

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 22nd November 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 Andrew Vanderhook, Cllr Stephen Hinton and Cllr George Haywood.

317/01 To receive apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Olwen Sales – personal commitment.
Cllr Sue Del Mar – personal commitment.
Cllr George Haywood – late due to work.
Unitary Cllr Madge Shingleton – work.
Council RESOLVED to accept these apologies.

317/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

317/03 Public Participation Session

There were five members of public present.

- i) Mrs Sandra Dodd, President of Neen Savage WI stated that the WI would be happy to look after the BT phone box at Barbrook as a community project. They would keep it clean and support it's community use ie tourist information including walking leaflets and notices, mini library or for a defibrillator. Council noted that a defibrillator would need regular checks and replacement parts. A discussion followed regarding the suitability of the current location of the phone box as there is no parking available. The wall at the rear is leaning into the phone box and there is a concern that the phone box is holding the wall up. There is no electric to the phone box. The phone box could be moved, perhaps to Six Ashes or the Parish Hall grounds or even sold and the money used for a community project. It was suggested that Council ask the community for suggestions, through the Vital Link and other media, whether to keep, mover or even sell the phone box; if kept, what it could be used for.
- ii) Mr B Treves raised the following matters: there is a tourist map in the Parish Hall cupboard which could be used. A defibrillator should be safe in the phone box as they generally don't get vandalised or stolen. Of the 150 jobs created at the new Nursing Home, some will be taken up by ex-employees of Doddington Lodge which has recently closed. Regarding the 200 houses proposed for Cleobury is this a need or an intention? Mr Treves asked Cllr Vanderhook where the 'missing' highways report, regarding the ford area and Six Ashes, was sent. Cllr Vanderhook confirmed it was sent to Steve Brown and no reply had ever been received. Mr Treves commended Council on persevering with Highways over the years regarding outstanding issues but felt that the cost of all the time this has taken would have paid for a lot of the necessary remedial work. With regard to flooding issues near the Old School House Mr Treves said that if the culvert was extended straight across into the river it would need to be above the water line and have a valve to prevent water going back up the pipe when the river was in spate. He has cut channels into the grass verge to help move surface water off the road. Mr Treves has reported to Highways that a large chunk of tarmac has gone from the east entrance to the ford creating a large pot hole.
Options to improve road safety at Six Ashes were proposed ie 'SLOW' signs, consider re-aligning the junction, removing the hump in the road and approaching landowners about removing hedges to improve visibility. Proposals for improvements at Six Ashes could be put into the Place Plan for funding.
- iii) Mr C Hardy asked if Council would put our responses to the consultations under Agenda item 317/09 on the website.

317/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th October 2017

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th October 2017, be signed and ADOPTED as a true record subject to one amendment – remove 'and took the Chair' from Page 3 following the return of Cllr Vanderhook and Cllr Hinton to the meeting.

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317/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

- i) The Clerk reported having to re-register with HMRC for payroll reporting due to password errors from previous administration. Due to HMRC's security protocols this will take another week before a new password can be generated and commencement of on-line reporting. Clerk now has a copy of the 16/17 accounts and budget for 17/18 from the auditor. A new Bank Mandate is required to complete the handover from the previous administration as one account has not been transferred. This Mandate will request that both bank accounts' statements will go to the Clerk. Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson will go to the bank tomorrow to ensure that this is actioned correctly. A councillor from Cleobury Mortimer would like to meet to discuss speed concerns along the B4201 especially from the Pioneer Centre to the Golf Club. They are also proposing extending the 30mph speed limit in Cleobury to the Newbridge area. The Highways Sub-Committee will meet with the Cleobury representative.
- ii) The Clerk confirmed that the website is working well after an initial issue logging on. The Clerk has written to the owners of the old website and asked them to remove the Councillor and Clerk information as it is out of date; also to request that they link their site to ours for Council information.
- iii) Parish Litter Pick Report – Cllr Ratcliff reported thirteen bags of rubbish collected by 10 volunteers.
- iv) Parish Hall Report – Cllr Vanderhook reported that the five yearly electrical testing, annual PAT testing had taken place and the annual risk assessment of the Hall and its environs was completed. Quotation to repair a big crack in the west wall is £1,700. Carol Singing will take place on 19th December, a Spring Event on 20th April 2018 and a Culture Event is being planned for 2019. Broadband proposals had been discussed and the Parish Hall Committee were happy for the Parish Council to undertake the installation and contract in the Council's name. Projector quotes are being sought. The AGM is on December 11th. Council confirmed that Cllr Vanderhook is their representative on the Hall Committee.
- v) Highways Site Meeting Report – Cllr Ratcliff reported on the site meeting which had taken place at the ford area. The option to extend the culvert across the field was not favoured but Shropshire Council would send a camera down to see if there is a blockage or broken pipe first of all, then clean out the culvert. It is also proposed to have an inspection chamber to enable access to the culvert. The meeting was positive and paves the way for better reporting and monitoring of responses to issues.
- vi) LJC Meeting Report – Cllr Vanderhook reported the new PCSO Sue Eden was present at the meeting. There is a new Police Inspector for this area – Nigel Morgan. Quarry Manager Hugh McGuigan explained his role in managing any reports of problems with lorry drivers. Parking by Cleobury Primary School, the proposed pedestrian crossing outside the telephone exchange, more CCTV cameras for Cleobury, problems with speeding, dog fouling and youth work funding were also discussed.

