

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 27th September at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Cllr Michael Tomkinson, Cllr A Vanderhook, Cllr Olwen Sales, Cllr George Haywood, Cllr Sue Del Mar, Cllr Stephen Hinwood and Unitary Cllr Madge Shingleton (in-part).

315/01 To receive apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
Unitary Cllr Shingleton had another meeting.

315/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr A Ratcliff declared an interest in Agenda Item 315/09 (a) (i) Planning Ref 17/03772/FUL – (Neighbour); also, Agenda Item 315/08 (ii) Payments – (Re-imbusement for Insurance).

Cllr A Vanderhook declared an interest in Agenda item 315/07 (iv) - as Council's representative on the Parish Hall Committee, Cllr Vanderhook will give a report and explain the proposal but he would not vote on this item.

315/03 Public Participation Session

There were nine members of public present – no matters were raised.

315/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th July 2017

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th July 2017, be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

315/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

- i) Shropshire Council had written regarding the proposed diversion of FP34, 85 and 98 (parts) at Dinmore. The Clerk has responded that Council had no objection in principle to this proposal.
- ii) Update on web-site – Cllr Sales said the new website 'www.neensavageparishcouncil.org.uk' is available on-line but is still a 'work in progress'. It has a simple layout, easy to use and keep up-to-date. It will contain all required information to meet regulations and public expectations. Everyone needs to send a profile with photograph and contact details to Cllr Sales to upload onto the website. Cllr Hinton asked about the old website which was set up by previous Council members – this is now showing as a community website. The webmaster will be asked to take all Council items off it as these items could be misleading, being out-of-date and not representative of the Parish Council.
- iii) SALC Area Committee report – Cllr Ratcliff attended with Cllr Vanderhook, Cllr Del Mar and Cllr Tomkinson. Code of Conduct training was presented by Graham White and Claire Porter. The Chair of SALC gave a report on Compassionate Communities. There will be another update at the next Area meeting on 22nd November together with a report on the Local Plan Review.
- iv) Parish Walk – Cllr Hinton and Mr C Butterworth have organized a three-mile parish walk for Sunday 15th October, starting from the Parish Hall at 2pm.
- v) Parish Hall Report – Cllr Vanderhook reported that the Scarecrow Event was one of the best attended and the cars and tractors provoked much interest. Funds were raised for the WI and Parish Hall with a £130 donation given to the Edwards and Hinckesman's Foundation Charity. Angela Flowers was given a vote of thanks following her resignation after serving on the committee for over 20 years. The Parish Hall Committee are looking to support the community carol singing again this year.

315/06 Appointment of Clerk

Council RESOLVED to approve the Clerk's Contract of Employment which was duly signed by both Clerk and Chairman. Mrs McBride was thus formally welcomed to the Council.

315/07 Financial Matters

- i) Council noted receipt of Transparency Code Funding Grant - £1,626.89.
- ii) Council discussed the merits of various equipment and RESOLVED that the Clerk may purchase a computer and essential equipment for her role, from the specification provided and within the limits of the Grant received.

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315/07 Financial Matters (cont'd)

- ii) Council RESOLVED to accept the External Auditors Report which stated that the Annual Return was deemed to be in accordance with proper practices and there were no concerns regarding legislation or regulatory requirements. Mazars had commented that the general reserves of £7735 were much higher than the annual precept and expenditure and that the newly elected members of the Council should consider earmarking funds for specific purposes as part of setting the 2018/19 budget. A copy of the Annual Return has been displayed on the notice board at the Church/Parish Hall and will be available on the website together with a 'Notice of conclusion of audit and right to inspect the Annual Return'. This concludes the requirements of audit.
- iii) Cllr Vanderhook proposed that Council consider making an annual grant to the Parish Hall to cover the cost of unlimited broadband provision, until 30th April 2021 and that in the first year, the grant is increased to cover the cost of installation. The Parish Hall could not finance this service as there is no guarantee that it would pay for itself but it would be a useful service to the community. The Parish Council would, for example, be able to use this service to view planning applications at Council meetings due to Shropshire Council no longer issuing paper copies. Council RESOLVED to approve this proposal in principle but require definitive costs for the next meeting. Cllr Vanderhook abstained.

315/08 Approve Payments

Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mr A Roberts – Interim Clerk's Salary and expenses - £460.00 (Cheque). The Chairman further proposed a Vote of Thanks to Mr Roberts for his work – RESOLVED.

