

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the November 2008 Meeting

Playing Field: to follow up from last month's report - the Highly Commended Award won in the Essex Playing Fields Association Best Kept Playing Field Competition for 2008 was for the enclosed younger children's play area.

Planning Applications: at this meeting the Parish Councillors considered two applications: the first related to permission being requested for new business units to replace the bungalow and light industrial units at Stow Garage. The Councillors objected to this development because of its proposed size being inappropriate within a protection area, that it is an unsuitable location for a commercial development of this scale and thirdly because of the resulting increase in traffic which would ensue from a development of this size. The second application the Councillors considered related to St. Andrews in Station Road: permission was being sought for construction of a replacement boundary wall and gates – the Councillors had no objections to this and will therefore be recommending to Maldon District Council that permission is granted.

Highways: whilst work had finally been carried out at the bridge/top of the Ferris Avenue 'path', all Members agreed that what had been done was not what had been discussed with Highways at two separate site meetings in order to prevent the water running down the 'path'. The matter is being taken up as a matter of urgency with Highways by Councillor John Archer. Members advised that the VAS sign at Crown Road is again operating incorrectly – this will be reported.

Parish Inspection: Councillors Paul Guppy and Charles Litscher reported back to the other Members on the inspection they undertook in parts of the village at the beginning of the month. They showed photographs taken and had recorded elements in the village to be discussed/needing attention – these varied from hedges that need trimming back, the condition of some footways and the amount of street 'furniture' (highway signs) on Latchingdon Road. Another inspection walk will take place at the beginning of December and a list will be compiled to discuss Highways Matters at a meeting to be convened for January or other departments/bodies as appropriate.

Footpaths: confirmation was given that works on Footpaths 14 and 19 had been completed. Work on Footpaths 23 and 24 will be carried out by the Essex P3 Footpaths Officer and the Cold Norton P3 Representative, Roger Hawes, on Thursday 4th December (please call Roger on 828693 if you can help).

British Energy: Members were reminded of the series of meetings being held at various local venues regarding the Bradwell new build. Councillor John Archer reported back on part of one of these meetings he had attended prior to coming

to the Parish Council Meeting. Other Members plan to attend the session being held in Cold Norton Village Hall on November 26th.

Affordable Rural Housing: Councillors John Archer and Charles Litscher advised that they plan to attend the 'open house' session in Leaden Roding to find about this innovative new scheme of affordable housing which has been designed to meet the housing needs of local people.

Halloween Party in the Park: a thank you letter had been received from Southminster Parish Council for the donation Cold Norton Parish Council had given towards this event. The letter was accompanied by a report detailing costs and attendance figures for all the villages involved. According to the report 7 children/teenagers from Cold Norton attended the event.

Parish Council Meetings: the last meeting scheduled for 2008 will be on Wednesday 10th December. Provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesday 14th January. 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.

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.