

NAVESTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 11th November 2025 - 19.00 START

Present: Councillors Chrissy Gelderbloem (CG), Rowena Bere-Brown (RBB), Adrian Enkel (AE), Lucy Gelderbloem (LG), John Parrish known as Mike (MP), David Williams (DW)

Also Present: Clerk Victor Simmons (VS), Essex County Councillor Lesley Wagland (LW), plus 2 members of the public (MOP)

25/71) Chair's welcome & announcements: CG - Welcomed everybody present and read out a generic statement regarding the recording of meetings (NPC now audio record all meetings). The sad passing of Councillor Roy Tyzack was announced and CG paid tribute to his long standing contribution to Navestock before a minute's silence was held as a mark of respect. His funeral is being held on Wednesday 26th November at Bentley Crematorium & Cemetery (13.30)

25/72) Apologies and reasons for absence: CG - None

25/73) Declaration of interests with regards to items on the agenda: MP & RBB (78.05) - non-pecuniary

25/74) To approve the previously circulated minutes from the Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 9th September 2025: Minutes were *agreed* as correct and to be signed by CG

25/75) Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

19.06 Meeting suspended for public participation

Mike Apostolides (MOP) - Spoke about major fly-tipping issues in Old Road and was interested to know what measures were in place to try and combat this? **CG** - Gave an overview of the current situation including cameras and fly-tip numbers / prosecutions. There had also been additional police funding to increase their presence in general. **Joe McNamara (MOP)** - Asked when Roy Tyzack had passed away? **MP** - Unexpectedly, on Monday 20th October

19.16 End of public participation

19.10: LW arrived at the meeting

19.16: Mike Apostolides left the meeting

25/76) Action on matters arising from public participation session: None

25/77) Reports: To receive brief reports from Borough and County Councillors present: LW - Gave an update of current funding streams and was hopeful that £500 would be allocated to NPC from her Locality Fund. **Clerk** - Had explored the alternative Member Locality Fund with **Caroline Ellis** at ECC, with regards to CCTV funding in rural locations. **LW** - Fly-tip removal was not always straightforward and sometimes required specialist teams due to the nature of the materials involved. The current ECC Highways contract with Ringway Jacobs was due for renewal in March 2027. The Local Highways Panel was now effectively closed, with just a few of the recorded schemes earmarked for completion and all others being removed.

25/78) Matters arising from previous meetings:

78.01) Village Hall Sports Pavilion (build) and parish field: CG - The upgraded toilet door locks have now been fitted as required, with the corridor roof repairs due for completion next week. The cheaper alternative 'green' electric air conditioning option for heating was discussed and **agreed**, as was the quotation for painting plus fitting of the disabled toilet hand rails. **CG** - Had submitted a bid to the BBC Locality Fund to create a sensory garden between the village hall and sports pavilion. **MP** - The BYFC Football Association grant application for £30K to improve the sports field playing surface had been approved in principle, with a site meet due to be arranged soon. **MP & CG dealing**

78.02) Health and Wellbeing: RBB - Gave an overview of a recent Essex domestic abuse course she had attended, which perhaps the contact numbers from would be useful to go out on the WhatsApp groups. **CG** - Would action, plus all the local community groups were running well. **Carried forward**

78.03) Spring Farm & Skip-A-Hoy (environmental issues): AE - Although the site was now empty there continues to be a considerable amount of fly-tipping outside of the facility. **CG** - BBC have been made aware of earth mounds to the side of the site despite no planning application? **Carried forward**

78.04) Neighbourhood Watch including CCTV: CG - Was still looking at the possibility of CCTV for the village hall although GDPR issues were a potential stumbling block given the preschool. The Clerk had investigated a potential funding source (see agenda item 25/77). **Carried forward**

78.05) Shonks Mill Flood Storage Area (River Roding Project): RBB - Raised the excessive noise and vibration caused by piling works at the site. **MP** - This was a matter for individual householders to complain about with the contractors, as NPC had no jurisdiction over the works. **Carried forward**

78.06) Navestock Side - sewage discharge: CG & Clerk - Still no communication from the Church Commissionaires or their land agents (Savills), who now had a new point of contact. **Carried forward**

78.07) Common Land issues within Navestock Parish: CG - Had undertaken an Open Spaces Society training course regarding common land in general and the matter was a work in progress. **CG dealing**

78.08) Navestock rubbish and litter issues: CG - There was still no litter picking within Navestock due to the BBC decision to suspend such activities on safety grounds. **Carried forward**

78.09) Boundary issues - Navestock Heath: CG - All documentation on the issue was now with the NPC appointed solicitors and would move forward based on their recommendations. **CG dealing**

78.10) Navestock Parish roads signage: CG & Clerk - There had been some odd emails from ECC Highways regarding supposed repairs to fingerposts within Navestock. **Clerk** to email **LW** with the spreadsheets of outstanding fingerposts first compiled in 2024. **CG & Clerk dealing**

78.11) Outline application for a new dual site motorway service area (M25) - MOTO: CG - BBC planning was awaiting a response from National Highways regarding concerns raised over the proposed slip roads. They had also promised a vote on the matter. **RBB** - The local pressure group were very active on the issue and had met with local MP Alex Burghart. **Carried forward**

78.12) Proposal for a motorway service area (M25) - Welcome Break: CG - There was no further news or planning applications. **MP** - This option had far fewer slip roads than MOTO. **Carried forward**

