

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 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 Mrs J Luck
Cllr D Myers

In attendance: Mrs M Dyer (Parish Clerk)
Cllr Mrs J Fleming

25/26.117 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Dixon and Jacklin and District Cllr Wiffen

25/26.118 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.

25/26.119 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: there were no Members of the Public present.

25/26.120 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL DATED 3RD SEPTEMBER 2025 held on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 were approved as correct and were signed accordingly.

25/26.121 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Members noted September report supplied by email

25/26.122 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Members noted September report supplied by email. At the meeting Cllr Fleming outlined the various options put forward to the Government re proposed divisions of the county; Cllr Fleming and Members discussed the ECC Member Grant Fund options.

Cllr Fleming left the meeting

25/26.123 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT/ POLICE MATTERS & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
Members noted that there had still been no applications for a Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch Representative.

25/26.124 FINANCE

25/26.124.1 Approval of Payments:

25/26.124.1.1 Mr Roy Wiseman to village caretaker tasks. Invoice dated 24th September 2025 £83.50 (£82.58 net). Cheque No.912566

25/26.124.1.2 Maria Dyer office expenses from 29th August. Invoice dated 1st October 2025 £109.98 (£97.50 net). Cheque No.912567

25/26.124.1.3 Cllr Haydon to reimbursement of expenses (play quality bark for enclosed play area in playing field). Invoice dated 25th September 2025 £127.80 (£106.50 net). Cheque No.912568

25/26.124.1.4 RCCE to one place at Nature Recovery event on 13th September 2025 for Cllr Dixon. Invoice No.8193 dated 8th September 2025 £35.00. Cheque No.912569

25/26.124.1.5. Maldon District Council to Ground Maintenance July 2025 to September 2025 Quarter 2. Invoice No.COL58693349 dated 9th September 2025 £872.03 (£726.69 net). Cheque No.912570

25/26.124.1.6 PKF Littlejohn LLP to external audit AGAR for year ended 31st March 2025. Invoice No.SB20251701 dated 11th September 2025 £252.0 (£210.00). Cheque No.912571

25/26.124.1.7 Cold Norton Parochial Parish Council to use of The Beacon village magazine for Parish Council Reports during financial year April 2025 to March 2026. Invoice dated 26th September 2025 £223.65. Cheque No.912572

25/26.124.1.8 Cold Norton Village Hall Management Committee to use of The Les Barclay Room for Parish Council meetings in July and September 2025. Invoice dated 30th September 2025 £49.50. Cheque No.912573

25/26.124.1.9 Tax/Ni to 5th October 2025 £928.05. Cheque No.912574

25/26.124.1.10 Npower to streetlights for August 2025. Invoice No.IN13954713 dated 11th September 2025 £202.99 (£193.32 net). Taken by direct debit on 25th September 2025.

25/26.124.1.11 All staff costs £1,026.60

25/26.124.2 Financial Statement

Current balances:

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 10th Sept 2025	£	610.73
Santander as at 2nd September 2025	£	<u>43,907.94</u>
	£	44,518.67

25/26.124.3 External Audit

Members noted conclusion of the external audit.

25/26.125. PLANNING

25/26.125.1. Planning Applications received by the Parish Council: the following were considered, and the responses were:

25/26.125.1.1 For Information Only: 25/00782/LDP PP-14288519 Dunromin, Fambridge Road: Claim for lawful development certificate for a proposed excavation of a section of a sit to allow for the construction of an outbuilding housing a swimming pool within the cartilage of a residential building. Week No.38 dated 19th September 2025

25/26.125.1.2 25/00649/FUL Land at 15 Latchingdon Road: demolition of existing outbuildings; erection of new dwelling with associated parking and landscaping.
Members noted that the above application had been amended by submission of revised plans and were all in agreement that no changes or additions were required to the comments already submitted to MDC (as agreed at the Extraordinary PC meeting held on 31st July 2025; Minute No. 25/26.95.1 applies).

25/26.125.2 Maldon District Council Decisions: covering decisions advised from w/e 5 September to w/e 26 September 2025; a detailed list had been supplied to Members, which is summarised below:

25/00637/WTPO

Cold Norton

(TPO 07/00) T24 Oak - Crown reduction by 3m. Prune lateral spread by 2m to balance and shape. Remove deadwood >50mm diameter. T19, T20, T23 Ash - Fell
26 Station Crescent Cold Norton Chelmsford Essex
(UPRN - 100090555861)

Carli Hartland

REFUSED

Reasons for refusal: insufficient Arboricultural justification outlined and insufficient arboricultural evidence in the form of a report compiled by a qualified tree surgeon to support the application.

25/26.125.3 Planning Enforcement Service Standards

Members considered the draft document for above and all concurred with the draft and agreed that they would like access to Planning Enforcement mapping application.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.126. PLAYGROUND & CAR PARK EXTENSION

25/26.126.1 EV Charging Point

Nothing to report.

25/26.126.2. Playground

Members noted that replacement bark had been installed in the enclosed play area.

