

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY 2007, in the Committee Room of the Village Hall – commencing immediately after the Annual General Meeting

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE had been received from District Councillor Mr. J. Sears. The attendance list is the same as for the Annual General Meeting.

74. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Thursday 12th April 2007 and **MINUTES OF TWO EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS** held on Tuesday 3rd April 2007 and Wednesday 18th April 2007 were all approved as correct and signed accordingly.

FINANCE

Payments

75. Dave Bull general village caretaker work invoice No. 48 dated 02.05.07 £155.25 (23 hours which includes refitting swings and securing sinking young children's play area) Cheque No 551
76. Dave Bull Materials (padlocks and security chain) Invoice No.49 dated 02.05.07 £12.93 (£11 net) Cheque No. 551
77. MAIA Services for updating two pages on the web site (approved minutes for March and report from April meeting) Invoice no. 290407-1 dated 29.04.07 £17.62 (£15 net) Cheque No, 552
78. Winstonmead (1 x colour & 1 x black ink cartridge and box of paper) Invoice No.1/IB9607 dated 16.04.07 £30.77 (£26.19 net) Cheque No. 553
79. Winstonmead (3 x black ink cartridges - first delivery incomplete) Invoice No. 1/IC0771 dated 26.04.07 £28.16 (£23.97) Cheque No. 553
80. Wicksteed Leisure Limited (fitments reference swings) Invoice No. 71815 dated 13.04.07 £160.63 (£136.71 net) (NB Cheque No 465 made out to Wicksteed never used/voided - ref minute 413 December 2006) Cheque. No. 554
81. Essex Digital Copiers (repair to photocopier plus 1 toner used in photocopier that was loaned to Clerk during repair period) £152.10 (129.45 net) Cheque. No. 555
82. Bradley Faulkner – grass cutting in April Invoice No. 1251 dated 22.04.07 £264.38 (£225 net) Cheque No. 556
83. Cold Norton PCC for providing refreshments at APM £25 Cheque No. 557
84. EALC Affiliation Fee 2007/8 £235.56 (of which £41.63 is payable to the National Association of Local Councils) Cheque No. 558
85. EALC for new councillor pack for Mrs McDonald £7.50 – amount approved awaiting invoice to pay against.
86. E-on Energy: street lighting for April 2007 invoice no. 14107195 dated 03.05.07 direct debit will be processed 24.05.07 £39.10 (£37.24)
87. M. Dyer office expenses £29.58 Cheque No. 559
88. William Dyer Delivery of APM 2007 notification leaflets £36 Cheque No. 560
89. Allianz Cornhill Insurance renewal A/C No. 11/61951 Policy No. AC/5772 £978.73 Cheque No. 561

90. Financial Statement

Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1st April	£	125.38
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17th April	£	3,123.76
Abbey as at 1st May 2007	£	21,901.16 (includes precept)
	£	25,150.30

91. **Audit Commission** – have confirmed Lubbock Fine as auditor to the PC for the financial year 2006/7
92. **Mrs Karen Daniels** did not present cheque No. 412 for payment reference delivery of Police questionnaires undertaken by her son - this is now out of date – replacement cheque No 500 presented for signatures at meeting
93. **Scrolls for retiring PC Members** – estimated cost, based on similar amount of words as required in past, each scroll will cost £47.50, lead time circa 3 weeks. Wording to be agreed then Clerk to place order
ACTION: CLERK

PLANNING

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

TPO/MAL/07/00284 Cold Norton

Tree numbers as per diagram supplied. T1- Remove deadwood. T2 - Thin crown by removing one in 3 regrowth shoots, remove deadwood and clean crown. TPO 15/96
30 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Chelmsford Essex
(UPRN - 100090555820)
Mrs C Edwards **APPROVED**

TPO/MAL/07/00286 Cold Norton

Numbering as per sketch plan. T1 Oak - Reduce lateral limb towards house by removing 2 lower regrowth limbs and tidy remainder by removing 1 in 3 regrowth shoots. Thin crown by 1 in 3 or 2 in 5 regrowth shoots. Remove deadwood. T2 Oak - Clean crown by removal of epicormic growth. Remove deadwood. TPO 15/96 (T1 _ T35, T2 _ T36)
Elber 28 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Chelmsford
(UPRN - 100090555817)
Mrs Collins **APPROVED**

FUL/MAL/07/00287 Cold Norton

Conservatory
19 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Essex CM3 6JE
(UPRN - 100090555808)
Mr and Mrs C. Edmonds **APPROVED**

