

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3RD MARCH 2010 IN THE PURLEIGH PAVILION, HOWE GREEN ROAD

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs G. Gold (Chairman)
Mrs. A. McDonald
Mr. P. Wakeling

In attendance: Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)

473. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** had been received from Professor L. Barclay, Mr J. Archer and Mr. C. Litscher
474. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 3rd February 2010 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

FINANCE

Approval of Payments

475. Allianz Insurance plc Policy No AC/5772 Insurance for village hall during building works Ref Memorandum, SF/2320/1 £946.90 Cheque No.856
476. Dave Bull general village caretaker work. Invoice No.92 dated 01.03.10 £101.50 Cheque No.857
477. Purleigh Parish Council use of The Pavilion for meetings October 2009 to March 2010 inclusive 6 @ £12 each Invoice N0.0237 dated 14.02.10 £72.00 Cheque No.858.
478. BT Village Hall Payphone Invoice no.QO38C1 dated 11.02.10 £44.65 (£38.08 net) Cheque No.859
479. E-on Street Lighting for January 2010 Invoice NO.H8EABEA29 dated 03.02.10 £38.54 (£36.70 net) taken by direct debit on 13.02.10
480. Public Works Loan Board Reference 320 07310 £1,072.57 will be taken by direct debit on 22.03.10.
481. HM Revenue & Customs Tax & NI to 5th April 2010 £32.96 Cheque No.860
482. Maria Dyer office expenses £32.36 Cheque No.861
483. Haynes & Smith Village Hall Project Invoice No.SCL/5055 £35,449.75 (£30,170 net) Cheque No.863 (NB Cheque No.864 voided and sent to PWLB as requested as proof of bank details for loan)

484. Financial Statement

Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 st Feb 2010	£	137.23
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17 th Feb 2010	£	404.93
Abbey as at 2 nd February 2010	£	<u>12,406.60</u>
	£	12,948.76

485. **Charities nominated in memory of Mick Kennedy:** Members noted that the two charities nominated by the family were Essex Air Ambulance and Maldon (Essex) MIND.
486. **Insurance Renewal:** Members were advised that items on policy need to be reviewed before policy renewal is due on June 2010. It was noted that the boat and sand pit need to be removed from the asset register and insurance policy. **ACTION: CLERK**
487. **PWLB LOAN –** Members were advised that the approved loan may be deferred to next financial year in full or part; if deferred new approval letter would be valid for 6 months. Once paperwork is completed it takes up to 2 weeks to process and for loan to be advanced. A discussion followed: apply for £10,000 now and defer £10,000 to the next financial year, but this was then changed to submitting the application for the full £20,000 in the current financial year due to revised costings being advised by the CDM. **ACTION: CLERK**

PLANNING

488. **Maldon District Council Decisions** – a detailed list had been copied to Members, which is summarised below:

FUL/MAL/09/00910 Cold Norton
Conversion of former agricultural building to residential dwelling
Norton Hall Barn St Stephens Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 010013995279)
Mr Martin Pinch **APPROVED**

LBC/MAL/09/00911 Cold Norton
Conversion of former agricultural building to residential dwelling
Norton Hall Barn St Stephens Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 010013995279)
Mr Martin Pinch **APPROVED**

OUT/MAL/09/00512 Cold Norton
Demolition of existing industrial units and erection of ten 3, 4 and 5 bedroom dwellings and associated parking.
Bardwells Yard Latchingdon Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 100091650665)
Mr S Bardwell **REFUSED**

489. **Planning Applications received by the Parish Council** – the following were considered and responses were indicated:

FUL/MAL/09/00004 Land between Middlewick Farm and Wraywick Farm, The Marshes, Southminster. Construction of nine wind turbine generators with an overall height to tip of 125m and associated crane hardstanding areas, access tracks, substation building, 80m meteorological mast, handstanding area for marine access, temporary laydown area, temporary construction compound and associated electrical infrastructure Week No. N/A dated N/A:

Cold Norton Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal contained within the above application and recommends that Maldon District Council REFUSE CONSENT.

The Parish Council's reasons for this recommendation are:

- Wind farms are not cost effective and are ineffective at generating power
- The proposed wind farm would be visually intrusive in one of the very few unspoilt remaining areas of natural beauty and home for a variety of wildlife
- The noise pollution that would result from such a development would have detrimental effect on the quality of life for both human and wild life

FUL/MAL/10/00073 Homestead, Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton. Single storey side extension. Week No.5 dated 5th February 2010:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the works proposed within the above application.

FUL/MAL/10/00088 Pensarn, Lower Burnham Road, Latchingdon. Roof conversion, side extension and conservatory to bungalow. Week NO.7 dates 19th February 2010:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the works proposed within the above application.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

490. **Highways Schedule:** Members were advised that all non urgent highways works are on hold until the new financial year.

491. **Potholes:** Clerk to circulate a sheet for Members to list potholes spotted requiring attention
ACTION: CLERK

VILLAGE HALL

492. **Report from Parish Council Representatives:** Mr Wakeling reported on the VHMC meeting held on 23rd February 2010, where the main topics discussed were the flyer, opening event and revised hiring agreement.
493. **Village Hall Project:** Mr Wakeling updated Members, who were each supplied with report dated 1st March 2010. Noted by members.
494. **VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS** Members were advised that there was no report from the Police, but that the Clerk was expecting a call from the Inspector to discuss presence generally - in village, at meetings and at the Annual Parish Meeting.
495. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** As he was unable to attend the meeting, District Councillor Archer had advised the Clerk by telephone that he didn't have anything new to report.

