

# COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

### THOSE PRESENT:

#### Councillors:

Mr. J. Archer  
Prof. L. Barclay (Vice Chairman)  
Mr. P. Guppy  
Mr. C. Litscher  
Mrs. A. McDonald

**In attendance:** Mrs. M. Dyer (Parish Clerk)  
Plus 3 members of the public

308. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** had been received from Mrs Gold (Chairman), Mr. P. Wakeling, District Councillor Mr John Sears and PCSO Butler.
309. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October September 2008 and **MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

### FINANCE

#### Approval of Payments

310. Dave Bull general village caretaker work Invoice No.72 dated 08.11.08 £145 Cheque No.709
311. Roger Hawes expenses reference meeting on 18.09.08 in Cold Norton with 2 representatives from the Big Lottery Grant: collect from & return to Wickford Railway Station 4 x 9 miles @ 40p per mile £14.40. Cheque No. 710
312. BF Ground Maintenance Grass Cutting for October Invoice No.1777 dated 30.10.08 £264.38 (£225 net) Cheque No. 711.
313. Maria Dyer office expenses £27.68 Cheque No. 712
314. Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Annual subscription to 31.10.09 £28 Cheque No. 713
315. Harvey Escott & Co. Invoice No. 004004 dated 17.10.08 to professional charges regarding the application by the neighbour for registration of possessory title, plus land registry fee £129.50 (£112 net). Cheque No. 714,
316. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils Affiliation fee 2008/9 Invoice No.101 dated 16.10.08 £15 Cheque No. 715
317. Cold Norton Village Hall Management Committee Invoice dated 02.11.08. Hall Hire July to October 2008 inc. (3 x 2 hour sessions and 3 x ½ sessions @ £3.75 per hour), plus £5 contribution to VHMC Christmas Fayre raffle prize fund £33.13. Cheque No. 716
318. PH Coote Limited replacing broken bowl to street light No.12 labour and materials Invoice No.15252-25333 dated 17.10.08 £91.89 (£78.20 net) Cheque No.317.
319. E-on Energy Street lighting for September 2008 Invoice No. H6FC20C53 dated 05.10.08 £38.54 (£36.70 net) will be taken by direct debit on 15.10.08.
320. E-on Energy Street lighting for October 2008 Invoice No. H719AC772 dated 07.11.08 £38.54 (£36.70 net) will be taken by direct debit on 17.11.08.

#### 321. Financial Statement

##### Current balances:

Standard Life Direct Access as at 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2008	£	135.21
Standard Life 10 Day Notice as at 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2008	£	396.01
Abbey as at 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2008	£	<u>17,573.98</u>
	£	18,105.20

322. **Cold Norton Village Hall Management Committee:** members were advised that the cost of hiring the committee room would rise by 50p per hour to £4.25 from 01.11.08. and that the VHMC have taken on board the Parish Council's request to reintroduce a special rate for residents hiring the hall Members were supplied with details of all hall hire rates.

323. **Abbey:** with reference to the option to review the current arrangement regarding the number of signatures required for outgoing transactions, Members agreed to retain the current arrangement which is for two signatures and not change to the options offered by Abbey of just one or all three.
324. **St. Stephens Parochial Church Council:** a request for financial support with regards to the headstones requiring attention in the cemetery was discussed by members. Members requested that the Clerk ask the PCC for more information/costs/quotes received for this work.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## PLANNING

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

**FUL/MAL/08/00979 Cold Norton**  
Retention of replacement 1.25m high fence  
Pantile Hall Honeyput Lane Stow Maries Essex  
(UPRN - 100091256783)  
David Edward **APPROVED**

**LDE/MAL/08/00946 Purleigh**  
Claim for a Certificate of Lawful Development for an existing operation i.e. mobile barn  
Pale Pitt Farm Latchingdon Road Purleigh Essex  
(UPRN - 100091256500)  
Mr D Carter **REFUSED**

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

**FUL/MAL/08/01118PP-00566704 Stow Garage, the Street, Stow Maries.** Demolish bungalow and light industrial units; construct new access roads and erect new business units (Class B1) including replacements buildings for existing uses on site. Layout car parking and landscaping. Week No.41 dated 10<sup>th</sup> October 2008:

Cold Norton Parish Council objects to the proposal contained within the above application and recommends that Maldon District Council REFUSE CONSENT.

