

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the Extraordinary Meeting in August 2019 and
The September 2019 Meeting

Les Barclay: it was with great sadness that at the meeting in August, Members were advised of Les' passing on 31st July. Before moving with wife Janet to Yorkshire to be nearer family, Les had been a Parish Councillor for 45 years, making a real difference to Cold Norton and its residents and hence why one of the meeting rooms at the Village Hall is dedicated to Les. Professor Barclay had a very distinguished career in radio science and received an OBE in 1994 for services to radio communication and the Polar Medal for his propagation research in the Antarctic. Some years ago Les gave a fascinating talk at the village hall about his time in Antarctica; those lucky enough to have been there still remember how he 'transported' us there through recalling his experiences. In complete contrast, Les was also an excellent caller when we used to have regular barn dances at the village hall. At the meeting, current Chairman Philip Wakeling expressed regret at the passing of a highly respected and successful past Chairman and Councillor of the Parish Council.

Planning Applications: An Extraordinary Meeting had to be called in August to consider eight applications. The first one was: FUL/MAL/19/00524 Plot B Land South Of Nathilda Purleigh Grove Cold Norton: Variation of condition 2 on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/19/00112 Construction of a one and a half storey house with associated garage and access. The Members had no objections. The second application was: FUL/MAL/19/00728 Land Opposite Bluebell Barn Lower Burnham Road: Development of a farm shop incorporating a seafood counter and removal of existing building. The Members had no objections, but added the following comment: *"No objections, subject to the conditions required by ECC Highways being complied with, to ensure highway safety during development and also following completion of works. The Cllrs of Cold Norton respectively suggest that North Fambridge is also consulted on this application as this site is very close to the North Fambridge border"*. The third application considered was: FUL/MAL/19/00676 White Acres Crown Road Cold Norton: New 4 bedroom bungalow. The Members recommended refusal for the following reasons:

- 1. Outside the development boundary (Contrary to policy S8 of the Maldon District LDP – Settlement Boundaries and the Countryside)*
- 2. What is proposed is not a replacement dwelling, but an additional dwelling (Contrary to Policy D1 of the Maldon District LDP – Design Quality & Built Environment)*
- 3. The effect on the rural character of the area and would result in an unwelcome visual intrusion into the undeveloped countryside, to the detriment of the character and appearance of the area, contrary to policies S1, S3, S8 & D1. Plan was to retain the open rural aspect*
- 4. This proposed development falls within the 'Zone of Influence' (Essex Coast Recreational disturbance Avoidance & Mitigation Strategy) and Natural England recommends that a Habitats Regulations Assessment is undertaken prior to any decisions being taken as this could be contrary to policy N2 – Natural Environment & Biodiversity.*

The fourth application was: WTPO/MAL/19/00744 9 Henney Close Cold Norton: T1, T4, T5, T6, T7, T8, T9, T10, T11, T12, T14, T16 - Maple, T2, T3, T15 – Ash - Crown reduction by 3m. T13 - (dead tree not sure what species as has no leaves) – Remove. The Members had no objections, but added the following comment: *"The*

Parish Council raises no objections to these works providing they are in line with the MDC's Tree Officer's recommendations." The fifth application considered was: FUL/MAL/19/00753 Building 33 Stow Maries Aerodrome Hackmans Lane: Proposed structural stabilization works and removal of the existing pebble dash render and replacement with a lime slurry. The Members recommended the granting of planning permission for the following reason: *"This will revert the buildings back to their original state as part of the Trust's overall plans to ensure authenticity of this historical site."* The next application was: FUL/MAL/19/00791 New Farm Dwelling Wayback Farm St Stephens Road: Construction of an agricultural workers dwellings. The Members recommended refusal for the following reason: *"It is outside the development boundary. Contrary to policy S8 of the Maldon District LDP (Settlement Boundaries and the Countryside)"*. The seventh application considered was: LBC/MAL/19/00615 Building 33 Stow Maries Aerodrome Hackmans Lane: Proposed structural stabilization works as detailed on the submitted drawings and removal of the existing pebble dash render and replacement with a lime slurry. The Members recommended the granting of planning permission for the following reason: *"This will revert the buildings back to their original state as part of the Trust's overall plans to ensure authenticity of this historical site."* The final application considered at the extraordinary meeting was: WTPO/MAL/19/00822 7 Henney Close Cold Norton: H1 Cypress Hedge - Remove 9m section of hedge to give a minimum clearance of 4.5m to the property. T2 Field Maple – Remove. The Members did not wish to tick any of the options on the MDC form (which are 'recommend granting of approval', 'recommend refusal' or 'no objections') but submitted the following comment: *"The Parish Council is reluctant to see mature trees removed, but will defer to the Tree Officer's expert knowledge of trees and experience regarding the interpretation of the technical data produced with regards to the causes for the issues experienced by the householder and the best course of action."*

In contrast, there was only one application considered by the Members at the September meeting, namely: 19/00752/LBC Norton Hall, St Stephens Road, Cold Norton: Variation on condition 5 (retention of existing door) on approved planning permission LBC/MAL/18/01168 (Conversion of existing stables, currently used as storage, to ancillary accommodation.) Amendment to wording of condition 5 to allow the door to be altered to fit the new door opening. The Members had no objections.

