

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the July 2011 Meeting

Planning Applications: there had been four applications listed on the agenda, but prior to the meeting the Clerk had been advised that FUL/MAL/1100499 The Poplars, Cherry Blossom Lane had been withdrawn. The second application on the agenda was FUL/MAL/11/00509 Land at Latchingdon Road and Junction Road. Change of use to the siting of five caravans for occupation by Gypsy families. Approximately 170 Members of the Public attended the meeting to hear the Parish Councillors consider this application. Mr Philip Wakeling, Chairman of Cold Norton Parish Council gave a brief outline of the application and read out comments made by Cold Norton residents and Purleigh & North Fambridge Parish Councils in letters submitted to Maldon District Council, plus a letter from the village school advising that the school is over subscribed. The Councillors then briefly discussed these submissions, before Mr Wakeling closed the meeting to allow Members of the Public to comment on this application. Everyone who wanted to speak did so, then a vote was taken – all Members of the Public indicated their objection to the application. Attendees were advised that the best way to indicate their opposition to the application was to write to the Planning Officer at MDC, giving valid planning related reasons for their objection and to include their name and address. Mr Wakeling then reopened the meeting and the Councillors discussed the application and agreed to object to the application based on six elements, namely:

- The Planning Application Submitted
- Cold Norton's Planning Policy
- Maldon District Council's Planning Policy
- Technical Issues
- Supporting Documentation Alleging Suitability of Cold Norton
- Government Policy in Relation to Planning for Traveller Sites

and to recommend that Maldon District Council refuse consent. The Parish Council's full letter can be found on the MDC web site at www.maldon.gov.uk. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the Clerk for a copy of the letter.

The other two applications considered by the Councillors at this meeting were HOUSE/MAL/11/00454 40 St Stephens Road – single storey front elevation extension to form veranda and single storey side extension; HOUSE/MAL/11/00393 30 Green Trees Avenue – proposed side/front extension. The Parish Councillors had no objections to either of these applications.

Planning Decisions: there were only two decisions from MDC relating to Cold Norton this month, the first WTPO/MAL/11/00259 Elber 28 St Stephens Road – TPO 15/96 T35 (T4 on plan) Oak: Fell to ground level and treat the stump with an appropriate herbicide - Alleged tree related subsidence. This was approved by MDC, subject to conditions including the installation of an approved replacement tree. The second was for HOUSE/MAL/11/00297 Homestead Latchingdon Road - Porch to front of property, this was also approved by MDC (with conditions)

Two locked Notice Boards: Members approved costs to repair the Parish Council notice board at the school and to replace the one near Directa.

Highways Matters: Councillors were advised that the following matters had been actioned: re-instatement of Zebra crossing lines and light above Zebra now operational, school indicator sign at corner of Latchingdon Road and St Stephens Road repaired and yellow lines outside school reinstated. Clerk has continued to chase ECC Highways and MDC re the following: flooding near bridge, directional sign on Latchingdon Road to indicate Village Hall, Stow Road street sign opposite Hackmans lane, siding back of foot way from bridge to Palepit Roundabout. Clerk is also liaising with Police Speed Officer re Latchingdon Road and Stow Road.

Footpaths Map: Members were advised that Roger Hawes and the Clerk had met with the P3 Officer who had approved the layout. Copy will now be written and photos selected. Clerk to seek sponsorship to cover shortfall in P3 grant and budget set aside by the Parish Council for this project.

Village Plan: Councillors were advised at the meeting that deliveries were nearly complete. Mr Wakeling urged all present at the meeting to complete their questionnaires in readiness for collection. *(Whilst the collectors are returning to collect at different times of the day, if when reading this your questionnaires have not yet been collected, please contact the Clerk [by e-mail preferably, if not by phone], then arrangements will be made to collect from you at a suitable time.)*

Vacancies on the Parish Council: following the recent elections there are two vacant seats on the Council. If you would like to be considered, please write to the Parish Clerk by Monday 22nd August 2011 giving reasons why you want to join the Parish Council and details of any relevant skills and experiences you would bring to the Council. All applications will be considered during a closed section of the 7th September 2011 meeting of the Parish Council.

Eligibility to be a Parish Councillor:

- 18 years old or over and
- UK, Republic of Ireland, Commonwealth or EU Citizen and
- Elector in the Parish or
- Living in Parish or within 4.8 kilometres or
- Occupies as owner or tenant, land or property in the Parish or
- Works in the Parish

(You cannot put your name forward if you are subject of a bankruptcy restriction order, or have within 5 years previous been convicted in the UK of any offence with a sentence of imprisonment, suspended or not, for over 3 months without the option of a fine). If you have any queries or would like to discuss what is involved in being a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2011: Wednesdays 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November and 7th December. 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.