

## NAVESTOCK PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY & PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 8th March 2022 - 20.00 START

**Present:** Councillors John Parrish known as Mike (MP), Ray Balcombe (RB), Rowena Bere-Brown (RBB), Adrian Enkel (AE), Christine Gelderbloem (CG) - Also District Councillor, David Williams (DW)

**Also Present:** Clerk Victor Simmons (VS), Essex County Councillor Lesley Wagland (LW) - From 20.13

### ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

**BOWLS CLUB:** (Mary Enkel) - It was confirmed that the club is still disbanded.

**CHURCH COUNCIL:** (Mary Enkel) - The Rev Julie Hardy has now been with us for nearly 2 years and following online services only, we are now able to return to the church which is open every day. This year's Flower Festival is on June 11/12th, with the theme being "Thomas". This should assist with our "Parish Share" contribution which continues to be a challenge. Planned events include "Soup and Sweet" plus "Hymns and Pimms", which celebrates 40 years of bell ringing. The churchyard benefited from a recent working party, with the church building itself due a quinquennial inspection this year.

**CRICKET CLUB:** (Matt Richards report read by RB) - The club enjoyed a successful 2021 season with both league teams finishing mid table. We are in a good financial position thanks to various Government and Cricket Board grants which enabled the rear pavilion roof to be replaced plus our ancient boiler. We have also replaced our practice cricket cage thanks to an Essex County Council CIF grant. Substantial damage was caused to The Green in December by a car illegally gaining access, which is currently under repair. Finally, thanks to our outgoing President Mark Pryor for his support over the last 3 years.

**FIRST NAVESTOCK SCOUT GROUP:** (Jan Savill) - The group were finally able to meet face to face at Easter 2021 after a difficult period of Zoom meetings. Due to the relevant health protocols in place this proved to be a challenging time, despite this we were oversubscribed. Early summer saw camping in Kent with 21 scouts and 8 leaders. In November the whole group went to Tolmers Activity Centre in Hertfordshire for the weekend. The scouts went into London on the Saturday for a travel themed event with everybody coming together for a sports day on Sunday. The group is now 9 years old, having formed in May 2013. The group has 10 members and 7 leaders from within Navestock.

**LITTLE DOVES CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL:** (Pam Biddulph report read by RBB) - Little Doves Christian Pre-school has now been open for nearly 5 years using Navestock Village Hall. We have 16 staff members serving 40 families, with at least 4 coming from within Navestock (plus 2 staff members). We stayed open during the pandemic having exclusive use of the facilities, which helped greatly with maintaining health protocols. Fund raising continues to be a challenge to meet rising costs, but encouragingly our waiting list for September is starting to grow. We are planning to stay at NVH for the foreseeable future.

**PARISH LUNCH GROUP:** (Suzanne O'Shea report read by VS) - The group reconvened in July 2021 with all relevant Government health guidelines in place. The BBC Environmental Health Officer awarded the hall a 5-star rating during the autumn inspection. Group numbers now sit at 32, with lunch priced at £4.00 a head. The two Mary's have decided to retire with Patricia Haskell joining the kitchen team.

**VILLAGE HALL:** (Suzanne O'Shea report read by VS) - All activities ceased during lockdown, with Little Doves being the sole source of income as it remained open for key workers children. However, thanks to small business grants via BBC the doors (front and rear), plus front windows have been replaced and

new signage ordered. A successful Village Show took place in July and since September regular hirers are beginning to return. It is encouraging to see the hall being used to its full potential once again.

**VILLAGE SOCIETY:** (Roy Tyzack report read by VS) - In common with other groups and associations, the activities of the NVS are slowly returning to normal post pandemic. For the first time NVS shared organisation of the Village Show, taking charge of the field events. There was also a summer boat trip down the river Lee plus the annual Christmas lunch attended by 40 people. Sadly, our latest play was postponed until 2022 due to group health issues, but membership and finances remain sound.

**WI:** (Suzanne O'Shea report read by VS) - Due to the pandemic, the W.I. kept in touch mainly via phone and email, with the odd socially distanced garden tea and chat. We reconvened in September with meetings moving to the cricket pavilion, with numbers currently standing at 18. Sadly, two ladies have passed away, Irene Willing and founder member Ann Parrish. We plan to plant an indigenous tree in memory of Ann to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The 70th Anniversary of Navestock W.I. lunch which was postponed in 2020, will now take place this June.

