

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY 2014 IN THE NORTON ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs S Garnham
Mr C Litscher
Mr S Rivers (Chairman)
Mr P Wakeling

In attendance: Mr D. Lawrence
(Head of Planning Services, Maldon District Council)
Mrs M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)
Plus 12 Members of the Public

198. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Professor Barclay, Mrs Jennings and Mr Archer, County Cllr Mrs Channer and District Cllr Ms White.

199. Declaration of Interest: Members were required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they know they may have in items of business on the meeting's agenda. They were reminded that they would need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if the interest was a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time. Members have dispensation to discuss and vote in respect of matters relating to the Precept.

Mrs Garnham declared an interest in Allotments as she is an allotment holder.

200. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th June 2014 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

201. PLAYGROUND: Two young residents made a presentation to Members requesting that the Parish Council consider the installation of a Sports Wall/Kick Wall at the Playing Field. It was agreed that the request would be discussed at the September meeting.

The two children and their parents then left the meeting.

202. MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING MATTERS: At the request of the Members Mr Lawrence, Head of Planning Services at Maldon District Council, was in attendance to discuss the Members' concern re recent planning decisions in particular the process relating to one AGR application.

Considerable time was devoted to this agenda item during which Mr Lawrence outlined the operational format of the Planning Department, changes to procedures implemented to standardise processes between the NW and SW planning divisions, staffing of the enforcement 'team' and the general planning department to cope with the increased number of planning appeals.

Mr Lawrence explained the 'process' re AGR applications and considerable time was spent discussing this in relation to a recent AGR application, the Unilateral Undertaking in relation to The Norton and other planning matters/concerns, relating to the following properties: Tamina, 20 Ferris Avenue, 10 St Stephens Road, Hillsborough and Klenya.

The meeting was closed at one stage to allow Members of the Public to speak.

The Chairman thanked Mr Lawrence for attending the meeting.

Mr Lawrence then left the meeting.

203. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: not available

204. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT: not available

FINANCE

Approval of Payments

205. Roy Wiseman to village caretaker work 25th May to 20th June 2014 £199.38, plus £8 for travel to Southminster to collect PC header from Moat Homes, total £207.38. Cheque No.1303
206. Sue Lees Consultancy to maintenance fee for July 2014 (advance monthly maintenance fee) Invoice No.0001650 dated 8th June 2014 £30.00. Cheque No.1304
207. Maria Dyer office expenses £68.00. Cheque No.1305
208. St George's Pest control Limited to removal of wasp nest on 5th June 2014 at playing field. Invoice No.13473 dated 6th June 2014. Cheque No.1306
209. Southern Ecological Solutions (SES) to removal of 2 x poplar trees at playing field and poison stumps and remove all arisings. Invoice No.90369 dated 12th June 2014 £690.00 (£575 net). Cheque No.1307
210. Cold Norton VHMC to hire of The Norton Room for April and May PC ordinary meetings plus APM 5 hours @ £6 per hour Invoice dated 10th June 2014 £30.00. Cheque No.1308
211. ASAP Office Services to internal audit. Invoice NO.4301 dated 23rd June 2014 £141.60 (£118 net). Cheque No.1309
212. Essex & Suffolk Water to fixed charge (£20.21) and water usage November 2013 to May 2014 1 unit £1.44 at allotments. Invoice No.010 dated 3rd June 2014, total £25.93 (£21.61 net). Cheque No.1310
213. Copyright Repro Limited to supply of 2500 sheets all purpose paper, plus 2 x extra-large black ink cartridges and 1 x colour ink cartridge. Invoice No.79306 dated 23rd June 2014 £82.03 (£68.36 net). Cheque No.1311
214. RCCE Annual Membership to 30th June 2015 £66 (£55 net). No increase from previous year. Members had been supplied with details of services offered by RCCE. Cheque No.1312
215. E-on to electricity for street lights May 2014 Invoice No.H101514144 dated 1st June 2014 £46.85 (£44.62 net) taken by direct debit on 11th June 2014.

216. Financial Statement

Current balances:

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 10 th April 2014*	£	564.24
Santander as at 2 nd May 2014	£	<u>35,159.27</u>
	£	35,723.51

* Barclays now only send a statement when there has been movement to the account

217. **Empowering Parish Councils to Sell Electricity:** Members had been supplied with details of a request to support a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act for the Government to give all Parish and Town Councils the right to sell electricity that they generate from local schemes. The Members were all in agreement to support this proposal. Clerk to write accordingly.

ACTION: CLERK

PLANNING

218. **Planning Applications received by the Parish Council:** the following were considered and the responses were as indicated:

FUL/MAL/14/00452 Bluebell Barn, Lower Burnham Road. Change of use of redundant agricultural land to residential garden. Week No.23 dated 6th June 2014:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the change of use proposed within the above application providing it is strictly complied with, that there is no building on the land and the application is referred to North Fambridge Parish Council for its opinion/comment to be taken into consideration due to the proximity of this property to the North Fambridge boundary.

