

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the March 2009 Meeting

**Affordable Housing for Local People:** Unfortunately as some Councillors were unable to attend this meeting it was decided to discuss the next step at the April meeting.

**Notice Board in Latchingdon Road near allotments:** current board is no longer serviceable; Members approved costs for a new board.

**Planning Applications:** at this meeting the Councillors had six applications to consider: the first related to The Aerodrome in Hackmans Lane and proposed change of use to workshop and ancillary office accommodation (B1 use) – the Members had no objections providing the conversions are carried out under the guidance of the conservation officer and that entry and exit to and from the site is only via Hackmans Lane; The Parish Councillors viewed these works in context of the master plan for this site, as they would not ordinarily be in support of industrial usage in such a rural setting. The second application was for a single storey garage with WC, store and loft room at Bay Lodge, 1 Newport Avenue – the Parish Council objected to this proposed development as it is outside the village development boundary and because of the vast scale of the proposed development. The next application considered related to Stow Garage, The Street, Stow Maries – the proposed works involved demolishing the bungalow and light industrial units to erect new business units (Class B1), including replacement buildings for existing uses on site, construct new access roads, car parking and landscaping. The Councillors objected to this application because of its size, location (unsuitable for a commercial development because of the rural location) and the resulting increase in traffic not only through Stow Maries but also through neighbouring villages. 22 Howe Green Road was the subject of the next application – the Parish Council Members had no objections to this application which proposed a single storey rear extension. For the property at Barn Leas, Lower Burnham Road the Councillors considered an application relating to extending the manege at the rear of the property – no objections were made to this application providing no lighting is installed, no structures are erected and that there is no burning of stable refuse. The last application considered at this meeting was for works to trees at 22 St. Stephens Road which have Tree Preservation Orders on them – the Councillors had no objections to the various works proposed to the Oak, Ash and Hawthorn providing they are carried out under the supervision of the Tree Officer at Maldon District Council. (Please note this is a summary of the applications – if you wish to view the actual plans and all relating correspondence to these or any planning applications please visit the MDC web site on [www.maldon.gov.uk](http://www.maldon.gov.uk) )

**Vandalism/Police Matters:** parts of the fencing around the enclosed younger children's play area have been knocked down twice in February and further slats

from the toy boat have been removed – the Police have been informed. There has also been damage to fencing surrounding the playing field.

**Public Rights of Way (Footpaths):** Members were advised that Mrs Nicky Coleman is now the Essex County Council Public Rights of Way Officer for this area. Work on the very ‘boggy’ section of Footpath 20 (off Crown Road) is now complete: vegetation has been cleared, the ditch near to where people walk has been reinstated and a 40 metre plastic boardwalk has been installed.

**Highways Matters:** water on Latchingdon Road near No.46 – both water companies have been advised of this problem and Highways Department are also investigating. Regarding flooding along Footpath 28 behind Latchingdon Road, which is also flooding neighbouring properties, Highways are looking into and Maldon District Council’s Environmental Officer has also been called in to investigate. A VAS (vehicle activated sign) has now been installed along Stow Road opposite Three Rivers Golf Club to deter drivers from exceeding the 40 mph speed restriction along this road.

**Parish Council Meetings:** Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesdays 1<sup>st</sup> April, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December. All meetings start 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.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

**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](mailto:mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk) or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.