

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY 2025 AT 7.30PM IN THE LES BARCLAY ROOM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Councillors:

Cllr B Haydon (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs M Gunn (Vice Chairman)
Cllr T Dixon
Cllr P Jacklin
Cllr Mrs J Luck

In attendance: Mrs M Dyer (Parish Clerk)
County Cllr Mrs J Fleming
Plus two Members of the Public

25/26.71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Myers and District Cllr Wiffen.

25/26.72 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.

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

25/26.73 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: the two Members of the Public both wished to speak. The first Member of the Public to speak brought up the following topics:

- One of the bollards at the corner of St Stephens Road and Latchingdon Road is loose and needs reaffixing in the ground
- Streetlight at East Canney Cottages is faulty as it is on 24/7
- Do flagpoles need planning permission?
- 20mph in front of school has not made any difference outside school hours
- School hedge has been cut back following request made to the School Governors

The Members thanked the Member of the Public and advised that the first issue would be reported to ECC Highways but advised that residents can report issues to ECC Highways via the 'Report it' section on the ECC website. Re the second issue this streetlight belongs to the Parish Council and the Clerk will report it to the appropriate contractor. Regarding planning permission being required for flagpoles, this will be checked with MDC planning department. The last two points were discussed briefly and noted.

ACTION: CLERK

The second Member of the Public spoke about the damage to the fruit trees at the rear of the allotment site, details of which had already been forwarded to the Clerk. It was agreed that this was trespass and criminal damage and would be duly reported to the Police. The Clerk advised that nearby neighbours had been contacted to see if they had witnessed the damage, responses were awaited; Clerk was requested to include this in the PC report for the next issue of The Beacon.

ACTION CLERK

25/26.74 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL DATED 4TH JUNE 2025
held on Wednesday 4th June 2025 were approved as correct and were signed accordingly.

25/26.75 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Members noted report supplied by email.

25/26.76 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Members noted June report supplied by email. At the meeting Cllr Fleming updated Members regarding the pavement opposite Londis and the Local Highways Panel (LHP). There then followed a discussion regarding the suggestions made by the Parish Council to avoid future damage to the pavement opposite Londis. It was agreed that an application be made to SEPP for yellow lines/parking restrictions. Cllr Fleming advised if bollards were required that permission would be needed from the LHP and that due to budgetary restraints at LHP the Parish Council would need to finance these works. Clerk to put request for yellow lines/parking restrictions in writing to Cllr Fleming.

ACTION: CLERK

Cllr Fleming also updated Members about Saltmarsh and the upcoming Town and Parish Council Forum. Cllr Fleming requested that the Members encourage residents to participate in the devolution consultation. Clerk to forward information to Cllr Fleming relating to Connexin, which will be on the Forum agenda.

ACTION: CLERK

One Member of the Public left the meeting.

25/26.77 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT/ POLICE MATTERS & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Members noted that the Purleigh Neighbourhood Watch (NhW) Co-ordinator has confirmed that he will act as co-ordinator for Cold Norton until a volunteer comes forward.

25/26.78 FINANCE

25/26.78.1 Approval of Payments:

25/26.78.1.1 Maria Dyer office expenses from 4th June 2025 to 1st July 2025 £134.43 (£122.20 net).
Cheque No.912548

25/26.78.1.2 Cllr Haydon to reimbursement of expenses (flowers for NhW/Speed Watch Co-ordinator).
Invoice dated 5th June 2025 £30.00 (£25.00 net). Cheque No.912549

25/26.78.1.3 Maldon District Council to grounds maintenance April 2025 to June 2025. Invoice
No.COL58692816 dated 17th June 2025 £872.03 (£726.69 net). Cheque No.912550

25/26.78.1.4 Maldon District Council to additional ground works at front and side of village hall entrance.
Invoice No.COL58692817 dated 17th June 2025 £666.00 (£555.00 net). Cheque No.912550

25/26.78.1.5 Maldon District Council to ground works at Parish Allotment Site. Invoice No.COL58692877
dated 30th June 2025 £420.00 (£350.00 net). Cheque No.912550

25/26.78.1.6 Sue Lees Consultancy to accessibility annual cost of 'accessiBe software'. Invoice
No.INV007088 dated 23rd June 2025 £390.00. Cheque No.912551

25/26.78.1.7 Cold Norton Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) to hire of The Les Barclay Room
for PC meetings May and June 2025. Invoice dated 2nd July 2025 £39.60. Cheque No.912552

25/26.78.1.8 Wave to water at allotments 30 November 2024 to 29 May 2025. Invoice No.15124699 dated
30th May 2025 £53.50 taken by direct debit on 13th June 2025.

