

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the June 2025 Meeting

Planning Applications: There were two planning applications received from Maldon District Council for the Members to consider this month. The first application was: 25/00432/OUT PP-13876148 Eastholme, Latchingdon Road: Outline application with all matters reserved for a replacement dwelling house. The Members recommended approval of this application and included the following comment: *"The Members have no issues with the design and layout within the site and it will be a more attractive, sustainable property."* The second application was: 25/00490/HOUSE PP-14030896 11 Ferris Avenue: Demolish existing garage & construct a single storey rear extension with fenestration. The Members had no objections to these works and had no comments to make.

Planning Decisions: there were no planning decisions relating to Cold Norton received from MDC for the period w/e 9th May to 30th May 2025.

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 Councillor Report: Cllr Mrs Fleming was in attendance and updated Members regarding the recent bus transport meetings and the No.45 bus service plus advised that 'Love Your Bus' will be relaunched again in September. All residents are encouraged to complete the bus consultation even if not a regular bus user:

[Essex Bus User Survey 2025 - Essex County Council - Citizen Space](#) (closes 30th June 2025). Cllr Fleming also updated Members on Devolution and that cases for the number of unitary councils will be submitted to Government in September.

Representatives: two of these were deferred from the Parish Council Annual General Meeting held in May. At this meeting Cllr Jacklin was appointed to be the Playing Field Representative and Cllr Myers was appointed as Public Rights of Way Representative.

Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch Group: due to work commitments Mrs Jackie Ralph has stood down as the co-ordinator for Cold Norton's Neighbourhood Watch (NhW). Temporarily the NhW co-ordinator for Purleigh has very kindly offered to also act as the NhW co-ordinator for Cold Norton, but it would be preferable if Cold Norton had its own village-based co-ordinator. If you could take on this role, please contact the Clerk.

Speed Watch: Mrs Ralph has also stood down from this role – someone is needed to co-ordinate the Cold Norton Speed Watch team – can you help with this very important role? Contact the Clerk in the first instance.

Audit for 2024-2025: Members reviewed the internal auditor's report and approved the AGAR Return for submission to the External Auditor. AGAR stands for Annual Governance and Accountability Return. It is a set of documents that local councils, including parish councils, are required to complete annually to summarize their activities and demonstrate accountability to their electorate. The AGAR provides a

transparent overview of the council's financial activities, governance procedures, and decision-making processes. Essentially, the AGAR is the mechanism by which a parish council shows it is managing its finances and affairs responsibly and transparently. It includes the findings of the internal auditor, governance statements, and financial statements. The AGAR is then submitted to an external auditor for review. The AGAR for Cold Norton has been submitted to the nominated external Auditor and can be viewed on the Parish Council website and there is a hard copy on the Parish Council noticeboard outside No.14 Latchingdon Road.

Annual Parish Meeting: was held on Thursday 22nd May, with reports from the Parish Council Chairman Cllr Brian Haydon and ECC Cllr Mrs Jane Fleming – the full ECC Annual Report can be viewed on the Parish Council website. There was also a report from Mrs Jackie Ralph the outgoing co-ordinator for Cold Norton's Neighbourhood Watch (NhW) and Speed Watch. Cllr Haydon presented Mrs Ralph with a bouquet of flowers as a token of thanks from the village for setting up both the Neighbourhood Watch and Speed Watch groups. District Cllr Lisa Wiffen was unable to attend the AGM as there was a Maldon District Council meeting that evening but had supplied a District Council report that the Chairman read out. Cllr Phil Jacklin gave an update on plans for the 'Party in the Park' social event for the village being held on Saturday 28th June and made a request for help setting up on the day. Thank you to the residents who attended the APM and stayed afterwards for a chat over tea and biscuits served by Mr & Mrs Hawes (thank you to them both).

Villager of the Year 2025: this was announced at the end of the Annual Parish Meeting: the recipient this year is Alex Romang for all his work over many years in the village, at the village hall and the parish council allotments. Alex is also responsible for ensuring that 'Tommy' is kept in good condition and put into position for Remembrance Sunday and other special anniversaries. Alex was presented with the engraved Villager of the Year Shield by Parish Council Chairman Brian Haydon.

