

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2007 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs. A. Allen
Mr. C. Litscher
Mr. P. Wakeling

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

508. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman it was proposed by Mrs Allen and seconded by Mr. Litscher that Mr. Wakeling should chair the meeting.
509. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Parish Councillors Mr. J. Archer, Professor L. Barclay, Mrs. S. Garnham and Mrs G. Gold, also District Councillor Mr. L. Cooper.
510. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 10th January 2007 and **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting** held on Monday 29th January 2007 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

FINANCE

Payments

511. Dave Bull village caretaker work invoice 43 dated 01.02.07 £168.75 Cheque No. 474
512. MAIA Services for updating two pages on the web site (approved minutes for December and report from January meeting) Invoice no. 290107-1 dated 29.01.07 £17.62 (£15 net) Cheque No. 475.
513. Data Protection/Information Commissioner Registration No.Z7679664 for one year's renewal from 3rd March 2007 £35 Cheque No. 476.
514. M. Dyer office expenses £31.41 Cheque. No. 477
515. E-on Energy: street lighting for December 2006 and January 2007 invoice no.131782781 dated 29.01.07 direct debit will be processed 19.02.07 £78.20 (£74.48 net)

516. Financial Statement

Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 st January 2007	£	125.38
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17 th January '07	£	3,123.76
Abbey as at 1 st January 2007	£	<u>1,063.69</u>
	£	4,312.83

Clerk advised that £6046 grant from EET had now been received. Mr. Wakeling requested that for the next meeting a report is prepared detailing monies spent/grant received in relation to the Village Hall kitchen refurbishment.

ACTION: CLERK

PLANNING

517. **Maldon District Council Decisions** – there were no decisions relating to Cold Norton this month.

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

FUL/MAL/07/00027 Palepit Farm, Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton. Construction of barns comprising agricultural store, tractor and machinery store and farm workshop. Week No.3 dated 19th January 2007:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposed development contained within the above application to be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should REFUSE CONSENT.

The Parish Council's reasons for this recommendation are:

- This is a non agricultural holding:- the property is not farmed
- It is outside the village development boundary
- The vast scale of the proposed development
- The development is completely inappropriate in that setting

FUL/MAL/07/00046 38 Greentrees Avenue, Cold Norton. Single storey side, rear and front extensions. Week No. 4 dated 26th January 2007:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposed development contained in the above application would not be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application.

TPO/MAL/07/00066 Honfleur, 2 Ferris Avenue, Cold Norton. Reduce crown of Horse Chestnut T1 by 25% and thin crown by 15%; reduce crown of Oak T2 by 25%, thin crown by 15% and remove limb over St. Stephens Road. Week No. 4 dated 26th January 2007:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the pruning proposed in the above application to be acceptable and not harmful, it therefore recommends that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application, but with the proviso that the pruning is signed off by the Tree Officer at Maldon District Council.

FUL/MAL/07/00084 1 & 2 White Acres, Crown Road, Cold Norton. Demolish existing two dwellings and build one new 5 bedroom dwelling and one new 4 bedroom dwelling. Week No. 5 dated 2nd February 2007:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposals contained within the above application to be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should REFUSE CONSENT.

The Parish Council's reasons for this recommendation are:

- Firstly, it is outside the village development boundary
- Secondly, the significant scale of the dwellings proposed
- Thirdly, the two dwellings proposed would bring about the over development of the site
- And finally, permission for this application to proceed would set a precedent

519. Appeal APP/X1545/A/06/2025558/WF Woodcote, Station Road, Cold Norton. Appeal withdrawn - noted by Members.

520. Team Map for Development Control re Planning - had been supplied to/ noted by Members

521. Appeal Ref. No. APP/X1545/A/07/2035729/WF Land at rear of The Poppets, 30A Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton: copy of appeal notification had been supplied to PC members – noted.

522. Appeal Ref No. APP/X1545/A/06/2023805/NWF Land at Hockley Farm. Proposed wind farm Hockley Lane, Bradwell-on-Sea: copy of appeal notification had been supplied to PC members - noted

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

523. Pedestrian Crossing

Results from loop system put down to measure speed/effect of VAS signs now received re the 85th percentile: pre the VAS signs it was 38/39mph, this recent recording showed 34.9mph. Problems with VAS signs in hand – still being investigated. PCSO Butler advised that as a result of monitoring speed using a speed gun in this area 13 people have been reported for speeding.