317/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council discussed Cllr Vanderhook's report regarding broadband. As the custodian trustee, the Parish Council would not need to enter into any landlord/tenant agreement for installing its own broadband equipment in the Parish Hall. Council approved the proposal to move ahead and install the broadband.

317/07 Approve Payments

Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (August – November) – £551.29 (Cheque)
- ii) HMRC PAYE & NI (August – November) – £140.73 (Cheque)
- iii) Mr C Bargman – website set up fees - £217.00 (Cheque)
- iv) Royal British Legion – donation for Remembrance Wreaths on behalf of PCC and Parish Council - £40.00 (Cheque)
- v) SALC – Affiliation and Committee fees - £175.77 (Cheque)

At 8.25pm Cllr Haywood declared an interest and left the meeting for the following item.

317/08 Public Path and Diversion Order

- i) Council considered the proposals affecting footpaths (71,72,73,74,75,75Y and 82) between The Nash and Overwood Common. Despite the maps provided being very small (an enlarged A1 map has been requested by the Clerk) it was felt that as agreement had been reached after the many (15) years of discussion with all interested parties the Parish Council would support the proposals.

At 8.30pm Cllr Haywood re-joined the meeting.

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317/09 Shropshire Council Consultations

- i) Local Plan Review 'Preferred Scale and Distribution of Development' Consultation. Mr Treves asked if we can prevent further housing if we have our quota as per the Community Led Plan; also we need employment first before any more housing otherwise people have to commute which is not sustainable. Council confirmed that we will not have many new houses as we are classed as rural hinterland under Core Strategy 5 and new housing will only come through exception criteria ie single-plot affordable housing, barn conversions and Holiday Let accommodation becoming permanent. Mr Hardy stated that conversion of 19 Holiday Lets to permanent occupation has already been proposed in the parish and a caravan park. Council considered the information in the Local Plan Review which covers the scale and preferred distribution of housing and employment in Shropshire in 2016/36 and confirms the methodology regarding settlements and community hubs. Council supported these proposals.
- ii) Annual Place Plan Review Return. Council looked at previous Place Plan information from 13/14 and 15/16 which was sparse in content and somewhat out of date. The Towns are being updated first in a rolling programme. Council proposed a response identifying the key infrastructure priorities at present are to improve the sightlines at Six Ashes, install 'SLOW' signs and refurbish the furniture at the parking area and improve the Ford area.

317/10 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Cllr Butler had sent a written report – copy attached with Minutes.

317/11 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) To discuss highways issues and monitor progress – previously discussed.
- ii) To discuss possibility of a parish defibrillator. It was agreed to put this matter on hold until a decision is made about the phone box. The Golf Club has a defibrillator and is amenable to having it put on an external wall in an appropriate cabinet making it more publicly available.
- iii) To consider refurbishing and future use of phone box at Barbrook – previously discussed and it was agreed to put an article in the Vital Link, on the website and Facebook asking for community suggestions.

317/12 Future Agenda Items

Cllr Ratcliff has met Mick Simpson of West Mercia Police. Mr Simpson is Project Manager for 'We Don't Buy Crime' and works with local communities to help them reduce crime. One project is SmartWater technology. It was felt that it makes sense to consider having SmartWater now that neighbouring parishes have it as it will mean coverage of a wider area and can attract cheaper house insurance. The Clerk will invite him to the February meeting and once confirmed will advertise this in Vital Link to encourage public involvement. The Clerk will prepare a draft budget for 2018/19 to be discussed at the December meeting.

317/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th December 2017 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall. The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 318/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff

Signed.....Chairman

27th December 2017

Date.....