

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4th October 2006 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs. A. Allen
Mrs. S. Garnham
Mrs. G. Gold (Chairman)
In attendance: Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)

- 296 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Parish Councillors Professor Barclay, Mr. Archer, Mr. Litscher, Mr Wakeling and District Councillor Mr. Cooper
297. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 6th September 2006 were approved as correct and signed accordingly

FINANCE

Payments

298. Dave Bull village caretaker work invoice No.35 £189 Cheque No. 435
299. Dave Bull – materials invoice No. 36 £5.99 (£5.29 net) Cheque No. 435
300. Bradley Faulkner - grass cutting (Aug) invoice No.1106 dated 13.09.06. £135.13 (£115 net) Cheque No. 436
301. Bradley Faulkner – grass cutting (Sept) inv No.1121 dated 21.09.06 £470 (£400 net) Cheque No. 436
302. More Than Flowers - wreath for Mr How invoice dated 20.09.06 £25 Cheque No. 437
303. Romford Blinds & Shutters – shutter for village hall kitchen (will be reclaimed as part of grant) invoice No.48207 dated 19.09.06 £688.55 (£586 net) Cheques Nos. 433 and 434 (split payment)
304. Ron Laurie investigating Impact accounting system, installing & setting up upgraded version, plus providing guidance on system use £117.20 Cheque No.438 (NB whilst this is an unexpected cost the cheque for £55 sent to Impact for a year of telephone support as been returned uncashed due to the death of the company's owner)
305. MAIA Services for updating two pages on the web site (minutes for July & August and report from September meeting) Invoice no.280906-1 dated 28th September £17.62 (£15 net) Cheque No. 439
306. M. Dyer office expenses £24.31 Cheque No.440
307. Inland Revenue to 5th October 06 £30.27 Cheque No.441
308. **Lubbock Fine** requesting authorisation additional payment re extra work – Members requested Clerk challenge the request for extra payment **ACTION: CLERK**

309. Financial Statement

Current balances:

| | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 st September | £ | 121.30 |
| Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17th September | £ | 7,623.76 |
| Abbey as at 1 st September 2006 | £ | <u>17,248.14</u> |
| | £ | 24,993.20 |

PLANNING

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

FUL/MAL/06/00878 Cold Norton
Replacement of existing balcony to front with hipped roof
8 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Maldon Essex
(UPRN - 100090555795)
D & L Woodley

APPROVED

FUL/MAL/06/00901 Cold Norton
Single Storey Front Extension.
9 Ferris Avenue Cold Norton Maldon Essex
(UPRN – 100090554760)
Mr J C Spence **APPROVED**

FUL/MAL/06/00908 Cold Norton
Front and Rear Single Storey Extensions.
19 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Essex CM3 6JE
(UPRN - 100090555808)
Mr and Mrs Edmunds **APPROVED**

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

TPO/MAL/06/01112 Holly bush, 31A St. Stephens Road, Cold Norton. Crown lift Ash tree (T1) to 5 metres. Fell four Ash trees (T2 – T5) and replace with Field Maple and Silver Birch. Week No.38 dated 22nd September 2006:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that the works proposed in the above application would not be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application, subject to the four Ash trees being replaced with four reasonable sized trees i.e. the Parish Council Members would not like to see very young and therefore small, replacement trees being planted, which would mean that they would take some considerable time to develop into mature trees.

FUL/MAL/06/01106 Old Whitmans Farm, Hackmans lane, Purleigh. Construction of new dwelling. Week No. 39 dated 28th September 2006:

Cold Norton Parish Council considers that, whilst the work proposed in the above application is in an area outside the village development envelope, it would not be harmful and recommends that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application.

FUL/MAL/06/001150 Cold Norton Village Hall, Cherry Blossom Lane. Cold Norton. New meeting room, store and entrance. New children's toilets next to hall. Extension to existing meeting room. Adapt and slightly increase car park. Week No.40 dated 6th October 2006

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

Parish Council Members would like to advise Maldon District Council that they are very supportive of this application and are fully behind the committee steering the above expansion plans.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

- 312. Pedestrian Crossing**

Speed setting of VAS sign at Crown Road: there are still problems with this VAS sign, because of 'short vision' - special loops as per the bridge traffic lights may be needed. Highways are still reviewing best action to be taken.

Householder has been approached re vegetation obscuring Belisha beacon and will be attending to it shortly.

Highways is looking into the fact that the VAS sign outside 30d is also activated by traffic going in opposite direction to that to which it is supposed to monitor

Inoperative and twisted Belisha beacon on north side reported to Highways 27th September

Light above sign in St. Stephens Road warning of zebra: discussed with Highways – normally these types of light do not have shields as they are usually only 2 x 8 watt, Highways have suggested that it is probably not angled correctly, so will have it checked out.

