

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY 2024 HELD IN THE LES BARCLAY ROOM AT THE VILLAGE HALL– commencing immediately after the Annual General Meeting

The attendance list is the same as for the Annual General Meeting.

68. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** apologies were received and accepted from District Cllrs Ms White and Ms Wiffen

69. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they know they may have in items of business on the meeting's agenda. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if the interest is a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time. Members have dispensation to discuss and vote in respect of matters relating to the Precept.

Cllr Romang declared a non-pecuniary interest in Allotments as he is an allotment holder.

70. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** there were no Members of the Public present.

71. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council** held on Wednesday 10th April 2024 were approved as correct and signed accordingly.

72. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** not available

73. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Mrs Fleming updated Members on ECC related matters including advising Members of a new CC Member Led Highways Scheme whereby each CC Member will be able to nominate at certain times of the year highways issues to be progressed outside the usual ECC Highways Programme of Works. Due to timing of first submissions Cllr Mrs Fleming had put forward two known carriageway defects in Cold Norton, i.e. bottom of Hackmans Lane/Stow Road/Latchingdon Road and opposite Londis (where lorries have damaged footway). Cllr Mrs Fleming also advised that the request through the Local Highways Panel (LHP) for a speed reduction in St Stephens Road/village school had now been successfully validated and this will be going ahead – timing not known at this point nor extent along the road of the 20mph limit. Cllr Mrs Fleming also advised that she had requested better signage regarding the water pipe replacement works in Hackmans Lane, whilst this 100 day closure is in force.

County Cllr Mrs Fleming left the meeting.

74. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT:** not available

FINANCE

Approval of Payments

75. Maria Dyer office expenses from 8th to 26th April 2024 £41.50 (£40.37 net). Cheque No.022495
76. Essex Playing Fields Association to annual membership renewal £30.00. Cheque No.0022496
77. Essex Playing Fields Association Competition 2024 entry fee £10. Cheque No.022496
78. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils annual subscription £40. Cheque No.022497
79. All staff costs May 2024 £1,023.75

80. **Financial Statement**
Current balances:

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 8 th Mar 2023	£	597.82
Santander as at 2 nd April 2024	£	<u>12,075.19</u>
	£	12,673.01

81. **Solar Panels at Village Hall**

Members noted that estimated next quarter FIT payment will be in June 2024.

82. **Insurance**

The three-year Long-Term Undertaking (LTU) with Clear (formerly BHIB) will expire on 31st May 2024. As new premium from Clear was higher than LTU Clerk to review alternative options and it was agreed that decision would be done in conjunction with Chairman of the Council due to expiry date of current policy falling before next Parish Council meeting. **ACTION: CLLR HAYDON/CLERK**

PLANNING

83. **Planning Applications received by the Parish Council:** the following were considered, and the responses were:

24/00364/WTPO PP-12993519 3 Henney Close: (W1 on TPO 18/5) T3 – Field Maple – Crown lift to provide 1m clearance above fence. Week No.17 dated 26th April 2024:

The Members had no objections to these works but added the following comment:

“The Parish Council raises no objections to these works providing they are in line with MDC’s Tree Officer’s recommendations”.

24/00366/FULM PP-12988537 Land South West of The Warren, Hackmans Lane, Purleigh: Proposed Solar Farm together with sub-station, ancillary buildings, structures, landscaping, emergency; lighting and access. Week No.17 dated 26th April 2024:

The Parish Council had no objections and no comments to make.

23/01041/FUL PP-12560744 Land rear of Little Canneys, Stow Road: construction of a two-storey, 5-bedroom dwelling. Members noted that Applicant had withdrawn this application.

84. **Maldon District Council Decisions:** covering decisions advised from w/e 12th April to w/e 26th April 2024; a detailed list had been supplied to Members, which is summarised below:

HOUSE/MAL/24/00053 Cold Norton

Change of use of existing garage to a study, including new window to side elevation. Single storey infill extension to create new garage.

21 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Chelmsford Essex
(UPRN - 100090555810)

Mr & Mrs Yates

APPROVED

LDP/MAL/24/00111 Cold Norton

Claim for lawful development certificate for proposed removal of existing modular building to be replaced with new single storey modular building for permanent use.

Cold Norton County Primary School 2 St Stephens Road Cold Norton Chelmsford
(UPRN - 200000918572)

Essex CC Infrastructure Division - C/o 3BM Planning

APPROVED for the following reason: -

The proposed development would fall within the tolerances of Class M, of Schedule 2, Part 7 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).

85. **24/00099/FUL Great Canney Court, Hackmans Lane:** Addition of new building containing four affordable flats to existing building containing flats and associated work. Application was proposed as a 'rural exception scheme'. Decision is 'pending' according to MDC website.
Members considered correspondence from developer and requested that the Clerk consult with the RCCE.
ACTION: CLERK

PLAYGROUND RENOVATIONS & CAR PARK EXTENSION PROJECT WORKING GROUP (PCP)

86. **EV Charging Point:** nothing to report
87. **Independent Playground Inspection and Sovereign Inspection**
Members noted that The Playground Inspection Company organised by MDC will be undertaking an inspection in May/June 2024.
88. **Dogs on Playing Field**
Nothing to report regarding District Cllr Ms White's discussion with MDC.