95. **Planning Application received by the Parish Council** – the following was considered and response was as indicated:

FUL/MAL/07/00412 1 & 2 White Acres, Crown Road, Cold Norton. Demolish existing two dwellings and build one new five bed and one new four bed dwelling (resubmission of FUL/MAL/07/00084) Week No 17 dated 27th April 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:

- The proposed development is contrary to both Cold Norton Parish Council's and Maldon District Council's policy
- It is outside the village development boundary

96. **Planning Appeal Palepit Farm application No.FUL/MAL/07/00027** – any further comments need to be with the Inspectorate by 11th May 2007. Councillors advised that no further comments needed to be added to those already submitted to the Inspectorate.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

97. **Pedestrian Crossing/VAS Signs** - Site visit made by manufacture and highways representative on 17th April re VAS signs. Manufacturer still to return and fit modified parts to VAS signs

98. Highways Schedule

Pram ramps at bridge - Scheduled to be carried out in first quarter of new financial year

Drain at top of Station Crescent – to direct water into drain the kerb line outside No.9 is to be altered. Job has been issued to contractor

Drain opposite coal yard –. Highways organising for contractor to return and carry out this work

Subsidence at sides of St. Stephens Road – Scheduled for new financial year. Meanwhile signs advising uneven road surface have been erected.

New signs Farnbridge Road/St. Stephens Road. Meeting to be arranged to investigate this again.

Overgrowing vegetation on footways between Cold Norton and Stow Maries. Awaiting confirmation that work has been carried out.

Potholes on bridge - Have been rectified

St. Stephens Road drains outside school and one opposite No.7 – have now been jetted, but Members advised that the problem is occurring again

Manhole cover between 10 and 12 St. Stephens Road is raised – Job has been issued to contractor re this and uneven section outside school identified at recent site meeting.

Signs on road outside school have faded/Traffic regulation orders on all the schools in the Maldon area/ order for the School Keep Clear - Matter is in hand, but will not be progressed for a couple of months.

40 mph speed limit between Stow Maries and Cold Norton as raised at APM – Clerk to contact Highways to discuss further.

VILLAGE HALL

99. Report from Parish Council Representatives – VHMC still without a Chairman, but two people came forward to job share the role of booking clerk. Fund raising train event on 16/17 June

100. Village Hall Project – grant application to Lottery Fund has been submitted, response to first stage expected in October 2007.

101. VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS: PCSO confirmed he had received details of mindless vandalism to measures put in place to prevent usage of play area for younger children due to sinking – he will visit site. PCSO Butler advised details of distraction burglary ongoing in this area and requested warning is put in the village magazine; visits still being made to village with speed gun; scrap metal thieves operating on the area – local businesses have been advised to securely lock up their sites

102. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Mr Archer advised statutory annual meeting taking place for next week and Splash Park is now open.

OPEN SPACES

103. Cowpiece Nature Reserve – Clerk to chase up request made to Volunteer Service re use of Bradwell team to erect fencing. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 104. Playing Field:** North Fambridge Youth Football Club had provided the Members with an update regarding the future of their club and possible use of the playing field. Members acknowledged contents of letter and will consider the request should the club's first option fall through. Clerk to advise Club accordingly.
ACTION: CLERK
Play equipment in youngsters section – Clerk had already advised Members that it is sinking and is now closed off, but warning tape etc keeps being removed. At meeting Members were also advised that additionally Pre School contacted Clerk to advise that all the 'warning tape had now been removed together with the 'Do Not Enter' sign the caretaker had made, plus the gate still with padlock has been 'opened'. Clerk had then notified PCSO Butler by e-mail (see minute No. 101). It was suggested that Steve Krolzig at MDC may be able to help with this problem and to contact insurance company re subsidence cover for this site.
ACTION: CLERK
- 105. 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 have closed the children's enclosed play area until we can determine why some of the apparatus appears to be sinking, the gates have been padlocked and notices posted.
- I am pleased to report that there has little damage since my last report – minor damage to the boat toy and steps on the climbing frame.
- Further to the report on the playground and equipment I continue to take steps to comply with its findings. I have started on the replacement and refurbishment of the swings.
- I continue replacing the small trees in the playing field that were vandalised in the early spring – using seedling trees from the nature reserve.
- In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area and to carry out seasonal care of the roses.
- I continue to inspect the triangle and pathway by the bridge and remove any litter.
- There has been further dumping of rubbish bags and rubbish in the village hall car park which I have tidied up and placed in the bin and there has been dumping of domestic rubbish at the nature reserve.
- I will aim to carry out the basic duties of my post within the 5 hours/week now allocated, but where there are additional duties such as repair after vandalism or exceptional seasonal work I will consult you before completing the works and will then submit additional invoices as appropriate. 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.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 106. Footpath 8:** Members noted details of fresh obstruction as advised by The Ramblers Association
- 107. Footpath 13 (Golf Course):** Style of gate still to be agreed with golf club. To speed up this matter Mr. Archer offered to arrange a meeting with the Golf Club Manager and the PRoW Officer.
- 108. Footpath 14:** Possible rerouting - alternative approach still to be broached with landowner. Dog fouling on this footpath continues to be a major problem – reports/complaints now received, via PRoW Officer, from The Ramblers Association and contractor carrying out cutting in the village (contractors also reported fouling in graveyard). PRoW Officer will supply copies of a booklet titled 'You and your dog in the Countryside'.
- 109. Footpath 15/New Bridleway:** Members noted article re the bridleway from May issue of The Burnham & Dengie Community /Times.
- 110. Footpath 19 (and 14):** Walkers had advised that they aren't using the gate at Church end as there is no fencing so they are just walking around it. PRoW Officer has spoken to the Landowner who will action when time permits.