The Parish Council's reasons for this recommendation are:

- The size of the proposed development – inappropriate within a protection area
- This is an unsuitable location for a commercial development of this scale within a rural location
- The resulting increase in traffic, not only in Stow Maries, but also through neighbouring villages, which will ensue from a development of this size and nature.

**FUL/MAL/08/01164 St. Andrews Station Road, Cold Norton.** Construction of replacement boundary wall and gates Week No. 43 dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008:

Cold Norton Parish Council has no objections to the proposed development contained within the above application and therefore recommends that Maldon District Council should APPROVE the application.

327. **Notification of Appeal:** Pale Pitt Farm, Latchingdon Road, Purleigh. Application Reference No. LDE/MAL/08/00946 Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/A/08/2087512 Description of Development: Claim for a Certificate of Lawful Development for an existing operation i.e. a mobile barn. This Notice of appeal about the granting of a certificate was considered: The Chairmen briefly closed the meeting and invited some factual information regarding the status of the structure in question. After discussion the Council Members concluded that they had no relevant information to submit to the inspector.
328. **Appeal Decision:** Bluebell Barn, Barn Farm, Lower Burnham Road, Cold Norton Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/A/08/2076725 Members were advised that the appeal was dismissed.

329. **Appeal:** Professor Barclay reported back to Members on the appeal hearing relating to Palepit Farm, Latchingdon Road Enforcement Ref ENF/1288/20/08 Appeal Ref APP/X/1545/08/2076926 Alleged breach of planning control: without planning permission the unauthorised change of use of land for the siting of a railway carriage. Decision awaited.

## HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

### 330. Highways Schedule

Pram ramps at bridge – work has been completed, but is completely unsatisfactory as extremely large puddles are now forming by the bridge – Mr Archer and the Clerk have already notified Highways. Mr Archer offered to continue pursuing this to get the matter resolved quickly. The tree by the substation was scheduled to be trimmed at the same time - this didn't take place as there is a power cable - . ECC now waiting for EDP to advise when power can be turned off to enable work to be carried out.

Road/Speed signs between Stow Maries and Cold Norton - Some of the upright signs were obscured by hedgerows – now trimmed back. Shared VAS sign – awaiting installation

Crown Road VAS sign – members advised that this is malfunctioning again **ACTION: CLERK**

## VILLAGE HALL

331. **Report from Parish Council Representatives:** nothing major

332. **Village Hall Project:** Application for funding has been submitted to MDC re Parish Projects Fund

333. **Proposal re new village hall:** Members were advised that the meeting with MDC Planning Department had taken place: Planning officer advised proposed new site outside the development area and also part of the existing site – Clerk has written to the architect advising him of what was said at the meeting and that MDC suggested he meets with the Council to discuss existing boundaries etc.

## VANDALISM/POLICE MATTERS

334. **Police Village report for October:** had been supplied to all Members

335. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Mr Archer updated the Parish Council Members re the situation regarding MDC planning department

## OPEN SPACES

336. **Cowpiece Nature Reserve:** Working party being organised to clear brambles and remaining fence panels. Quote for sign still to be obtained **ACTION: MR LITSCHER/CLERK**

### 337. Playing Field

Picnic benches – Now fixed down

Tiling around swings – Caretaker authorised to proceed with this job/awaiting suitable weather.

The remaining metal goalpost: crater in front of goal: BF Ground Maintenance has been authorised to proceed

Essex Playing Fields – award won was a ‘Highly Commended’ for the children’s play area.

**338. Village Caretaker work** – report for October:

I continue to clear round the playground and car park area by the village hall.