89. **VILLAGE HALL**
Members noted that from the list of jobs advised to the Parish Council that some had been undertaken and that works to the fence panel around the gas tank were in hand; nothing to report re room divider in The Les Barclay Room or supply/change of telephone line at village hall to digital with broadband. Clerk still to follow up.
ACTION: CLERK

It was noted that the Fish & Chip Van is turning up too early at 3pm and causing an issue with school/pre-school parking; to be advised that 4pm arrival time must be adhered to. It was noted that the 'Village Chippy' is now visiting Cold Norton every third Tuesday, with the same arrangement at Purleigh VH and North Fambridge. Clerk to ascertain if a fee is being charged at these two venues.

ACTION: CLERK

90. **CLERKS REPORT**
Clerk advised that Village Caretaker had advised that the bench at corner of Howe Green Road and Latchingdon Road needs attention; that a children's football club in SWF may need more pitches. Clerk had updated Village Caretaker re new grass cutting arrangement at the allotments and works at Cowpiece – Village Caretaker to maintain cleared paths etc.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

91. **TRUCAM**
Members noted March report: two offenders during 5 sessions over 3 hours and that one session included 40mph near Three Rivers.
Members noted summary of offenders from April 2023 to March 2024.
92. **Parking at School**
Nothing to report re SEPP or 3PR
93. **Various Highways Matters Referred to Cllr Mrs Fleming**
Members noted that clearing of drains in St Stephens Road near school had been undertaken but those at top of Station Crescent were still to be actioned.

OPEN SPACE

94. **Village Caretaker work:** Mr Wiseman continued to carry out this work. In addition to the regular litter picks around the village and emptying bins on playing field; report re other works not available.
95. **Trees and Survey**
Nothing to report re fallen conifer on playing field.
ACTION: CLERK

96. Cowpiece

Members noted that TCV attended on Wednesdays 10th and 17th April 2024 and cleared paths to pond and created additional path to hibernaculum created a couple of years ago. Vegetation cleared on two thirds of the pond. Replacement railing installed on right hand side of entry, left hand side still to be replaced, plus railing at pond. TCV provisionally booked to return on Thursday 9th May 2024 subject to Member approval. Members were all in agreement for this additional session at a cost of £350.00 ex materials.

Members noted TCV recommendations/suggestion to maintain the site and agreed that at autumn session (September tbc) that branches overhanging neighbouring farm building be cut back then.

97. Willow Trees at Playing Field

Members noted that the PC will continue to receive reports from the insurance company following removal of the Willow Trees.

98. Allotment

It was noted that the site has two new Members and there is one plot vacant.

99. STREETLIGHTS

Members noted that street light No.16 had now failed.

Following discussion of report detailing the 21 PC owned streetlights, Members were all in agreement to replace light No.16 and three other lights with LEDs; this means that 16 out of the 21 PC owned lights will now be LEDs.

ACTION: CLERK

TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

101. Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome Joint Consultative Committee 2024 Meetings

Members noted dates: 14th May, 17th July and 11th September and that Cllr Haydon plans to attend.

102. Ride London 2024 Friday 24th to Sunday 26th May 2024

Members were reminded of this forthcoming event.

103. Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils Wednesday 12th June 2024

Cllr Mrs Luck to attend – venue to be advised.

ACTION: CLERK

104. EALC AGM Thursday 26th September 2024 at Colchester Stadium

Members noted date. Cllr Haydon to attend plus one other Cllr tba.

CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

105. Government Guidance on Biodiversity

Still to be reviewed.

106. King Charles Official Portrait

Members were advised that whilst the Members had agreed at the April meeting to apply for this free portrait, that it is very large c50cm x c60cm. Members confirmed that they would still like to apply.

ACTION: CLERK

107. Bus Fares

Members noted details of increases applying from 1st April 2024.

108. Dog Exercise Field

Members discussed request from company but agreed that there is no suitable location for this. Clerk to respond accordingly.

ACTION: CLERK

109. VILLAGE APPRAISAL

Update given at meeting re amendments to be made, then will proceed to print. Covering letter to accompany appraisal to be written. Clerk to get quote for C4 envelopes. Distribution method to be agreed. The Members wanted recorded formally their thanks to Cllr Haydon for all his hard work to produce such an excellent document. It was agreed that as well copies being supplied to MDC Planning etc copies would also be supplied to fellow Parishes the Dengie & Sir John Whittingdale.

ACTION: CLLR HAYDON/CLERK

110. PARISH COUNCIL WELFARE OFFICER

Nothing to report.

111. SOCIAL EVENTS

Cllr Jacklin updated Members re Party in the Park 2024 to be held on Saturday 29th June 2024 12noon to 7pm, advising that wristbands would be the 'ticket' to the event.

Nothing to report re pyro-laser show (quiet alternative to noisy fireworks) for Halloween/Bonfire Night Event.

112. MATTERS TO REPORT (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).

There were no matters reported.

113. MEETINGS IN 2024

Wednesdays: 5th June, 3rd July, 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November and 4th December

Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 8th May 2024 8pm (in The Les Barclay Room)

NB the VHMCA AGM will not now be preceding the APM at 7.30pm.

114. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

In accordance with S.1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to resolve that in view of the nature of the business to be discussed it is in the opinion of the Committee advisable that the Public and Press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

There were no Members of the public present

115. VILLAGER OF THE YEAR

Members discussed and agreed the recipient for the 2024 award. Clerk to arrange for shield to be engraved accordingly.

ACTION: CLERK

Members briefly considered the introduction of a 'Lifetime' Achievement – to be discussed further at a future meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.59pm

Chairman.....

Date.....