

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the September 2010 Meeting

At this meeting 3 members of the public were in attendance. Please note all Parish Council meetings are open and Members of the Public are most welcome to listen to all or part of the proceedings and speak at a time decided by the Chairman.

Planning Applications: at this meeting the Councillors considered 4 applications, three were received from Maldon District Council: the first was for an extension to the front of existing garage with pitched roof over, plus a pitched roof over the existing roof with dormer windows to the property at 37 Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton reference No. HOUSE/MAL/10/000598 applied – the Councillors had no objections to this application. The second application, reference No. TPO/MAL/10/00623 related to trees at Greenacre, 23 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton: T12 Ash - remove minor stem with poor compression joint, bring this branch back to fork at 6m and reduce remaining crown by 30%: T11 Oak – bring in crown to balance and reduce height by 2m giving overall crown reduction of 30%, clear overhead wires and neighbour's branch – no objections were raised by the Councillors to this work proceeding. The third application received from Maldon District Council, reference No. HOUSE/MAL/10/00642, was for a 2 storey extension to the rear of 20 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton – there were no objections to this application. The final application considered by the Councillors at this meeting had been received from Essex County Council, reference No. ESS/30/10/MAL relating to Car Breakers Yard, Russell Road, North Fambridge (just outside the Cold Norton Parish boundary), a retrospective application for erection of depollution bay, offices, security fencing and lights, stationing of caravan for night watchman, concrete hard standing and planting. The Parish Council objected to this application for the following reasons
i) intensification of industrial use in a rural area ii) light pollution resulting from security lights iii) increased possibility of chemical pollution.

Cowpiece: Cllr C. Litscher, Mr A. Paul and a working party have been carrying out works at Cowpiece to clear the area. At the meeting the Parish Council approved a budget of up to £200 for the provision of new seats etc at the nature reserve.

Footpaths: Members were advised that the diversion of Footpath 13 on the golf course has been agreed. The Clerk had met the Essex County Council Public Rights of Way Officer to walk and inspect some of the footpaths. Regarding Footpath 14 the members were advised that although the handrail put in to aid walking on the sloped section approx third of the way up from Latchingdon Road, has helped, but that with any rain it becomes very muddy and slippery (as it was on the day the PRow and Clerk walked the footpath) and is not ideal even with the hand rail: the PRow will put in step risers with either planings or gravel on the levels to eliminate the slope - this will be carried out before November 2010. A section of the Bridleway along the old railway line was also walked – the entry down to this from St. Stephens Road is steep and the previous PRow had a handrail installed and 'gravel' put down – the gravel needs replenishing and this will be done. Further into the bridleway is very 'boggy' and the PRow is going to arrange for material suitable for horses to be put down to make it also walkable for humans.

Dog Waste: The Clerk advised the Councillors that on footpath 14 on both the section up to the Church and the section across from the Church there was much evidence of dog waste which had not been picked. The dog warden will be requested to make spot checks.

Election Training for Local Councils: The Councillors approved the cost of £60 for the Clerk to attend a training day run by the Essex Association of Local Councils as local Parish Councils elections will be held in May 2011.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2010: Wednesdays 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December. All meetings start at 8 pm 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 or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.