

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2009 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

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

In attendance: Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)
Plus 7 members of the public

485. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Professor Barclay, Mr Litscher, Mr Guppy and District Councillor Mr. J. Sears
486. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 4th February 2009 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

FINANCE

Approval of Payments

487. Dave Bull general village caretaker work Invoice No. 76 dated 22.02.09 £145 Cheque No.740
488. Dave Bull additional work as a result of vandalism to fencing, gate and boat in playground Invoice No.77 dated 22.02.09 £29 Cheque No.740
489. BT Village Hall Payphone Invoice No.Q034XK dated 11.02.09 £ 45.72 (£42.56 net) Cheque No.741
490. Winstonmead Invoice No.1/IK1756 dated 23.02.09 5 black and 2 colour ink cartridges £104.37 (£90.76 net) Cheque No, 742
491. E-on Energy Street lighting for January 2009 Invoice No. H771C1DFE dated 03.02.09 £38.54 (£36.70 net) will be taken by direct debit on 13.02.09
492. Public Works Loan Board Reference 320 07310 £1,125.22 will be taken by direct debit on 20.03.09.
493. Maria Dyer office expenses £22.79 Cheque No. 743
494. Inland Revenue TAX/NI to 05.04.09 £45.15 Cheque No.744

495. Financial Statement

Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 st Feb 2009	£	135.21
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17 th Feb 2009	£	396.01
Abbey as at 2 nd February 2009	£	<u>13,388.45</u>
	£	13,919.67

496. **St. Stephens Parochial Church Council:** With reference to the Councillors' query re the cover price of The Beacon Members of the PCC outlined revenue received reference advertising/subscriptions and advised cover prices of other comparable Church or Parish Council magazines. Councillors thanked the PCC Members for clarifying the situation and advised that it was now clear why an increase in the cover price would not be appropriate.
497. **Notice Board in Latchingdon Road: Clerk** advised that this board near the allotments/bus stop is no longer serviceable and has been taken down and had supplied the Councillors with a quote of £180 for a replacement. Members advised approval. **ACTION: CLERK**

PLANNING

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

FUL/MAL/08/01310 Cold Norton
Single storey rear extension
The Poppets 30A Latchingdon Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 100090555238)
Mr & Mrs M. Payne **REFUSED**

FUL/MAL/08/01339 Cold Norton
Loft conversion
Pantile Hall Honeygot Lane Stow Maries Essex
(UPRN - 100091256783)
David & Cheryl Edward **APPROVED**

FUL/MAL/08/01359 Cold Norton
One 4 bed bungalow with basement and one 5 bed bungalow with basement
White Acres Crown Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 100091650513)
Stuart Rivers **APPROVED**

TPO/MAL/09/00029 Cold Norton
TPO 15/96 T28 and T29, Oaks - Lift crown to 4m and thin by 15 - 20%
34 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Chelmsford Essex
(UPRN - 100090555825)
Mr T Potter **APPROVED**

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

FUL/MAL/09/00050 PP-00627822 34. The Aerodrome, Hackmans Lane, Purleigh. Change of use to workshop and ancillary office accommodation (B1 use) Week No.5 dated 30th January 2009:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the works proposed as contained within the above application, providing:

- The conversions are carried out under the guidance of the conservation officer
- That entry to and exit from the site is only via Hackmans Lane.

The Parish Councillors have viewed the above works in context of the master plan for this site, as they would not ordinarily be in support of industrial usage in such a rural setting.

FUL/MAL/09/00054 Bay Lodge, 1 Newport Avenue, Cold Norton. Single storey garage with WC, store and loft room. Week No.5 dated 30th January 2009:

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:

- It is outside the village development boundary and therefore contravenes local plan policy S2
- The vast scale of the proposed development – the application is requesting permission for a building that is too large for this site

FUL/MAL/09/00068 Stow Garage, The Street, Stow Maries. Demolish bungalow and light industrial units, construct new access roads and erect new business units (Class B1) including replacement buildings for existing uses on site. Layout car parking and landscaping. Week No.6 dated 6th February 2009:

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:

- The size of the proposed development – inappropriate within a protection area
- This is an unsuitable location for a commercial development of this scale within a rural location (contravenes policy CC6 –landscape protection)
- The resulting increase in traffic, not only in Stow Maries, but also through neighbouring villages, which will ensue from a development of this size and nature.

