

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the June 2026 Meeting

Planning Applications: no planning applications received from Maldon District Council (MDC) this month for the Members to consider, but the Members were advised of the following planning appeal.

Planning Appeal:

Site Address: Land South of Fambridge Road Burnham Road & East West of Station Road Althorne Essex

Proposal: 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.

Application Ref: 22/00314/OUTM PP-11430366

Appellants Name: Mr Ian Holloway - DMJ Althorne Ltd

Appeal Ref: 6008258

Appeal Start Date: 15 May 2026

As part of the Appeal process MDC have forwarded the representations received from all consultees to the Planning Inspector, but all consultees are now offered the opportunity to modify/withdraw their previous representation. In November 2023 the Members of Cold Norton Parish Council had recommended refusal of this application for the following reasons:

- 1 *Increased traffic, which will impact on the roads which are already congested from the Dengie into Maldon and South Woodham Ferrers (SWF is also the subject of a large development for which there is already concern re the impact this will have on traffic from the Dengie.*
- 2 *Infrastructure is inadequate, in particular sewage, which is unable to cope at present.*
- 3 *This proposed development will add to the issues already being caused by the existing developments in process (e.g., Burnham) which have made no provision for additional facilities for the increase in population e.g., schools, doctors etc.*

The Members felt these reasons were still applicable.

Planning Decisions: there were no planning decision advised by MDC relating to properties in the Cold Norton Parish Council area for the period of w/e 9th May and w/e 29th May 2026,

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

New Piece of Play Equipment: a new piece of play equipment, namely, a Sensory Panel, has been installed in the younger children's enclosed play area at the playground at the village hall. Thanks go to our previous Essex County Councillor Mrs Jane Fleming for nominating Cold Norton for a grant from the ECC Locality Fund to purchase this item.

Climate & Nature Crisis - People's Emergency Briefing: in November 2025, the National Emergency Briefing brought together leading UK scientists and experts to present the latest evidence on the climate and nature crisis to politicians and other influential people in Westminster and its effect on extreme weather, food security. Biodiversity loss, health and cost of living. The film 'People's Emergency Briefing' is based on the National Emergency Briefing and sets out the risks facing the nation and the credible, positive responses available, in a clear and accessible account. The film, with appearances from Chris Packham, Deborah Meaden, Jennifer Saunders and a range of people from across the UK, is being shown all over the country - visit the website for details of local screenings <https://www.nebriefing.org/the-film> and also to read the briefings from the experts presented in full as part of the public record.

The Parish Council is keen to find ways that Cold Norton can do its bit to help nature recovery. There are many simple tasks that individuals, household and communities can do that will make a difference detailed in a leaflet called THIRTY FOR 30 to encourage taking actions between now and 2030. Please contact the Clerk for a copy.

District Councillor Report: Cllr Ms Wiffen's report for May advised that Cllr Ron Pratt had been elected Chairman of Maldon District Council and Cllr Simon Morgan has been appointed as Leader of MDC. The Hythe Quay dredging project has been completed, marking a milestone for the local maritime infrastructure in Maldon. The new skatepark in Maldon has been officially opened – adding to recreational facilities in Promenade Park.

Annual Parish Meeting: was held on Thursday 22nd May, with a report from the Parish Council Vice Chairman Cllr Marion Gunn. At the conclusion of the Parish Council report Cllr Gunn introduced Luke Danbrook, who has very kindly taken on the role of Cold Norton Neighbourhood Watch (NhW) Co-ordinator. Luke gave a brief update on NhW matters and advising that stop/start 'car keys' are a big issue and to take care where they are stored at home etc. District Cllr Lisa Wiffen gave her report for District and read out the ECC annual report that had been prepared by ECC Cllr Mrs Jane Fleming – the full ECC Annual Report can be viewed on the Parish Council website. Stuart Cooper, Chairman of Stow Maries Opposition Group (SMOG), spoke about the proposed development of 1,770 homes alongside Lower Burnham Road. The Local Police were unable to attend the APM but did attend the June Parish Council meeting. Thank you to the residents who attended the APM and stayed afterwards for a chat over tea and biscuits served by Mrs Chris Hawes and Mrs Connie Wray (thank you to them both).

Villager of the Year 2026: this was announced at the end of the Annual Parish Meeting: the recipient this year is Brian Haydon for all his work and involvement over many years with the community pub, The Norton, the community land and for spearheading the 2023 Village Appraisal. Until recently Brian had been on the Parish Council, having joined in October 2015, and being elected Chairman of the Parish Council in June 2020. Unfortunately, Brian wasn't at the meeting, but Cllr Mrs Jo Luck has since presented the engraved Villager of the Year Shield to him.

Police: the local Policeman allocated to Cold Norton was in attendance at this meeting. Members outlined current concerns relating to speeding, parking and unsocial behaviour.

June Report from the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: with the hot weather, Luke Danbrook advised residents to make sure windows and doors are locked before leaving the house – people are forgetting and providing easy access for burglars. At night remember to shut and lock all downstairs windows and doors and keep upstairs windows open at a minimum.

Green Space Games: the Members agree to fund two sessions of this initiative, operated by Maldon & District Community Voluntary Service (CVS), in Cold Norton during the school summer holidays. Each session will run for 2 hours – free for families with children aged 3 to 11 – outdoor activities on the playing field, structured staff led activities, sports & games, arts & crafts etc. Dates are awaited but will be sometime between Monday 27th July and Friday 21st August. 50 children per session, booking required. Look out for posters etc or let the Clerk know if you are interested to be advised of dates and how to book.

Parking in Victoria Road: inconsiderate parking is becoming a concern in this road causing issues for residents generally and obstructing sight lines when trying to exit onto Latchingdon Road; delivery vans have also had issues trying to manoeuvre past vehicles. Residents are also concerned there could be a problem if any of the emergency services needed access.

New Residents: if you have a new neighbour, do please let the Parish Clerk know, so they can be given a footpath map and a copy of the latest Village Appraisal.

TRUCAM/Speed Checks: these cover both the 30mph and 40mph zones in the village. In May eight offenders were recorded with a speed of 64mph 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. The members of the current committee are now all standing down at the end of July after many, many years – grateful thanks to Alex Romang, Chris Edwards and Sue Garnham for all their hard work. The five roles to be filled are: Chairman, Treasurer, Booking Clerk, Secretary and 100 Club Organiser (some of the roles can be combined as at present, but this is very flexible). For more information, initially please contact the Parish Clerk, details at end.

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: the village shop, Londis, is a stockist, 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.

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 2026

Wednesdays: 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 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>