

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the July 2025 Meeting

Planning Applications: There was just one planning application received from Maldon District Council for the Members to consider this month, namely: 25/00566/WTPO PP-14101447 19 Station Crescent: (TPO 4/89) T1 Oak – crown lift reduction by 3m and thin crown by 30%: the Members had no objections but added the comment: “*The Parish Council raises no objections to these works providing they are in line with MDC’s Tree Officer’s recommendations*”.

Planning Decisions: there were two planning decisions relating to Cold Norton received from MDC for the period w/e 6th June to 27th June 2025: 25/00393/WTPO 26 Station Crescent: (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. MDC approved these tree works (the Members of the Parish Council had not objected). 25/00164/HOUSE The Spinney Farnbridge Road: Single storey side and rear extension. Alterations to fenestration including the relocation of the entrance door. MDC approved these alterations (the Parish Council Members had recommended refusal).

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 had supplied a written report but was also in attendance at this meeting and updated Members regarding the Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival, advising that one of the walks this year is a railway themed walk centred on Cold Norton. Cllr Fleming and the Members discussed the options to prevent future damage to the footway opposite Londis once the scheduled repairs are completed; due to Local Highways Panel budget restraints it was decided that yellow lines/parking restrictions would be the best option to pursue via Safer Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP).

District Councillor Report: Cllr Ms Wiffen was unable to attend this meeting but had supplied a report advising Members that the Leader of MDC Cllr Richard Siddall had written to the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care stressing the need for urgent intervention so that the needs of Maldon District’s residents are met without further delay. MDC had been awarded the prestigious Platinum status in this year’s Exemplar Awards for Address & Street Data – underscoring the Council’s unwavering commitment to accuracy, reliability and continuous improvement in data quality. Cllr Wiffen’s report also included details of the proposed changes to Blackwater Leisure Centre due to begin in August 2025 and that Essex residents are being urged to voice their concerns to help police and local authorities tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. Residents can take part in this year’s Community Safety Survey until 3 August 2025 <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/equalities-and-partnership/community-safety-survey-2025>

Damage to the Fruit Trees at the Allotment Site: the Members were saddened to learn that the fruit trees planted at the rear of the site had been deliberately cut. It has been reported to the Police. If anyone has any information relating to this act of trespass and criminal damage, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Party in the Park 2025: this took place on Saturday 28th June - a very hot, sunny day. There was a singer and a live band, plus support music from DJ Dan. There was a licensed bar, hot food, ice cream and cakes, plus a variety of stalls and three bouncy castles. Chris Edwards organised a raffle with cash prizes for the three top winners. It was a really enjoyable day, but whilst attendance was up from Party in the Park 2024 the event made a small loss of £92 – partly due to fact that the bouncy castles were totally funded by the 'Party' so that children had unlimited access to the bouncy castles as part of their £5 entry fee (in 2024 each entry to the bouncy castles was paid direct to the operator and there was no charge to the 'Party' – but this made it expensive for parents, hence the change for 2025). The Members thanked Cllr Jacklin and his 'team' for organising and running the event.

Party in the Park 2026: At the September Parish Council meeting the Members will discuss 'Party in the Park 2026' – should there be one? If you were at the 2025 event, do you have any comments or suggestions, or if you weren't there what would you like to see at a future village summer event? Any comments or suggestions can be emailed to the Parish Clerk (or phone) - your details can be kept anonymous. Or come along to the PC meeting on Wednesday 3rd September 7.30pm to have your say. Would you like to be involved in the event?

Essex & Herts Air Ambulance: a letter had been received thanking Cold Norton for the £100 donation towards operating costs. As this village is some distance from hospitals, this charity is literally a lifeline for its residents. If you want to find out more about Essex & Herts Air Ambulance, groups or individuals can book a free Visitor Centre Tour via: <https://ehaat.org/about-us/visitor-centre-tour/> As part of the tour you may get a chance to see the helicopter (operations allowing) or immerse yourself in the exciting 999 Experience, and maybe put on a helmet and sit in the pilot's seat!

Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch Group: as reported last month Cold Norton no longer has a dedicated co-ordinator for Cold Norton's Neighbourhood Watch (NhW). Ans that temporarily the NhW co-ordinator for Purleigh has very kindly offered to also act as the NhW co-ordinator for Cold Norton. 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: Likewise, there is no longer a co-ordinator for the Cold Norton Speed Watch Team. Can you help with this very important role? Contact the Clerk in the first instance.

TRUCAM/Speed Checks: these cover both the 30mph and 40mph zones in the village. In May six offenders were recorded with a speed of 37mph recorded in a 30mph zone, and 54mph 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: 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 Availability: 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. The main hall and the two other rooms are also available for clubs, classes, indoor sports, lessons – the options are endless. During school term time the main hall is available Friday evenings and all day Saturday and Sunday; during school holidays the main hall is also available during the day and most evenings. The St Stephens Room is available during the day/evening Monday to Friday and weekends, and The Les Barclay Room is available daytime on Fridays and day/evening at weekends. For full 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: 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>