OPEN SPACES

496. **Playing Field:** Clerk was asked to investigate the situation regarding insurance and fencing around the younger children's play area

497. **Village Caretaker work** – report for February:

Around the village hall and playground I have continued to inspect despite the area being formally closed for renovation. I have collected litter and noted the state of the equipment. The fencing to the small children's play area is vandalised and will need complete renovation or replacement before the playground is reopened.

I continue to inspect the triangle area and to remove litter. There has been fly-tipping in this area. I have removed some bags of rubbish but more continue to be dumped. My general inspection of the verges around the village has not indicated any other fly-tipping recently.

My work in the Queen Mother Memorial Garden is still hampered by unknown person or persons spoiling the roses. Both the original plants and the new replacements have been hacked back. My wife (a qualified professional gardener) will continue her attempts to save these plants; the bed may need further replacements.

In the Cow Piece Nature Reserve I continue to inspect, keep pathways clear and remove litter. Councillor Litscher has been in contact regarding his work on replacing the bridge and removal of the dilapidated bench. I am working with him on completion of the ROSPA Reports. When the weather is sufficiently warm and dry I will inspect and treat the Parish Council's benches.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

498. **Footpath 14:** Members were advised no change to the matter of barbed wire which was referred to the PRow for resolution – awaiting update. Noted by members.
499. **Footpath Maps:** Members were advised that the way forward without total funding available is being discussed with R. Hawes and P3
500. **Application to add a footpath to the Definitive Map:** Latchingdon Road via Ferris Avenue and Station Crescent to St Stephens Road: Members were advised that the application has been given case number 800 and that a case officer will be assigned in due course (ref letter dated 10th February 2010).

- 501. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE:** Mr. Wakeling continues to update the Village Hall Project section
- 502. **EMERGENCY PLANNING/PROCEDURES:** on hold whilst the Village Hall is undergoing renovation

TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS.

- 503. **Crime Reduction Panel Wednesday 24th March 2010 7.30pm.** No one available to attend
- 504. **ECC Ecumenical Civic Service Wednesday 28th April 2010 7.30pm Brentwood Cathedral.** Noted by Members
- 505. **Code of Conduct:** Professor Barclay had sent a report on the recent session he had attended at MDC (aimed at District Councillors but some Parish Councillors has also been invited) regarding the Maldon District Council Local Code of Conduct: *"Much of the Code relates to proper responsible conduct by Councillors. There were some items which apply to District Councillors but not to Parish Councillors. There was detailed presentation of the matters of "Personal Interest" and "Prejudicial Interest".* Professor Barclay passed a copy of this code to the Clerk, which was copied and supplied to all Parish Councillors for information. Professor Barclay also relayed the section of the meeting, not concerned with the code, but relating to the expression of views by Members who are both Parish and District Councillors at Parish and District meetings.
- 506. **Audit & Risk Assessment Training Day:** Clerk attended on 12th February 2010 and supplied Members with a written report which summarised the various training sessions, drawing attention to the session on risk assessment which was delivered by Peter Lacey from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).
- 507. **Training for Councillors:** Clerk advised Members that the EALC will conduct a two hour councillor training course 'in house' in the evening or on a Saturday, details of costs etc supplied to Members. Noted.
- 508. **Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils meeting 17th March 7.30 pm - Mrs McDonald to attend for CNPC**
ACTION: MRS MCDONALD

CORRESPONDENCE

- 509. **RCCE 2010 Essex Village of the Year and Best Kept Village Competition:** Members were advised that Calor is not sponsoring this year's competition and so there will not be a national competition in 2010; in Essex RCCE are in discussion with a new sponsor. Close date is 7th April 2010. It was agreed to enter Cold Norton and Mrs Gold offered to complete the entry form.
ACTION: MRS GOLD
- 510. **Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils e-mail received 21st February 2010 – copy of the Final Scrutiny Report responses from ECC to Governments White Paper** had been sent to all Members by e-mail. Noted.
- 511. **ECC "Developers Guide to Infrastructure Contributions" – draft of new guide:** Members had been supplied with details and advised that the consultation period closes on 5th April 2010. Noted.
- 512. **MDC-** Members were each supplied with a copy of a petition form relating to St. Peters Hospital. Noted.
- 513. **East of England Development Agency – Broadband:** Members were supplied with copy of an article which appeared relating to Broadband. Noted.

514. **Village Plan:** Members were advised that this was 'advertised' in the February Beacon, but that no one had come forward yet, so it will be advertised again in the March issue and that it also appeared in the 'news from the villages sections' in both the Maldon & Burnham and Essex Chronicle newspapers week ending 26th February 2010.
515. **Vacancy for a Councillor:** Members were advised that details appear in the March edition of The Beacon and notices will be placed in the boards.
516. **Standing Orders/Financial Regulations/Risk Assessment:** Members were reminded that Professor Barclay is reviewing and that the Clerk has ordered from the EALC the new Standing Orders guide, which when received will be passed to Professor Barclay.
517. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** (Members are reminded that no decisions may lawfully be made under this agenda item - however matters may be discussed which involve exchanges of information only.)
 The Clerk advised that another company (RES) are planning to submit an application to build a wind farm in this area and that they have organised a dry run of lorries (to imitate load, size etc of those that would be travelling in the area if the application is approved) to the proposed site on Thursday 4th March 2010.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2010: Wednesday 14th April, Tuesday 11th May (this will be the AGM and an ordinary meeting), Wednesdays 2nd June, 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December

Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 5th May 2010

Chairman.....

Date.....