313. Highways Schedule

Siding back to Country Produce - examined at AHLM still needs to be carried out. To be carried out as part of the PPV (Planned Parish Visit) will be reassessed and marked out next month. It was agreed that Mrs Allen and the Clerk would accompany the Highways representative on Wednesday 11th October to walk this and other possible PPV actions. **ACTION: MRS ALLEN/ CLERK**

Station Road entrance onto Latchingdon Road – dropped kerb and footway resurface to be carried out visited on AHLM - still no date yet for this work. Re possible leak at beginning of this road, Clerk advised that the hole where the leak appeared to be from has now been filled in. Clerk to check with nearby householder situation re this work which is within a private road. **ACTION: CLERK**

Pram ramps at bridge: Usual type of tactile paving cannot be used, alternative type being investigated – no decision made yet.

Drain outside school and drain at corner of The Fairways: jetting to be redone, discussed at AHLM. Have had confirmation that they are on the district drain clearing cycle list, which is part way through, this is scheduled to be finished by end of November, cannot advise exactly when these will be done. However, one Member advised that the drain crew had been sighted in Cold Norton.

Station Crescent drain/water problem from St. Stephens Road: The letter and plan received from a Station Crescent resident circulated with last month's agenda has been sent to Highways – awaiting a response re that and the PC's request for Highways to consider putting in another drain in St. Stephens Road. Will also be visited/discussed on 11th October.

Water on Latchingdon Road/near Bardwells Yard – reported to Essex & Suffolk Water by Highways. Report should be available from E & S Water in a few days.

Drain opposite coal yard: scheduled to be dug out in December.

Subsidence at sides of St. Stephens Rd - this will not be done this year; all resurfacing work is done in the spring/summer. It is however high up the list and when lists are reviewed for action starting next spring it is very probable it will be scheduled to be done early in the 'season'

Honeypot Lane resurfacing/recycling treatment – still awaiting confirmation that it is on the action list.

Missing/damaged road/street signs – Clerk now has contact name at MDC so these will be reported. Members also requested that Clerk ascertain if the St. Stephens Road, sign can be fixed as the current slot out type keeps being removed (but returned). **ACTION: CLERK**

New signs Farnbridge Road/St. Stephens Road – progress still to be advised

Highways have noticed that the 30/40mph near the bridge have been twisted - an order to rectify this has already been put in

VILLAGE HALL

314. **Report from Parish Council Representatives** – next VHM meeting scheduled for 11th October

315. **Village Hall Project:** kitchen refurbishment – matching cupboard for badminton equipment being investigated instead of metal one originally planned. Payments made re kitchen refurbishment being submitted to EET and CIF for reimbursement. 'Completion of work' card to be sent to EET when advised to do so by Village Hall Project Committee.

316. VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

Next Police & Community Consultative Group Public Meeting is on Tuesday 10th October 7.30 pm at King Edward Grammar School in Chelmsford. Mrs Allen will attend.

The Essex Police Authority will have 4 vacancies in 2007 for Independent Members; closing date is 27/10/06. Posters have been put up. Clerk to investigate if this could be advertised in the November issue of The Beacon if it will be delivered before the closing date. **ACTION: CLERK**

Clerk advised that prior to the meeting there had been a fire in the back of the playing field and that the fire brigade had to be called. A group of unknown children are suspected to have started the fire.

317. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – not available

OPEN SPACES

- 318. Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** Clerk still to investigate assistance form Countryside Agencies re fencing
- 319. Playing Field**
Trees overhanging garden of resident in Latchingdon Road Clerk trying to arrange meeting with resident to ascertain exactly which trees are involved, plus still awaiting confirmation re legal situation
Inspection report: contents being discussed with MDC. Comparison re MDC and ROSPA reports still to be made.
There are now two children's football clubs using the field at weekends. The 'Sunday' team have requested permission to put into the ground 'holes' for mobile goalposts. These holes are covered up, locked and apparently undetectable when not in use. Members agreed to this request.
Also the 'Sunday' team organiser has advised that grant funding may be available through the FA towards a pavilion. They are going to look into it further and advise the Clerk.
- 320. 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 are still frequenting the play area; I am carrying out repairs as needed.
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 and inspecting the swings and small slide. Further to the report on the playground and equipment I shall take steps to comply with its findings.
I shall be replacing the small trees in the playing field that were vandalised in the early spring.
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.
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 continue to inspect the triangle and pathway by the bridge and remove any litter.
There has been no further fly tipping this month in the village hall car park.
- 321. Allotments:** water is now on site. Shed is in use. Land has now been sectioned into workable plots. There were originally 6 green waste bins on site, now there are only 2. Mrs Garnham to look into.
ACTION: MRS GARNHAM

