

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the December 2008 Meeting

St. Stephens Parochial Church Council: following a presentation from Church Warden, Mrs Margaret Taylor, who explained the situation regarding old headstones in the Church Graveyard causing safety concerns and where relatives cannot be located to make them safe, the Parish Councillors agreed to give a grant of £500 towards the costs involved.

Planning Applications: this month the Parish Councillors considered five applications: the first two both related to Lords Acre Nursery on Lower Burnham Road – the Council objected to both these applications (the second being directly connected to the first) for the main reason that it is outside the village development boundary. The other three applications to which the Council did not object were firstly for proposed lawful development relating to a rear conservatory at 71 Latchingdon Road, the second application was for a single storey rear extension at The Poppets, 30A Latchingdon Road and the last application relating to the property at 22 St. Stephens Road was for a granny annexe, alterations, additions and re-roofing of main house.

Stow Garage Planning Application (considered by Councillors at the November Meeting): Members were advised that this application had been withdrawn by the owners.

Cold Norton School - Keep Clear Markings: Members were advised that consultation issues/objections had now been resolved (not relating to Cold Norton, but have held up the whole process). Works are planned for this financial year and Highways anticipate that they will be implemented and made legal early in the New Year.

Big Lottery Fund: Mr Wakeling, Parish Councillor and Chairman of the Village Hall Project Committee, officially confirmed the offer of a grant of £348,500 for the proposed extension works to the village hall and then went through the terms and conditions etc relating to the grant offer. The Councillors agreed to these and the paperwork was signed accordingly. It was agreed that there should be a public meeting to convey all this to residents and to show again the plans for the extension work. This meeting will be on Wednesday 7th January 2009 at 8pm in the village hall – all village residents and users of the hall are invited.

Footpath 20 (Crown Road end): to alleviate the perennial wetness at this section of this footpath vegetation is being cleared and the ditch near to where people walk is to be reinstated. In addition a 40 metre plastic boardwalk will be installed as close to the ditch as possible in this financial year. Members were reminded that when the PRow looked into costs for a wooden boardwalk the

cost was totally prohibitive - this new affordable plastic version is now available and is environmentally friendly.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesday 14th January, then reverting to the first Wednesday of the month, dates will be: 4th February, 4th March, 1st April, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd 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.

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.