

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th July 2015 IN THE LES BARCLAY ROOM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs S Garnham
Mr C Litscher
Mrs V Jennings
Mr P Wakeling (Vice Chairman)

In attendance: County Cllr Mrs P Channer
District Cllr Ms S White
Mrs M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)
Plus 2 Members of the Public

- 261. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Archer and Rivers.
- 262. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** 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
- 263. MINUTES THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 3rd June 2015 and **MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on Tuesday 30th June 2015 were both approved as correct and signed accordingly.
- 264. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** District Cllr Ms White gave a short report advising Members that in regards to the LDP that a new inspector had been appointed to ascertain if the MDC LDP had been processed correctly, that the street market in Maldon's High Street had ceased due to safety concerns and that Cold Norton FP28 was being reduced in width (Members advised that this had also been notified to the PC).
- 265. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:** Members had been supplied with a report from County Cllr Mrs Channer dated 8th June 2015. At the meeting County Cllr Mrs Channer further updated Members, advising that plans were being drawn up for devolution - powers and funding being passed down to County Council level; re A120 duelling of Braintree and Colchester and a link to A12; re ECC budget, that there will be a reduction in grant support for Council Tax and a public sector pay freeze; re Broadband that BT had been appointed and that rollout details were awaited, MDC had put £91,000 into the Broadband budget, that Superfast Essex was looking at areas not covered and encouraging residents to log into and to complete the 'Making the Connection' form. Mr Wakeling thanked Mrs Channer and requested that she continue to lobby for an improved Broadband service for Cold Norton.

FINANCE

Approval of Payments

- 266.** Roy Wiseman to village caretaker work to 24th June 2015 £232.00. Cheque No.1399
267. Sue Lees Consultancy to maintenance fee for July 2015 Invoice No.0002127 dated 8th June 2015 & August 2015 Invoice No.0002167 dated 8th July 2015. Total £60. Cheque No.1400

- 268. Maria Dyer office expenses from 29th May 2015 to 2nd July 2015 £56.14. Cheque 1401
- 269. Cold Norton Village Hall Management Committee to use of The Les Barclay Room for PC meetings April and May 2015 4 hours @ £7 per hour. Invoice dated 10th June 2015 £28. Cheque No.1402
- 270. ASAP Office Services to independent audit (internal) Invoice No.4906 dated 30th June 2015 £147.00 (£122.50 net). Cheque No.1403
- 271. RCCE to Membership Renewal to 30th June 2016 £66 (£55 net). Cheque No.1404
- 272. Bluehouse Hardwoods to 2 x table tops 2.4piece cedar Invoice No.2981 dated 23rd June 2015 £200 (£166.67 net). Cheque No.1405
- 273. E-on to electricity for street lights May 2015 Invoice No.H118786752 dated 2nd June 2015 £63.15 (£60.14 net) taken by direct debit on 12th June 2015.
- 274. E-on to electricity for street lights June 2015 Invoice No.H11A3ADF53 dated 1st July 2015 £61.11 (£58.20 net) will be taken by direct debit on 11th July 2015.

**275. Financial Statement
Current balances:**

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 10 th April 2015*	£	568.77
Santander as at 2 nd June 2015	£	<u>25,984.25</u>
	£	26,553.02

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

- 276. **Street Lighting:** power supplier being reviewed **ACTION: CLERK**
- 277. **Council Insurance:** Members had been advised that this had been renewed. Noted.
- 278. **Workplace Pension:** Members had been advised that the nominated person had been advised. Noted.
- 279. **PH Coote Limited:** electrical contractors (street lights): Members had been supplied with details of prices from 1st June 2015. Noted

With the agreement of the Members the agenda item relating to the proposed Solar Farm in Hackman's Lane was brought forward as one of the Members of the Public had attended the meeting particularly for this item.

- 280. **Proposed Solar Farms West of Hackmans Lane:** Member had been supplied with details of a Community Information Evening to be held on Monday 13th July 2015 (drop in between 5pm to 8pm) at The Airmen's Mess Function Room, Stow Maries Aerodrome and other supporting papers and information.

The Chairman closed the meeting to allow the Member of the Public to speak. Following brief discussion The Chairman reopened the meeting.

