

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the June 2014 Meeting

**Planning Applications:** There were no applications for the Members to consider this month. However, Members discussed and commented on their disappointment re the progression of an AGR application which the PC had understood would require the submission of a full planning application. Representatives from MDC Planning Department were unable to attend to address the Members due to prior meeting commitments at MDC, but had promised to attend a future PC meeting.

**Planning Decisions:** There was just one decision relating to Cold Norton advised to the Parish Council by MDC, namely: HOUSE/MAL/14/00291 1 Newport Avenue – Convert loft to habitable rooms. Addition of roof dormers. This was approved by MDC (the Parish Council had not objected to this application)

This is just a summary of this planning decision – if you would like to see full details please contact the Maldon District Council offices on 01621 854477 or visit the web site [www.maldon.gov.uk](http://www.maldon.gov.uk) or contact the Clerk – details below.

**Watercourse Mapping Project:** Members had a presentation from the ECC Watercourse Regulation Officer who advised that: *“Historically a large majority of ordinary watercourse have been overlooked on ordinance survey maps or development plans. This has led to them becoming forgotten as a vital drainage network and there importance to flood risk. The awareness of the importance of ordinary watercourse in relation to flood risk has been highlighted from the recent flooding in the twenty century and now is the time to convey their importance to the public. Through partnership working with Parish Councils and other organisations it is envisaged that a database will be created with the location and condition of ordinary watercourses within Essex.”* Cold Norton is being considered as one of villages included in the feasibility study to obtain the necessary information to create this database. Cllr Professor Barclay and the Clerk will attend an initial focus group meeting at ECC later in the month (June).

**Brownstock Music Festival in Stow Maries:** there is an application to extend the capacity of this annual event, which will be heard on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014 (adjourned from 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014).

**Lunch Club for Seniors:** Members were advised that the VHMC is running fortnightly coffee mornings to raise funds to start a lunch club for Seniors in the Autumn.

**Vandalism and Break-Ins:** Members were advised that there had been several instances in the village during the latter part of May including thefts from sheds and cars.

**Cleaner Essex Campaign:** in conjunction with all the District and City Councils there is a concerted County campaign to deter litter dropping.

**Anniversary of the Commencement of the Great War:** MDC is liaising with the War Graves Commission to locate all the War Graves in the District and assess if any remedial works are required – these would be carried out by specialists contractors, but in preparation of the MDC’s commemoration of the commencement of the Great

War on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2014, MDC is asking for volunteers to help maintain the graves by cutting the grass, strimming around headstones etc. If you would like to help please contact the Cemetery Officer on 01621 875747.

**Web Site:** following technical difficulties the minutes and news pages are now up to date, other pages will be updated as soon as possible.

**Parish Council Meetings:** Provisionally scheduled for 2014: Wednesdays 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November, and 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Meetings start at 8pm in The Norton Meeting 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](mailto:mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk) or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.