

Dear Friends & Neighbours,

We hope everyone is well and not too badly affected by the challenging times we are living through.

Although the Pandemic, and the necessary restrictions we all face has made PC work challenging, progress has been made on a number of issues.

### **Our Neighbourhood Plan (NP):**

As mentioned in the June edition of Clifford News, on completion of the (Reg.16) consultation process, Stratford District Council (SDC) submitted our NP to the External Examiner.

We are very pleased to announce that the detailed, painstaking work, developing the NP and supporting evidence, undertaken over the last four years has been accepted by the Examiner, with only minor amendments to the plan recommended. Powerful community support was also demonstrated, with over 80 letters being forwarded to the Examiner. We as a community, will now have an opportunity to vote to accept our NP in a referendum scheduled for May 2021.

Following a successful referendum, our Neighbourhood Plan will be officially recognised, meaning that all subsequent planning decisions will have to take our wishes, as expressed in our NP, into account.

It will also mean that our NP Reserve site will take preference over the other proposed sites, for example the Spitfire site behind the Nashes, as the nominated reserve site.

Although this is a successful outcome, it doesn't mean that we have yet been successful in fighting off development, which if it was allowed to go ahead, would prove hugely damaging to the character of our Parish, and the quality of the environment we all cherish. There are still a number of arguments we will have to win before the money hungry pack of developers, who currently stalk our village are successfully banished. For example, SDC Planning Department still maintain that the land behind the Nashes does not flood! Whereas they claim that our NP Reserve site is subject to flooding! We all know that they are wrong, so we need your continued support, collecting firm evidence to prove our case. Therefore, please continue to forward any photos and other evidence you have of flooding around the village to the PC's new email address [council@ccmpc.uk](mailto:council@ccmpc.uk)

### **Flooding:**

Flooding remains a major issue for our community, causing stress, damage and expense to a significant number of us. As you will remember, kind volunteers, from the village, worked to clear the ditch by the side of the B4631. Their work has improved the flow of water away from the area around the Nashes which is prone to flooding, however the drain, identified by John Taylor as being almost completely blocked, is still blocked. Despite many emails, phone calls and Cllr Brain's best efforts, Warwickshire County Council has still not undertaken the work required to unblock the drain. The PC is therefore asking for volunteers to re-form a Flood Action Group to help formulate and action an antiflooding strategy. If you are willing to help, please email us at [council@ccmpc.uk](mailto:council@ccmpc.uk)

### **Next PC Meeting:**

The next PC meeting is scheduled to take place at the Village Hall at 7.45pm on the 14th of September.

At the meeting we hope to co-opt further members to serve on the PC. In the meantime, please consider the opportunity to serve our community as a Parish Councillor.

The PC would like to forge even stronger links with the other organisations that are established in our Parish. It would therefore be very helpful if one member of each committee could come along to PC meetings. The aim is to better understand your work and goals, so we are able to coordinate our efforts and support each other more effectively.

Please Note: Under current restrictions, the maximum number the village hall can accommodate is 30, we therefore apologise in advance if we reach capacity before you arrive.

When attending the meeting, please wear face coverings and observe recommended social distancing.

**Any Other Issues?**

If there are any other issues you wish to highlight, please email us at [council@ccmpc.uk](mailto:council@ccmpc.uk) or phone either Jackie Hall 07989642234 or Jon Tribe 07812390525

We very much look forward to seeing you on the 14th of September.

Best wishes,

Clifford Chambers & Milcote Parish Council