

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Cllr Olwen Sales, Cllr Andy Vanderhook and Cllr Sue Del Mar.

341/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Michael Tomkinson – unwell.

Cllr Stephen Hinton – unwell.

Council accepted these apologies.

341/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

341/03 Public Participation Session

There were two members of public present. No matters were raised.

341/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th December 2019

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th December 2019, be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

341/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) **Clerk's Progress Report**

Highways

The issues with ground work at Six Ashes following the Severn Trent work has been inspected again by the contractors, Amey. They had taken photographs to show they completed the reinstatement and it was passed by Shropshire Council Highways so due to this evidence they will not be returning to reinstate again as they cannot control how other drivers utilise the area. Whilst on site, they observed extensive rainfall and ground water running from a field onto the Bagginswood Road. They checked the ditch in question and found it to be fine and the culvert running smoothly as were the other two culverts on Bagginswood Road. Again due to their findings they will not be returning to resolve an issue which has nothing to do with the work they undertook.

Richard Ealey, Network Manager for Streetworks, Shropshire Council has also responded regarding the damage / deterioration caused by locals not adhering to the agreed / signed diversion route. They noted on inspection that the official diversion was clear and use of other routes happened outside the control of Severn Trent. Mr Ealey felt that Severn Trent did what was required of them and rat running has taken place by either locals knowing other routes or routes being re-calculated by use of Sat Nav's. Graham Downes, Highways has confirmed that a number of defects had been issued to Kier to repair. They have been inundated with requests for service and there are masses of work issued to Kier for action. He can't tell when the work will take place but Shropshire Council has taken additional measures to address the pothole backlog. Kier have been instructed to ensure that all road gullies are emptied by the end of March. It is Kier's responsibility to programme this work to ensure this happens. A national drainage company quoted only £80/hour to clean out the drains and gullies. The Parish Council feel the process having to get work done through Shropshire Council is very inefficient as the small issues have become major problems due to a continual lack of maintenance. Mr Downes voiced concerns that the route via the ford could be utilised as part of a diversion, albeit as a result of an emergency, especially when Shropshire Council are asked to close roads, diversions routes via fords are often discounted. He has asked if the Traffic Team can do a traffic survey for the road down through the Ford.

Insurance contractors were undertaking a site visit at Six Ashes today regarding the damaged barrier.

West Mercia Police

Graham Donaldson, Rural and Business Crime Officer is attending our next meeting on 26th February to provide advice on rural crime prevention. This will be advertised in the Vital Link, on the website and Facebook to encourage parishioners to attend.

Broadband to Parish Hall

Open Reach have surveyed the site and proposed location for a new pole. This is currently out for public consultation. The revised proposed cost for the installation has been quoted at £755.55 (which will be met from the Transparency Code fund) and permission to dig has been approved.

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

341/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting (cont'd)

Place Plan update

The Place Plan is now live on Shropshire Council's website. Please check and let the Clerk know if there are any other points to raise.

341/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council RESOLVED to approve third quarter budget review and bank reconciliation to 31st December.
- ii) Council RESOLVED to approve the draft budget for 2020/21, keeping the precept the same as this year at £5,411. As there has been a small increase in the number of houses there will be a small decrease to the cost per household (Band D will be £34.76 from £35.33 per year).

341/07 Approve Payments

Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (January) – £187.60 (Cheque)
- ii) HMRC – PAYE (January) - £45.80 (Cheque)
- iii) Information Commissioner – Data Protection Fee - £40.00 (Cheque)
- iv) Mrs D McBride - Clerk's Admin Expenses - £130.10 (Cheque)

341/08 Planning Matters

(a) Planning Decisions (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):

- i) Reference: 19/04840/FUL (validated: 11/11/2019)

Address: Land at Barbrook, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire

Proposal: Conversion of agricultural building to 1No dwelling and installation of septic tank

Decision: Refuse

341/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Councillor Madge Shineton reported that Apprentice Week commences on 3rd February. There are over 700 opportunities available. Please look online or telephone 01743 258521. There is strong support from our MP over the state of our roads. Please continue to report highway issues on My Shropshire and repeat if they are not dealt with promptly, but also let Bridgnorth Highways and our MP know. Cllr Shineton is very concerned about the state of our roads especially the B4363 where the road is slipping near Rays Farm. Cllr Shineton is keen to ensure that all parishes have drainage maps. Neen Savage does have these.

Health – the acute hospital trust board awaits the Government's final report on maternity services. The two CCGs should, hopefully, have merged by April. Primary Care Networks have expressed concerns that proposed full medical checks at every medical appointment will cause even longer delays in patient appointments. Non-mandatory services have been cut back but some funding is still available. There have been further calls for a new build hospital between Shrewsbury and Telford despite Future Fit being approved.

Cllr Shineton suggested that local businesses are invited to our Crime Prevention presentation next month.

341/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Council agreed that the latest Severn Trent Community Grant fund could be suitable for our Ford project. The Clerk will look into this further as we could match-fund with our CIL money.
- ii) All Highways issues have been reported on My Shropshire. Some potholes have been mended but the Parish Council are concerned at the quality of repair and whether Kier will be able to ever catch up.

341/11 Future Agenda Items

BT broadband update and consideration of the PCC's grant application for churchyard maintenance.

341/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th February 2020 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall. The meeting closed at 8.28pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 342/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Signed..... Arthur RatcliffChairman Date..... 26th February 2020