TRUCAM/Speed Checks: these cover both the 30mph and 40mph zones in the village. In April six offenders were recorded during six patrols over a period of three hours. During these sessions, a speed of 38mph was recorded in a 30mph zone, and 48mph was recorded in a 40mph zone. Offenders will either receive three points on their licence and a £100 fine or be offered a speed awareness course at a cost of c£100.

Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting: this will be held on Thursday 17th July 2025 at 11.45am in the village hall. All are welcome to attend.

Village Hall: the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) is responsible for running the Village Hall including maintenance and fund raising. If you would like to be involved in organising a fund-raising event or would like to join the team to assist with managing the hall – please call Mrs Chris Edwards on 01621 828475 or email: chrisedwards7@hotmail.co.uk or come along to the Village Hall AGM (details above) to have an informal chat.

Village Hall: if you have a celebration coming up – birthday, anniversary, wedding, christening, the village hall is available to hire – variety of rooms available, a fully equipped kitchen and plenty of parking. For details phone 01621 828475 or email: chrisedwards7@hotmail.co.uk

Streetlights: If you spot an issue with any of the streetlights on Latchingdon Road, please report to the Parish Clerk.

Dogs are not permitted on the Playing Field: there is a Byelaw in place to enforce this. (All play sites fall under a Maldon District wide Public Space Protection Order [PSPO]. This means dogs aren't allowed in play sites). 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 (all details please, including car number plates etc if applicable). Unfortunately, there are some people who are ignoring this Byelaw and when reminded are being rude to the residents who have pointed out the signage. The Community Police have been advised.

Village Foodbank Drop Off Point: for those in the village who are able to help others, there is a foodbank box at St Stephens Church to support people less well off in this district. All non-perishable goods required.

Pink Recycling Bags: during Pre School operational hours there will be a box outside the village hall door with these bags available for residents to collect – please only take one of each at a time. Many thanks to Pre School Staff for facilitating this service. The village shop, Londis, is also a stockist for these, or please follow this link for details of other places in the district where recycling bags are available: https://www.maldon.gov.uk/info/20043/recycling/9266/recycling_sack_stockists
Please note that Maldon District Council no longer provide green food waste bags.

Change to Recycling of Plastic Bags & Wrapping: 25th March 2025 Maldon District Council advised: *"Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the trial. The trial has proven to be extremely successful and importantly will help shape the nationwide rollout of the collection of plastic bags and wrapping."*

The funding for the existing trial has come to an end but we are pleased to be able to continue to collect plastic bags & wrappings from those households that were taking part in the trial.

It is no longer necessary to separate your plastic bags and wrappings; you can now place them in your pink sack with the rest of your recycling. If you have a supply of purple sacks you can continue to use them, but they will be collected in the same vehicle as your pink sacks and they will no longer be provided.

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to accept pet food, baby food or other pouches which include a thick aluminium layer. You can continue to include crisp packets and sweet wrappers. The results from the trial highlighted that there are limited UK options to recycle the pouches, however, we will continuously review this and notify you should this change."

Highways or Public Right of Way (Footpath) Issues: residents can report issues relating to footpaths or other highways issues (e.g., potholes, road signs, vegetation etc.) direct to highways via: <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us/problem-check>

Footpath Map: there is a full colour map which shows all the Public Rights of Way in our Village. If you would like a copy, please contact the Clerk. Copies of the map are also available from The Norton Public House. Or the map is available to view on the

Parish Council website by following this link: <https://www.cold-norton.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/C139237.pdf>

Parish Council Meetings in 2025

Wednesdays: 2nd July, 3rd September, 1st October, 5th November and 3rd December.

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: clerk@cold-norton.org.uk (NB new email address) or phone 01621 829566.

Please note the Clerk works part time and will respond as soon as possible.

Parish Council website: <https://www.cold-norton.org.uk>