

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 22nd July 2020 using the Zoom on-line facility commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Cllr Olwen Sales, Cllr Andy Vanderhook, Cllr Michael Tomkinson, Cllr George Haywood and Cllr Sue Del Mar.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

345/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Stephen Hinton – internet issues.

Council approved this on-going apology.

345/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

345/03 Public Participation Session

There was one member of public present. Mr Cleford forwarded Mr Hardy's apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. Mr Cleford commented that no unitary councillors were present at the last Parish Council meeting but an Annual Report had been received which he had not seen. The Clerk will send Mr Cleford a copy.

345/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th June 2020

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th June 2020 be ADOPTED as a true record. Minutes to be signed as soon as practicable.

345/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

Highways

The poorly angled sign at Six Ashes for the Larch Barn was reported to Highways to be better located. The abandoned removals van at the Newbridge junction was also reported and has now been removed. Council noted the sign appears to have been better positioned and that the removals van has gone but another company vehicle is parked there now.

Shropshire Council Highways have asked whether there are any large arable farms in or around Neen Savage which are likely to be busy during the harvest period over the course of August and September as Severn Trent Water and their subcontractor Amey plan to carry out remedial works on the road 'Nethercott Farm Junction To Six Ashes Junction' under a road closure and have requested an early start for works to take place over the second weekend in August (08th/09th). Council were happy for Severn Trent to go ahead with the work as farm harvesting could not be planned so far ahead and the Severn Trent work needs to be completed.

Pike Common

The Clerk has made enquiries for the fallen tree to be removed and for a quotation for a new notice board. Cllr Ratcliff has inspected the area and will attempt a repair of the notice board in the short term.

Broadband to Parish Hall

On 25th June BT finally installed the line and broadband is up and running. BT were going to remove the charges for the 4G Assure package which had not been ordered and a new bill is awaited.

- ii) Cllr Vanderhook confirmed the Parish Hall Committee were happy with the broadband service and some electrical wiring work will be done next week. It is planned to bring a HDMI cable from the ceiling to the BT point. There is a proposal to replace the projector to a modern version which would have more features and be quieter. The funding of this purchase has not been committed. It is hoped to have the Hall re-opened at the end of August/early September with all the necessary cleaning and safety precautions in place. Numbers will be restricted to 30 people maximum with limited numbers in the kitchen and toilets, separate ways in and out of the building and the isolation of surplus tables and chairs. Chairman, Cllr Ratcliff expressed a hope that the Parish Council can meet in the Hall for our next meeting in September.

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345/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation.

345/07 Approve Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages – (July) - £186.80 (Cheque)
- ii) HMRC – PAYE – (July) - £46.60 (Cheque)
- iii) Mrs D McBride – Clerk’s quarterly Admin Expenses - £94.36 (Cheque)

Cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

345/08 Unitary Councillors’ Reports

Cllr Shingleton went through her report which had not yet been received. Things are changing regularly from all directions. Health - Future Fit, Sustainable Transformation and Integrated Community Services continues to evolve. During Covid all departments have been working together to deliver services.

From Full Council on July 16th it was noted there was an overspend of £1.692m y/e 31st March 2020 but the Capital Account was underspent by £11.73m. Reserves are too low at £13.5m. Housing Revenue was underspent by £4.1m with reserves of £10.1m. From the CIL money pot of £8.142m, it was agreed to spend £5.2m for more school places in Shrewsbury and £2.9m on the Oswestry mile end roundabout.

There has been a major effort for those sleeping outdoors by placing the homeless in hotels whilst looking for a more permanent solution. Costs have risen from £700,802 in 2015/16 to £2,235,116 last year but this had to be done. Council has agreed to purchase/lease property for housing from S.106 monies.

There are proposals to sell Shirehall and look into moving into the centre of Shrewsbury, perhaps taking over one level in one of the Council’s shopping malls rather than building something else.

