

COLD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 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 D Myers

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

25/26.138 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Luck and District Cllr Wiffen

25/26.139 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.

25/26.140 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: there were no Members of the Public present.

25/26.141 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL DATED 1ST OCTOBER 2025 held on Wednesday 1st October 2025 were approved as correct and were signed accordingly.

25/26.142 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Members noted October report supplied by email.

25/26.143 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Members noted October report supplied by email. At the meeting Cllr Mrs Fleming updated Members re planning matters in the Maldon District area, relating to Purleigh, Althorne and North Fambridge and discussed the proposed development in Stow Maries. Cllr Fleming also gave updates re the latest CQC (Care Quality Commission) report and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) relating to Essex hospitals. Dengie Bus Services and the 'Love Your Bus' grant were discussed. Cllr Gunn offered to undertake research with bus users in the village with a view to the Parish Council applying for a grant to improve services for village residents.

ACTION: CLLR GUNN

The locality grant was also discussed. Clerk to look into options for an additional piece of play equipment

ACTION: CLERK

Cllr Mrs Fleming left the meeting at 8.18pm

25/26.144 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT/ POLICE MATTERS & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Members noted that there had still been no applications for a Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch Representative. Clerk to convey thanks to the Purleigh NW Representative for also covering Cold Norton until a volunteer comes forward.

ACTION: CLERK

Members noted that an allotment holder has advised that not only had fruit trees been damaged, but also some Hawthorn trees. Clerk will continue to investigate this matter

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.145 FINANCE

25/26.145.1 Approval of Payments:

25/26.145.1.1 Maria Dyer office expenses from 2nd October to 5th November 2025 £38.16 (£37.41 net). Cheque No.912576

25/26.145.1.2 Sue Lees Consultancy to Cookie Control 'Cookie Yes' yearly subscription in advance re CNPC website. Invoice No.INV007198 dated 1st October 2025 £70.00. Cheque No.9125677

25/26.145.1.3 Maldon District Council to Community Engagement Team Services (TRUCAM) 3 x hours each July, August and September 2025. Invoice No.COL58593566 dated 10th October 2025 £466.99 (£389.16 net). Cheque No.912578

25/26.145.1.4 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal to supply of type C Poppy Wreath with centre personalised to Cold Norton Parish Council. Invoice No.69 dated 6th October 2025 £25.00. Members discussed and were all in agreement to increase this donation by £75.00; total therefore £100.00. Cheque No.912579

25/26.145.1.5 Npower to streetlights for September 2025. Invoice No.IN14160132 dated 10th October 2025 £239.08 (£227.70 net). Taken by direct debit on 24th October 2025.

25/26.145.1.6 Cllr Dixon to travel expenses to attend RCCE Nature Recovery event on 13th September 2025 £13.50. Cheque No.912580

25/26.145.1.7 All Staff costs £832.00

25/26.145.2 Financial Statement

Current balances:

Barclays 10 Day Notice as at 10th Sept 2025	£	610.73
Santander as at 2nd October 2025	£	<u>34,156.43</u>
	£	34,767.16

25/26.145.3 Changes to Bank Signatories (Santander)

Members noted letter from Santander re error in not processing CNPC application for above and that due to the time lapse because of this error, that updated proofs of addresses are required from Cllrs Gunn and Luck and changes to bank signatories must again be formally agreed at a PC meeting and signed copy of minutes to be submitted to Santander.

Members were all in agreement that Cllr Richardson and Cllr Romang be removed, and Cllr Mrs Gunn and Cllr Mrs Luck be added to the signatories.

25/26.145.4 Grants

Deferred to next meeting

25/26.145.5 2025/26 National Salary Award

Members noted that the Local Government Association had advised that it had come to an agreement re pay scales from 1st April 2025 (copies had been supplied to Members).

25/26.146. PLANNING

25/26.146.1. Planning Applications received by the Parish Council: the following were considered, and the responses were:

25/26.146.1.1 25/00774/FUL PP-14279210 Ancillary Annex at Wild Farm, Lower Burnham Road: single storey infill extensions. Fenestration alterations including the relocation of the front door and addition of roof light. Week No.40 dated 3rd October 2025:

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

25/26.146.1.2 25/00858/WTPO PP-1439568 24 Station Crescent: TPO7/00 T41 Pear – lateral reduction by 2.5m and height reduction by 3m. Prune tree to balance the shape. T38 Pear – crown reduction by 2.5m and prune tree to balance shape. Week No.40 dated 3rd October 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".

