the grand scheme of things, matter not. Yes, at the time and for the individuals and schools involved. they matter a great deal. No one wants to feel like they've not got to the standard they 'ought' to meet. Pity the poor GCSE and A-level students whose exams will still

As I write, it was only last week

be underway when you read this. Hoping against hope that they'll make the grade and earn their ticket to the next stage. Because that is, in essence, what these summative assessments are. A ticket to the next thing. And there seems to be such pressure for children and young people to know what career they want to pursue so they can choose what subjects to do to get that ticket.

How many friends did you have

when they were 14 who knew what career they wanted? Thinking at 14 about what I might want to do for A-levels, never mind whether I wanted to go to uni, just didn't compute.

But this pressure is put on our children today – which seems ironic in an age where the expectation of settling into a job which would last until retirement seems like a relic of a bygone age. Today we assume at least one midcareer shift.

When I was teaching, a colleague had switched from banking to teaching. Another friend re-trained as a chiropractor. My fellow trainee vicars came from all walks of life. How we start out is rarely where we end up.

The only person who knows the end from the beginning is God. He alone knows the path we'll take with all its twists and turns along the way.

And whatever twists and turns

there are, none of them are wasted with him. When Jesus picked his disciples, he did so knowing who and what they were and it all informed what fulfilling their calling to proclaim the Good News looked like. The way they communicated, where they went, the roles they fulfilled in the early church. No one was rejected because they hadn't passed GCSE Maths.

So, pray for our children and young people, that the pressure wouldn't get to them and they would be free to spend as much time as they need to work out what they want to do next. Changing their minds as much as they need to.

Pray that they would absorb the boosts and knockbacks, knowing that these don't define who they are as people or what they are worth. Pray that they would know above all else that they are loved. Just. As. They. Are.

Rev Laura Montgomery

Church services June 2024

June		
Sunday 2	11.00am	Bawburgh – St Walstan's Day HC
Sunday 9	10.00am	Easton – HC
Sunday 16	10.00am	Colton – All age HC
Sunday 23	10.00am	Marlingford – HC
Sunday 30	10.00am	Bawburgh – HC

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John Bailey
jaydeebailey@gmail.com

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