

# COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2009 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

### THOSE PRESENT:

#### Councillors:

Mr. J. Archer  
Mr. P. Guppy (Chairman)  
Mr. C. Litscher  
Mrs. A. McDonald  
Mr. P. Wakeling  
**In attendance:** Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)  
Plus 3 members of the public

100. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Professor Barclay and Mrs G. Gold
101. **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** both held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

### FINANCE

#### Approval of Payments

102. Dave Bull general village caretaker work Invoice No. 81 dated 31.05.09 £145, plus repair to rubber matting under swings Invoice No. 83 dated 31.05.09 £72.50, plus various materials Invoice No. 82 dated 31.05.09 £50.95. Total £ 268.45 Cheque No.769
103. BF Ground Maintenance grass cutting for May 2009 Invoice No.1934 dated 26.05.09 £258.75 (£225 net) Cheque No. 770
104. BT Village Hall Payphone Invoice NO.Q0350B dated 13.05.09 £39.17 (£ 34.06 net) Cheque No.771
105. Ramblers Membership renewal to May 2010 £36 Cheque No.772
106. JP Chick & Partners Limited ref village hall extension to site inspections, investigation work and preparation of structural design calculations and drawings. Approved subject to error in narrative being corrected – new invoice No. 10002661 dated 31.05.09 £7403.70 (£6,438 net) Cheque No.779
107. Clearwater Environmental Limited to carrying out a type 3 survey (Asbestos) at the village hall Invoice No.2171 dated 30.04.09 £920 (£800 net) Cheque No.773.
108. Maria Dyer office expenses £21.50 Cheque No.774
109. Johns Slater and Haward to fee for design stage duties and production of contract documentation Invoice No.5634 dated 29.05.09 £2990 (£2600 net) Cheque No. 775

#### 110. Financial Statement

##### Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2009	£	135.21
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2009	£	396.01
Abbey as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2009	£	<u>27,072.35</u>
	£	27,603.57

### PLANNING

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

**FUL/MAL/09/00203**      **Cold Norton**  
Demolition of existing dwelling and proposed replacement dwelling  
Blue House Farm Hagg Hill Cold Norton Essex  
(UPRN - 100091256733)  
John Campbell      **REFUSED**

**FUL/MAL/09/00238 Cold Norton**  
Renovation of Building 15 for use as visitor centre & museum including re-roofing  
The Aerodrome Hackmans Lane Purleigh Essex  
(UPRN - 010013996794)  
Stow Maries Aerodrome **APPROVED**

112. **Planning Applications received by the Parish Council** – none to consider
113. **Town & Country Planning Act 1990. Planning Appeal: Little Canneys, Stow Road, Purleigh. Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/C/09/2095049 Enforcement Ref No.ENF/1312/44/08.** Members were advised that if the PC wishes to reiterate, modify or withdraw any comments previously made details have to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate before 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009: Members advised no further correspondence to be sent.
114. **Planning Application FUL/MAL/09/00326 10 The Fairways, Cold Norton** – e-mail received from a resident regarding the Parish Council's opinion of this application (considered at May meeting). This was forwarded to members together with a copy of the CNPC letter sent to MDC re this application, plus details of the previous application the Clerk believes the gentleman is referring to. Clerk had also obtained from MDC a copy of the 1986 change of use planning permission (decision/conditions) for the railway line area which was read out at meeting. Noted – no action required.
115. **Housing Survey:** Members were advised that questionnaires/letters/return envelopes should be delivered to Clerk on 12<sup>th</sup> June which will then be distributed requesting a completion/return date of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009.
116. **Bardwells Yard** – query from a village resident re operating times at this site (as advised in minute No. 98) – Clerk received an e-mail from the Enforcement Officer at MDC on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009 which said: *“I have carried out a thorough check of the planning history for this site and can advise you that there are no planning conditions restricting when the businesses may operate.”* Clerk to advise the resident accordingly. **ACTION: CLERK**

#### **HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY**

117. **Highways Schedule**
- Pram ramps at bridge: awaiting update from highways
- Overgrowing vegetation from bridge to Junction Road – on Highways schedule will be cut back after nesting season
- Flooding along footpath behind Latchingdon Road – in hand with Highways
- Various: signage, tripping hazards, overhanging vegetation and worn out pavements/footways – all reported to highways – awaiting update
- VAS Sign opposite Three Rivers (reported not working) – response from Highways on 19<sup>th</sup> May: *“This sign is due to be moved from its current location next week (NB this did happen) however I have asked our supplier to check whether sign is faulty or if vegetation is causing a problem. If this is the case it may be necessary to try and find an alternative location however it proved difficult in the first place to find a location that met all the necessary criteria. I will update you once I hear back from the engineer.”*

#### **VILLAGE HALL**

118. **Report from Parish Council Representatives:** no report - Members were advised that the last VHMC meeting was on 12<sup>th</sup> May and that the next is scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> June.
119. **Village Hall Project:** Mr Wakeling updated Members. VHMC transferring the £3,000 Garfield Weston Grant money to the PC **ACTION: CLERK**

## VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

120. Graffiti at back of hall/on playground – ongoing problem being removed as it appears.
121. Fencing on side of field awaiting repair.
122. Graffiti on hoarding on site of Old Fire Station: Mr Litscher has spoken to land owner - awaiting removal.
123. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** District Councillor John Archer advised that he had spoken to The Chief Inspector of Police regarding ongoing vandalism to the play equipment, that budgetary considerations at MDC were still ongoing, that the music festival Brownstock would be taking place and that local farmers were opposing proposed flights to/from Stow Maries Air Field.

