

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the January 2010 Meeting

St. Stephens Parochial Church Council: the Councillors considered a request from the PCC for financial support towards the costs of providing a composting toilet in the churchyard. Following discussion the Councillors agreed to give a grant of £500 towards the costs involved.

Parish Council Precept 2010/11: Following lengthy discussion and reviews of the budget spent so far in the current financial year and the estimated budget required for 2010/11, The Parish Council agreed to precept the District Council for the sum of £20,500.

Planning Applications: there were two planning applications for the Councillors to consider this month: the first related to Highbury Manor, Station Road, Cold Norton (planning reference FUL/MAL/09/000855) for retention of a side extension – the Councillors had no objections to this application. The second application, reference FUL/MAL/09/01056, related to 42 Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton for the removal of existing single storey extension and erection of a two storey side extension with alteration to the roof style – the Councillors had no objections to this application. (NB this is only a summary of each application and the Parish Council's response to Maldon District Council - the final decision is made by Maldon District Council. If you wish to view the actual plans and all relating correspondence to these or any planning applications please visit the MDC web site on www.maldon.gov.uk or the District Council offices in Maldon).

'Path' from Railway Bridge behind Ferris Avenue and Station Crescent: Members were advised that applications of this nature from the Maldon District had to be submitted in 2009 and that Essex County Council Legal Services had confirmed receipt of the Parish Council's application regarding this 'path'.

Training: the Councillors agreed that the Clerk may attend an 'Audit and Risk Assessment' training day at a cost of £54.

Dog Fouling: the Council had received a letter from the Year 6 Health & Safety Monitor at Cold Norton Primary School advising the Council that dog fouling has become a problem in the vicinity of the school. The Council are going to arrange for the appropriate notices re dog fouling and the penalties involved to be displayed and the dog warden will be requested to make random visits to try and catch the culprits.

Village Appraisal: the last time this was done was in 2000. The Councillors feel it is now time to carry out another one to have a more up to date snapshot profile of the people who live in the village, plus details of their needs and wishes for the future of the village – this will help the Parish Council to prioritise and channel its funds and efforts in line with these wishes. As a starting point a Village Appraisal Committee will need to be formed to decide what should be included as part of this consultation exercise appropriate to today's way of living and future hopes for the village and its community. If you

would like to be a member of the Village Appraisal Committee, or are new to the village and would like to see a copy of the village appraisal from 2000, or have any questions please contact the Parish Clerk. All are welcome - ideally the committee will include a mix of ages, male and female. (At a later stage volunteers will be needed to distribute/collect the questionnaires).

Council vacancy: at the meeting the Councillors were advised that the Returning Officer at Maldon District Council had advised that no requests had been received for an election to be called to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr Guppy – the Parish Council will now fill the vacancy by co-option.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2010: Wednesdays 3rd February and 3rd March. These meetings will start at 8 pm in The Purleigh Pavilion, Howe Green Road. Please note this alternative venue whilst works are carried out to 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.