**The Parish Assembly closed at 20.24**

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**20.25 Start**

**22/14) Chairman's Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everybody present

**22/15) Apologies and reasons for absence:** David Hoppit (DH) - Illness (accepted)

**22/16) Declaration of interests with regards to items on the agenda:** None

**22/17) To approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 11th January**

**2022:** Minutes agreed as correct and signed by MP

**22/18) Matters Arising:**

**18.01) Village Hall Sports Pavilion (build) and Sports Field Issues:** MP said work had stalled due to problems finding a contractor to lay the pavilion base. Delays beyond March could cause further issues due to the pavilion erection company having manpower problems. Blackmore Youth FC were submitting a grant application for £30K (drainage etc.) in partnership with NPC. ***MP & DW dealing***

**18.02) Flooding & effluent Horseman Side / Goatswood Lane:** MP and AE made comment on the continuing illegal effluent discharge into the ditch. LW stated her frustration with the situation and said that her admin assistant Ann Cocklin continued to chase the EA. ***Clerk, AE, CG & MP dealing***

**18.03) Health and Wellbeing:** CG stated nothing to report. ***Carried forward (discussion topic for Councillors)***

**18.04) Murthering Lane / Stapleford Abbots (Abbots) Golf Course:** CG reported an area just off of the course was rumored to have been purchased by travelers and was being cleared. BBC were apparently aware but no action had been taken. ***Carried forward (discussion topic for Councillors)***

**18.05) Spring Farm & Skip-A-Hoy (environmental issues):** CG said the site is not being cleared and is now overflowing onto the adjacent byway (Essex CC Highways have been informed). MP made

everyone aware that Stapleford Abbots PC had enquired about the situation. MP said that both CG and himself regularly discuss this issue with both EFDC and Havering Council. **Carried forward**

**18.06) Tyser Green, trees & flooding issues (Swan Housing):** MP said no updates since November. AE said recent storm damage had brought some trees down, but not the TPO ones in question. This damage had been dealt with by a resident. Flooding was still an issue. **Clerk & MP dealing**

**18.07) Common Land (Curtis Mill Lane):** CG and DW advised that the barbed wire was still in place with no update to report other than renewed motor bike activity. **CG & Clerk dealing**

**18.08) Neighbourhood Watch including CCTV:** MP gave an overview of proposals from BBC to install CCTV that covers the entrances to Navestock. The total cost would be around £80K with both LBH and EFDC involved in discussions. NPC have committed up to £4K to assist with the project which the meeting endorsed. Neighbourhood Watch have set up a dedicated email address for fly tipping reports which alert senior BBC staff and other key people in the county. **Carried forward**

**18.09) Shonks Mill Flood Storage Area:** MP stated no further update other than the Environment Agency had delayed a start date until summer 2022 due to technical issues. **Carried forward**

**18.10) Navestock Side - Sewage Discharge:** AE said Norris & Sons had banked up the field behind the properties in Navestock Side to stop sewage seepage. Apparently at least 4 properties have had sewage systems fitted at their own expense (£10K), others to possibly follow? **Carried forward**

**18.11) Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022:** MP advised the NPC event was set for Thursday June 2nd, with a picnic scheduled from 11.00 - 14.00 to coincide with the official RAF flypast at 12.00 noon. Our official beacon lighting time is 21.45 accompanied by a bugler, which Roy Tyzack (Beacon Master) has arranged. There was a general discussion on how to fill the window between 14.00 and 20.00, BBQ (NVS?) / outdoor cinema (RBB to investigate). **Carried forward**

**18.12) Highway safety cuts (Horseman Side):** AE reiterated the issue that the safety cut seems to always stop at the M25 road bridge. The Clerk stated no update from Ann Cocklin who had been emailed previously. It was felt that the operatives were unclear on the boundaries. **Carried forward**

**18.13) BBC recycling changes:** AE gave an overview on the continuing issues at Tyser Green and the village hall which seemed to centre around household / commercial waste schedules. CG offered to speak to the relevant department at BBC to try and help resolve the problem. **Carried forward**

**18.14) Postcode issue (Curtis Mill Lane):** No update as DH absent. **DH dealing. Carried forward**

**18.15) Village Hall Fibre Broadband Survey:** RBB read a response from the survey company, following a chase up email from the clerk promising an answer within 2 weeks. **Carried forward**

**18.16) Dog waste bin - Navestock Side:** AE requested a new metal dog waste bin. Clerk to investigate options / costs and liaise with AE as to best way forward. **Carried forward**