Planning meetings have been taking place on line and running well although the public are not there the Council’s solicitor will read all statements out.

Adult social care has overspent by £885,000 this year.

At 8.03pm there was a short break in the meeting. Meeting re-convened at 8.07pm.

Cllr Shingleton continued that the best way to report any issues regarding both Adult Social Care and Children’s Services is through 03456789044. The number of children that need safeguarding taken outside this county has doubled and so Shropshire Council has bought two properties, one of which is nearly ready to bring some children back into the county. There was an overspend of £6.668m on Children’s Services in 2019-20.

Public Health, Health Visitors and school nursing now covers the 0-25 years age group. The Link Programme brings together education and mental health with teams going into schools for drug and alcohol abuse and sexual health. This is long overdue and welcomed. The Director of Public Health is dealing with local outbreaks of Covid 19 in Oswestry and Ellesmere.

Climate Change is embedded in all council policies and projects including alternative energy and LED streetlights. Cllr Tomkinson asked when the Saturday Community Bus would be starting up again. Cllr Shingleton said discussions have started but compliance with guidelines is difficult but they know it needs to be done.

345/09 Cleobury Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan

Council members have been made aware of the proposals and are invited to complete the questionnaire with comments on how the Parish Council as a whole feel the proposals could affect Neen Savage residents. A discussion raised points regarding the lack of information regarding sewerage treatment and Severn Trent’s previous proposals to relocate or improve the current site in Cleobury. Cllr Shingleton said this matter has been discussed in the past and the current site was near capacity five years ago. Since then there has been more housing, a new Nursing Home and business land developed in town but nothing said by Severn Trent. Cllr Shingleton felt we should comment on sewerage but also state that we have Business Land, the Pioneer Centre and the Golf Course. There have been discussions, historically, to consider putting in a road from behind Lea View up to the Cemetery. Current proposals to develop land in this area will have some ripple effect on Neen Savage residents on Catherton Road. Cllr Sales felt the Tenbury Road footpath will not be enough to mitigate the traffic issues and that there is no mention of a path for the Catherton side. There were concerns that some land marked near Newbridge runs the risk of on-going attempts to develop over the river/parish boundary in Neen Savage. Council agreed to form a Working Group comprising Cllrs Ratcliff, Vanderhook, Del Mar and Tomkinson initially to formulate a response and run it by the other councillors before submitting by the Clerk.

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345/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Sales confirmed the Crime Prevention WhatsApp group has been set up with 16-17 participants added. The local police team have also been invited to join us and an article notifying parishioners of this group will be in the August Vital Link.
- ii) Cllr Sales asked if everyone was happy for the 2019 draft Annual Parish Meeting minutes to be published on the website. This was agreed.
- iii) Cllr Sales commented on the invitation to join the Great British Clean in September. It was felt that September was too early in rural areas and that we would leave our Autumn Litter Pick until after the hedges are cut, probably late October/early November. Matter for September Agenda.
- iv) Cllr Tomkinson asked if there was any progress in getting the hedge cut on the B4363 near Six Ashes to improve visibility. The Clerk confirmed she has spoken with Mr Griffiths and Cllr Haywood can cut the hedge.
- v) Cllr Tomkinson commented that the Stottesdon Road has been surface dressed but it does need the white lines repainted and more of them than last time. The Clerk will send a reminder to Shropshire Council by email and also through the My Shropshire portal for this to be done. The repairs to the Detton – Nethercott Road will also be chased up.
- vi) Cllr Haywood confirmed he will undertake the tree survey at Baveney Wood and provide a written report.

345/11 Future Agenda Items

To set date of Autumn Litter Pick.

345/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd September 2020 at 7.30pm. The Parish Council will continue to follow Government guidance and the next meeting is proposed to be at the Parish Hall – this will be confirmed in the next Agenda. The meeting closed at 8.38pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 346/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff	23rd September 2020
Signed.....Chairman	Date.....