

NAVESTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 8th September - 20.00 START

Present: Councillors John Parrish known as Mike (MP), Raymond Balcombe (RB), Rowena Bere-Brown (RBB), Adrian Enkel (AE), Christine Gelderbloem (CG)

Also Present: Clerk Victor Simmons (VS), Essex County Councillor Lesley Wagland (LW), District Councillor Cliff Poppy (CP) from 20.45

This was a virtual meeting via the ZOOM platform. All participants had video and audio connectivity

1.) Chairman's Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone present to the meeting and thanked them for their efforts in the current difficult climate. MP highlighted RB for his work on the website, CG for the Navestock Gang WhatsApp groups and DW for the Village Hall pavilion planning application

2.) Apologies for absence - Councillors David Williams (DW) & David Hoppit (DH) - (both technical issues with attending virtual meetings)

3.) Register of interests - None declared

4.) Minutes of previous meeting - Minutes agreed as correct (to be signed by MP at a later date)

5.) Matters Arising

5.1) Policing Navestock - MP reports ongoing problems with G & T's blocking Horseman Side whilst playing boule. AE has witnessed this & their abusive behaviour when challenged. MP advised of a NHW meeting in the VH car park on Saturday 26th September from 09.30 - 10.30 am. ***Clerk to write to Chief Constable and request action other than "words of advice" from attending officers***

5.2) Pretoria Energy / PJ Lee & Sons - MP reports maize harvest imminent and suggests blocking of Cricket Road and Green Lane field gateway (partial). This should stop the illegal lorry activities & damage seen last year which is still unrepaired as promised. ***Clerk to escalate again as appropriate***

5.3) Alec's and Village Hall - Alec's have paid the 3 years swing sign rental owed & Village Hall their share of the new gate project plus a donation towards the new play area. ***Item closed***

5.4) Priors Golf Course - CG understands that partial sale of the site is once again going through. London Borough of Havering (LBH) applied for a permanent injunction in August to stop illegal site activities under their jurisdiction, outcome currently unknown. ***CG to monitor situation***

5.5) Village Show - MP confirmed the virtual Village Show had gone ahead and thanked CG and RBB for organising. This ensured no break in the annual event come rain, shine or pandemic! Numerous entries were received across 8 classes, with pleasing feedback from residents. ***Item closed***

5.6) Church Plaque - MP says the plaque has now been installed. ***Item closed***

5.7) Village Hall Pavilion Extension & grant applications - MP says the timetable is still for work to start in late October. DW is dealing with a planning application to revise hours of use plus change current usage of pavilion permission. **MP & DW dealing**

5.8) Snakes Hill Sewerage Tank - MP says nothing new to report as BBC still apparently purchasing land as part of the solution. **Carried forward (situation to be monitored by Councilors)**

5.9) Curtis Mill Lane Postcode Issue - Still in hand with the Clerk as the issue is both complex and time consuming. **Carried forward (clerk to investigate further with BBC)**

5.10) Commemorative Plaque - MP says the plaque has arrived and will be installed once the contents of the "capsule" have been collated. **MP & RB dealing**

5.11) Flooding Horseman Side / Goatswood Lane - MP said that the virtual Surgery on August 10th had not taken place. AE advised that in frustration local landowners had dug out the ditch to stop sewerage spilling onto the road. LW stated she had visited site with ECC engineers and Ringway Jacobs who concluded the problem not to be theirs, but under the remit of the Environment Agency (EA). The issue is now with the EA who are due to respond to LW shortly. **AE & MP dealing**

5.12) Cutting of Navestock Heath (hay & conservation) - MP states that the heath has now been cut and thanked CG for arranging this. **Item closed**

5.13) Health and Wellbeing - CG says local moral is good boosted by the WhatsApp groups however increasing instances of ASB is a concern. **Carried forward (topic for discussion by Councilors)**

5.14) Murthering Lane / Stapleford Abbots Golf Course (Abbots) - MP noted that EFDC had refused the 40 mobile home application on Abbots. CG reported ASB in Murthering Lane & that the golf course had erected barbed wire as a result. **Carried forward (topic for discussion by Councilors)**

5.15) Village Hall partition project - Clerk has submitted our Locality Fund application in conjunction with LW and we have been awarded £1250 to be claimed on completion. **Carried forward**

