

# COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2006 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

### THOSE PRESENT:

### Councillors:

Mrs. A. Allen  
Mrs. S. Garnham  
Mrs. G. Gold (Chairman)  
Mr. C. Litscher

**In attendance:** Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)  
Mr. L. Cooper (District Councillor)

185. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Parish Councillors Prof. Barclay, Mr Archer and Mr. Wakeling
186. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006 were approved as correct and signed accordingly

### FINANCE

#### Payments

187. Dave Bull village caretaker work invoices nos. 30/31 £263.25 Cheque No. 407
188. Bradley Faulkner - grass cutting, invoice No.1044 dated 26.6.06. £364.25 (£310 net) Cheque No. 408
189. e-on electricity June 06 inv.no.102590419 £39.10 (£37.24 net) direct debit 21.7.06
190. RCCE Subscription from 1st July 2006 to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007 £50 Cheque No. 409
191. ASAP Office Services Ltd. Invoice No.3825 dated 28.6.06 for Internal Audit £198.28 (net £168.75) Cheque No. 410.
192. Winstonmead stationery (paper, computer ink and photocopier toner) Invoice No 1/194195 £61.46 (net £52.31) Cheque No. 411
193. Alex Daniels for hand delivery of Police questionnaire to all homes £36. NB this cost plus cost of questionnaires posted to outlying homes is being paid for by the Police. Cheque No. 412.
194. M. Dyer office expenses £ 71.81 Cheque No. 413

#### 195. Financial Statement

##### Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 <sup>st</sup> July	£	121.30
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17th June	£	7,097.52
Abbey as at 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2006	£	<u>18,771.89</u>
	£	25,990.71

#### 196. Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2006

All items of the Audit Commission's statutory Annual Return were checked and all boxes completed accordingly. The chairman then duly signed sections 1 and 2. Clerk to now return the form to Lubbock Fine.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### PLANNING

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

**FUL/MAL/06/00486 Cold Norton**  
Single storey side extension and alterations (Renewal of planning permission FUL/MAL/01/00396)  
58 Latchingdon Road Cold Norton Essex CM3 6HT  
(UPRN - 100090555265)  
Mr I Croxon

**APPROVED**

**AGRPN/MAL/06/00598 Cold Norton**

Proposed replacement agricultural storage building -related determination AGR/MAL/06/00412  
Wild Farm Lower Burnham Road Latchingdon Essex  
(UPRN - 100091650684)  
Mr N Murray **APPROVED**

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

**TPO/MAL/06/00726 23 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton.** Fell ash tree and treat stump to inhibit regrowth (TPO/15/96) Week No. 24 dated 15<sup>th</sup> June 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 objects to the felling of this tree because:

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

**FUL/MAL/06/00750 Land at the rear of The Poppets, 30A Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton.**

Continuation of use of land as an extension to domestic garden. Week No. 25 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the proposal contained within the above planning application would not be harmful, providing that:

- no permanent structure is erected on the site

The recommendation is therefore that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application with above condition attached.

**FUL/MAL/06/00751 Stow Bullocks, Stow Road, Cold Norton.** Alterations to allow retention of garden wall and railings following appeal decision. Week No. 25 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006:

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

**FUL/MAL/06/00780 Thistledown, Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton.** Conversion of building into a dwelling Week No. 27 dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006:

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 reason for this recommendation is that:

- The proposed conversion is outside the village development envelope.

**TPO/MAL/06/00795 31 St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton.** Reduce crown of oak tree by 25%. Week No. 27 dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006:

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

## HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

199. **Pedestrian Crossing:** Now operational. At Annual Highways Liaison Meeting (AHLM) problem with vegetation noted, plus speed setting of VAS sign at Crown Road to be checked. Clerk advised that a resident close to the other VAS sign had advised that the sign does shine into their living room and that it seems to be activated by traffic travelling in the opposite direction.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**200. Highways Schedule**

Siding back to Country Produce - examined at AHLM still needs to be carried out.

Station Road entrance onto Latchingdon Road – dropped kerb and footway resurface to be carried out visited on AHLM, plus possible leak identified

Pram ramps at bridge – design is still with safety audit team for their report. Visited on AHLM

Drain outside school and drain at corner of The Fairways: jetting to be redone, discussed at AHLM.

Water on Latchingdon Road – Flowline report still awaited. Discussed at AHLM

Missing school sign – replacement now in place

Site meeting with highways – this took place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Schedule will be updated and circulated to all members ASAP

Drain opposite coal yard: had a mark around it for action, but this is now fading

**ACTION: CLERK**

**201. Public Transport Consultation:** Report has now been received and e-mailed to all members. Mrs Gold offered to pass a copy to Mrs Allen

**ACTION: MRS GOLD**

**202. Widening of footway east of Railway Bridge:** Discussed at the AHLM & would not appear to be possible due to the amount of work/budget required

**203. Locally Determined Programme 2006/2007 Maldon District:** photocopies of the charts were supplied to Members and the full colour version was made available at the meeting

**204. Temporary Road Closure – Farnbridge Road (Kitt's Hills) North Farnbridge:** for two weeks starting on 17<sup>th</sup> July. Map supplied to show diversion shown at meeting

**205. MDC – Highways and Transportation Service – Update:** supplied to all Members

**VILLAGE HALL**

**206. Report from Parish Council Representatives:** fund raiding going okay. Rubbish shed is being removed and a commercial bin will be purchased by VHMC, MDC will empty. A caravan is parked in the car park. Clerk to talk to Pre School .