25/26.78.1.9 Tax/NI to 5th July 2025 £928.05. Cheque No.912553

25/26.78.1.10 All staff costs July 2025 £844.70

25/26.78.1.11 All staff costs August 2025 £844.70

25/26.78.1.12 REFUND Clear Councils Insurance. Incorrect premium of £1,100.35 invoiced; correct
premium £1,019.46. Refund of £80.89 will be credited to PC account

25/26.78.2 Financial Statement

Current balances:

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 10th June 2025	£	608.71
Santander as at 2nd June 2025	£	<u>51,415.09</u>
	£	52,023.80

25/26.79. PLANNING

25/26.79.1. Planning Application received by the Parish Council: the following was considered, and the response was:

25/26.79.1.1 25/00566/WTPO PP-14101447 19 Station Crescent: (TPO 4/89) T1 Oak – crown lift
reduction by 3m and thin crown by 30%. Week No.25 dated 20th June 2025

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".

25/26.79.2 Maldon District Council Decisions: covering decisions advised from w/e 6 June to w/e 27 June 2025; a detailed list had been supplied to Members, which is summarised below:

25/00393/WTPO

Cold Norton

(TPO 07/00) T36 - Oak tree- Crown reduction by 4m. T22 - Oak tree - Crown reduction by 3m. T28, T29 - Ash trees - Reduce height by 3m.

26 Station Crescent Cold Norton Chelmsford Essex

(UPRN - 100090555861)

Mr Jeremy Hartland

APPROVED

25/00164/HOUSE

Cold Norton

Single storey side and rear extension. Alterations to fenestration including the relocation of the entrance door.

The Spinney Fambridge Road Cold Norton Chelmsford

(UPRN - 010013995255)

Mrs Stef Carter

APPROVED

25/26.79.3 The Planning & Infrastructure Bill

Members considered the request from CPRE and were in agreement to write to the local MP to advise that the PC wants local planning committees to be guaranteed a say about local planning issues.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.79.4 Connexin & Poles

Members discussed the information supplied and noted that Connexin Poles are provisionally on agenda for the Parish & Town Council Forum scheduled for 14th July 2025 (Minute No.25/26.85.8 applies).

25/26.80. PLAYGROUND & CAR PARK EXTENSION

25/26.80.1 EV Charging Point

Nothing to report.

25/26.80.2. Playground

Members noted that the Sovereign inspection is due w/e 4th July - awaiting details.

25/26.80.3. Bicycle racks

Members noted that location/style still to be discussed with village caretaker/local contractor as applicable.

25/26.81 VILLAGE HALL

Members were advised that the VHMC AGM will be held on Thursday 17th July 2025 at 11.45am.

Members noted that date re meeting to discuss survey tbc.

25/26.82 CLERKS REPORT

Clerk advised that there is an upcoming webinar on Martyn's Lane which RCCE are facilitating the Clerk plans to attend (NB VHMC will also have been invited) and as outlined by Cllr Fleming earlier in the meeting the Maldon District Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival: one of the walks this year is a railway-themed walk centred on Cold Norton.

25/26.83 HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

25/26.83.1 TRUCAM

Members noted during May there were five captures with 54mph recorded in 40mph area & 37mph in 30mph area.

25/26.83.2 Overgrowing hedges/vegetation at Zebra Crossing

Members noted Clerk is liaising with MOAT re cutting back further vegetation so that the Belisha Beacon can be viewed from a distance.

25/26.82.3 Parking opposite Londis

Members noted that comment/suggested had been passed to Cllr Fleming. Discussed earlier in meeting Minute No. 25/26.76 applies.

25/26.84 OPEN SPACE

25/26.84.1 Village Caretaker work: Mr Wiseman continued to carry out this work. Awaiting details of works carried out in addition to the regular litter picks and emptying bins on playing field.

25/26.84.2 Cowpiece

Cllr Dixon advised that the pond was dry, and the vegetation had grown back and will need regular works by the Village Caretaker. Members agreed that Clerk should contact a pond specialist for advice.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.84.3 Goal Posts in Playing Field/Football Teams

Clerk updated Members regarding the sheds and advised that the two children's clubs confirmed that they would like to use the playing field, one for training on Saturday mornings (under 14 year olds) and the second for matches (7 a side) on Sunday mornings and possibly training on Saturday mornings. Access to toilets will be needed for the Sunday matches. The 'Sunday' club has advised that they will cut the field and mark out; Clerk is now awaiting information from the Sunday club regarding the type of goals that will be most suitable.