5.16) Priors Golf Course (PROW No. 58) - MP, CG and AE explain the land is still in the process of being sold. LW says that ECC PROW team have identified & written to both parties. **Carried forward**

5.17) Spring Farm & Skip-Ahoy (environmental issues) - MP explains the EA are now involved as it appears the company have no licences. Concerns raised over possible illegal dumping of waste in Curtis Mill Lane / Green. CG understands they are now applying for a licence. **Carried forward**

5.18) BBC (register of members interests) - Clerk reports BBC website still not updated despite new Information being supplied several weeks ago. **Clerk dealing**

5.19) Playground reopening process - MP suggests remain closed, some vandalism. **Carried forward**

5.20) National Citizenship Scheme (litter picking & Village Hall field levelling) - CG to organise litter picking dates & locations with the "rule of 6" an important consideration. **CG dealing**

6.) Public Participation with respect to items on the agenda

NOTE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN SUSPENDED DURING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

7.) Action on matters arising from public participation - Not applicable

8.) Current Matters

8.1) Goatswood Lane (safety cut and naming of new road) - MP & LW report ECC state the hedges are not on their land, so difficult to pursue as multiple land owners involved. Also, the new road name is being driven by LBH although Royal Mail have the final say (LW confirmed). Clerk to email BBC and reiterate "Old Oak Drive" is our preferred option. **Clerk dealing**

8.2) Black Cottage, Old Road (bollards on verges) - MP reports these have been removed by the owner before ECC had written to them. **Item closed**

8.3) Tyser Green (Swan Housing) - MP has spoken to land agents (Strutt & Parker) but still confusion over whose land offending trees are on. Clerk to email same as deed map required due to Swan Housing not accepting responsibility plus TPO tree has been lopped. **Clerk dealing**

8.4) Commonland (Curtis Mill Lane) - CG states barbed wire is still in place although BBC claim the land is not theirs. AE explains the land owner (Lord of the Manor) gave BBC control in his absence, so matter needs to be pursued with them. **CG dealing**

8.5) ECC Highways Pothole Initiative - MP advises Clerk has resent the information which LW requested again for clarification. **Carried forward**

20.45 - Cliff Poppy (CP) joins the meeting

9.) Reports from Working Parties - RBB says she has had to re-report water leak in Shonks Mill Road. She also comments on an overgrown hedge at the junction of Princes Road & Navestock Side (**Clerk to forward details to LW**). RB reports some vandalism on The Green plus Village Hall rubbish bin stolen again; AE has spoken to BBC regarding possible tracker inside when replaced. MP suggests locking to gate post. Discussion regarding new recycling bags and collection difficulties involving all attendees

10.) Correspondence and Clerks Report - Clerk advises that the Cricket Club will supply a working party on October 10th to help with levelling in the Village Hall field (see 5.20). NPC had nothing to submit to the Local Highways Panel later this month. The stepping stones in Horseman Side had been relocated by ECC as requested. AE advises one has been moved again by a local landowner who will move it back

11.) Planning - MP says NPC objected to a 22 home application in Murthing Lane due to the unsuitability of the location plus not a brownfield site. CP advises the proposal at Dudbrook Hall had been passed by a BBC Planning Committee despite the Planning Officer recommending refusal. NPC's objection letter had been read out at the meeting which centered on highway / traffic concerns

12.) Finance - MP has checked the accounts / records and everything is in order. Cheques to be signed for payroll, printer ink, EALC transparency course booklet and Marsh Commercial (Parish Insurance). MP raised the telephone box (library) insurance and felt we needed to review this at some point from a theft perspective, as they are becoming a valuable commodity. Our accounts are with PKF Littlejohn for a limited assurance review (AGAR) and notice of public rights and publication of unaudited annual governance & accountability return have been posted on the NPC website

13.) Discussion Items - CP mentioned that Tracey Lilley (BBC) had a meeting later that week with LBH, EFDC and the police on a range of issues including travelers and fly tipping. She was also keen to meet with NPC and residents, perhaps involving the NHW group. MP said there was a NHW event on Saturday 26th September between 09.30 and 10.30 am which Tracey was attending, when perhaps a subsequent meeting could be arranged. CG raised concerns over activities at Spring Farm which raised comment from AE and CP, before MP decided the complex topic would be better discussed at a later date

Next meeting Tuesday November 10th.

Meeting closed at 21.20