524. Highways Schedule of Works

Natural spring on Latchingdon between coal yard and No.15 diversion into drainage system completed
Pram ramps at bridge - tactile paving alternative being investigated – no decision yet.

Station road entrance onto Latchingdon: dropped kerb and footway resurface work – work has now been carried out.

Jetting of drain at top of Station Crescent – carried out on 06.12.06 awaiting confirmation if drain cover will need to be lifted.

Drain opposite coal yard – has not been done, should have been carried out at same time as natural spring work above Highways are looking into.

Subsidence at sides of St. Stephens Road – Highways aware that section from Church to Fambridge Road is getting worse also section before Church – awaiting their response

Honeypot Lane resurfacing/recycling treatment – work started on 5th February

New signs Fambridge Road/St. Stephens Road – no date yet

Surging manhole between Nos. 10 and 12 St. Stephens Road – drain pipe work completed.

Overgrowing vegetation on footways between Cold Norton and Stow Maries - highways waiting for a report to come back from their inspector

Potholes on bridge - inspector has reported back to Highways that these are not bad; they have been marked out, but do not require immediate action. Will be scheduled in for action in new financial year.

Parish Councillors disagreed with this, want work carried out sooner

ACTION: CLERK

Members also advised that the two drains outside school and one further down opposite No7 are blocked again.

ACTION: CLERK

525. **ECC – Dengie Peninsula Public Transport Network Review** – details of proposed services to replace Village Link had been supplied to Members. Feedback from users to be requested via The Beacon.

ACTION: CLERK

VILLAGE HALL

526. **Report from Parish Council Representatives:** no report

527. **Village Hall Project:** re kitchen - IKAS have now been in touch and are coming in to check measurements for the badminton cupboard and sort out the snagging problems. Grant now received from EET. Re hall extension: Committee met last week to discuss lottery/finance. Mrs Bryant checking out VAT situation, next meeting scheduled for w/c 12th February.

528. VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Butler reported use of speed gun (see minute No. 523), brief details of irregular car fires in Purleigh and a court case coming up in the next few months.

529. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A Schedule of District Council Meetings had been copied to Members. No report available.

OPEN SPACES

- 530. Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** Village Caretaker and Mr Litscher liaising re fencing job/ quote awaited Clerk to chase Caretaker **ACTION: CLERK**

531. Playing Field

North Fambridge YFC requested permission to mow an area of the playing field - this was granted. (VHMC have decided that to use the toilets the club will have to pay £100 returnable deposit in case of damage to new carpet and £5 per match for use of toilets only - kitchen not included; the club have agreed to these terms).

532. Village Caretaker work – report as follows:

I continue to clear round the playground and car park area by the village hall. I am painting and preserving the playground equipment and fences as weather permits.

I am pleased to report that the vandals have are still on holiday and that there has been no damage since my last report.

Further to the report on the playground and equipment I shall take steps to comply with its findings. I shall continue replacing the small trees in the playing field that were vandalised in the early spring.

I have weed-killed in the car park and play areas and I shall repeat as needed.

In Cowpiece Nature reserve I continue to inspect the site regularly and to clear away any litter or debris. I am clearing the foot paths and observation platform as required.

I am unable to start on fencing work as on of farm machinery and wet weather have turned the road into a morass by the reserve entrance

In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area, I have pruned and deadheaded the roses and preserved the bench with teak oil.

I continue to inspect the triangle and pathway by the bridge and remove any litter and continue with the leaf sweeping

There has been no further fly tipping this month in the village hall car park

I will continue with my usual work for the Parish Council please let me know if there is any particular aspect of my work that the Parish Council wishes me to attend to.

- 533. Allotments:** it was noted that there had been a lot of activity the previous weekend on the site.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 534. Ferris Avenue Path:** Number of forms returned to date has now risen to eleven. Mention in the January Beacon had produced 2 requests for forms.

- 535. Footpath 3:** Self closing gates have now been installed replacing the 2 stiles. Re gate/stile at Hackmans Lane end of this footpath the PRow has advised: "Gates or stiles are only put in to prevent the ingress or egress of animals. As there are no animals in the field then legally we cannot put a structure there. We could consider some form of barrier similar to opposite the Church. I will give it a look." Members requested that Clerk remind the PRow that there was originally a stile at this point until it rotted and was taken down. The lack of a barrier immediate to the road also represents a severe health and safety risk. **ACTION: CLERK**

536. Footpath 8

Complaint made by Ramblers Assoc re a vine being planted across this footpath. The PRow and landowner have way marked the permissive route around the vines. (NB this route is not that far off the definitive route) Signing has been done and the incorrect way mark post has been removed.