It was agreed that Members would attend the drop in session if available ; the Clerk advised that she would attend. **ACTION: ALL MEMBERS/CLERK**

VILLAGE HALL

- 281. **Report from Village Hall Representative:** Members were advised that funds are low, additional help is needed to market the hall and that a larger car park is needed in order to attract larger all day events such as weddings, WI and Guiding District events etc. There is currently £4,000 in the VHMC bank account; fund raising brought in £1,200, but £250 has had to be spent on two broken windows. The Clerk offered to research badminton facilities in the area. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 282. **Lunch Club for Elderly Residents:** this and the coffee mornings continue to be popular
- 283. **Parking at Village Hall:** see minute 281 above

284. **Defibrillator:** it is now proposed to have a key box outside the VH with the defibrillator being housed in the VH; training dates now being considered.
285. **Essex Boys & Girls Club:** as no help had been forthcoming to research possibility and/or run a 'youth club' in the VH, Clerk was requested to write to the EB&GC H/Q accordingly and then this item be removed from the agenda. **ACTION: CLERK**
286. **Solar panels:** it was reported that these are working very well; the recent reading submitted was higher than expected. It was agreed that if there is any excess 'payback' after the PWLB payments are met, that this would be put into reserves for a future VH project.
287. **Toilets/St Stephens Meeting Room – renovation works:** Members were advised that the flushing system for the urinals appears to now be working.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

288. **Various issues with ECC for action:** Members had been advised that regarding the broken/blocked drain at Stow Road near junction with Hagg Hill near house named The Rise opposite Three Rivers Golf & Country Club, ECC had advised that works had now been completed to resolve the issue. Clerk continues to follow up other issues. Noted by Members.
289. **Cutting Back from Bridge to Country Produce:** nothing to report
290. **Three Ashes Corner/Howe Green Road:** parking on green/verges. Clerk was requested to contact owners responsible where details were available. **ACTION: CLERK**
291. **Temporary Restrictions:** Members had been supplied with details of the 30mph speed limit and no right turn 10th to 12th July 2015 Woodham Road/Lower Burnham Road (re Brownstock Festival). Noted.
292. **Latchingdon Road near St John's Cottage:** Members were advised that water was damaging the recently renewed road surface; Clerk advised that this had been reported and investigated in the past, Clerk to report again. **ACTION: CLERK**

POLICE MATTERS/ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

293. **Southminster Neighbouring Policing:** Members had been supplied with the latest report. Noted.
294. **Street Meets:** last one held on 18th June; no Members had been able to attend. Mrs Garnham and Mrs Jennings to advise exact dates of coffee mornings for August through to December for the Clerk to request that a future 'Street Meet' is held at one of these coffee mornings. **ACTION: MRS GARHAM/
MRS JENNINGS**
295. **Parking in St Stephens Road:** this continues to be a major issue; photographs of inconsiderate marking will be taken and brought to the September meeting.

OPEN SPACE

296. **Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** this has now been tidied up. Noted
297. **Playing Field:** Members had been advised that re the Independent Playground Inspection 2015, a site meeting had been held with Village Caretaker, Mr Litscher and the Clerk and works had been agreed. Mr Litscher advised that works to the surface under the swings had been completed. Noted

Sports Wall/Kickwall: nothing to report

Fields in Trust: Members were advised that the signed deed had been submitted to FIT Legal Department. Noted.

Replacement bark for younger children's play area: quote awaited

Pre School BBQ and camp out: took place weekend of 26th/27th/28th June 2015: no details available.

- 298. 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: cut trees/hedges at VH and playing field, plus dug out self-sown trees and brambles, at Cowpiece removed branches, mowed paths and litter picked; various jobs as identified from the play inspection and agreed (re agenda item 10.2 above) re play equipment and benches and picnic tables; mowed around benches in St Stephens Road; at top of Green Trees Avenue removed old rail, brambles and stumps. Noted
- 299. Allotments:** Members were advised that the water usage invoice had been paid by the Allotment Holders. Noted
- 300. Watercourse Mapping Project:** nothing to report

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 301. Footpaths Map:** nothing to report
- 302. Footpath 28 Proposed Reduction in Width:** awaiting confirmation that this has now been actioned
- 303. Footpaths 12/13 bridge brickwork:** nothing to report
- 304. Footpath 19:** nothing to report
- 305. Bridleway 29:** Clerk liaising with PRoW re landowner to pass on thanks
- 306. EMERGENCY PLANNING/PROCEDURES:** plan being prepared for presentation at a future meeting. **ACTION: MR RIVERS**

TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

- 307. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils:** Members had been supplied with minutes from March meeting and a report from Dengie Project Trust; no one was available to attend the June meeting. Next meeting will be in September. Noted
- 308. RCCE 2015 AGM Wednesday 8th July 2015:** Members had been advised that the Clerk had sent apologies for CNPC as this clashed with the PC meeting. The RCCE Annual Review was brought to the meeting for circulation to Members. Noted
- 309. EALC Essex Rural Strategy Consultation Event: Tuesday 21st July 2015 10am to 1pm.** Members had been supplied with details and advised that there is no charge for this event. Members to advise Clerk if they can attend. **ACTION: ALL MEMBERS**
- 310. EALC AGM Thursday 24th September 2015:** Members had been advised that Motions must be with EALC CEO by 24th August 2015. Noted.
- 311. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils Annual Quiz: Wednesday 18th November 2015 7.30pm:** Members to check availability; deferred to next meeting. **ACTION: ALL MEMBERS**
- 312. EALC Calendar of Events 2015 (training):** Members had been supplied with a copy. Noted

CORRESPONDENCE

- 313. NALC Bulletin June 2015:** copy had been supplied to Members. Noted

314. **TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) letter dated 3rd June 2015:** Members had been supplied with copy letter with case studies. Clerk to arrange a site visit re rear area of the Allotments.
ACTION: CLERK
315. **ECC letter dated 16th June 2015: ECC and Southend Borough Council Joint Replacement Waste Local Plan.** Public Consultation 18th June to 30th July 2015: Members had been supplied with details. Noted
316. **CPRE email received 18th June 2015** (update and details of recent achievements): copy had been supplied to Members. Noted
317. **ECC Transport email received 22nd June 2015** Tender Outcomes: had been forwarded to Members by email. Noted.
318. **Bradwell Communications email received 22nd June 2015:** Action Plan 2014: had been forwarded to Members by email. Noted.
319. **EALC email received 29th June 2015:** Legal Newsletter June 2015 and Procurement Toolkit (May 2015): had been forwarded to Members by email. Noted.
320. **Dengie Hundred Bus Users Group Committee Vacancies Appeal:** details had been supplied and Members advised that copies were displayed on village notice boards. Noted

THE NORTON

321. **Non-compliance with conditions in planning permission:** Members were advised that the planting undertaken was sufficient to comply and that the case had now been closed. Noted,
322. **Beer Festival:** response sent re question raised by Committee Member
Members requested that The Norton is removed as a regular agenda item for the time being.
323. **WINTER SALT BAG SCHEME:** Members were advised that the salt had been ordered from ECC. Noted.
324. **STOW MARIES AERODROME:** nothing to report re possible 2016 event. Clerk following up.
ACTION: CLERK
325. **BROADBAND:** this had been covered as part of the County Cllrs report – Minute No.265 applies.
326. **STANDING ORDERS/RISK ASSESSMENT:** Members had been supplied with the current risk assessment for review. Members were in agreement that no changes were required at this time. Standing orders re change re photographs/recordings etc. Clerk to prepare for future meeting.
ACTION: CLERK
327. **2015 ESSEX VILLAGE OF THE YEAR & BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION:** Members had been advised that the result would be announced at RCCE AGM on 8th July 2015 Minute No.308 above applies. Noted

PLANNING

- 328. Planning Application received by the Parish Council:** the following was considered and the response was as indicated:

AGR/MAL/15/00658 Land at Corner of Farnbridge Road and St Stephens Road, Cold Norton.
Prior approval notification of the extension of the steel portal building (Class 2 Agricultural):

Cold Norton Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal contained within the above application and recommends that Maldon District Council REFUSE CONSENT as there is no justification for an extension to this building, which as is well documented only received approval due to an administrative error and would otherwise have had to be subject to a full planning application.

The Parish Council understands that as this is an 'Agricultural' application that comments are limited to siting of the building, design and means of access; the reasons for the above recommendation are:

Siting:

- This is in a highly prominent site, open countryside being spoiled by the nature of the building. 97% of respondents to the 2011 village survey wanted the rural character of the village preserved.
- The existing building is already a huge structure for a business that is not established.
- Visually intrusive: residents and non residents have reported their displeasure on the existing huge structure

Means of Access:

- Along a narrow but well used road
- Close to a busy main road
- It is understood that an application has never been submitted to ECC Highways for a vehicle crossing into this site

Whilst not falling within the siting, design or means of access categories, there is an ecological concern as this site is close to a nature reserve where Great Crested Newts have been spotted in the past, the Parish Council is very concerned for this protected species and request that AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IS CARRIED OUT before the applicant is able to proceed further.

