

## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

From the October 2026 Meeting

**Planning Applications:** there was just one planning application received from Maldon District Council (MDC) this month, namely: 26/00570/FUL PP-15165105 Land adjacent Pantile Hall, Honeypot Lane: erection of 6 detached dwellings (5 with integral garages and 1 with a detached garage) including associated landscaping, parking to the front, gardens to rear and the formation of a new private access road from Honey Pot Lane. The Members recommended refusal of this development for the following reasons:

*It is outside the development area. Site is not appropriate for the proposed development: for environmental and biodiversity reasons including the effect on wildlife, unsuitability of the road and access, tree loss and lack of amenities/infrastructure i.e. drainage, sewage, schools etc*

*Contrary to:*

*Policy S8 – Settlement Boundaries & the Countryside  
Policy D1 – Design Quality & Built Environment  
Policy D2 – Environmental impact of new development  
Policy N2 – Natural Environment & Biodiversity  
Policy I1 - Infrastructure & Services  
Policy T2 - Accessibility*

In addition, Members also considered information received from North Fambridge Parish Council (NFPC) in relation to the highways aspect of planning application 25/01119/OUTM (198 homes in North Fambridge). The Members had submitted comments to MDC regarding this application in March 2026 recommending refusal and expressing concern especially regarding highways and infrastructure, as this proposed development would impact on neighbouring parishes/villages. Having been made aware of the report NFPC commissioned through an independent transport planning consultant, the Members have written to MDC advising that they want it recorded that CNPC supports and is in agreement with the comments made by NFPC to MDC on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Supplied by MDC for information only: 26/00640NMA Land adjacent Eastholm, Latchingdon Road: Application for non-material amendment following grant of planning permission 24/00742/FUL (erection of 1no. dwelling with associated landscaping and ancillary works). Amendments sought addition of front entrance gate to side access drive.

**Planning Decisions:** there were three planning decisions advised by MDC relating to properties in the Cold Norton Parish Council area for the period of w/e 4 September to w/e 2 October 2026, namely: 26/00279/HOUSE Tintagel 8 Howe Green Road: erection of a part two storey, part single storey rear extension. MDC approved this extension (the Members had not objected). The second decision advised was: 26/00157/FUL Caravan at Toad Hall, Station Road: Subdivision of land into two plots; northern plot for re-siting of caravan (Class C1 use) and the creation of a new vehicular access onto Station Road, southern plot for erection of a new dwelling (Class C3 use) with associated parking and landscaping. MDC approved this application (the Members had recommended refusal). The last decision was: 26/00500/RES Land at The Brambles, Latchingdon Road: Reserved matters application for the approval of all matters on approved planning application

25/00186/OUT(Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of 1no dwelling). MDC approved (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](http://www.maldon.gov.uk)

**The New 99 Bus Shopper Service:** is now operational and as well as visiting shopping venues (Maldon, South Woodham Ferrers and Chelmsford) it also goes to Broomfield Hospital – see posters on the village notice boards or visit the Parish Council website for details or visit:

<https://www.travelessex.co.uk/about-bus-services/explore-bus-options/route/1634?type=route&id=1634&label=99+-+Asda+Store%2C+Stephensons&sort=Asda+Store%2C+Stephensons&intelliLabel=%3Cb%3E99%3C%2Fb%3E+-+asda+store%2C+stephensons>

**Remembrance Day:** a wreath will be laid on behalf of all the residents of Cold Norton on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Due to the temporary closure of the Church, the service, starting at 10.50am, will be held outside the Church. All are very welcome to attend.

**District Councillor Report:** Cllr Lisa Wiffen's September and October reports advised that Maldon District Council had announced a new partnership with Loci to support the rollout of a free community app for residents across the Maldon District. The Loci app brings useful local information, services, events and opportunities together in one easy-to-use place, helping residents stay connected with what is happening in their area. Through the app, residents can access practical local information, including bin collection reminders and service updates, as well as discover community events and local opportunities. The Council is also exploring ways to link the app more closely with local service information to create a smoother experience for residents.

