

News from Cold Norton Parish Council,
including comments from the January 2005 meeting

Planning – the Parish Council considered four planning applications at the January meeting, and recommendations to the District Council were made as indicated: -

- **FUL/MAL/04/01318. Hawthorns, Victoria Road.** Replacement dwelling. Response: - “Not harmful”.
- **FUL/MAL/05/00018. Barn Farm, Lower Burnham Road.** Change of use from redundant agricultural use to a mixed use comprising class B1 workshop and associated residential use. Refusal recommended for the proposals as they stand, mainly because it was felt that a Class B1 use in its entirety was far too wide, albeit it was considered important that these agricultural buildings are returned to a viable economic life in the future
- **AGR/MAL/04/1368. Land off Burnham Avenue.** Steel framed building. Refusal recommended, because it was felt that the size and choice of position would make the building visually intrusive.
- **AGRPN/MAL/05/00020. Palepit Farm, Latchingdon Road.** New agricultural building. Refusal recommended, because the Parish Council could find no justification for an agricultural use.

The Clerk had reported that, subsequent to a phone call from the Village Caretaker Mr. Paul expressing concern about continued problems with flooding at the entrance to the **path from Latchingdon Road to Station Crescent/Ferris Avenue**, she had contacted the Mr. Venables of County Council, who had inspected the site with Mr. Paul. The Parish Council is keen to keep this path open because it is known to be a safer route to school than walking along the busy Latchingdon Road. Subsequently Mr. Venables had said that there is a water main underneath the road close to the kerbs on the opposite side of the road to Green Trees Avenue, so it is difficult to provide road gullies as they would normally, as these have silt traps underneath which would hit the main. Mr. Venables can see that the present kerb inlet gullies are too small, which is why rainwater is bypassing them and being directed towards the entrance to the path to Ferris Avenue. As a solution, County Council will install road gullies, but without the traps - therefore more frequent clearance of silt will be required. Mr. Venables had said he ‘...*would also like to thank Mr Paul for taking the time to report the matter and for agreeing to meet the engineers, which certainly helped.*’ “

Village Hall project - Four bound copies of the Feasibility Study had been received from the Architect, and more copies will be obtained for all of the Village Hall Project Group members, prior to the next meeting of the Village Hall Project Group, which is to be arranged for mid-February.

Organisers of a **football club for 7 to 9 year old youngsters** attended the Parish Council’s January meeting, to discuss the possibility of using Cold Norton’s playing field and football pitch for practice. This idea was approved.

Diversion of footpath over the golf course - It seems that to get the diversion of the footpath over the Three Rivers Golf Course included on the Definitive map would be a very slow process, but the Parish Council approved of another suggestion – that County Council should negotiate to have signs installed indicating the diversion route as a permissive route. This would have the desired result of providing a route safer for walkers (away from the risk of being hit by golf balls), and therefore better for golfers too.

The Parish Council has enquired with the District Council about the current situation regarding the proposed use of **Cold Norton’s allotments** by the Primary Care Trust for developing garden projects. The District Council confirmed that the PCT is still keen to progress this idea. However the Parish Council has just lost its last allotment holder, which may affect the long-term future of this land.

The Parish Council considered a letter from Essex County Council Principal Planner, with a questionnaire asking whether the Parish Council would be willing to make **planning documents** available for local residents to view. This request was approved.

Dates of the next Parish Council meetings – The forthcoming monthly meetings are scheduled for the following Thursdays: - Dates scheduled are Thursday 3 February 2005, and Thursday 3 March 2005

(meetings are usually the first Thursday of the month). Meetings are held at 8 p.m. in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, and members of the public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

To contact the Parish Council: Write to the Parish Clerk (Mary Bryant) at 5 Thatchers Croft, Latchingdon, Chelmsford, CM3 6UD, or phone/fax 01621 744446, or e-mail to *mary.bryant@ntlworld.com*. Cold Norton's web site is www.cold-norton.org.uk