OUT/MAL/14/00496 PP-03395283 Site adjacent former Stow Bullocks PH, The Street, Stow Maries. Week 24 dated 13th June 2014:

The meeting was closed to allow the applicant to speak.

The meeting was then reopened and the Members agreed the following response be submitted:

Cold Norton Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal contained within the above application and recommends that Maldon District Council REFUSE CONSENT.

The Parish Council's reasons for this recommendation are:

- It is outside the village development boundary
- It is a 'ribbon' development

- 219. Maldon District Council Decisions:** there were no planning decisions advised for Cold Norton.
- 220. Local Development Plan: Examination in Public (Pre Hearing Meeting now Exploratory Meeting) 3rd July 2014:** Members had been supplied with details of this meeting. Members noted, but no one is available to attend.
- 221. Kenya, Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton - boundary fence:** Members had been reminded that the planting that had been undertaken was not addressing the problem and that the Enforcement Officer would be pursuing the matter further. This was one of the matters raised with Mr Lawrence above, Minute No.202 applies and would be looked into.
- 222. Hillsborough 42 Latchingdon Road - unauthorised outbuilding and access:** Members had been reminded that the outbuilding would need planning permission or reduction in height as per permitted development rights: new access would need planning permission. This was one of the matters raised with Mr Lawrence above, Minute No.202 applies and would be looked into.
- 223. Appeal Decision: APP/X1545/A/14/2214714 Land to the rear of Imps Camp. Purleigh Grove. Appeal allowed:** details had been supplied to Members. Noted.
- 224. Appeal by Mr Saint: Land adjacent 7 Cherry Blossom Lane OUT/MAL/13/01172 Appeal Ref No.APP/X/1545/14/2219763 Single storey bungalow and garage:** Members had been advised that the PC's original letter would be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate, and agreed that they did not wish to amend or submit any further comments.
- 225. Appeal by Mr Pearman: Tamina, 1 Latchingdon Road Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/D/14/22219766. Detached carport and boundary wall and railings:** Members had been advised that the PC's original letter would be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate, and agreed that they did not wish to amend or submit any further comments.
- 226. Brownstock Festival in Stow Maries:** Members had been advised that the hearing by Members of the Licensing Sub Committee of MDC re new license for extended capacity was being heard on 27th June 2014, having been adjourned from 29th May 2014. At the meeting Members were advised that the June meeting had also been adjourned. Noted.
- 227. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):** Members had been supplied with a copy of the consultation document and advised that the consultation would close on 23rd July 2014. At the meeting the Members discussed and agreed the following response be submitted to MDC: "*The Members of Cold Norton Parish Council agree overall with the Draft Charging Schedule etc., but with the proviso that the Parish Council receives back a more significant percentage than that quoted in the document from properties built in the village for community use in the village.*"
ACTION: CLERK
- 228. Essex Replacement Minerals Local Plan:** Members had been supplied with copy letter from ECC dated 24th June 2014. Noted.
- 229. Telephone Box in Howe Green Road:** Members had been advised that this had now been removed. Noted.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

230. **Various issues with ECC for action:** Clerk to request that works to road near the school be carried out during the school holidays. **ACTION: CLERK**
231. **Potholes: Members had been advised via a communication from EALC that:** “*Cllr Rodney Bass had announced that courtesy of the Chancellor Mr Osborne, Essex County Council now had £32.5 million to spend on fixing potholes. This would mean that the number of pothole fixing teams would now be roughly doubled; leading to all P1 & P2 roads being done by November 2014. Furthermore they expect to start fixing non- essential “estate” road potholes on a 50 per ward basis; this to be done by March 2015.*”

VILLAGE HALL

232. **Report from Village Hall Representative** Members were advised that the VHMC had raised c£1,450 from the Train Event held in June and that some of this money would be used towards setting up the Lunch Club for Seniors. Noted
233. **Lunch Club for Elderly Residents:** Members were advised that this is still scheduled to start in the autumn. Noted
234. **Parking at Village Hall:** Clerk advised a further budget price for extending the car park into the playing field. Noted
235. **Defibrillator:** held in abeyance
236. **Essex Boys & Girls Club:** held in abeyance
237. **Climate Energy/Solar panels:** nothing to report
238. **Toilets/St Stephens Meeting Room – renovation works:** Members had been supplied with copies of letter sent to contractors who tendered and advised that the result of grant application to EET was awaited, that the application was being prepared for submission to Awards for All and that an Expression of Interest was to be submitted to ECC CIF. Noted.
239. **Energy Performance Requirements:** nothing to report.

POLICE MATTERS/ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

240. **Southminster Police June article:** Members had been supplied with a copy of this which majored on the success of the Southminster Police with recent discoveries of several cannabis factories, and listing ‘tell-tale signs’ of cannabis cultivation; copies had been posted on notice boards. Noted
- The meeting was closed to allow a Member of the Public to speak, who advised that both his dog and a neighbour’s cat had been shot with pellets, causing the animals and owners great distress.
- The meeting was then reopened.