In the Queen Mother Memorial garden I continue to inspect and tidy the area and tend to the roses.

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

Further to our telephone conversation regarding the sandpit and play area, I have removed the sandpit covers to my workshop.

I have secured the picnic tables/ benches outside the fenced play area

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.

Builders rubbish is still appearing in green sacks in the village hall car park, and now in St. Stephens Road and the nature reserve.

**339. Essex Youth Bus:** Possible Saturday dates still to be agreed

**340. Tree outside village hall:** Awaiting two further quotes.

**341. Essex Tree Initiative:** Due to the complex nature of the application process Clerk was requested to ascertain if the trees may be obtained per the system which operated in previous years.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**342. Parish Inspection:** Mr Litscher and Mr Guppy ‘walked’ a section of the village on 1<sup>st</sup> November and reported back (using photographs to illustrate) to the other Parish Council Members what they had observed warranting discussion/need attention e.g. hedges that need trimming back, the condition of some footways and the amount of street ‘furniture’ (highway signs) on Latchingdon Road. A list will now be compiled by Mr Guppy to discuss at a meeting to be convened for January with a representative from highways or other departments/bodies as appropriate. One matter requiring attention now is the school hedge on St. Stephens Road which is reducing the walking area of the footway. Clerk to write to the school. Next date agreed as 6<sup>th</sup> December.

**ACTION: MR. GUPPY/  
CLERK**

**PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**343. Footpath 14:** definitive path correction/signing now completed.

**344. Footpath 19:** work relating to overgrown fingerpost has now been completed

**345. Footpaths 23 and 24:** Way marking and clearing work will be carried out by P3 on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**346. Footpath 20:** PProW has a meeting with landowner scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> November

**347. P3:** Minutes from the Community Action Team’s AGM in September were supplied to all Members

## TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

348. **EALC Training Calendar for 2009:** members were all supplied with a copy. Clerk had suggested that it would be useful for someone to attend the Health & Safety and Risk Management Courses as Risk Assessment is something the Auditors are pressing. Members requested that attendance on these courses be discussed at the March PC meeting. **ACTION: CLERK**
349. **British Energy Public Meetings:** Mr Archer briefly outlined the part of the meeting he had attended in Mundon prior to this Parish Council Meeting. Mr Guppy advised he would attend the meeting being held in Cold Norton Village Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> November. **ACTION: MR GUPPY**
350. **The Rural Housing Trust Open House Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November Leaden Roding:** Mr Archer and Mr Litscher advised they planned to attend/visit this new scheme of affordable rural housing. **ACTION: MR. ARCHER/  
MR. LITSCHER**
351. **ECC Working in Partnership to reduce crime and disorder on Essex Buses Seminar Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 9 am to 1.15pm:** no one available to attend
352. **East Essex Transport Forum: Extraordinary Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the future of this forum.** Mr. Guppy advised he would attend. **ACTION: MR. GUPPY**

## CORRESPONDENCE

353. **Communities & Local Government: Communities in Control: Real people, real power: Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees – a consultation.** Comments required by 24<sup>th</sup> December. Mr Litscher offered to review. **ACTION: MR. LITSCHER**
354. **Maldon & District Council for Voluntary Service** re Viking Transport/suggestions for location of the bus and funding for a driver – discussed. Clerk to convey suggestions to CVS. **ACTION: CLERK**
355. **MDC Parish Multisport – Rural Active Programme;** new scheme requiring free usage of the village hall to run a selection of activities. Members advised that they would in principle be prepared to pay the village hall hire charges, but required more information and requested Clerk check availability of hall. **ACTION: CLERK**
356. **Southminster Parish Council:** Thank you letter received for the Cold Norton Parish Council donation of £50 towards the Halloween Event plus details of final costs/donations and attendance figures for all the villages. According to the figures 7 Cold Norton children/teenagers attended.
357. **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.  
No topics raised

## DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2008: Wednesday 10th December (NB this was subsequently changed to 17<sup>th</sup> December). Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2009: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Chairman.....

Date.....