## OPEN SPACES

124. **Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** clearing/new bridge/water sign **ACTION: MR LITSCHER/ CLERK**
125. **Playing Field:** Tiling around swings – had been done, but has since been damaged/reported to the Police. In hand with Caretaker: hole by hard standing and work on sandpit. MDC installing dog fouling notices this month. E-mail dated 1<sup>st</sup> June circulated to all Members from Pre School re Children's Enclosed Play Area/damage/vandalism – Mr Guppy and Mr Archer speaking to the Police, Mr Guppy to meet with Caretaker.
126. **Village Caretaker work** – report for May:
- In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area and tend to the roses. I shall replace the dead roses this week.
- I continue to keep the Cow Piece Nature Reserve clean and tidy, keeping fixed furniture items in good repair. I shall give it a summer overhaul in time for the school holidays.
- I continue to clear round the playground and car park area by the village hall. Further to our telephone conversation I shall continue to monitor the graffiti on the village hall and playground.
- A mature tree in the car park has been vandalised and the playground fence is still being damaged. I would strongly recommend that it be replaced with a metal fence or railings.
- Further to your emails the parts of the boat toy that I had repaired with plywood have been damaged again, I have removed the broken parts to my workshop for repair or replacement.
- I have completed the repairs to the rubber matting under the swings; the council will be pleased to hear that these were much easier than I thought they would be, so the final cost is much less than set out in my original estimate.
- I have started to convert the sandpit into a play shelter as per our telephone conversation and hope to be finished later this week. 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. I have found the picnic table, so I will now fit the new fixing posts.
127. **Essex Youth Bus:** Three trial sessions took place on: 29<sup>th</sup> April, 13<sup>th</sup> May and 27 May 6 – 9pm. Awaiting update from Youth Workers re future sessions.
128. **Allotments:** Legal paperwork in hand
129. **Parish Inspection:** part of playing field was inspected prior to start of this meeting

## **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

130. **Footpath 13:** fingerpost has been knocked down – PRoW aware/ will be up righted ASAP
131. **Footpaths 23, 24 (NW Kitts Hill) 25 and 26:** Clerk to contact PRoW/landowner re reinstating of these footpaths and situation re fingerpost for FP23 which is too close to road for P3 rep to action  
**ACTION: CLERK**
132. **EMERGENCY PLANNING/PROCEDURES:** Members were advised that Mrs Garnham has prepared an article/request for supporters to go in the July issue of The Beacon

## **TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS.**

133. **Essex Wild Life Trust- Annual Members Day Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Great Wigborough (nr Colchester):** no one available to attend
134. **MDC Fly the Flag – Armed Forces Day Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 10am -** noted
135. **Sustainable Rural Communities Seminar Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009:** no one available to attend.
136. **Mid Essex PCT – Invitation to attend or host Summer Stakeholder Events/Healthcare Services in this area during June and July 2009:** not applicable
137. **EALC Half Yearly Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009 7.30 pm in Althorne:** no one available to attend
138. **Essex Playing Fields: Training Seminar on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009:** no one to attend this year - Clerk and Caretaker attended in 2007

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

139. **East Essex Transport Forum (Notification of wind up):** details supplied to all Members
140. **Parish Passenger Transport Representatives Meeting Maldon District:** Minutes from 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 meeting supplied to all Members. Members advised 'no view' re release of agenda and minutes from these meetings to the press.
141. **ECC Passenger Transport Spring 2009 Newsletter (re shelters and bus stops):** invitation to apply for new shelters, installation of seating, hard standing or shelters for school children waiting for buses. Members advised that they did not wish to apply.
142. **Maldon District Community Safety Partnership letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009 - Alcohol watch Scheme:** To assist with this scheme Clerk to forward copy of the letter to the Caretaker to request he reports back on the brands/bottles he finds in the playing field.  
**ACTION: CLERK**

**143. 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.)

Members were advised that some parents of Pre School age children are planning to ask for permission to have a 'camping trip' in the playing field for the night of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009 – Clerk to liaise with organiser.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:** Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Clerk advised that there will need to be an extraordinary meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June to approve the accounts after the internal auditor has been on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009.

Clerk is looking into a suitable venue for the PC meetings from September onwards whilst the hall is being extended.

Chairman.....

Date.....