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- 322. Ferris Avenue Path:** number of forms returned to date remains at ten. Clerk to commence application process
ACTION: CLERK
- 323. Footpath 13 (Golf Course):** PRoW and Golf Club investigating a pedestrian gate which will fit alongside the old metal field gate already in position which the Golf Club wants to retain as it is used occasionally
- 324. Footpath 14:** gate for 14/19 – correct style being investigated. Mr. Wakeling preparing map for submission to landowner re the possible rerouting of a section of this footpath across from Church
ACTION: MR. WAKELING
- 325. Footpath 15:** handrail order submitted – should be in situ by end of October
- 326. Footpath 19:** reseeded and walk able

327. **Footpath 20:** Clerk to approach P3 re assistance re drainage once membership has been organised
328. **Footpath 24:** has been marked out again
329. **Footpath Map:** will form part of P3 partnership activities
330. **New bridleway:** length from Honey Pot Lane to SWF has been cleared. From Honey Pot Lane to Cold Norton will be done by end of October.
331. **The Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3):** Clerk has spoken to PP3 organiser re delay. Agreement form not available via e-mail. Clerk to distribute copies to Members for approval.
332. **LAND REGISTRY** – voluntary first registration of CNPC landholdings **ACTION: CLERK**
333. **COLD NORTON'S WEBSITE** - Clerk supplying updates as applicable. Accounts section still to be updated. **ACTION: CLERK**
334. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION:** Professor Barclay has now reviewed the publication scheme for local councils – copies to be distributed to Members **ACTION: CLERK**
335. **FILES/DOCUMENTS TO ARCHIVE/RETAIN/DESTROY** **ACTION: PROF BARCLAY
MRS GARNHAM**

CORRESPONDENCE

336. **Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils:** minutes from AGM held on 21st June 2006. Apologies were sent on behalf of Cold Norton PC as no one able to attend the last meeting on 13th September 2006. Next meeting is on 17th January 2007 and the annual quiz will be held on Wednesday 8th November. Noted.
337. **Boiler Juice - Press Release for Parish Councils issued 20th September:** detailing opportunity for villages to group purchase heating oil to save money and multiple delivery lorries coming into villages. For possible inclusion in The Beacon. **ACTION: CLERK**
338. **Seminar on Play & Leisure Provision for Parish councils in Southwold Thursday 19th October 2006 at 7.30 pm** – no one available to attend
339. **NHS Consultation on the Review of Young Persons Family Planning Service and Adult FPS (Two papers dated September 2006):** Comments invited by 23rd December 2006. Mrs. Gold to review papers. Public meeting at Maldon Town Hall on 23rd October 2006 at 3 pm **ACTION: MRS GOLD**
340. **E-on Energy Electricity Source letter dated September 2006:** noted
341. **ECC - details of autumn 2006 Passenger Transport Representatives Meetings:** noted
342. **Chelmsford Borough Council - emergency planning:** Members requested preference for a presentation before a scheduled PC meeting **ACTION CLERK**
343. **East Essex Transport Forum - agenda for meeting to be held on Wednesday 11th October 2006 7.30 pm at Burnham Town Council Offices:** noted
344. **EALC Training courses:**
 Chairman's Day Tuesday 31st October – open to Chairmen and councillors 'aspiring': no one to attend
 Roles & Responsibilities Thursday 2nd November –open to all councillors and clerks. Clerk has already attended this course. No one else to attend
 The Annual Clerks Networking Meeting and Lunch Friday 17th November Members approved cost (£6.50) for Clerk to attend. Cheque No. 443 raised
 Law & Procedures Wednesday 22nd November – open to councillors and clerks, covering powers and functions of local councils and new legislation. Clerk to attend this course. £50 fee for this day course approved by Members. Cheque No. 444 raised.

345. EALC Conferences

8th November 'Affordable Housing – Time to Make a Move' Object is to help PCs work with others to provide affordable housing. No one available to attend. Clerk to look into visit by local body concerned with this issue
ACTION: CLERK

28th November Conference Day – will address where the sector is heading and the important role that local councils may choose to take in the future. No one available to attend

346. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: members were advised that the village school will not now be able to build a new classroom and that another demountable will be obtained. Also Members were advised that the Police were called during a recent evening of vandalism, when various house signs, road signs, flower baskets etc were removed and dumped in other areas of the village, plus rubbish was dumped in the school grounds, also golf bags were 'deposited' at a property near the Church. It was also noted that noise from the pub continues usually until midnight on Fridays.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for the remainder of 2006: Wednesday 1st November and 6th December.

Chairman.....

Date.....