

# NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Olwen Sales, Cllr Andy Vanderhook, Cllr Sue Del Mar, Cllr Michael Tomkinson and Unitary Cllr Madge Shineton.

331/01 To receive apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr George Haywood – work.  
Council RESOLVED to accept these apologies.

331/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared at this point of the meeting.

331/03 Public Participation Session

There were four members of public present. Mr Hardy commented that he had been misquoted in the Vital Link regarding his opinion on infrastructure in the parish. Cllr Del Mar confirmed that the Vital Link were offering to print Mr Hardy's full email in the next issue. Mr Cleford informed Council that the words 'touring caravan site' had been added to the planning application for Neen House Farm.

331/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd January 2019

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019, be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

331/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

**Place Plan**

Place Plan meeting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm at Cleobury Country Centre. The Clerk, Cllr Sales and possibly Cllr Ratcliff will attend.

**Benches for Six Ashes**

The new benches are ready for collection – need to arrange date to collect and install.

**Ford**

A dead tree at the Ford is leaning over the water – need to arrange removal before it falls into the river.

**Highways**

Invitation to Farlow Parish Council meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February to discuss Highways issues.

Cllr Tomkinson will attend.

We have been notified of the Cleobury Mortimer 10k run on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July. There will be road closures in Neen Savage for this event. The Clerk has asked the organizers to contact the Vital Link to give parishioners notice of the event. We can also highlight this event on our website.

**SALC Area Committee meetings**

Ludlow/Craven Arms on 28<sup>th</sup> February and at Bridgnorth on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Clerks area meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 11am at Bridgnorth Fire Station.

**SmartWater**

Mick Simpson has kindly dropped off a further 15 packs for us to complete our project. We must get the large 'Neen Savage – SmartWater' signs out as soon as possible now.

ii) Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson confirmed that all properties have now been visited and offered SmartWater. 90 packs have been issued and we have some in reserve if anyone still wants one. Cllr Ratcliff thanked Cllr Tomkinson, Cllr Del Mar, Cllr Vanderhook and the Clerk for helping with distribution. Cllr Ratcliff will prepare a news article for the Vital Link to confirm a successful project.

iii) Cllr Ratcliff informed the meeting that the BT Phone Box renovation is complete and ready for installation at the Parish Hall. The WI have painted the box and Cllr Ratcliff has fitted out the interior with boards and signs. There will be an unveiling event on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April to coincide with the launch of a new Neen Savage book. The previous site of the Phone Box has been covered with soil and bulbs planted to make it safe and tidy. Thanks to Mr Butterworth, Cllr Ratcliff and family.

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## 331/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting (cont'd)

- iv) Cllr Vanderhook and the Clerk attended the Audit and Year-End training on 19<sup>th</sup> February. The training confirmed that we will not need to undertake an external audit this year but we need to be more assiduous in terms of our internal audit. Accordingly, we need to give some thought to our internal audit specification and also undertake a procedural audit during the financial year.

## 331/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council RESOLVED to approve the internal auditor's contract for the current financial year. As Council is reviewing its internal audit arrangements it agreed to approve a one-year contract only. The Clerk has obtained a quote for services for 2019/20. Council noted that there are no specific regulations for internal auditors currently and many use other Clerks or bank staff for this service, however, audit regulations are being reviewed and stricter controls may come into effect for the 2019/20 audit.
- ii) Council noted receipt of the Environmental Maintenance Grant. Work needs to be undertaken in March as unspent monies will have to be returned to Shropshire Council. Voluntary work such as repairs at Six Ashes and litter-picking will be included as part of our match-funding. Council RESOLVED to assign the management of the Environmental Maintenance to the Highways Sub-Committee. A meeting to be arranged next week to plan this work and also for installing the new benches at Six Ashes, SmartWater signs, the Phone Box at the Parish Hall and removal of the dead tree at the Ford.

## 331/07 Approve Payments

- (a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
  - i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (February) – £215.50 (Cheque)

At 8.05pm Cllr Del Mar declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting.

- (b) Council RESOLVED to approve the following S.137 Grant payment:
  - i) St Mary's PCC – churchyard maintenance - £500.00 (cheque)

At 8.10pm Cllr Del Mar rejoined the meeting.

