

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the February 2007 Meeting

Dengie Peninsula Public Transport Network: Government funding for the current Village Link services stops on 31st March 2007. Essex County Council will then fund from existing Passenger Transport Budgets a new bus network in the Dengie Peninsula. The proposed network has been developed aiming to meet as many of the priorities as possible identified from the public consultations and analysis of usage of current services. In the past the Dengie Village Link service did operate an evening service, but due to high costs and very limited use these services were withdrawn - therefore the new proposed network will not include evening or Sunday services. The 31 group of services operated by First Essex and Service 93 operated by Stephenson's will remain unchanged, but the M1 service operated by Fords of Althorne will be discontinued as the new network will cover this service. Once the new services are up and running the Parish Councillors would welcome your comments.

Pedestrian Crossing/VAS Signs: the results of the tests to measure speed before and after installation of the VAS signs – re the 85th percentile, pre the VAS signs the speed was 38/39 mph, since the VAS signs were installed the speed loops recorded a fall to 34.9 mph. To supplement the VAS signs our local PCSO Butler has also been out with his speed gun and has reported 13 people for speeding through the village – expect more speed checks.

Dogs: unfortunately there has been an increase in irresponsible dog owners (of all ages - adults and children) not cleaning up after their pets both on the village pavements and along the public footpaths; or some are putting the waste into a bag but then leaving the bag along pathways rather than putting it into one of the special dog waste bins or taking it home. Additionally dog owners are reminded that when walking dogs on public footpaths they are legally required to keep their dogs under 'close control'. There have now been several complaints from landowners - the Dog Warden and Public Rights of Way Officer have been notified and are making spot checks to catch these irresponsible owners.

Mobile Library: the Parish Councillors have been advised that following a full consultation, the Essex County Council Cabinet have approved the option put forward in the review which will mean the frequency of mobile library service will now be fortnightly across the whole county (at present in Cold Norton the mobile library calls weekly at two points) and all current stops will be reviewed in consultation with local Members and Parish Councils – so if you currently use the service, or know someone who does, at either of the present stopping points please let the Parish Council know your views.

Post Offices: there is currently a Government consultation on the future funding and structure arrangements of the post office network, please make your views

known by viewing the consultation paper online at www.dti.gov.uk or telephone 0845 015 0010 for a copy. Responses have to be submitted by 8th March 2007.

Parish and District Council Elections: these will take place on Thursday 3rd May 2007. If you are interested in being part of Cold Norton Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk to find out what is involved, or just come along to one of the monthly PC meetings.

Parish Council Meeting: the next one is scheduled for: Wednesday 7th March, starting at 8 pm in the Committee Room at the Village Hall. 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: please write to: The Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer), at Exordium, 30b Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 6JG. E-Mail to mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.

Cold Norton Web Site: www.cold-norton.org.uk