

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the July 2009 Meeting

Planning Applications: The Parish Council considered four applications at this meeting. The first related to Bay Lodge, Newport Avenue for relocation of approved single storey garage with WC, store and loft room – the Parish Council had objected to the original application and also objected to this application on the grounds that it is still outside the village development boundary and the vast scale of the proposed development, the building being too large for this site. The second application considered was for a development of ten dwellings at Bardwells Yard, Latchingdon Road – the Parish Council objected to the application for the following reasons: change of use (the site should remain as a place of employment); highway issues and concerns (the access road is a single track, which is inadequate for the proposed development, access and sight line onto the main road, no pavements into the development and access for emergency vehicles); too many properties proposed within the area, giving rise to density issues and concerns; the proposal indicates removal of trees, but with no replacements included. The next application concerned 42 Latchingdon Road for the removal of the existing single storey extension and erection of a two storey side extension with alteration to roof style – the Parish Council objected this proposal as it considered it an over development of the site because of the significant scale of the proposed extension to a property in such a prominent location. The last planning application considered was for the erection of a side extension consisting of a new replacement garage and an extended kitchen with roof alterations over to accommodate a loft conversion to 6 Station Crescent – the Parish Council objected to this proposal because of the scale of the development.

Halloween Party for all Dengie Hundred Children: Parish Council members considered a request for a donation from Southminster Parish Council who is again, in conjunction with Essex Police and the Community Safety Partnership, organising two Halloween parties with free entry for all children in the Dengie – up to 9 years from 3.30pm to 6pm and for 10 to 18 year olds from 6.30pm to 10pm with a wide variety of appropriate entertainment/activities. The Parish Council agreed to donate £30.

Housing Needs Survey: Members were advised that all homes had received a copy of the questionnaire and that the results should be supplied to the Parish Council during September 2009.

Highways Matters: The Parish Councillors were advised that nesting season ends on 31st July and that cutting back of overgrowing vegetation from the bridge to Country Produce by Highways Maintenance will commence after this date. Highways are proposing that the Vehicle Activated Sign opposite Three Rivers be moved because of nearby vegetation interfering with its operation – the Parish Councillors agreed to the new site suggested. The Parish Council have asked the Clerk to contact Essex County Council Highways regarding the speeding problem and the inadequate pedestrian paving from the bridge down to Country Produce.

Playing Field: It was agreed that as tiling work carried out around the swings has been vandalised that quotes will be obtained for completely new safety 'material'. Parents of Pre School children were given permission to camp in the playing field overnight on Saturday 18th July 2009 – several conditions were attached to this permission including no fires to be lit, no dogs to be taken onto the field and all rubbish to be taken away.

Essex Youth Bus: Members were advised that as the three trial sessions which took place during April and May were considered a success on both sides i.e. children and the youth workers, the plan was to continue the sessions on a fortnightly basis, but that unfortunately due to staffing problems this isn't possible at present. As soon as staffing levels increase the bus will return.

Village Hall Project: Mr Wakeling advised that tenders were now in, but that further meetings were needed to discuss these with the Architect, Surveyors etc – an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be called after this to update Members and obtain approval to proceed.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesdays 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd December and in 2010: 13th January. All meetings will start at 8 pm in The Purleigh Pavilion, Howe Green Road. NB this alternative venue whilst works are carried out to 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.

Please note there is not an ordinary meeting in August, but extraordinary meetings will be called if necessary, for example, if planning applications are received which require a response before the next scheduled meeting in September – details will be posted on the two open notice boards along Latchingdon Road,

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.