25/26.84.4 Allotment Site

Members noted issue raised by Allotment holders that fruit trees at rear of site have been cut and that Clerk was looking into as discussed earlier in meeting Minute No.25/26.73 applies.

ACTION: CLERK

Members noted Contractor to return to remove Elder Tree behind shed.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.84.5 PRoW FP14 & FP15 (horse riders)

nothing to report.

25/26.84.6 Additional Planting in Village

Report not available.

25/26.84.7 Plaques for Memorial Trees

Cllr Dixon presented options for above. It was agreed that slate and stainless steel options are pursued. A budget of £200 was agreed and it was agreed that decision re final selection was delegated to Cllrs Haydon and Dixon and the Clerk to facilitate installation before the next meeting.

**ACTION: CLLRS HAYDON/DIXON
CLERK**

25/26.85 TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

25/26.85.1 Passenger Transport Wednesday 4th June 2025

Members noted meeting notes.

25/26.85.2 Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome Joint Consultative Committee Wednesday 4th June, Tuesday 7th October & Wednesday 10th December 2025

Members noted that notes are awaited from the June meeting.

25/26.85.3 RCCE Community Climate Action Workshop Wednesday 2nd July 2025 11am to 3pm

Members noted that this was cancelled due to low numbers applying, but that Parish Councils were invited to attend a Zoom meeting on 30th June relating to Community Climate Action. Cllr Dixon & Clerk attended and gave a brief report to Members at this meeting; presentation will be forwarded to Members when received.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.85.4 Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils Wednesday 9th July 2025 7pm at Asheldham & Dengie Village Hall

Members noted that Cllr Luck plans to attend.

25/26.85.5 Rural Housing Week 2025: Webinar Monday 7th July 2025 12noon to 1pm

No one available to attend and not relevant to Cold Norton at present.

25/26.85.6 Promenade Park 7th to 18th July KOMPAN outdoor gym equipment roadshow

Members noted. Cllrs to check their availability

ACTION: ALL CLLRS

25/26.85.7 RCCE AGM Wednesday 9th July 2025 6.30pm at Rivenhall Golf Centre

No one available to attend

25/26.85.8 Parish & Town Council Forum Monday 14th July 2025 2pm to 4pm Maldon Town Hall

Members noted provisional agenda items are Connexin Poles, transport and potential grant funding opportunities. Cllrs Haydon and Clerk to attend; Cllr Jacklin tbc.

25/26.85.9 Maldon & Heybridge Transport & Bus Users Group Monday 1st September 2025 at Maldon Town Hall (time tba)

No one available to attend.

25/26.85.10 Nature Recovery, Biodiversity & Your Parish Saturday 13th September 2025 9am to 3pm Hatfield Peverel Village Hall (cost tba)

Members noted. Cllr Dixon hopes to be able to attend. Cllr Dixon to advise Clerk

ACTION: CLLR DIXON

25/26.86 CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

25/26.86.1 Maldon District Council Conservation & Design Awards 2025

Members noted that letters were hand delivered to the two potential projects suggested by Members.

25/26.86.2 Essex & Herts Air Ambulance

Members noted thank you letter for the donation & details of tour of the airbase. Clerk to ascertain dates for a possible tour for the Cllrs.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.86.3 Local Government Reorganisation Consultation Closes Sunday 20th July 2025

Members noted receipt and will respond as individuals and a CNPC response will be completed based on composite of responses from Members. Members to supply response to Clerk by Friday 18th July 2025 for inclusion in CNPC response

ACTION: ALL CLLRS

25/26.87 PARISH COUNCIL WELFARE OFFICER

Nothing to report

25/26.88 SOCIAL EVENTS

25/26.88.1 Party in the Park 2025: Saturday 28th June

Cllr Jacklin had supplied a detailed written report to Members advising a small loss of £92.00. It was noted that it was a very hot day which may have contributed to the lower than expected attendance. The major difference this year with costs was that the bouncy castles were totally funded by the 'Party' and children had unlimited access to them as part of their £5 entry fee (last year each entry to the bouncy castles was paid direct to the operator and there was no charge to the 'Party'). But whilst adult attendance fees were up this year child attendance fees were not sufficient to cover the cost of the bouncy castles. Members discussed the report and suggestions regarding changes/options if there is a Party in the Park event in 2026. Members thanked Cllr Jacklin and his 'team' for organising and running a very enjoyable village event. Members were all in agreement to cover the loss of £92.00 from PC funds. Cllr Jacklin to supply invoices

ACTION: CLLR JACKLIN

25/26.89 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).

No matters were raised.

25/26.90 MEETINGS IN 2025

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

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.17pm

Chairman.....

Date.....