

THE COLD NORTON PARISH PLAN

Cold Norton is a small rural village of about 400 dwellings with a primary school, village hall, playing field and community pub within the village centre, and a church, general store and post office and a golf club just outside the centre.

There are limited employment opportunities close by, and the school is oversubscribed. Most employment and all secondary schools require commuting elsewhere.

In 2011 a village survey was undertaken with a response rate of 72%. This provides a strong basis for determining a plan for the village. The survey was a sequel to a survey undertaken in 2000 which yielded similar results. Both surveys very strongly endorsed the preservation of the rural nature of the village.

The survey indicates that there is a need for a modest provision of affordable housing and that any future development should be limited and contained close to the village centre within a roughly circular or square area, avoiding linear development. Any development is likely to be environmentally unsustainable due to the limited facilities in the village, to potential overloading of existing utilities, and because of the inadequate public transport services and the rural nature of the connecting road network.

The Parish Council will oppose developments outside the Village Development Boundary, only permitting replacements of reasonable size in relation to those being replaced, or extensions of reasonable size to existing properties and alterations having regard to the other elements of the Parish Council's Planning Policy and in particular the desire to retain an open, rural aspect to the land outside the Village Development Boundary.

In the event that the Parish Council has to accept any large scale development, the Parish Council would work to obtain contributions from the developers to upgrade the village facilities and infrastructure such as making up unmade roads in the village to an adoptable standard. The Parish Council would commit to work with the relevant Planning Authorities to obtain binding agreements to this effect and subsequently work to ensure their delivery

For individual developments which satisfy the above criteria as much variety and freedom of development style as possible should be permitted within the constraints set by:

- Proximity to other property,
- Potential nuisance,
- Highways considerations, and
- Size in relation to plot size;
- The need to discourage back-development and plot splitting;
- The need to promote a generally open rural aspect.

Because of environmental and transport considerations and the wish of the residents to maintain a rural setting, any proposals for commercial and industrial should be limited to a modest extent of craft or similar enterprises.

The retail outlets of value to the village, the golf club and the public house should be retained and supported wherever possible, subject to the constraints identified above.

The downgrading of the status of the main road should be supported, seeking to get weight and size restrictions on traffic and accepting that downgrading will mean less resources being spent on road maintenance, etc.

On particular topics the plan is:

- To oppose any general extension of street lighting.
- To support the continuing provision of the school, village hall, playing field, The Norton Public House and St Stephens Church
- To provide allotments where there is sufficient sustained demand.
- To encourage the provision of public, or permitted, open spaces.
- To support the use of land for neighbour-friendly leisure use.

- -To maintain and extend the footpath and bridle-way network.

The Parish Council will work with the District Council officers and Committees and as necessary the County Council and other authorities dealing with planning matters so as to ensure that the Parish Council's viewpoint is fully understood.

Adopted on 7th October 2015 Minute No.497