26/26.146.1.3 25/00926/SOR Land South West of Hogwell Farm, Hogwell Chase, Stow Maries: request for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Opinion for residential development for up to 1,770 dwellings. Week No.42 dated 17th October 2025:

The following view was submitted to MDC:

The purpose of an EIA is to evaluate the likely environmental effects of a proposed project before a decision is made by identifying, predicting and assessing potential positive and negative impacts, allowing for strategies to avoid, reduce, or offset harm.

The Members of Cold Norton Parish Council considered the contents of the Scoping Report produced in relation to the proposed up to 1,770 dwellings and are in agreement that a development of this size in this location would have a very high impact not only on the immediate area, but also would impact on the wider area, in terms of:

1. **Location:** *Whilst the proposal states that it proposes “to deliver a ‘Garden Village’ style of settlement which will prioritise the provision of high-quality landscaping and seek to minimise vehicular movements in and around the Site”, by virtue of its size and location it would have massive impact on the rural setting, open countryside and character of the area – no amount of landscaping would be able to create the impression of sweeping open countryside.*
2. **Traffic/Highways:** *With a proposed 1,770 homes next to the B1012 (Lower Burnham Road), which could mean a possible 3,000+ cars, it is hard to understand how the developer would be able to “minimise vehicular movements” – the B1012 is already a busy road as the only road from the Dengie. Other considerations should be the approved development of 1,200+ homes in South Woodham Ferrers, for which no bypass is proposed, which it is already predicted will hamper through traffic, and the possibility of Bradwell 2 proceeding which also proposed using the B1012 as one of its transport routes.*
3. **Infrastructure:** *the scoping report has said:” the site benefits from proximity to South Woodham Ferrers, which provides amenities including shops, schools, doctors’ surgeries”. However, the schools and doctors are already running at full capacity, which again is already a concern due to the 1,200+ proposed new homes in South Woodham Ferrers as mentioned above.*

It is noted that technically the site comes under ‘Stow Maries’ village, but the proposed site is completely separate from and outside the settlement zone of Stow Maries Village, which has a current population of c226 people. This proposed development would see a very disjointed village with a conservative estimated increase in population by 1,750%.

25/26.146.2 Maldon District Council Decisions: covering decisions advised from w/e 3 October to w/e 31 October 2025; a detailed list had been supplied to Members, which is summarised below:

25/00699/WTPO Cold Norton
(TPO 10-24) - T1 - Oak - Lateral reduction by 2m
St Stephens Church St Stephens Road Cold Norton Essex
(UPRN - 010013997085)
Roger Hawes

APPROVED

Also received was the outcome of an outline planning application relating to Althorne that the Parish Council had been invited to submit comments, namely:

22/00314/OUTM Althorne
Outline planning application with all matters reserved except for access, for a phased mixed use development including: Up to 550 dwellings (Class C3) including affordable housing; Up to 1,000sqm commercial space (Use Class E); Early years facility (Use Class E(f)); Education provision (Use Class F1(a)); A 16ha District Park; A 3.3ha Local Park ; Allotments Access enhancements and associated development.
Land South of Farnbridge Road Burnham Road and East West of Station Road Althorne Essex
(UPRN - 010094635574)
Mr Holloway - DMJ Althorne Ltd **REFUSED**

25/26.146.3 Chelmsford Local Plan

Members noted the need for additional sites.

25/26.147. PLAYGROUND & CAR PARK EXTENSION

25/26.147.1 EV Charging Point

Nothing to report.

25/26.147.2. Playground

Awaiting date for works

25/26.147.3. Bicycle racks

Nothing to report

25/26.147.4 Cherry Blossom Lane Kerb

Members noted that as agreed work to damaged kerb will be commissioned when contractor for road extension is appointed by developer.

25/26.147.5 Lights in car park extension

Members noted some lights had been damaged. Cllr Haydon offered to source and install

ACTION: CLLR HAYDON

25/26.147.6 Skate Ramps

Members discussed the offer for above from Maldon District Council and were all in agreement to decline the offer.

25/26.147.7 Trees

Members noted that two trees have failed and need removing and that quotes are to be obtained. Members noted that a new tree survey will need to be undertaken next year NB not just for trees in playground but all CNPC responsible trees Quote being obtained.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.148 VILLAGE HALL

Nothing reported.

25/26.149 CLERKS REPORT

Clerk updated Members on the fox in the playing field.