**ACTION: CLERK**

**207. Village Hall Project:** Essex Environment Trust/Kitchen refurbishment - Clerk has now received back signed agreement, plus cards which must be submitted to EET when work commences and is completed, members were advised that work is still scheduled to commence 29<sup>th</sup> July. Members were also advised that free labour has been offered in respect of plastering and tiling in the kitchen.

**208. VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS**

Members were advised that Chelmsford PCCG Extraordinary Public Meeting will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July and that the next Police & Community Consultative Group Public Meeting will be on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Clerk was asked to forward latest vandalism in the playground photos to the police.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**209. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Mr Cooper advised that no decision has yet been made regarding merging the three area committees into two.

**OPEN SPACES**

**210. Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** Clerk to talk to the Village Caretaker regarding the bin and the clearing of the pond

**ACTION: CLERK**

**211. Playing Field:** Clerk had had phone calls from a resident in Latchingdon Road complaining about the trees from the playing field which hang over her garden and in the autumn will shed their leaves, which she and her husband are not able to cope with. Members will look at the trees, but cutting can't be considered until the autumn anyway because of nesting birds

**ACTION: ALL MEMBERS**

**212. 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 sad to report that the vandals have returned to the play area, I am carrying out repairs as needed. I have preserved both the benches in the play area with Teak Oil.

During my inspection of the Play Equipment I have noted that some of the fasteners and rivets are missing on the skate board ramps and I have ordered replacements, I shall also be dismantling an inspecting the swings and small slide.

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 will clear the pond as soon as it is safe to do so, bearing in mind the weather. Some of the furniture in the reserve needs refurbishing and I will remove it to my workshop to carry out repairs

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 have pruned the hedges and bushes by the village hall and reduced their height to below the windows

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

I have collected the keys for the notice boards and started work on the boards.

The 4 sacks of garden rubbish that were fly-tipped in the corner of the village hall car park have been removed and there has been no further tipping this month.

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.

Clerk confirmed receipt of a copy of new public liability certificate from Caretaker.

Members asked if Caretaker would tidy up the area near the traffic lights (pub side) and across from the bridge on left hand side.

**213. Allotments:** Members were advised that water should be put on in a couple of weeks.

**PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**214. Ferris Avenue Path:** number of forms returned to date has now reached nine

**215. Footpath 13 (Golf Course):** new pedestrian gate which will also allow access by their own vehicles being investigated by PRow

**216. Footpath 14:** no date yet for gate where 14 and 19 meet. Bin still to be found a site, Clerk to talk to Parochial Church Council.  
Mr Wakeling preparing sketch and notes for proposed rerouting. **ACTION: CLERK**  
**ACTION: MR. WAKELING**

**217. Footpath 15:** no date yet for handrail

**218. Footpath 19:** PRow has been advised by Clerk that path has been reseeded and that the land owner had put a length of string along to encourage walkers to stick to the path and flatten it. He offered to check it out

**219. Footpath 20:** Clerk had advised the PRow that the PC would like to approach P3 re help with draining this footpath or alternatively rerouting it, his response was: In relation to diverting the path, it is the landowner who would have to apply. As he is unknown, Notices would have to be put up for the landowner to contact the Parish! The law does say that one can justifiably walk round an obstruction of the path - in this particular case I can see no problem with people walking across the field. If some 'interested party' objected then this could maybe indicate the landowner's identity and whereabouts!!!

**220. Footpath 24:** PRow has spoken to landowner who will remark the path on the ground. Mr Archer had spoken to him also after last meeting and it was done, but it will be done again. Apparently it was due to be cut buy now, but they are a month behind.

- 221. **Footpath Map:** still to be discussed with P3 team
  
- 222. **New bridleway:** The Prow has spoken with the landowners except one as he was just going away on holiday. With the aid of a horse rider, the PRow cut back some of the area between Honeypot Lane and St Stephens Road (although it has since grown again). He has also spoken with County Hall who will approach the Bridleways Association to assist with cutting back. They did suggest this should not be done until August/September time due to nesting birds etc. Volunteers needed.
  
- 223. **The Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3):** Clerk still to liaise with P3  
**ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 224. **Land Registry** – voluntary first registration of CNPC landholdings **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 225. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE:** Clerk to supply updates as necessary **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 226. **Freedom of Information** **ACTION: PROF BARCLAY**
  
- 227. **Files/Documents to Archive/ Retain/Destroy** **ACTION: PROF BARCLAY  
MRS GARNHAM**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 228. **NHS Transmission Planning in Mid Essex - questionnaire re PCTs,** passed to Mrs Gold
  
- 229. **MDC Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004:** formal submission SC1 plus feedback form passed to Mrs Garnham.
  
- 230. **MDC Local Performance Plan 2006/7** - will be circulated. **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 231. **Maldon & District Council for voluntary Service:** re community transport. Members advised that they did not require a visit. Clerk to clarify letter. **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 232. **MDC - Essex CC Community Initiatives fund – Second Round 2006/7:** Clerk advised that forms/guidance notes had been received; the close date for applications is 10<sup>th</sup> November and judging panels will sit in the second half of January 2007
  
- 233. **MDC – Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation on Draft Statement of Licensing Principles:** Members requested information is passed to VHMC **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 234. **ECC – Essex Local Transport Plan 2006 to 2011** Letter supplied, plan will be circulated **ACTION: CLERK**
  
- 235. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – there was none

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2006: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November and 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Chairman..... Date.....