- 537. Footpath 13 (Golf Course):** Style of gate still to be agreed with golf club. Existing concrete fingerpost has been removed from bushes and replaced with a wooden fingerpost erected next to dog waste bin, where it is now more visible.
- 538. Footpath 14:** Sketch and letter had been sent to landowner re the possible rerouting. Landowner's response was read out. Clerk to reply as discussed. **ACTION: CLERK**
- New dog waste bin in hand. Re further complaints re dog fouling/dog control on footpaths the PRow is going to supply information. Meanwhile Clerk to refer to problem in next PC report in The Beacon. **ACTION: CLERK**
- Both fingerposts outside Church have been replaced with new wooden ones.
- 539. Footpath 15/New Bridleway**
- Churning up of the slope still a problem – the PRow and contractor are still investigating a material which won't be washed away by rain. 'Grounded' way mark post has been re-erected. Currently difficult for walkers on bridleway.
- 540 Footpath 19 (and 14)**
- Regarding the new gate to accommodate walkers and the sheep – all approved by PCC* and Arch Deacons office. PRow is meeting with landowner on 12th February to outline proposals. Then assuming all is okay the PRow plans to carry this work out before 31st March i.e. in this financial year.
- (* There was concern from the PCC with leaving a gap to the side of the kissing gate that dog walkers would let their dogs off lead and the dogs could run into the Churchyard, so the PRow is not only going to replace the old kissing gate with a new kissing gate, but also put in a wooden self closing one way pedestrian gate to the side where there would have been a gap).
- 541. Footpath 20**
- Problem with drainage in field: No solution yet for where to drain the water to, but the vegetation has now been cut back where it is extremely wet, stiles have been removed and the little bridge has been replaced. And as a result of the contractors going into the field the PRow had a phone call identifying one of the owners of the field. The path is in fact her boundary and she will be arranging for that to be staked in the very near future. New wooden fingerpost has now been installed.
- 542. Footpath 23**
- Existing old style fingerpost at St. Stephen Road end has been replaced with new wooden one, unable to replace the one at Lower Burnham Road end at present due to location for access (dangerous bend). NB all the fingerposts in St. Stephens Road are now all of the new wooden variety.
- 543. Fingerposts**
- In addition to the new fingerposts detailed above this new style of wooden post has also been installed to sign Bridleways 2 and 7. PRow has advised that by 31st March the footpaths along Howe Green Road and Hackmans Lane will also be signed by these new posts. (Actually Purleigh footpaths but butting up to the CN border)
- 544. Footpath Map:** will form part of P3 partnership activities
- 545. The Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3):** Still trying to find a mutually convenient date for meeting to discuss next step.

546. **Land Registry – voluntary first registration of CNPC landholdings:** no action yet
547. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE:** approved minutes and meeting report supplied to web manager. Clerk had advised that the site needs reviewing and that the web manager has been asked to look at and make recommendations, also numbers visiting site have been requested.
548. **Freedom of Information** **ACTION: PROF BARCLAY/
CLERK**
549. **Files/Documents to Archive/ Retain/Destroy** **ACTION: PROF BARCLAY/
MRS GARNHAM**
550. **Emergency Planning:** to be discussed at next meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

551. **EALC** - East of England Plan comments by 14th February 2007 - noted
552. **Government Office for the East of England** - proposed changes to the East of England Plan comments by 9th March - noted
553. **Postwatch** – The Post Office Network DTI Consultation Document comments needed by 8th March. Clerk to convey PC Members views and to ensure that Mr Tubby has a copy of the letter the Parish Council received from Postwatch **ACTION: CLERK**
554. **ECC** – New Legislation for Mobile Phones - **NOTED**
555. **ECC** – Invitation to Civic Service at Chelmsford Cathedral Friday 27th April - noted
556. **MDC** – Free Garden Waste Collection Service: amended times - noted
557. **ECC** – Mobile Library Service results of review - noted
558. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** The matter of the land opposite the village hall was raised. Clerk to write to MDC Planning Department. Clerk advised that the notice board outside the old PO is in poor condition. Clerk was requested to investigate costs involved in renovation if this is possible or supply of a new notice board. **ACTION: CLERK**

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2007: Wednesday 7th March and 4th April.

Chairman.....

Date.....