## 331/08 Planning Matters

- (a) To consider new Planning Applications
  - i) Reference: 19/00651/FUL (validated: 11/02/2019)  
Address: Belle Vue Lodge, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8HJ  
Proposal: Change of use of land from commercial to residential together with the erection of a storage shed for private use  
Applicant: Mr M Burke  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application but raised concerns that the development may mean the movement of vehicles off-site and cause issues on the road or at Six Ashes.
  - ii) Reference: 18/05839/FUL (validated: 14/02/2019)  
Address: Neen House Farm, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8JT  
Proposal: Construction of riding manege and lunge pen with 1.4m high boundary fencing; erection of timber stables; siting of two shepherds huts; conversion of redundant barn to two holiday let properties; erection of stable barn; installation of 2270 litre below ground chemical effluent tank and construction of two sewage treatment plants  
Applicant: Mr M French

At 8.20pm Council RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr French to speak. Mr French said he didn't know why 'touring caravan site' had been added to his planning application as he has permitted development and has approval from the Caravan Club subject to septic tank works. Council queried whether the permitted development rights covering touring caravans is for Agricultural or Equestrian land. Council noted that the stables will be a commercial operation and will mean a considerable increase in traffic. This can be a busy lane with farm traffic and passing places could be put in as a condition, to prevent verge damage, if permission is granted. Concerns over access on/off site and parking of lorries and trailers overnight need addressing. Mr French said he could open up the two old gateways onto the lane to help with traffic issues. No lighting is proposed so Council would like conditions to ensure all security and yard lighting is retained within the site. Cllr Vanderhook expressed surprise that there was no Design and Access although most questions had been answered at the site visit earlier in the day. There is no provision for storage of horse manure in the application.

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## 331/08 Planning Matters (cont'd)

Regarding drainage, the top outflow is going to a soakaway instead of a pond but the second outflow going into the lower (running) pond. There should not be any problems if this is covered by conditions but consideration of groundwater and outfall from sewage treatment plants needs to be addressed. There is potential for further employment and support of local shops so Council RESOLVED to support this application subject to the concerns raised above being addressed.

- iii) Reference: 19/00723/FUL (validated: 18/02/2019)  
Address: The Pound, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8LB  
Proposal: Erection of extensions and alterations  
Applicant: N And R Griffiths  
Council felt that the Design and Access Statement was clear and well-written and RESOLVED to support this application.
- (b) Planning Decisions (for information only):
  - i) Reference: 18/04741/FUL (validated: 22/10/2018)  
Address: Holly Cottage, Baveney Wood, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8JB  
Proposal: Erection of two storey rear extension and renovation and remodelling (including the part demolition) of an existing detached dwelling  
Decision: Grant Permission

## 331/09 Place Plan/Community Infrastructure Levy

Council RESOLVED that Ford maintenance works will be our main project for CIL Local funding. The Clerk will involve Graham Downes for support and advice with a plan of work and costings. CIL training has been arranged at Shirehall for Clerks on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The Expressions of Interest Form for CIL Local funding will be completed following this meeting. Cllr Tomkinson has spoken to the landowner regarding visibility at Six Ashes. The hedge is cut back close to the hedge structure already and regular cutting would only have a minimal improvement. Approximately 50m of hedge adjacent to the main road would need to be removed as well as post and rail fencing to improve visibility permanently. Council agreed that two additional cuts over the growing season would be undertaken this year and review this at the year-end. If visibility is still poor then more drastic action to reduce the depth of the hedge would be considered.

## 331/10 Annual Parish Meeting

Council RESOLVED to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May. The meeting will follow the same format as recent years where all community groups and the Police will be invited to attend and give a report.

## 331/11 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Cllr Madge Shingleton is attending full Council tomorrow where the Council Tax for 2019/20 and the proposed housing company will be approved. Shropshire Council has sites they can build on in Shrewsbury and Oswestry but are looking for some down here. Cllr Shingleton asked Council to consider whether our Parish Plan is still relevant and to use it to feed into the Place Plan. Cllr Gwilym Butler is now the Portfolio Holder for Communities. Cllr Shingleton apologised that the Environmental Grant was late but had been hard fought for. The system of reporting highway issues and planning work has been bitterly complained about but there should be improvements in communication going forward.

## 331/12 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) There had been some repairs done recently on Neen Lane, near Goesland and at Detton but whilst it is an improvement the quality is disappointing as they have not been cut and sealed properly. There are pot holes near the Nash and past Shutley Farm drive, also on the B4363 from Six Ashes to Wall Town.
- ii) Council set the Spring Litter Pick for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April. It is open to everyone. All participants to meet at the Parish Hall at 10am to collect litter picking equipment and instructions. Council has been invited to join the Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Clean 2019 campaign with our litter pick. Council felt it would be beneficial as our event falls within the campaign period.

## 331/13 Future Agenda Items

- i) Communications into the Vital Link especially regarding Council Minutes.
- ii) Look at parish profiles from census information.
- iii) Consider undertaking a review of Parish Plan.

## 331/14 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall. The meeting closed at 9.40pm.