FUL/MAL/09/00082 22 Howe Green Road, Purleigh. Proposed single storey rear extension. Week No.6 dated 6th February 2009:

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

FUL/MAL/09/00088 Barn Lea, Lower Burnham Road. Extend existing manege at rear of property. Week No.8 dated 20th February 2009:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the works proposed within the above application, subject to:

- no lighting being installed
- no structures being erected
- no burning of stable refuse

TPO/MAL/09/00107 22 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton. TPO 15/96: T40 Oak – lift crown by removing lowest south facing limb, thin crown by removal of dead, diseased and damaged limbs; T41 Ash – pollard tree to 6m; T42 Hawthorn – crown clean, removing dead or diseased wood. Week No.7 dated 13th February 2009:

Cold Norton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the works proposed to the trees as contained within the above application, providing they are carried out under the supervision of Maldon District Council's Tree Officer.

500. **Planning Appeal: Pale Pitt Farm, Latchingdon Road, Purleigh. Application ref: LDE/MAL/08/00946; Appeal Ref: APP/X/1545/08/2087512:** Claim for a Certificate of Lawful development for an excising operation i.e. mobile barn. Inquiry is due to be held on 10th March 2009 at 10am at Maldon United Reformed Church, Market Hill, Maldon. Noted by Members.

501. **Affordable Housing - Housing Needs Survey:** Members requested this be included on agenda for the next PC meeting. **ACTION: CLERK**

502. **Planning Discussion Session with Stow Maries PC and MDC Planning Department.** Members were advised that possible dates will be e-mailed to them **ACTION: CLERK**

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

503. Highways Schedule

Pram ramps at bridge/tree by bridge: awaiting update re meeting with Highways

Shared VAS sign – has now been installed

Overgrowing vegetation from bridge to Junction Road – awaiting update re meeting with Highways

School No parking/waiting signs and road markings: awaiting update re meeting with Highways

Water on Latchingdon Road near No.46 – Mr Guppy has spoken to both water companies and Highways who are now investigating.

Flooding along footpath behind Latchingdon Road – Members were advised that Mr Guppy has been speaking to Highways about this problem which is also flooding a neighbouring property. MDC's environmental officer is also investigating. Clerk to discuss the problem/history re this footpath (FP28) with Professor Barclay and write to ECC re the resident's problem. **ACTION: CLERK**

Signage, tripping hazards, overhanging vegetation and worn out pavements/footways. Awaiting update re meeting with Highways.

504. **ECC questionnaire re communication, customer care and accessibility re highways personnel:** Members who have had direct contact to complete and return to Clerk for responses to be 'averaged' and returned to ECC.
**ACTION: MEMBERS/
CLERK**

VILLAGE HALL

505. **Report from Parish Council Representatives:** not available
506. **Village Hall Project:** Mr Wakeling updated Members and advised that terms of conditions had been received regarding the Architect, Surveyor and Engineer – Mr Wakeling and Mr Guppy had reviewed these and Mr Wakeling recommended that the Parish Council agree to these standard terms. The Parish Council agreed. Mrs Gold duly signed the agreement. Clerk was requested to return this signed document and respond accordingly to the Architect, Surveyor and Engineer.
ACTION: CLERK
- Mr Wakeling advised that he would be investigating the condition of the access road whilst works to the hall were ongoing.
ACTION: MR WAKELING
- Clerk passed to Mr Wakeling copy of a letter received on 2nd March from the Solicitors re deeds etc and land registration.
**ACTION: MR WAKELING/
CLERK**

VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

507. Playground fencing knocked down earlier this month – Mrs Edwards met with the police and the crime was logged reference No.C425A-02440-08. Members were also advised that Pre School informed the Clerk on 26th February that some of the fencing around the enclosed area was down again and slats removed from the boat (Clerk e-mailed police and the caretaker was asked to repair).
508. Monthly Police report for February was e-mailed to Members 3rd March 2009.
509. Members were advised of "Watch This Space" – event on Tuesday 31st March 1pm to 4pm at Maldon Town Hall. No one available to attend.
510. Members were advised that a resident from the lower end of Cherry Blossom Lane advised the Clerk on 2nd March that the fencing in the field at the back of her sheds has been cut probably with wire cutters, plus empty whisky bottles in the vicinity – Clerk has asked the Caretaker to look at on his next visit.
511. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** District Councillor Mr Archer advised that MDC had set the budget with only a 2.19% increase – the lowest in Essex.

