

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH MAY 2006, in the Committee Room of the Village Hall – commencing immediately after the Annual General Meeting

Prior to the meeting commencing Prof. Barclay had declared an interest in planning application TPO/MAL/06/00434 13 St. Stephens Road.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE had been received from Parish Councillors Mr. J. Archer and Mr. C. Litscher. The attendance list is the same as for the Annual General Meeting.

75. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 12th April 2006 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

FINANCE

Payments

76. Dave Bull village caretaker work invoice £230.24 (£229.12 net) Cheque No.387
77. Bradley Faulkner - grass cutting, invoice No.960 dated 22.4.06. £417.13 (£355 net) Cheque No. 388
78. Impact – support re council accounts. Invoice dated 15.4.06. £55 Cheque No. 389
79. William Dyer – delivery of notice leaflets to all homes in the village re APM and transport consultation £33 Cheque No. 390
80. Donation to St. Stephens Church PCC for providing refreshments and staff for APM £25 cheque No. 391.
81. e-on electricity April 06 inv.no.102466348 £39.10 (£37.24 net) direct debit 19.5.06
82. Maia services Ltd, website host fee for 24.3.05 to 23.3.07 £58.75 (£50 net) Cheque No. 392
83. M. Dyer office expenses £67.37 (£57.95 net) Cheque No.393
84. Ken Harmer Certificate for Mary Bryant invoice No 5 dated 3/5/06 £44.50 (£40 for certificate £4.50 for special delivery) Cheque No. 394

85. **Financial Statement**

Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1st May	£	121.30
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17th April	£	9,597.52
Abbey as at 1st May 2006	£	20,115.09
	£	29,833.91

86. **MDC** - remittance advice received re precept of £18,300 would be deposited in PC account by 24.4.06 (this did happen see above Abbey Account)
87. **BT invoices** – Clerk requested permission to switch to paying BT by direct debit sometimes meeting dates and invoice dates are such that the PC has incurred a £5 late payment charge. PC Members agreed. **ACTION: CLERK**
88. **Cold Norton PCC** – consideration for financial support. Clerk to ask PCC to submit new request re capital task. **ACTION: CLERK**
89. **Village Hall Kitchen** – PC Members had been advised that whilst grants had been received towards the refurbishment of the kitchen, at this point it appears that monies cannot be used towards non fixed appliances, and to note that contributions for these may have to be requested from the PC and VHMC. Members noted this – to be discussed further if the need arises.

PLANNING

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

AGR/MAL/06/00412 Cold Norton
Replacement Agricultural Building used for Storage of Agricultural Plant and Machinery.
Wild Farm Lower Burnham Road Purleigh Essex
(UPRN – 100091650684)
Mr N Murray

PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED

FUL/MAL/06/00301 Cold Norton
Replacement Front Boundary Fence.
22 Station Crescent Cold Norton Maldon CM3 6HY
(UPRN - 100090555859)
M Bowkett **APPROVED**

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

AGR/MAL/06/00412 Wild Farm, Lower Burnham Road, Purleigh. Replacement agricultural building used for storage of agricultural plant and machinery. Weekly list 15 dated 12th April 2006. No plans – for information only, no response required. Apologies, with an earlier AGR case members had advised they still wish to see all AGR plans.

TPO/MAL/06/00434 13 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton. Fell tree to ground level and treat stump (TPO/8/96). Week No. 15 dated 12th April 2006:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposed works contained in the above application to be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should REFUSE CONSENT. The Parish Council strongly objects to the felling of this tree because:

- These trees, of which this is one, are defining characters in the road
- The Parish Council believes that the tree just needs to be managed and not felled. Other oak trees in the area have been successfully managed by selective lopping
- As support to its objection the Parish Council would like to cite the precedent recently set by an appeal which disallowed the felling two oak trees in St. Stephens Road

FUL/MAL/06/00291 Land at Hockley Farm proposed wind farm Hockley Lane, Bradwell on Sea, Southminster. Construct wind farm comprising of 10 turbines of maximum 121m to blade tip height, sub station building, anemometer mast and ancillary infrastructure. Week No. 13 dated 30th March 2006:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposed development in the above application to be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should REFUSE CONSENT. Reasons are as follows:

- The proposed wind farm would be visually intrusive on one of the last remaining undeveloped and attractive sections of the Essex coastline, adversely affecting the tranquillity and natural beauty of the area
- 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
- The adverse effect the wind farm would have on the thriving wild life in the area, causing species to be lost from the Dengie area, long known for its varied and abundant wildlife
- Wind farms, which are not cost effective and are ineffective at generating power, would have a major negative effect on the human population and natural environment
- The area should not be perceived as a 'dumping ground' now that Bradwell Power Station has been decommissioned

FUL/MAL/05/00486 58 Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton. Single storey side extension and alterations (renewal of planning permission FUL/MAL/01/00396). Week no. 17 dated 28th April 2006:

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.

