

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the February 2020 Meeting

Planning Applications: There was only one planning application considered at this Meeting, namely: 19/01270/FUL PP-08331832 Oakwood Manor, Station Road, Cold Norton: Section 73A application for the siting of 2 No. mobile homes. The Members recommended that planning permission be refused for the following reason: *“It is outside the development boundary. Contrary to policy S8 of the Maldon District LDP (Settlement Boundaries and the Countryside) and would set an unwelcome precedent.”*

Planning Decisions: (covering the period w/e 10th to 31st January to 2020): there were five decisions advised by Maldon District Council, namely: FUL/MAL/19/01088 Land at Woodstock Farm, St Stephens Road: Temporary agricultural workers dwelling. MDC refused permission (the Parish Council had recommended refusal). HOUSE/MAL/19/00947 14A Latchingdon Road: Demolish and replace garage. MDC granted planning permission (the Parish Council had not objected). HOUSE/MAL/19/01009 14A Latchingdon Road: First floor extension, raising the roof of the dwelling, rear and side single storey extension and open porch. This also received approval by MDC (the PC had also not objected). HOUSE/MAL/19/01279 30A Latchingdon Road: Single storey rear extension. MDC approved this application (the PC had not objected). The last decision had been supplied by MDC ‘For Information Only’ – the PC had not been invited to comment on this application which was refused by MDC: PDE/MAL/19/01286 12 Latchingdon Road: Single storey rear/side infill extension and will have a shower facility which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 3.48m, maximum height of 3m and the maximum height to the eaves of 3m.

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

Affordable Housing for Local People: Cold Norton Housing Needs Survey: as house prices and rents continue to rise, often beyond the means of those wanting to leave home and set up independently, or stay close to family, work or schools, it is becoming increasingly difficult for people to get on the housing ladder or to obtain a home at a market rent. In Cold Norton Parish there is the opportunity to identify whether local people here have a housing need and if so whether an affordable housing scheme could be developed to help address that need.

This type of scheme is only available to small parishes (less than 3000 population) and for local people (or those with a connection to the Parish) in perpetuity. Homes are mostly affordable rent or shared ownership, although there can be a small element of affordable housing for sale if required. Schemes are only built if there is a proven need and this type of housing is known as exception site affordable housing. This is not large scale development, but small in numbers, typically ranging between 4 – 8 homes.

RCCE is an independent charity working across rural Essex and their role is to help support the parish, firstly by undertaking a **Housing Needs Survey**. This survey, delivered to every household in the parish in February, and the results (all anonymous, only a report with recommendations goes to the Parish Council) will

inform the Parish Council as to what the housing need in the Parish might be. This is not a survey to justify large scale or open market developments and cannot be used for that. The Parish Council will then use this information to inform the shape and tenure of the scheme. These properties cannot be sold or transferred into totally private ownership and would remain in perpetuity for people with a strong local connection to the parish, either through family or work.

All residents should have received a copy of the Housing Needs Survey questionnaire. Please complete fully and return it (in the pre-paid envelope provided) by the **FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2020**. Even if you do not have a need for alternative housing, we do urge you to complete and return Part 1 of the survey so that your views may be taken into account.

Thank you very much for your support. If you have not received a questionnaire, please contact the Parish Clerk (details below) or if you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact the Parish Council in the first instance.

TRUCAM/Speed Checks: during January the Parish Council paid for 4 x trial speed check sessions of TRUCAM by the local Community Protection Team. During these sessions a total of 13 speeding offences were recorded and forwarded to the Police for processing – the drivers will either receive 3 points on their licence and £100 fine or be offered a speed awareness course at a cost of £100. The Parish Council decided to continue with further TRUCAM sessions.

Post Box stolen from corner of Victoria Road: Royal Mail had advised that it would not be replacing this post box, as according to their specifications, Cold Norton had sufficient post boxes and this was a 'low volume' box. Letters were written to the Postal Review Panel and Rt Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP to 'persuade' Royal Mail to replace the stolen post box, which was very well used before its removal by persons unknown. A reply had been received from the Postal Review Panel, which has advised that 'the case had been dealt with appropriately by the Royal Mail' and that 'the Postal Review Panel does not have any remit to enforce the instalment, or reinstallation of post boxes'. The Parish Council is now awaiting an update from the Rt Honorable John Whittingdale OBE MP, regarding his correspondence with Royal Mail.

Pink Recycling Bags & Food Recycling Bags: these can be collected at coffee mornings generally held fortnightly on a Thursday in The Les Barclay Room in the Village Hall between the hours of 9.30am - 12 noon. See 'Dates for your Diary' at back of this magazine for dates of the coffee mornings.

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.

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>

Street Lights on Latchingdon Road: these belong to the Parish Council, so if you notice one isn't working please contact the Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings: Meetings start at 7.30pm in The Les Barclay Room at the Village Hall. Meetings in 2020: Wednesdays 4th March, 1st April, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd December. Members of the Public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

Annual Parish Meeting: will be held on Thursday 14th May 2020 at 8pm in The Les Barclay Room at the Village Hall.

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: mariadyr30@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01621 829566. Please note the Clerk works part time and will respond as soon as possible.