

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the April 2011 Meeting

Please note all Parish Council meetings are open; Members of the Public are most welcome to listen to all or part of the proceedings and speak at a time decided by the Chairman.

Planning Applications: there were no planning applications for the Councillors to consider at this meeting

Planning Decisions: none relating to Cold Norton had been advised.

Parking near the school: Members were given details of a serious incident where inconsiderate parking prevented access by an ambulance to a seriously ill resident. PC Bowen was present at this Parish Council meeting and advised that he will be making regular visits to check this does not recur. Traffic Wardens will be requested to make spot checks. The School also issued a letter to all parents with children attending the school. Residents with children at the school are reminded that free parking is available at The Norton Community Pub and at the Village Hall for parents to use and then take a short walk to the school.

Digital Switch Over – Community Work Team: Members were advised that The Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) is working to ensure that those people in most need are not left with a blank screen when the Anglia TV region switches to digital transmissions this July. The RCCE will find trusted community supporters to help those who need help with this. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you need help or know of someone who may need assistance with this.

Call for Your Ideas: Members were advised Councils across Essex want to hear ideas on how they can support local people to play a greater role in improving their communities and enhancing local quality of life. The call for ideas is open to everyone in Essex – individuals or community groups. To ensure that the limited resources focus on developing the strongest community ideas there is a set of criteria to shortlist the ideas received. If you want to see a copy of the letter received by the Parish Council please contact the Parish Clerk, or for full details of the criteria and how to submit ideas etc please visit www.essex.gov.uk/inspiringideas or call 01245 434136 for a hard copy. Or let your Parish Councillors know your ideas.

Bus Passes: Members were advised that from 1st April 2011 ECC will become responsible for the concessionary travel scheme, but that district councils will continue to process applications and answer questions. The look of new bus passes will change, but current passes will remain valid until their expiry dates. For further information please contact: 0845 603 7631.

Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge 2012: Members were given more information on this, namely that it is an initiative to celebrate both the Queen's Jubilee and the Olympics to protect for the future a total of 2,012 playing fields and facilities – to safeguard land, facilities and opportunities for sport, play and outdoor recreation both now and forever, thereby protecting public access to outdoor space. Members requested that the Parish Clerk obtain the necessary paperwork to arrange for the playing field to be considered for inclusion in this scheme.

St. Stephens Parochial Church Council: a thank you letter had been received in relation to the £540 grant awarded to the PCC towards the cost of a new oil tank at the Church.

Voting on Thursday 5th May 2011: at Cold Norton Village Hall from 7am until 10pm

Annual Parish Meeting: was set for Monday 9th May 2011 at 8pm in the village hall, preceded by the Village Hall Management Committee AGM at 7.30pm

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2011:
Wednesday 11th May - this will be the first meeting for the new Council and will be preceded by the Parish Council Annual General Meeting. All meetings start at 8 pm in The Norton Meeting Room at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

To contact the Parish Council: please write to: The Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer), at Exordium, 30b Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 6JG. E-Mail to mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.