92. Sherae – Clerk to speak to MDC Planning regarding scaffolding **ACTION: CLERK**

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

93. Pedestrian Crossing

Report received from Mike Ager: an order has been placed with the new contractor for finishing off the works for the crossing. This includes providing the high friction surfacing and the white lining. We will not commission the crossing however until the VAS signage is in place, which I expect to be operational sometime at the end of May. Also the Road safety officer is pencilled in to visit the school as soon as the crossing is operational to 'teach' the children/parents how to use a zebra crossing.

94. Highways Schedule

Siding back to Country Produce

Station Road entrance onto Latchingdon Road

Pram ramps at bridge

Drain outside school

New Farm overhanging footway

Drain at corner of The Fairways

Clerk had received no up to date information for the meeting regarding the above. Clerk to chase

ACTION: CLERK

Water on Latchingdon Road – Highways had advised they are still awaiting report from Flowline and the Water Board.

95. **Public Transport Consultation** - Clerk had advised 39 people had attended the consultation 17 male and 22 female with a good spread across the age profiles and with/without a car. The report should be available in few weeks

96. **Widening of footway east of Railway Bridge** – at the APM District Councillor Mead had spoken about his proposal to install a footway on the south side of Latchingdon Road. Members were reminded by Prof. Barclay that feasibility research done three years ago had shown that this is not possible as some homes/gardens are too close to the road. Clerk to write to Mr. Mead about this and again stress the need for the siding back to the north side to be carried out urgently.

ACTION: CLERK

97. **Parking in St. Stephens Road** – this was brought up again at the request of a resident, directed towards parents dropping off/collecting children from the school and causing dangerous/inconvenient situations not only to residents, but also to the children. Clerk to raise this again with the school (who have already sent numerous letters to parents), the police (for spot checks again) and to highways. Additionally, once the zebra crossing is operational the school will be asked to put into practice the 'Safer Journeys to School Programme, whereby parents will be directed to park at the village hall and walk the children to school using the new crossing.

ACTION: CLERK

VILLAGE HALL

98. **Report from Parish Council Representatives** – nothing to report as there has not been a VHMC meeting since March

99. Village Hall Project

In regards to the grant offered by the Essex Environment Trust the following resolution was passed

'The Parish Council Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been awarded funding from Essex Environment Trust toward the Village Hall kitchen. Accordingly it was resolved to enter into the deed with the Essex Environment Trust in the form before the meeting and to authorise the Clerk to execute the deed on behalf of the Parish Council, and to agree any minor amendments which may be necessary and to execute any supplementary deeds or documents required by the deed.'

Mrs. Gold then witnessed Mrs Dyer, in her role as Clerk, sign the two copies of the deeds supplied by EET. Deeds and notification that the resolution was passed to be sent to EET.

ACTION: CLERK

Community Initiatives Fund – Members had been circulated details of the grant from this fund. Members expressed their thanks to Mrs Mary Bryant for her work in applying for this grant. Clerk to write to Lord Hanningfield.

ACTION: CLERK

100. VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

Members were advised that trees have been damaged on the playing field. It was agreed to replace them in the autumn. Clerk to advise village caretaker.

ACTION: CLERK

101. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – not available

OPEN SPACES

102. Cowpiece Nature Reserve – members were advised that the oak tree is doing well and that the area is looking very pleasant with bluebells and primroses.

103. Playing Field – car boot sale: the meeting was closed to allow Paul Guppy, Chairman of the VHMC, to represent this fund raising idea, (as requested and agreed at the Annual Parish meeting held the previous week). During this discussion Mrs Allen went through the regulations which apply to car boot sales, the main stumbling block in this particular case being the fact that there should be separate entry and exit points, which the field does not have. Another point discussed was the fact that Cherry Blossom Lane is a residential road. Coupled with these points and other matters debated, plus those raised/discussed at the previous meeting (see minute No.34) it was a unanimous decision that a car boot sale could not be held on the playing field. It was suggested that local landowners should be approached to ascertain if a car boot sale may be held on one of their fields.