At 8.10pm Cllr Ratcliff left the meeting. Cllr Tomkinson took the Chair and confirmed he had no Declarations of Interest.

- ii) Cllr A Ratcliff – re-imburement for Insurance - £311.96 (Cheque)
- iii) Neen Savage Parish Hall - room hire - £50.00 (Cheque)
- iv) Mazars – external audit fee - £30.00 (Cheque)

315/09 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications:

- i) Reference: 17/03772/FUL (validated: 07/08/2017)
Applicant: Mr G Cork
Address: Detton Hall Farm, Neen Savage.
Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of an outbuilding.
Outcome: A site visit had been undertaken and it was noted the pond was incorrectly sited in the drawings. This has since been amended by the Agent. It remains unclear what the building is for as the residential boundary has also changed on the drawing and the building has been built adjacent to a wildlife pool which was within agricultural land but is shown on the 'wedding venue' web-site. Council RESOLVED to point out these inconsistencies for the Planning Officer to explore further.
- ii) Reference: 17/03892/FUL (validated: 08/08/2017)
Applicant: Mr J Price
Address: Development Land NE of Old Barn, Neen Savage.
Proposal: Erection of commercial glasshouse.
Outcome: A site visit had been undertaken and it was felt to be a good business proposal. Council RESOLVED to support this application.

At 8.30pm Cllr Ratcliff re-joined the meeting and took the Chair.

315/10 Council Policies Review

- i) Council RESOLVED to approve the updated Standing Orders.
- ii) Council RESOLVED to approve the Model Publication Scheme with an additional note to say that the website is a 'work in progress' and if any documents are required they can be requested from the Clerk.

315/11 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Councillor Madge Shingleton had not arrived at this point.

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315/12 Parish Matters / Highways

Unitary Cllr Madge Shingleton had been round the local parish roads with Graham Downes, covering Nethercott, B4201, the Ford area and Green Lane. Their report was expected soon – Clerk to chase. Cllr Ratcliff had visited Hillfields following issues with traffic. There is a 30mph advisory sign and fewer parked cars but the speed of some traffic is causing concern. Mr B Treves asked whether Shropshire Council had replied to his letter regarding drainage issues. There has been no response to the Council – Clerk will chase this also. Cllr Del Mar reported an increase in the amount of car debris on the B4363 as the road deteriorates. Cllr Sales reported another HGV had driven down Green Lane but got stuck up Ron Hill. A new sign saying ‘NO HGV’s to Cleobury’ is required at the top of Green Lane near Parklands.

At 8.40pm Council RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Unitary Cllr M Shingleton to speak.

Cllr Shingleton asked Council for our highways priorities so that they can be fed into the budget. Kier is taking over from Ringway and will have a more flexible contract. Kier will have a seven-year contract and will have £10m out of the £21m Highways budget for 2018/19 from Shropshire Council. Following the site visit with Graham Downes, Council were asked to write to both of them with our highways issues including signage at Six Ashes and the roads by Shunesley and Goesland. Following a question on what controls will be put in place to ensure work will be undertaken by Kier once it has been allocated, Cllr Shingleton responded and said that there is a wish for Shropshire Council and Kier to work more proactively with town and parish councils but we also need to prioritise our projects and work with them. It is hoped that the Lengthsman Scheme will continue and can be applied for next year.

At 8.50pm Council RESOLVED to resume Standing Orders.

Council discussed and agreed to put together a list of all the Highways issues either reported or directly observed. There will also be a place on the web-site to report any highway issues and the list will be updated when work is planned or undertaken. It would be helpful if people send photographs, GPS or grid references in addition to a general location.

315/13 Correspondence Review.

- i) SC – Draft Library Services Strategy 2018-2023. Council noted with regret that the Six Ashes mobile library service will cease. The current Library in Cleobury is open for longer hours and thus provides a better service than previously. People can order books in the library or over the internet for collection.

315/14 Future Agenda Items

Items for the next Agenda will include the purchase and laying of Remembrance Wreath and a finance update. The draft Agenda will be sent out to all members a week before the final Agenda is posted to give everyone time to prepare for the next meeting.

315/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th October 2017 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall. The meeting closed at 9.08pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 316/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff

Signed.....Chairman

25th October 2017

Date.....