

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the March 2018 Meeting

**Planning Applications:** There were two applications considered at the March meeting, both relating to the same property, namely 16 St Stephens Road HOUSE/MAL/18/00172: Proposed detached garage and HOUSE/MAL/18/00181: First floor extension over garage & single storey front extension with enclosing of existing front door porch. Formation of linking pitched roof between new and existing roofs – the Members had no objections to either application and had no comments to make.

**Planning Decisions:** (covering the period w/e 9<sup>th</sup> February to w/e 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018): there were three decisions advised: the first was: FUL/MAL/17/01407 Honeywood Farm Honeypot Lane: Removal of condition 1 on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/16/01044 allowed on appeal APP/X1545/W/17/3167028 (Removal of condition 3 (agricultural occupancy condition) on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/82/00003). MDC approved this application (Cold Norton had been unable to comment on this application, due to cancellation of the January meeting). The other two decisions advised both related to Building 30, Stow Maries Aerodrome, Hackmans Lane FUL/MAL/17/01456 and LBC/MAL/17/01457 Proposed change of use from vacant building to B1 office use, Stabilisation works, replacement metal framed windows and demolition of existing non-original timber framed extension. MDC approved both applications. (Cold Norton had been unable to comment on this application, due to cancellation of the January meeting).

**Planning applications and decisions:** if you would like to see full details of any planning application, please contact the Maldon District Council offices on 01621 854477 or visit the web site [www.maldon.gov.uk](http://www.maldon.gov.uk)

**Report on ECC Matters from County Cllr Mrs Channer:** in her February report County Cllr Mrs Channer advised that: A record programme of more than £300 million will be invested in roads, schools, new homes and supporting the economy across Essex, as part of the County Council's budget proposals for 2018/19. The budget also includes a continued commitment to innovation and digital technology, which is already having a positive impact on services such as adult social care, where tablet computers have more than halved the time it takes social workers to complete assessments. The continued reduction in central Government funding, which will disappear completely by 2020, combined with increasing demand for services, increases in inflation, business rates and National Living Wage payments, mean the Council is proposing to increase Council Tax for only the third time in the last eight years. This will rise by 2% through the Government's social care precept, which will be ring-fenced to adult social care, and 2.99% to support the delivery of vital services such as highways, public transport, libraries and recycling centres. The proposed rise means a £1.12 per week increase for the average Band D property. Pioneering projects are being sought in a first-of-its-kind national challenge to find the next generation of ideas to help improve the lives of people living with dementia. Challenge Dementia, which has been spearheaded by Essex County Council, is a national search for next generation products, technologies and services that could transform the way people live with dementia, helping them to live enjoyable and fulfilling lives for as long as possible. More than 22,000 new school places will be needed across Essex over the next decade. Projections currently show an extra 12,201 new primary school places and 9,915 new secondary school places (22,116

in total) will be needed across the county between now and 2027. Secondary schools in Essex have cause for celebration after new statistics confirmed the county's GCSE pupils again performed above the national average. Figures released by the Department for Education, alongside the secondary school performance tables, show the Attainment 8 score for Essex (average grade across a set of eight subjects) was 46.7 – above the national average of 46.4. As a result of the released data, Essex is ranked 58 of all 151 local authorities. The 65.3 per cent of pupils in Essex who achieved a standard pass at GCSE (9-4) in English and maths is also above the national average of 64.2 per cent. English language, English literature and maths were the only subjects to be graded under the new 9 to 1 scale, with others continuing to be graded A\* to G. Most other subjects are expected to adopt numerical grades by 2019. A six week consultation began (Monday 5 February 2018) on proposed changes to car parking charges at a number of Essex Country Parks. Car parking charges at the Country Parks have not been increased for three years, since March 2015, with the exception of Weald which were reviewed in 2016. In line with ECC's fees and charges policy, a review of charges has taken place and an increase is proposed - any changes to be implemented by the end of April 2018. Visitors to Essex Country Parks can still enjoy access to unlimited parking at all of our country parks with the purchase of an annual season ticket at £65 or six-months at £40, with the full annual season ticket fee reduced to £45 and £30 respectively for Blue Badge Holders and over-60s; offering excellent value for money for frequent visitors.

**Village Caretaker:** Please contact the Clerk for details of the jobs involved in this self-employed (paid) job.

**Parish Council Meetings:** Meetings start at 7.30pm in The Les Barclay Room at the Village Hall. The next PC Meetings will be on: Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup> April, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> June, and 4<sup>th</sup> July. Members of the Public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** at time of writing this report the proposed date is Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 8pm in the Village Hall, but this is still to be confirmed. Residents will be notified by the usual leaflet delivered to each home in the parish and posters on the notice boards.

**To contact the Parish Council:** please write to: The Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer), at Exordium, 30b Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 6JG. Email: [mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01621 829566. Please note the Clerk works part time and will respond as soon as possible.