

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the November 2010 Meeting

At this meeting 1 member of the public was present. Please note all Parish Council meetings are open; 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 Parish Councillors considered five planning applications – there were no objections to three of the applications, namely: HOUSE/MAL/10/00824 10 Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton – dormers to rear roof and loft conversion; FUL/MAL/10/00828 Two Square, St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton – demolish existing dwelling house, garage sheds and all other outbuildings. Erect replacement dwelling house and cart lodge and change of use of nursery/paddock (amended proposal from current planning approval FUL/MAL/09/00716 dated 9th November 2009); and FUL/MAL/10/00875 Great Canney Studios, Hackmans Lane, Cold Norton – refurbishment conversion with alterations and change use to B1 office from workshop studios. In regards to application FUL/MAL/10/00769 17 St Stephens Road, Cold Norton – construction of two dormers to front and one dormer to rear of house roof. Remove garage roof and erect replacement garage roof with side dormer. Construction of rear ground floor extension. The Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons: i) the proposed development detracts from the harmony of the current street scene ii) it is unsightly and ‘bulky’ iii) it is over developed. With reference to the application from Lords Acre Nursery, Lower Burnham Road, Cold Norton FUL/MAL/10/000839 requesting permission for erection of 4 poly tunnels and farm shop in connection with existing nursery business. Farm shop to provide home grown and home made products, the Councillors submitted the following response to Maldon District Council:

“Cold Norton Parish Council was very mindful of the sensitivity of the landscape in its consideration of this application; the property is a long way outside the village development boundary and therefore development would not generally be considered appropriate. However, there is already a ‘shop’ on this site and it is therefore not unreasonable to allow the applicant to undertake modest expansion in order to make the business more viable.

The Council does have concerns regarding the proposed size of these poly tunnels and if permission is granted would only wish them to remain in situ whilst they are in use as set out in the application and that this was a condition of the planning permission; the Council would further suggest that if planning permission is granted it is initially only for a trial/temporary period of, say, three years, after which the applicant would need to reapply for planning permission.”

In addition to the above the Councillors were supplied with the following for information only: NMA/MAL/10/00927 9 Henney Close, Cold Norton. Application for non material amendment following grant of planning permission for erection of conservatory to rear elevation and family room to side elevation (HOUSE/MAL/10/00458) – provide Velux roof light to left elevation of family room and provide French casement doors in place of approved family room front elevation window.

Village Hall: Members were advised that the Village Hall Management Committee had commissioned a valuation of the hall for insurance purposes: after the

refurbishment the rebuilding cost was estimated to be £750,000 excluding VAT, contents and inflation (costs are as at May 2010) and all external areas. Members were also advised that a report will be sent to the Big Lottery later this month regarding marketing activities and usage etc since the refurbishment was completed. The Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Village Hall Conference was held in the hall in October – 50 people from other village hall committees attended a very productive training and networking day and Philip Wakeling spoke about the Cold Norton Village Hall Project.

Standing Orders: Members were all in agreement to adopt the new Standing Orders, which the working party had recommended based on the NALC (National Association of Local Councils) Model Standing Orders 2010, including and adapting as appropriate those relevant to Cold Norton. These Standing Orders incorporate requirements imposed on a local council by legislation, administrative and practical arrangements arising from statutory requirements and good practice for effective governance.

Village Survey/Plan: the first working party meeting has taken place to consider what should be included in the questionnaire. Members of the public are invited to be part of this working party – please contact the Clerk.

Parish Elections: May 2011 will see the end of the four year term of office for the Parish Councillors. Cold Norton Parish Council has 7 members and it is understood that some Councillors will be standing down at this time. Forms will be available from Maldon District Council (date to be advised), once completed these have to be returned by hand to the Elections Office at MDC by the nominated date – a ‘voting’ election will only become necessary if there are more than 7 names put forward. If you want to know what is involved in being a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk or come along to a Parish Council meeting as detailed below.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2010: Wednesday 1st December and in 2011 Wednesday 12th January. 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.