

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the November 2025 Meeting

Planning Applications: There were three planning applications received from Maldon District Council (MDC) this month for the Members to consider. The first application considered was 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: the Members had no objections and made no comments. The second application 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: 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.*” The last application discussed was: 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. The following 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%.

Planning Decisions: there was just one planning decision relating to Cold Norton received from MDC for the period w/e 3rd October to 31st October 2025:

25/00699/WTP0 St Stephens Church, St Stephens Road: TPO10/24 Ti Oak: lateral reduction by 2m. MDC approved these works (the Members had not raised any objections, but added a comment to say, “*providing they are in line with MDC’s Tree Officer’s recommendations.*”).

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 Land South Of Farnbridge Road, Burnham Road and East West of Station Road, 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. Maldon District Council refused the application (the 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

District Councillor Report: Cllr Ms Wiffen was unable to attend this meeting but had supplied a written report for October which advised that MDC won a gold award for animal activity licensing at the RSPCA Pawprints Awards 2025 – the only scheme of its kind in the England, that recognises local authorities and public bodies that go the extra mile to protect and promote animal welfare. This prestigious award recognises MDC’s leadership in raising welfare standards across animal-related businesses through collaboration and robust regulation. The report also advised that MDC is set to renew and extend its current Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for controlling dogs across the District. PSPOs are legal frameworks that aim to improve the quality of life for residents. The change has come about as a result of an outstanding response to a public consultation earlier this year, which asked the public for views on dogs in public space. Details of changes can be found on MDC’s website: www.maldon.gov.uk/pspo

County Councillor Report: Cllr Mrs Fleming attended this meeting but had also supplied a report in October advising Members that Beaulieu Park Railway Station opened at the end of October and will provide travel to Liverpool Street in 40 minutes. The car park has 752 parking spaces including 38 free of charge spaces for Blue Badge holders and 10 electric vehicle charging points. Road users can reach the station via the new A131 Beaulieu parkway relief road which connects to the Essex Regiment Way in the west and the Boreham Interchange to the east. The report also advised that some Essex libraries now offer low-cost working spaces for freelancers, startups and small teams with rates from £6 per hour. Health related services include blood pressure monitors available to borrow from 74 local libraries and Essex Wellbeing Services are offering ‘Stop Smoking’ support: https://essexwellbeingsservice.co.uk/support/stop-smoking/?utm_source=e-shot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Your+Essex+October+2025 Free adult cycle training is available at various locations across Essex:

https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/registerinterest/registerselectcoursetype?utm_source=e-shot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Your+Essex+October+2025

Cllr Mrs Fleming's full October report is available to read on the Cold Norton Parish Council website.

Co-option to the Parish Council: Congratulations to Stephen Evans who was co-opted onto the Council. The Members look forward to welcoming Cllr Evans to his first council meeting.

Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch Group: as reported Cold Norton no longer has a dedicated co-ordinator for Cold Norton's Neighbourhood Watch (NhW). And 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.

Footway opposite Londis: Cllr Mrs Fleming has arranged for this damage caused by lorries etc parking on the footway to be repaired. For this not to be damaged again an application will be submitted to South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) for double yellow lines to be installed in that area. For the best chance of success, we need to show resident support (by way of your name, address and signature on a form). Many thanks to the residents who have signed the form.

TRUCAM/Speed Checks: these cover both the 30mph and 40mph zones in the village. In September twelve offenders were recorded with a speed of 60mph recorded in a 40mph zone. In October four offenders were recorded with a speed of 48mph 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.

Solar Panels at the Village Hall: a FIT payment of £880.07 was received for the period 23rd June 2025 to 30th September 2025.

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

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

Football Goal Post: the old goal post at the playing field has been removed but will be replaced ASAP.

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.

County Broadband: has merged with Truespeed – a rural full-fibre provider in the West of England.

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.

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>

Last Parish Council Meeting in 2025
Wednesday 3rd December.

Parish Council 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.

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>