**18.17) Damage to Village Hall & surrounding area following hire on December 11th:** MP stated that the issue could now be closed as most of the damage had been repaired by the VH committee and the Cricket Club. There was a general discussion on a local 11-year-old seen riding a motorbike illegally on public roads plus other ASB. LW gave a legal viewpoint on the matter. **Item resolved**

## **22/19) Suspension of meeting for public participation with respect to items on the agenda**

### **21.05 Meeting suspended for public participation**

LW gave an overview on a new pothole initiative plus a further Locality Fund opening up. The fund was £10K with half for distribution at her discretion. The other half was to be split between 4 County Councillors with CCTV put forward as a potential group option.

### **21.10 End of public participation**

**22/20) Action on matters arising from public participation session:** MP asked for thought to be given to possible NPC applications to the new Locality Fund.

## **22/21) Current Matters:**

**21.1) Fixed Asset Policy and Register 2022 review:** MP recommended that the register be unchanged for 2022/23 as the sports pavilion was not yet erected - agreed. *Item resolved*

**21.2) Church Road - Sewage works:** CG had met David Carter on site (BBC Environmental Health) to look at the issue. It was unclear what agreement might be in place with the Church Commissioners re the discharge into the field, however this was now working ok. *Item resolved*

**21.3) Sports Field Hiring Policy:** MP gave an overview of the potential 5-year agreement (2 year break clause) with BYFC and how NPC would retain overall control of pitch use/match times etc. NPC would also have field use when required for things like the village show. *Carried forward*

**21.4) Oak Processionary Moth Infestation - Shonks Mill Road:** MP opened a discussion on the subject which LW had first-hand experience of and the serious health risks posed. The Clerk had made the Forestry Commission aware that the infestation was not on NPC land and directed them to Strutt and Parker as land agents for the Church Commissioners. *Item resolved*

**22/22) Reports from Working Parties:** DW reported motorbike activity on Curtis Mill Green plus major pothole issues in Albyns Lane. *DW to provide Clerk with exact location to escalate.* AE reported leakage from the maize stored in Lashes Farm polluting the ditches. *CG to ring PJ Lee & Sons.* RBB reported flooding again in Princes Road. She also said that hare coursing had dissipated recently. There had also been a surge in accidents again at the junction of Dudbrook Road / Princes Road where the road markings had eroded. *Clerk to email LW with details of previous reports.* CG reported some boundary issues at Heath View (Navestock Heath). *Clerk to write to the owner.* CG also started a discussion on obstructions being placed on roadside verges which LW gave opinion on. She also reported problems with loose horses in the Horseman Side area, potential planning issues at Meadow View, plus BBC Environmental Health were apparently investigating Mr Du Varené's situation at Murthing Lane. CG made the meeting aware that the new Community Hub was opening on Monday 14th March.

**22/23) Correspondence and Clerks Report:** The Clerk reported a resident complaint of deer culling at Jenkins Farm which upon investigation proved to be legal. The British Spring Clean was discussed and NPC would be opting out in favour of our own event. The 2022 Essex Care Directory had been received which MP would distribute as appropriate. There was a discussion on NPC attendance at BBPCA meetings and our stance moving forward. RB and the Clerk had fitted the trailer warning sign in the sports field as requested. The Clerk sought guidance on the upcoming playground inspection and it was agreed that both the old and new play area would be inspected moving forward.

**22/24) Planning:** MP started a general discussion regarding the henge at Meadow View which had been refused planning permission (retrospective) which crosses a public footpath.

**22/25) Finance:** MP has checked the accounts / records & everything is in order. Cheques to be signed were approved for payroll (March) and Clerk (printer ink). MP stated that NPC meetings would now move back to the village hall committee room as covid restrictions had ended. Moving forward NPC would no longer pay for use of this room but would continue to pay the main hall charge for parish lunches. ***Clerk to write to the village hall committee to clarify this position***

**22/26) Discussion Items and date of next meeting:** MP suggested that the heath area triangle next to The Green be designated as the official location for memorial trees / benches moving forward. Additional ditches were to be dug to prevent illegal vehicle access as the existing ones had been eroded by farm vehicles, this was agreed. It was also agreed that the cricket club sightscreen could be sited on the old tarmac track as an additional security measure to protect The Green.

**Next meeting: Tuesday May 10th, 2022**

**Meeting closed at 22.10**

***Victor Simmons  
Clerk to Navestock Parish Council  
3rd May 2022***