Also included in the report was the news that MDC is the first local authority in Essex to be producing a Local Plan under the new 30-month plan-making system which will set out a long-term vision for Maldon District, including where homes, jobs and infrastructure should be located, how high-quality design will be supported and how the district's distinctive natural and historic environment will be protected and enhanced. Cllr Simon Morgan, Leader of MDC, said: *"A new Local Plan is essential to make sure future development is plan-led, supported by the right infrastructure and shaped around the needs and character of Maldon District and not dictated to us by speculative developers. The detailed preparation completed so far gives us a strong foundation and a clear, realistic route forward."* Public consultation with residents, tenants, landlords, partners and community will help shape the new strategy which will guide how the Council and its partners tackle housing challenges across the district over the next five years. It will replace the current 2018–2025 strategy and comes at a time when high housing costs, limited availability of suitable and affordable homes and demand for homelessness services are placing pressure on residents, the Council and other public services. The Council is proposing three overarching priorities: prevention and early intervention; building and making best use of the right homes; and creating a joined-up housing system.

Cllr Wiffen's report advised that MDC's Environmental Health Team had received a Gold PawPrints Award for Animal Activity Licensing from the RSPCA.

The PawPrints Awards are the only awards scheme of their kind in England and Wales, recognising local authorities and public sector organisations that go above and beyond to improve animal welfare in their communities. The Gold Award recognises the Council's commitment to maintaining high standards of animal welfare through its animal licensing work. The Council's Environmental Health Team is responsible for licensing and inspecting a range of animal-related businesses across the district. This includes dog breeders, kennels, catteries, dog day care providers, pet sellers, horse hiring businesses and animal exhibitors. Through regular inspections and regulatory oversight, the team helps ensure animals are cared for in safe and appropriate conditions, in line with national welfare standards.

Cllr Wiffen also advised that Free Christmas Parking had been confirmed by MDC. This is designed to support local businesses and make it easier for people to visit Maldon town centre during the busy festive season.

This year's free parking dates are:

- Thursday 26 November (from 2pm) supporting the [Light Up Maldon](#) event\*
- Thursday 3 December (from 2pm)
- Thursday 10 December (from 2pm)
- Thursday 17 December (from 2pm)
- Christmas Eve (all day)

Free parking will be available in the following town centre car parks only:

- White Horse Lane
- Butt Lane
- High Street East
- Friary Fields

\*Light up event: Maldon High Street 5pm to 9pm with light switch on at 6pm

**Essex Honours & Awards 2026/27:** nominations are now open for all three national schemes aimed at promoting recognition of and celebration of individuals and organisations making a positive impact in Essex. These three awards, namely The National Honours (e.g. MBE), The King's Awards for Enterprise and The King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) are all excellent opportunities to recognise the selfless efforts, innovative spirit and entrepreneurial drive that defines the best of Essex. If you want more information/nominate someone, please contact the Clerk for further information.

**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.

It is proposed to host a screening of this film in the village – lookout for details coming soon.

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.

**Vacancy on the Parish Council:** there is one vacancy for a Parish Councillor. This vacancy is for a position on the Council only until the next local Council elections which are scheduled to take place in Spring 2027. Applications are invited from those interested aged 18 years or over, living or working in the Parish, who are concerned about what goes on in and around the village and is prepared to take an active role. Please contact the Clerk for full details of eligibility to be a Parish Councillor and if you would like any information about the role of a Councillor or attend a Parish Council meeting to see what is involved.

**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 September there were ten captures with 49 mph recorded in a 30mph zone and 57mph 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. A new committee is being formed, the role of treasurer has been filled, but the other four roles to be filled are: Chairman, 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, please contact Mrs Joanne Luck on 07871 167634 or email: [joanneluck@gmx.com](mailto:joanneluck@gmx.com)

**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 Mrs Joanne Luck on 07871 167634 or email: [joanneluck@gmx.com](mailto:joanneluck@gmx.com)

**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](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 4<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Members of the Public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

#### **Parish Council Meetings in 2027**

Wednesdays: 6<sup>th</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 5<sup>th</sup> May (NB this date may need to be changed due to the local elections) 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 6<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December

**To contact the Parish Council:** please email the Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer) at [clerk@cold-norton.org.uk](mailto: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>