111. **Footpath 20:** This path is again very wet even with all the dry weather. (Problem raised by The Ramblers Association) PRow Officer is looking at it again. Members suggested that the stile that was removed should be reinstated. Clerk to also ask PRow Officer to contact nearby landowner re this.
ACTION: CLERK
112. **Cutting Programme:** Footpaths have all been cut – second cut will be July/August. Re Cow Parsley in St. Stephens Road MDC is arranging for it only to be cut where it poses a safety/sight hazard i.e. sight lines at junctions and bends.
113. **Undefined Paths:** The Ramblers Association had advised a number of these in the early part of April, details were copied to the PC Footpaths Representative; the PRow Officer had contacted the landowners. Situation as advised and current situation as detailed below:
CN14e - not defined, cropped - to be defined although this path only goes to corner of field and no further.
CN16 - not defined, cropped. Way Mark down at 850989 - defined and way mark post re-erected.
CN23 - ploughed up to hedge line. No Way mark at 855991 - Narrow headland path, but walkable. Way marking still to be done.
CN24 - not defined, sown with corn - now defined
CN24 north - not defined, cultivated - still to be defined, but walkable
CN25/26 - New finger post at road, but no pathway established, sowed with rape. - informed as now defined, but unconfirmed.
114. **The Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3)/Footpath Map:** Meeting scheduled for 31st May.
115. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE:** possible changes to be discussed at a future meeting.
116. **Emergency Planning Book:** Clerk to contact Mrs Garnham **ACTION: CLERK**
117. **New Model Code of Conduct:** Members had been supplied with papers relating to this. Members to view code on line for discussion/adoption at a future meeting. Members were advised that the Council is required to adopt this within 6 months.

CORRESPONDENCE

118. **East of England Regional Assembly – Regional Gypsy & Traveller Public Engagement Event:** Clerk to liaise with Mr. Archer and Mr. Litscher re attendance. **ACTION: CLERK**
119. **CPRE May newsletter:** Members advised they do not wish to receive this direct, but copy as at present.
120. **RCCE Community led planning information events:** no one available to attend.
121. **EALC Freedom of Information Act & Data Protection workshop:** As no members are available to attend Clerk will attend
122. **Mid Essex PCT (PPI Officer):** reference request for feedback re local healthcare facilities Members requested Clerk advise dates of future PC meetings to the PPI Officer and put notice in The Beacon
123. **Disability Essex (Offering free blood pressure monitoring and stroke awareness to groups):** Clerk to look into further and then pass on information to groups as appropriate. **ACTION: CLERK**
124. **ECC Transport Information Day Tuesday 19th June 2 pm to 7 pm:** Clerk to liaise with Mr Archer and Mr Litscher re attendance. **ACTION: CLERK**

125. 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.)

Regarding the field opposite the village hall, Mr Archer offered to contact MDC Officer. Clerk to confirm next step re filling vacancy on Council. Regarding the subscription rate for The Beacon Mr Wakeling advised his disappointment that this has not been increased for many years. -Clerk to convey the PC's concerns to the PCC. Regarding parking/exiting at Country Produce (see minute No.27) Clerk to write re sign and bays. **ACTION: CLERK**

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2007: Wednesday 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November and 5th December.

Chairman.....

Date.....