Playing Field - Saturday morning football practice: Members were advised of a change of coach from Mr Scott of The Fairways to Mr Price, who lives in SWF, but is coaching the same team. This session would cease after 13th May and recommence in the new season. Members noted the change and confirmed that the team may continue to practise in the field as at present.

ACTION: CLERK

104. 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 as weather permits

I have removed the broken goal post, and have completed renovating the fixed goal post.

I have commenced refurbishment and rubbing down the paint-work of the play equipment, and will be shortly be painting or preserving as necessary, whenever the weather is suitable.

I am sorry to report that the vandalism has returned this month. I have had to remove several pieces of wood smashed beyond repair, and remake some pieces in my workshops (please see attached photographs). The vandals have also uprooted and broken some saplings and removed tree stake and guards.

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

In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area, will preserve the bench wood this month and give the roses their seasonal attention.

I continue to inspect the triangle and pathway by the bridge and remove any litter.

I will proceed with the work on the notice boards and keep you informed regarding any need for access.

I will continue with my usual work for the Parish Council and await your approval to proceed with the Post and Rail job in the playground. Please let me know if there is any particular aspect of my work that the Parish Council wishes me to attend to.

Clerk to advise Mr. Bull that the post and rail to the field is not required **ACTION: CLERK**

105. Allotments – Mrs Garnham advised that work is progressing well

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

106. **Ferris Avenue Path** - eight completed forms returned to date.
107. **Footpath 14 (section across road from church)** - dog waste bin – suitable location still to be established
ACTION: CLERK
108. **Footpath 19** – no update available
ACTION: CLERK
109. **Footpath 20** - ownership details of field still being sought by Mr Archer. Members advised that this footpath is still very wet.
ACTION: MR. ARCHER
110. **Purleigh footpath 13** – awaiting confirmation that lower rail has been removed
111. **Footpath Map**
ACTION: MRS GARNHAM
112. **New bridleway** – Mr. Brown still to meet with landowners
ACTION: CLERK
113. **Golf course footpath (Footpath 13)** – awaiting update
ACTION: CLERK
114. **Rear of Church Footpaths 14 and 19** – awaiting date for installation
ACTION: CLERK
115. **Footpath 15** – awaiting date for work to commence
ACTION: CLERK
116. **Footpath 14** – an alteration of this was discussed. Clerk to follow up with landowner
ACTION: CLERK
117. **The Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3)** - Clerk to speak to the department running this scheme
ACTION: CLERK
118. **Land Registry – voluntary first registration of CNPC landholdings** **ACTION: CLERK**
119. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE** – Members had been advised that the operator is now in a position to update the site – this will be done at no charge to the Parish Council for all materials resubmitted before the end of the month. However, from June there will be a charge, namely, £7.50 per month to have the minutes and Beacon report put onto the web site; there will be an additional £7.50 per name change etc made on the site. The operator has advised that if the changes/additions are not made within three working days there will no charge. These charges will be in addition to the website host fee – see minute No. 82. Clerk to obtain alternative quotes.
ACTION: CLERK
120. **Freedom of Information** – Clerk to supply further copy of the model for publication to Prof. Barclay to review before it is put onto the web site.
ACTION: CLERK
ACTION: PROF. BARCLAY
121. **Files/Documents to Archive/ Retain/Destroy**
ACTION: MRS GARNHAM
ACTION: PROF. BARCLAY

CORRESPONDENCE

122. **Chelmsford Borough's Local Development Framework** - noted
123. **Campaign to Protect Rural England – workshop 5th October details and events in Essex**
– no one able to attend
124. **Essex NHS Notification of Strategic Health Authority Board Meeting** - noted
125. **Society of Local Council Clerks Talk re playing fields 16th June £11** – Members authorised Clerk to attend (Cheque No. 397 signed after meeting)
126. **Hanningfield Awards 2006** – members requested Clerk pass this onto the leader of The Rangers
ACTION: CLERK
127. **Local Authority Bye Laws in England - a discussion paper.** As only one copy of the document had been supplied it was agreed that Prof. Barclay would read this discussion paper and convey any comments to the government department before June.

128. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - Mrs Garnham commented on the lack of younger people at the APM.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2006: Wednesday 7th June, 5th July, 2nd August, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, and 6th December.

Chairman.....

Date.....