25/26.126.3. Bicycle racks

Nothing to report

25/26.126.4 Cherry Blossom Lane Kerb

Members agreed that following a further site visit that works should still be rectified by the contractor who carries out the 'road extension' to the new properties and no date had yet been advised for this work.

25/26.126.5 Maintenance Issues Playing Field

Clerk reported that works in the copse near the play equipment and hedge trimming around edge of playing field would be undertaken by the Village Caretaker, plus the hole at the edge of the football field area would be filled in. Two trees had failed at edge of playing field, quotes to be obtained for removal.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.127 VILLAGE HALL

There was a general discussion regarding promotion of the Village Hall via the PC website and an external noticeboard

ACTION: CLERK

Clerk advised that that the VHMC had brought up the subject of water and electricity used at the Party in the Park – further information had been requested.

25/26.128 CLERKS REPORT

Re the allotments Clerk advised change to 'management team' and that there had been a request for promotion of the site on the PC website - more information required.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.129 HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

25/26.129.1 TRUCAM

Members noted that during August there were two captures with 48mph recorded in 40mph area.

25/26.129.2 Overgrowing hedges/vegetation at Zebra Crossing

Nothing to report

25/26.129.3 Parking opposite Londis

Re process required to request yellow lines/parking restrictions thanks were expressed to Cllr Haydon and Myers for obtaining residential support for the application. Clerk to now complete the application which ECC Cllr Fleming will support.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.130 OPEN SPACE

25/26.130.1 Village Caretaker work: Mr Wiseman continued to carry out this work. In addition to the regular litter picks and emptying bins on playing field, Mr Wiseman cleared branches at Three Ashes Corner, trimmed the vegetation around the dog waste bins in St Stephens Road and removed the old football goal and net from the playing field.

25/26.130.2 Cowpiece

Cllr Dixon had sent a report to advise that as at w/e 28th September the pond was still dry.
Pond appraisal research: nothing to report

25/26.130.3 Football in Playing Field

Clerk advised that the one remaining old goalpost had been removed. Clerk outlined the proposal re a new goal from the football club who plan to play 7-a-side games here; access to the Village Hall toilet will be required for match games, Clerk is in contact with the VHMC re this.

25/26.130.4 Allotment Site

Members noted that the Contractor has removed Elder tree behind shed.
Nothing to report re damage to fruit trees at rear of site.

25/26.130.5 PRoW FP14 & FP15 (horse riders)

Nothing to report currently.

25/26.130.6 Additional Planting in Village

This will not be progressed.

25/26.130.7 Plaques for Memorial Trees

Nothing to report

25/26.131 TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

25/26.131.1 Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils Wednesday 9th July 2025

Members noted that this meeting was cancelled – awaiting new date

25/26.131.2 Nature Recovery, Biodiversity & Your Parish Saturday 13th September 2025

Members noted receipt of presentations from above (sent by email)
Report from Cllr Dixon who attended this event deferred to next meeting.

25/26.131.3 EALC AGM Thursday 25th September 2025 6.30pm to 9pm by ZOOM

Members noted Clerk had attended this meeting

**25/26.131.4 Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome Joint Consultative Committee:
Tuesday 7th October & Wednesday 10th December 2025**

Members noted receipt of notes from 4th June meeting
Members note Cllr Haydon plans to attend the 7th October meeting.

25/26.131.5 Maldon Parish/Town Council Forums

Members noted the dates set for Thursday 6th November 2025, Tuesday 3rd February 2026 and Monday 18th May 2026 and that Chairman and Clerk both plan to attend

25/26.132 CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

25/26.132.1 MDC 'Where Quality of Life Matters Fund'

Members noted details of this new community grant and discussed possible initiatives that could be put forward to be funded through this fund, such as First Aid and Defib Training, classes/activities. Clerk to research.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.132.2 Rough Sleeper Count

Members noted date set for above; Cllrs to advise details to Clerk of any rough sleepers spotted in the village overnight on this specific date.

25/26.132.3 British Regional Transport Association (BRTA)

Members noted latest update and agreed that in future only updates from BRTA that are of particular interest to Cold Norton be forwarded to Members.

25/26.133 PARISH COUNCIL WELFARE OFFICER

Nothing to report. Clerk following up contact for Defib Training

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.134 SOCIAL EVENTS

25/26.134.1 Party in the Park 2026

Clerk still to have discussion with Pre School and PTA at village school re possible involvement

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.135 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).

Cllr Myers advised that he had reported fly tipping (rubbish) near seat on St Stephens Road towards Church, but had not had a response to date.

Cllr Myers also brought up the topic relating to MDC's success in prosecuting a Burnham-on-Crouch resident for the illegal felling of six trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders.

25/26.136 MEETINGS IN 2025

Wednesdays: 5th November and 3rd December.

25/26.137 MEETINGS IN 2026

Wednesdays: 7th January, 4th February, 4th March, 1st April, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November and 2nd December.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.32pm

Chairman.....

Date.....