

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the November 2006 Meeting

Village Caretaker Work: the Village Caretaker continues to carry out his duties around the village, including the playground and Cowpiece. Unfortunately vandals are still frequenting the children's play area – repairs are carried out as quickly as possible so that the children can still make use of the facilities. But it is sad to report that the vandals have also now made their mark up at Cowpiece – destroying a materials storage bin and the observation platform, as well as spraying graffiti on the Cowpiece sign. If you do see anyone damaging the children's equipment, play area or Cowpiece, please do report it to the Police. The Police have been informed of these latest acts of vandalism and have been supplied with photographs and are now making more frequent visits to the village, making checks on these two areas in particular.

Best Kept Playing Fields Competition: on a brighter note the work carried out by our Village Caretaker has been recognised in that Cold Norton won two awards in the above competition run recently by the Essex Playing Fields Association. Cold Norton was awarded two certificates: one for the playing field generally and one for the children's play area, both highly commended.

Water on Latchingdon Road: this long 'running' problem continues. The Parish Council has been informed by Essex & Suffolk Water that the leak is not caused by 'fresh' water and that it may be a natural spring. Highways are now arranging for it to be channelled into the drainage system.

Parking in St. Stephens Road/usage of the pedestrian crossing: following on from the report relating to the September meeting and the PC letter to the school, the Head Teacher has advised the PC Members that the police have been involved and have visited the school, also parents have been requested again via the school newsletter to use the village hall car park or The Norton car park.

Proposed Wind Farm at land at Hockley Farm: the Parish Council have been informed that N Power Renewables have registered an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the above site being refused planning permission by Maldon District Council.

Allotments: the regeneration of the allotments in conjunction with the PCT will mean that plots will shortly be available for use by village residents – these will be rent free until autumn 2007.

The last Parish Council Meeting in 2006 is scheduled for Wednesday 6th December, commencing 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. The first meeting in 2007 will be at 8 pm on Wednesday 10th January.

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