OPEN SPACE

241. **Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** nothing to report, but the matter of fencing at this site was brought up and discussed briefly. Clerk to look into. **ACTION: CLERK**
242. **Playing Field:** Members had been advised that the two trees near the swings had been removed and that the contractor would be returning to site to put down a second dose of poison, then after two weeks the safety matting could be re-laid. Roots would need to be removed prior to relaying. Mr Windsor had advised that he would hold the price quoted last year re relaying of play surface. Members agreed to the felling of the other two Poplar trees for safety reasons as recommended by MDC Tree Officer.

Independent Playground Inspection: Meeting to be organised with Mr Litscher, Mr Wiseman and the Clerk to go through findings at site and agree action/person for the low and very low risk items.

Essex Playing Fields Competition 2014: Members were reminded that the entry had been submitted. Noted.

Pre School Camp Out 4th and 5th July 2014: Members had been supplied with paperwork from Pre School and advised that unintentionally Pre School had not formally requested permission to use the playing field, however they were following all the 'rules' imposed by the PC in previous years. Members agreed that the event could proceed.

There was nothing further to report on other matters pertaining to the playing field. Noted by Members.

- 243. Village Caretaker work:** Mr Wiseman continued to carry out this work – in addition to the regular litter picks and safety checks at the playing field, Mr Wiseman had carried out the following maintenance work: swept paths and weeded etc. all areas around VH including the disabled access, gas tank and bin store, was continuing to cut back the overgrown copse and removing matter for burning and had collected the PC header from Moat Housing at Southminster.
- 244. Allotments** – nothing to report
- 245. Watercourse Mapping Project:** Members had been supplied with a report prepared by Professor Barclay regarding the meeting he attended at County Hall with the Clerk. Members agreed with Professor Barclay's recommendation that for the reasons stated in his report that the Parish Council should await further details of the scheme before agreeing to participate in the pilot project.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 246. Footpaths:** nothing to report
- 247. Public Rights of Way NALC Legal Topic Note LTN 77 June 2014:** Members had been supplied with a copy of this paper. Noted.
- 248. EMERGENCY PLANNING/PROCEDURES:** Members had been supplied with details of a free Community Emergency Planning Workshop on 22nd July 2014 in Hullbridge. Mr Rivers advised he would attend.
ACTION: MR RIVERS

TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

- 249. Spring Parish Transport Meeting:** held on Thursday 5th June 2014. Professor Barclay had supplied a report. It was agreed to highlight the proposal re 31X in The Beacon to ascertain views of residents.
ACTION: CLERK
- 250. LCLC (Bradwell Site):** Report from June LCLC meeting deferred to September PC.
ACTION: PROF BARCLAY
- 251. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils:** Mr Rivers reported briefly on the meeting held on Wednesday 18th June. Noted.
- 252. RCCE 2014 AGM: Wednesday 9th July 2014 7.30pm at Writtle College:** Members had been supplied with details and a copy of the annual review. Mr Rivers advised that he would attend.
ACTION: MR RIVERS
- 253. Lights Out 10pm to 11pm 4th August 2014:** details had been supplied to Members. Noted.

254. **EALC & ECC Making the Links Annual Conference:** Thursday 18th September 2014 12 noon.
Deferred to September meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

255. **Essex & Herts Air Ambulance:** Members had been supplied with a 'thank you' for the PC's support and a fact sheet about this service. Noted.
256. **MDC Letter dated 4th June 2014: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places:** Members agreed that they were happy with the current arrangements for Cold Norton.
257. **LCLC letter dated 26th June 2014: Bradwell REPPiR – offsite emergency planning area:** Members had been supplied with a copy of this letter. Noted.
258. **Mind letter dated 20th June 2014 re 'Telephone Befriending' Service:** Members had been supplied with a copy of this letter. Service to be publicised as part of the PC report in The Beacon.
ACTION: CLERK
259. **THE NORTON:** this item was discussed earlier in the meeting – Minute No.202 applies.
260. **WINTER SALT BAG SCHEME:** Members advised that if ECC operate the scheme this coming winter that CNPC would participate and would require the one tonne of salt.
261. **STOW MARIES AERODROME:** nothing further to report re an evening visit for the Cllrs
262. **COLD NORTON WEB SITE:** updating still to be completed.
263. **MATTERS TO REPORT** (Members are reminded that no decisions may lawfully be made under this agenda item - however matters may be discussed which involve exchanges of information only.)

Mrs Garnham raised the subject of street lights and night switch off for Cold Norton.
264. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Scheduled for 2014: Wednesday 3rd September.
Provisionally scheduled: Wednesdays 1st October, 5th November, and 3rd December.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10pm

Chairman.....

Date.....