25/26.150 HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

25/26.150.1 TRUCAM

Members noted that in September there had been twelve captures with 60mph recorded in a 40mph area and in October there had been four captures with 36mph recorded in a 30mph area and 48mph recorded in a 40mph area.

25/26.150.2 Overgrowing hedges/vegetation at Zebra Crossing

Nothing to report

25/26.150.3 Parking opposite Londis

Members noted process required to request yellow lines/parking restrictions in hand.

25/26.150.4 Speed Watch

Members discussed communication from Stow Maries PC to Cold Norton PC (CNPC) and Purleigh PC (PPC) advising that Stow Maries PC is looking into organising a Speed Watch Group and inviting either/both CNPC/PPC to form a group. Clerk to advise Stow Maries current situation re Cold Norton Speed Watch.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.150.5 Buses – ‘Love Your Bus’ Grant

Topic was discussed with Cllr Fleming earlier in the meeting – Minute No.25/26.143 applies.

25/26.151 OPEN SPACE

25/26.151.1 Village Caretaker work: Mr Wiseman continued to carry out this work of regular litter picking and emptying bins on playing field. Details of additional works this month not available.

25/26.151.2 Cowpiece

Cllr Dixon advised that as at 1st November and 5th November 2025 the pond was still dry. Clerk to follow up quote for a pond appraisal to be carried out.

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.151.3 Football in Playing Field

Clerk updated Members

25/26.151.4 Allotment Site.

As noted earlier in meeting Hawthorn trees were also damaged at same time as the fruit trees - Minute No. 25/26.144 applies.

25/26.151.5 PRoW FP14 & FP15 (horse riders)

Members noted that the PRoW Officer had emailed the landowner but had no response as it maybe that the landowner has changed, awaiting update; but resident who reported the issue has advised that there is no evidence of horse riding at present.

25/26.151.6 Plaques for Memorial Trees

Cllr Dixon advised that the ground is now suitable for one of the plaques to be installed. Cllr Haydon offered to assist with installation. Research in hand for a different plaque for the second memorial tree.

ACTION: CLLRS DIXON/HAYDON

25/26.152 TRAINING/CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

25/26.152.1 Nature Recovery, Biodiversity & Your Parish Saturday 13th September 2025

Copies of the presentations had been forwarded to Members in October. At the meeting Cllr Dixon who had attended the event gave a report, advising that there were excellent inspiring speeches from a variety of professionals including 'Thirty for 30' i.e. Thirty Actions for Nature Recovery by 2030 and how other villages had started groups with 'Village Biodiversity Champions' to help bring about changes. Clerk to source the information leaflets and to approach residents who may be interested. **ACTION: CLERK**

**25/26.152.2 Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome Joint Consultative Committee:
Tuesday 7th October & Wednesday 10th December 2025**

Cllr Haydon was unable to attend the October meeting, but updated Members re the result of the road closures which put considerable strain on resources and the site, but advised that this year's events had all been very successful. Cllr Haydon reminded Members that the Officers Mess includes an 'Airman's Breakfast' on its menu and will be hosting Christmas Lunches – open to all.

25/26.152.3 Maldon Parish/Town Council Forums

Members noted dates set for Thursday 6th November 2025, Tuesday 3rd February 2026 and Monday 18th May 2026. Chairman and Clerk to attend. Notes/presentations from last meeting in July and agenda for 6th November had been forwarded to Members.

25/26.152.4 Remembrance Day Service

Members noted this will be held at St Stephens Church on Sunday 9th November at 10.50am and that Cllr Haydon will lay a wreath on behalf of all Cold Norton residents. All welcome to attend.

25/26.152.5 Transport Engagement Meeting Wednesday 19th November 10am to 12noon

No one available to attend.

25/26.153 CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

25/26.153.1 County Broadband Merger

Members noted County Broadband has merged with Truespeed.

25/26.154 PARISH COUNCIL WELFARE OFFICER

Nothing to report.

25/26.155 SOCIAL EVENTS

25/26.155.1 Party in the Park 2026

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

ACTION: CLERK

25/26.156 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 reported on farming activity/mound near the Church.

25/26.157 LAST MEETING IN 2025

Wednesday: 3rd December.

25/26.158 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.

25/26.159 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 were instructed to withdraw.

There were no Members of the Public present.

25/26.160 CO-OPTION TO PARISH COUNCIL

Members considered the applications and were all in agreement to co-opt Steve Evans to the Parish Council.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 22.13pm

Chairman.....

Date.....