The Great Crested Newt is a protected species and building and development can harm Great Crested Newts and their habitats, for example by removing a habitat or compromising the habitat, fragmenting or isolating habitats, or by changing habitats of other species, thereby reducing the newts' food sources.

- 329. Maldon District Council Decisions:** covering decisions advised from w/e 5th June 2015 to w/e 3rd July 2015; a detailed list had been supplied to Members, which is summarised below:

PDE/MAL/15/00415 Cold Norton

Single storey rear extension with flat roof and parapet walls which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 5.515m, height to the eaves would be 3m and the maximum height would be 3.91m (glass lantern).

High Upfold 33 Latchingdon Road Cold Norton Essex

(UPRN - 100090555245)

Mr & Mrs A Smith **REFUSED**

SCR/MAL/15/00495 Cold Norton

Request for a Screening Opinion to determine the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to accompany a planning application for a proposed solar farm

Land West Of Flambirds Farm Flambirds Chase Purleigh Essex

(UPRN - 010014000867)

Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd

EIA NOT REQUIRED

LDP/MAL/15/00357 Cold Norton

Claim for Lawful Development Certificate: Proposed installation of oil tank in rear garden and installation of solar panels to rear roof.
18 Green Trees Avenue Cold Norton Essex CM3 6JA
(UPRN - 100090554873)
Ms Elizabeth Lieberman **APPROVED**

HOUSE/MAL/15/00305 Cold Norton

Single storey side extension with rooms in roof and linked to existing property (re-submission)
Toad Hall Station Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 100091257160)
Mr & Mrs C Mead **APPROVED**

HOUSE/MAL/15/00401 Cold Norton

Detached 3 bay garage.
Dunromin Fambridge Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 010014000070)
Mr Mark Abraham **APPROVED**

330. **Local Development Plan:** Members had been supplied with copy letter dated 8th June 2015 from The Secretary of State to MDC re 'test' of Inspector's decision (as per District Cllr's report Minute No.264 applies)
331. **Klenya, Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton - boundary fence:** Members were advised that the pre-app is with the Planning Officer.
332. **Hillsborough 42 Latchingdon Road - unauthorised outbuilding and access:** no application had been submitted as at 6th July 2015.
333. **MDC Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule:** in abeyance pending LDP outcome.
334. **Affordable Housing:** in abeyance pending LDP outcome
335. **AGR/MAL/14/00210 Land at corner of St Stephens Road and Fambridge Road.** Result of appeal awaited.
336. **Vehicle accesses along St Stephens Road:** awaiting response from ECC, Cllr Channer chasing
337. **Blue Hoarding – Old Fire Station Site:** nothing to report.
338. **14 Green Trees Avenue:** MDC to contact current occupier
339. **Cherry Blossom Lane:** applying to Land Registry for clarification.
ACTION: CLERK
340. **Highbury Manor:** application is still invalid. Noted
341. **Proposed Extensions at 10 St Stephens Road:** Members had been advised that a further planning application had not been received.
342. **Cold Norton Parish Council's Planning Policy:** Review being undertaken by Cllrs to be brought back to a future meeting
343. **Summary of applications considered by CNPC April 2014 to March 2015:** a copy had been supplied to all Members. Noted.
344. **Planning Application HOUSE/MAL/15/00305 Toad Hall:** copy correspondence from owner to MDC had been supplied to Members. Noted.
345. **Appeal Decision: Appeal Ref: APP/1545/D/15/3007619 Morning Star, 19 St Stephens Road, Cold Norton. Application ref: HOUSE/MAL/14/01163 new detached garage.** Appeal dismissed: copy of the appeal decision had been supplied to Members. Noted.

346. **Neighbourhood Planning** email from MDC received 15th June 2015: had been forwarded to Members by email. Noted.

347. **MATTERS TO REPORT** (Members were 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 reported that the grass at the Village sign on corner of Latchingdon Road and St Stephens Road was in a poor state.

ACTION: CLERK

348. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:** provisionally scheduled for 2015:
Wednesdays 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd December.
No scheduled meeting in August.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Chairman.....

Date.....