78.13) Village Hall playground seating: CG - Our appointed contractor will be installing the picnic bench when a suitable time slot for both parties becomes available. **CG dealing**

78.14) NPC grounds maintenance: CG - Now had a few potential contractors to consider in the New Year ready for works to start in Spring 2026 as deemed appropriate. **CG dealing**

78.15) NPC Insurance: Clerk - Following contact with Hugh Savill who deals with the village hall finances, both parties are in agreement to explore an umbrella policy from the next renewal date in August / September 2026. **RBB** - Was happy the insurers were aware of the corridor. **Carried forward**

78.16) Navestock Village Show 2025: CG - Following Roy's sad passing, the outstanding show monies issue was being sensitively investigated so as to allow the account to be closed. **MP & Clerk dealing**

78.17) ECC Locality Fund 2025-26: CG - See agenda item 25/77. **Clerk dealing**

19.55: LW left the meeting after being thanked by **CG** for her attendance and help with NPC matters

78.18) Village Hall guttering issues: CG & Clerk - See agenda item 25/78.01. It was **agreed** to show this as resolved as the matter was now more relevant to the sports pavilion build. **Item resolved**

25/79) Current Matters:

79.01) St. Thomas' churchyard funding request: Clerk - Gave an overview of the funding request which drew considerable discussion. **Clerk** to send out more detailed information. **Carried forward**

79.02) BBPCA meetings September 18th (report) and November 20th: CG - Had attended and lots of the discussion surrounded Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), with local authorities looking to discharge certain assets. **CG** hoped to be able to attend on the 20th November. **Carried forward**

79.03) NPC 2026/27 budget and precept (initial discussion): Clerk - The budget would be sent out ready for discussion at the January meeting, when a precept decision was required. **Clerk dealing**

79.04) NPC tree management: CG & Clerk - A contractor had been contacted with a view to undertaking a site survey of the two oak trees in the village hall car park and the four on The Green. **RBB** - Moving forward was in favour of a tree management policy which drew support. **CG dealing**

79.05) BBC Community Governance Review - Consultation: CG - This is part of the general LGR discussion with regards to BBC. **Clerk** - The review runs from 17/11 to 12/1/26 with draft proposals in January / February 2026 and the potential re-organisation in November 2026. **Item resolved**

79.06) NPC composition 2026: Clerk - Following Roy's sad passing, the process of filling the Councillor casual vacancy would not commence until his funeral had taken place. **Clerk dealing**

25/80) Reports: To receive brief reports from NPC Working Parties: AE - There was still littering in Green Lane although this had dissipated to some extent. **MP** - Nothing to report. **DW** - The Albyns Lane potholes had finally been repaired and Curtis Mill Green bin collections have improved. A rider had been thrown from her horse due to irresponsible motor bike activity. **LG** - Had reported various fly-tips which seemed to contradict the BBC official totals? **RBB** - There had been excessive rubbish dumped in the bin next to the playground which she was now emptying regularly. Princes Road was suffering from increased traffic damaging the road surface, probably due to Gallows Corner being closed. Gave a brief resume of current maintenance issues affecting the village hall including the car park gates lock. **CG** - BBC were investigating the extensive activities at Jenkins Farm from a planning perspective including the entrances / gateways.

25/81) Correspondence and Clerks Report: Clerk - There had been an enquiry regarding cemetery graves (plan) and thanks to **AE & RBB** we had been able to resolve. The question of 'bleed bags' raised in September had been clarified and circulated to Councillors. The 2026 'Essex Care Directory' had been ordered for delivery in the New Year. An enquiry regarding the location of 'Cuddlemere Green' within Navestock revealed it actually related to 'Curtis Mill Green'. **NATS** had visited week commencing 6/10 with two jobs submitted. **Stondon Massey** had requested information on the public recording of meetings which the **Clerk** had assisted with. A new cleat had been fitted to the flagpole plus locks to the village hall and track gates. The **Webmaster** was still looking into a potential new website with a .gov.uk domain, plus Councillors have to move to dedicated email addresses to satisfy the 2025/26 AGAR. An IT policy would also be required. The dead oak tree at the junction of Navestock Side and Royds Lane had been reported to ECC Highways and a solution to car parking issues within the village hall car park required further investigation. **CG** had sent a condolence card to Penelope Tyzack on behalf of NPC and would be arranging flowers for the funeral. **CG** was also looking into producing a Christmas newsletter.

25/82) Planning: CG - Opened a brief discussion on current planning applications.

25/83) Finance: CG has checked the accounts / records & everything was in order.

Clerk - The 2024/25 AGAR had passed on 15/9 with no qualifications by the external auditor, as the new six-monthly audit & financial statement appeared to have satisfied previous comments.

Cheques to be signed were approved for:

PKF Littlejohn LLP (External audit - AGAR 2024/25), **Clerk** (Open Spaces Society training course - **C. Gelderbloem**), **D. Wilcox Tree Services** (Navestock Side tree works), **Payroll** (November), **Clerk** (Stamps, locks for track gates alongside 'The Green', replacement flagpole cleats & locks for village hall gates), **M. Parrish** (Village Show bar & BBQ stock), **Brentwood Lock & Safe** (Sports pavilion toilet door locks), **Royal British Legion** (Remembrance Day donation), **R. Balcombe** (Website renewal & domain 2025/26).

25/84) Discussion Items and date of next meeting: CG - None.

Next meeting: Tuesday 13th January, 2026

Meeting closed at 21.10

Victor Simmons
Clerk & RFO to Navestock Parish Council
5th January 2026