

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the November 2015 Meeting

**Solar Farms:** to start the meeting there was a presentation from Lightsource regarding the proposed Solar Farms in Cold Norton and Purleigh.

**Planning Applications:** there were three planning applications considered at this meeting: WTPO/MAL/15/0102418 St Stephens Road - TPO 2/83 T1 Oak: reduce height and width of crown by up to 2m all round (4m across in total width). Crown lift to approx. 3m. Remove dead wood and crossing branches. The Members did not object to these works provided they are carried out under the guidance of MDC's Tree Officer. The other two applications related to the proposed solar farms, one within this Parish and the other within Purleigh Parish, namely FUL/MAL/15/00779 PP-04369821 Field to West of Blood Lagoon, Hackmans Lane: Installation and operation of a solar farm and associated infrastructure, including photovoltaic panels, mounting frames, inverters, transformers, substations, communications building, access tracks, fencing, pole-mounted CCTV cameras and FUL/MAL/15/00780 PP-04369823 Land West of Flambirds Farm, Flambirds Chase, Hackmans Lane: Installation and operation of a solar farm and associated infrastructure, including PV panels, mounting frames, inverters, transformers, pole mounted CCTV cameras, substations, composting toilet and fence – these had been considered before but had been amended by submission of additional information etc. The Members had no objections to either of these applications and letters of 'no objections' were submitted to MDC. But following further information letters of 'support' were submitted to MDC, as follows: *"Letter (reference no.) dated 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015, was submitted to MDC with the Parish Council's view on the above. It had been understood that (nos of applications) would both to go to Committee for determination at the end of this month, as indicated on the MDC web site. It has now come to light, that this may not necessarily be the case (the policy and determination process etc. in respect of major or large scale development has been explained to the Cllrs), and that it would therefore have been more appropriate if the Parish Council had responded with either a clear 'support' or 'object' response as opposed to the just 'no objections' view submitted. This letter is submitted to clarify the earlier response and to advise that the Members are minded to SUPPORT the proposed development."*

Members had also been advised (FOR INFORMATION ONLY): LDP/MAL/15/01059 Coppercoin House, Hackmans Lane: claim for Lawful Development Certificate for proposed development: replace 20 year old flat felt roof with insulated, pitched tiled roof to match existing house roof.

**Planning Decisions:** two decisions were advised to the Members:

FUL/MAL/15/00843 Great Canney Cottage Hackmans Lane - The erection of a large five bedroom dwelling with a triple garage and associated parking to replace the existing dwellings known as Great Canney Cottage. The proposal includes the erection of a pool house to accompany the existing pool. This was refused by MDC (the Parish Council had objected to this application).

HOUSE/MAL/15/00815 Four Corners 10 St Stephens Road - Two storey side extension. MDC approved these works (the Parish Council had not objected)

**Grants:** the Members considered two requests for grants, one from Essex Air Ambulance and one from St Stephens Church. There was £546.50 left from the £600 grant budget (£48.50 had been granted to The Poppy Appeal and £5 to the

VHMC towards raffle prizes at the Christmas Fayre) and the Members agreed to grant £500 to St Stephens Church towards works which will cost £1,960 to repair/conservate stonework which is in urgent need of attention and to grant £46.50 to Essex Air Ambulance towards operating costs.

**Solar Panels at Village Hall:** the Parish Council has received its second quarterly payment re 'Feed in Tariff' (£560.52).

**Essex Playing Fields Association:** Cold Norton received a Certificate of Merit 'Silver Award' for the Playing Fields.

**Bench in Churchyard:** the bench that Cold Norton Brownies installed many years ago at the rear of the church following lots of fund raising activities has unfortunately now become unrepairable, so the Parish Council agreed to cover the cost of installing a new maintenance free bench made from 100% HDPE UK recycled plastic. This bench will be dedicated to Mr Alec Paul of Green Trees Avenue in recognition of all his work around the village.

**Maldon Youth Service:** If you would like to start a Youth Club in the Maldon District, there is help and advice available from: Professional Youth Workers at Essex County Council. Emma Cavanagh, Tel: 07717 814 472; email: [emma.cavanagh@essex.gov.uk](mailto:emma.cavanagh@essex.gov.uk) or Claire Nightingale-Wade Tel: 07827 255 975; email: [Claire.nightingdale@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.nightingdale@essex.gov.uk)

**Cold Norton Footpath Map:** please contact the Clerk if you would like a copy.

**Watercourse Mapping Project:** with reference to the report in the last issue of The Beacon please contact the Clerk if you would like a copy of the *Guide to Ordinary Watercourse Maintenance* (which residents who have responsibility for a ditch may find useful).

**Winter Salt Bag Scheme:** the Parish Council will be participating in this for the coming winter. If you would like to help in your road please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

**Parish Council Meetings:** Meetings now start at 7.30pm in The Les Barclay Room at the Village Hall. Last meeting scheduled for 2015: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Provisionally scheduled for 2016: Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March. 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](mailto:mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk) or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.