Planning Decisions: (covering the period w/e 5th July to w/e 30th August 2019): there were eight decisions advised by Maldon District Council, namely: FUL/MAL/18/01369 Lords Acre Nursery, Lower Burnham Road: Section 73A application for the erection of four polytunnels (proposed) and the erection of a farm shop to sell on site grown produce (part retrospective). MDC approved this application (the Cold Norton PC had not commented other than to suggest that this was deferred to North Fambridge PC). The second decision advised was: HOUSE/MAL/19/00530 Oakwood Manor, Station Road: Proposed outbuilding with swimming pool area - proposed single storey outbuilding with pitched roof and Velux windows over and part flat roof. MDC refused planning permission (Cold Norton PC had recommended refusal). The third decision was: WTPO/MAL/19/00553 7 Henney Close: T1 Maple and T2 Hawthorn - Reduce the height and width by 1m - TPO 18/95. MDC approved these works (CNPC had not objected). The next decision was: HOUSE/MAL/19/00505 Norton Hall, St Stephens Road: Greenhouse installation. MDC approved this application (CNPC had not objected). The fifth decision was: FUL/MAL/19/00523 Land at Pine Lodge, Junction Road: Erection of

tractor/hay barn and stables. MDC refused this application (CNPC had recommended refusal). The next decision advised was:

WTPO/MAL/19/00696 36 St Stephens Road: T4 & T5 Oak – Fell. MDC refused permission. (CNPC had not submitted a recommendation, but had advised it would rely on the Tree Officer to suggest the best course of action). The seventh decision was: FUL/MAL/19/00524 Plot B, Land South of Nathilda, Purleigh Grove: Variation of condition 2 on approved planning permission FUL/MAL/19/00112 (Construction of a one and a half storey house with associated garage and access). MDC approved this variation (CNPC had not objected). The final decision advised was:

COUPA/MAL/19/00608 Agricultural Building, Flambirds Farm, Hackmans Lane: Prior approval of proposed change of use of agricultural building to No.1 dwellinghouse (C3), and for associated operational development. MDC advised that 'Prior Approval was Required and was Granted' (CNPC had not been required to submit a comment).

Planning applications and decisions: if you would like to see full details of any planning application, please contact the Maldon District Council offices on 01621 854477 or visit the web site www.maldon.gov.uk

County Broadband: Members of the Public present at the meeting spoke about their extreme disappointment at the installation of poles in St Stephens Road as part of County Broadband's programme of works, when it had been understood that all cables would be ducted. A long discussion followed, when all Members of the Public present spoke and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council gave reports of the Parish Council's involvement, advising that discussions with County Broadband had resulted in a reduction of 30+ poles to 10, but that the community in the area around the Church would not have received fibre without installation by pole. Whilst it was acknowledged that County Broadband has a statutory right and does not require planning permission and therefore that ECC, MDC and Cold Norton PC all have limited powers, approaches would be made to County Broadband regarding the three most 'offensive' poles.

Two Vacancies on the Parish Council: Mrs Marion Gunn and Mrs Joanne Luck were co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Local Heritage Assets in Cold Norton: Members were advised that in June 2019 MDC had adopted two assets in Cold Norton, namely: St Stephens Church and the Kitts Hill Floodlight.

Solar Panels at Village Hall: continue to 'earn their keep' – income for the three months ending 25th July 2019 was £717.08.

Cowpiece Nature Reserve: works to the viewing platform have been completed.

Health & Wellbeing: Mental Health Training: only one resident (and the Clerk) expressed an interest in a free training session being held in Cold Norton, so they will both be attending sessions being organised in other villages. To recap this half day course to raise awareness of mental health, will cover the following:

- Introduction to mental health and mental health issues
- Factors affecting mental health
- Stigma and its impact on recovery
- Understanding the skills to being a conversation about their mental health

- Looking after your own mental health

Those attending the course will get a manual, workbook/toolkit and a certificate to say they are 'Mental Health Aware'. Courses are being held in a variety of locations in Essex on a weekday or a Saturday. For details of locations/times and to book a place visit: <https://api.smoothbook.co/calendar/5be42d825449960d55508ddf>

Dogs: Dogs are not allowed on the playing field - there is a Byelaw in place to enforce this. This area is used by children and adults for recreation and sporting activities. If you witness dog(s) in this area please inform the Parish Council. New signage is now in place.

New Street Lights on Latchingdon Road: Six of the street lights have been replaced by LEDs, which will have a longer life.

Highways or Public Right of Way (Footpath) Issues: whilst the Parish Council will report these matters to ECC Highways when made aware of an issue, residents can report issues relating to footpaths or other highways issues (e.g. potholes, road signs, vegetation etc.) direct to highways via:
<http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads.aspx>

Winter Salt Scheme 2019/2020: If you would like to be a Salt Team Member for your road, please contact the Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings: Meetings start at 7.30pm in The Les Barclay Room at the Village Hall. Meetings in 2019 are scheduled for Wednesdays 2nd October, 6th November and 4th December. Members of the Public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

To contact the Parish Council: please write to: The Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer), at Exordium, 30b Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 6JG. Email: mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01621 829566. Please note the Clerk works part time and will respond as soon as possible.