OPEN SPACES

512. **Village Caretaker work** – report for February:
- I continue to clear round the playground and car park area by the village hall.
- In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area and tend to the roses, and I have replaced the bark mulch.
- Further to our telephone conversation I shall continue to monitor the graffiti on the village hall.
- Further to your e mail sent: 26 February 2009 I shall again repair the playground fence and boat toy. I also noted that one of the picnic tables has been forcibly removed and shoved into the thicket.

I hope to be able to repair the safety mat as soon as the weather improves.

The play ground graffiti is an ongoing problem and I will continue removing it as it is reported. Broken bottles on the playing field and in the fenced play area also seem to be an ongoing problem.

- 513. **Essex Youth Bus:** Members were advised that this will be in village hall car park on Saturday 21st March 11am to 1pm to coincide with a village hall table top sale.
- 514. **Trees outside village hall:** Members were advised that Mr Dixon has kindly offered to 'transplant' the cherry tree outside the kitchen window to the copse.
- 515. **Essex Tree Initiative:** Clerk advised that unfortunately all the trees have now been allocated.
- 516. **Allotments:** Clerk confirmed that MDC has been advised of the Parish Council's Solicitors details to arrange the transfer. Clerk had advised Members that due to this impending transfer the subject of the Parish Council's request for a TPO to be assigned to the tree at the back of the allotments was raised again with MDC's Tree Officer, who advised that only emergency TPO's are being served at the moment, but that this one is one of the more urgent 'non-emergency' ones and will be served in due course - It is MDC's policy to only serve an order where there is an immediate threat to a tree.
- 517. **Parish Inspection:** last inspection: Friday 20th February 2009 – awaiting results.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 518. Members were advised that Mrs Nicky Coleman is now the PRoW for this area.
- 519. **Ferris Avenue Path:** Members (except Professor Barclay and Mr Litscher) were supplied with path usage forms to complete if applicable. Clerk updated Members re conversations with Essex CC Legal Services regarding the paperwork/notices to homes along the route. **ACTION: MEMBERS/ CLERK**
- 520. **Footpath 20:** Boardwalk being installed and should be completed this week
- 521. **Footpaths 23 and 24:** Way marking and clearing work – now scheduled for Friday 20th March.
- 522. **Footpath 24:** Mr Hawes had advised that the fingerpost for this footpath is down at Kitts Hill, but that he will organise for it to be re-erected. Re the reinstating of the footpath Mr Archer offered to contact the landowner. **ACTION: MR ARCHER/ MR HAWES**
- 523. **Footpath 28:** Clerk updated Members following discussion with PRoW. Clerk to pursue as per minute No.503. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 524. **P3 Training Sessions:** Members were updated on the courses attended by Professor Barclay and Mr Hawes.
- 525. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE:** Members were advised that MAIA will continue to operate this site. Clerk to forward all necessary reports for sections already in place. New sections will be added re FOI requirements. Clerk was requested to discuss with other clerks. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 526. **EMERGENCY PLANNING/PROCEDURES:** Clerk to obtain update. **ACTION: CLERK**

TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS.

527. **Maldon Town Council:** Members were supplied with details/booking forms for the Town Mayor's Charity Ball on 2nd May 2009 at Three Rivers

CORRESPONDENCE

528. **MDC letter dated 12th February 2009 from Simon Quelch, Monitoring Officer:** Members were supplied with a copy of this letter concerned with: *Declaration of Personal/Prejudicial interests*

529. **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.)
Clerk advised that a letter had been received from a gentleman interested in The Norton and will respond when information is received.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesday 1st April, 13th May, 3rd June, 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd December.

Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 6th May 2009

Annual General Meeting will be held prior to ordinary meeting scheduled for 13th May 2009

Chairman.....

Date.....