

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th October 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 Stephen Hinton and Cllr Sue Del Mar.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

347/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr George Haywood – internet issue.

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – unwell.

Council accepted these apologies.

347/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

347/03 Public Participation Session

There were three members of public present. Cllr Del Mar asked about the Exception Site Affordable Housing Scheme. Mr Sisley said that one option using this scheme is to downsize and free up a house for the market.

347/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd September 2020

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd September 2020 be ADOPTED as a true record. Minutes to be signed as soon as practicable.

347/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

BT Broadband

The Clerk had spoken with BT regarding the on-going errors with the billing. BT have confirmed the errors will be credited and correct the billing going forward.

Ford Drainage – CIL Project

A representative from Shropshire Council's highway consultants WSP met with the Chairman and Clerk on Monday 5th October to inspect the Ford area, noting the issues and work proposed to improve the area. We are awaiting a written report.

Pike Common

As of last Friday, the tree across the river has still not removed. The Commons Notice has been removed from the Notice Board.

Footpaths

The Clerk reported the washed-out footbridge near Reaside in May and this was passed to the practical team. To date there has been no action. The old bridge is still wedged in the river just above the Ford. Three further issues have been raised through CMFA recently near the Nash and Wall Town. The Clerk has spoken with the landowner who has confirmed the following:

The stolen gate at the junction with the Bagginswood Road, opposite the Nash, has still not been replaced.

There is an outstanding request for a kissing gate at the junction of FP55 and the Bridgnorth Road. The landowner has left a gap for the kissing gate. The footbridge at the bottom of FP100 has still not been replaced. These issues have also been chased up with the Access Team to try and effect a speedy resolution.

Place Plan

The Place Plan has not been updated as our Officer had been seconded to help with Covid support. The only point raised from Neen Savage regarding the Place Plan is that the Ford project was accepted for some CIL Local Funding, subject to Technical Checks, after we submitted our Expression of Interest Form. The Clerk is speaking with Vicky Turner next week and will ask for this to be updated on the Place Plan.

Remembrance

Three wreaths were ordered, collected and dropped off at the Parish Hall ready for Remembrance Sunday.

Rural Watch

The Rural Watch signs have been delivered by Graham Donaldson. They are being put up around the parish – taking off all old Watch signs – along with the lamp post poppies.

Initials....AJR....

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347/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting (cont'd)

- ii) Cllr Vanderhook stated that the Parish Hall was used for the Neen Savage Book Launch. Enquiries have been made for the audio/visual project and two quotes have been received with various options for consideration. The likely cost for the projector and sound equipment is around £3,000. Council will discuss this matter at the next meeting and evaluate the options and agree a basis for approval ie specification, price, delivery etc. Cllr Vanderhook will also ask the Parish Hall Committee how much they would be willing to contribute to the project.
- iii) Cllr Sales confirmed that we have 51 participants to-date on the NeenSavageCrimeWatch WhatsApp Group and there have been no incidents reported in the past month. We have clarified the purpose of the group and shared this with everyone to ensure only relevant information is put on the Group and no general chat especially as the police monitor the group. Cllr Ratcliff thanked Cllr Sales and the Clerk for their efforts with this group.
- iv) Cllr Ratcliff reported 13 people helped with the Autumn Litter Pick. 11.5 bags had been collected so far plus some fly tipping which had been reported for uplift. It was agreed that there was less litter than last year and perhaps the lockdown has caused this.

346/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation to 30th September 2020. Cllr Vanderhook asked when can we expect to receive the Environmental Maintenance Grant. Despite a lack of agreement within Shropshire Council the Grant is now available and can be requested again including the volunteer time.
- ii) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the six-monthly review of risk assessments.
- iii) Council noted receipt of wayleave payment from Western Power - £61.06. Cllr Hinton questioned if the payments were correct for the infrastructure on our land. The Clerk will check with Western Power.

347/07 Approve Payments

- (a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
 - i) Mrs D McBride – Wages – (October including pay review) - £223.60 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE – (October) - £56.00 (Cheque)
 - iii) Mrs D McBride – Clerk's Admin Expenses - £137.05 (Cheque)
 - iv) The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Collection A/c – Poppy Wreaths - £40.00 (Cheque)Cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

347/08 Planning Matters

- (a) New Planning Applications:
 - i) Reference: 20/03672/FUL (validated: 14/09/2020)
Address: Old School, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8JY
Proposal: Erection of a two storey extension to rear
Applicant: Mr J Lloyd (The Old School Hall, Neen Savage, DY14 8JU)
Outcome: Withdrawn.
 - ii) Reference: 20/03573/FUL (validated: 16/09/2020)
Address: Box Trees, 3 Detton Hall Farm Barns, Neen Savage, DY14 8LW
Proposal: Replacement of window on the north elevation with French doors
Applicant: Mrs Clare Coleman
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.
 - iii) Reference: 20/03574/LBC (validated: 16/09/2020)
Address: Box Trees, 3 Detton Hall Farm Barns, Neen Savage, DY14 8LW
Proposal: Works to facilitate the replacement of an existing window on the north elevation with French doors affecting a Grade II Listed Building
Applicant: Mrs Clare Coleman
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.

At 8.05pm there was a short break in the meeting. Meeting re-convened at 8.10pm.

- (b) Council confirmed that Mr P Sisley has local connections with the parish through his community involvement and length of time as a resident. The Clerk will confirm this in writing in regard to his proposal to build an affordable home under the Single Plot Exception Scheme.

Initials.....AJR.....

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

347/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Cllr Shingleton went through her report which had been issued by email and forwarded onto all council members prior to the meeting (copy attached with Minutes). Discussions are on-going regarding Covid as the infection rate is rising across the county and is deeply concerning to Shropshire Council. There was a lot of comment when Shropshire Council bought the shopping centres in Shrewsbury but the latest report shows that despite them being in a neglected condition there has been a lot of cooperation and use since. The basic premise of Future Fit is still there with all disciplines working together well. There is a current survey for people to have their say on highway repairs. Cllr Tomkinson asked if Shropshire will be treated differently to Telford and Wrekin if there are any changes in the Covid Tier levels. Cllr Shingleton said we should be treated differently unless the rates increase to similar levels.

347/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Sales felt we should record the death of former Parish Council Chairman Martin Windridge. Chairman Cllr Ratcliff confirmed he had sent a card to Mrs Windridge on behalf of the Council.
- ii) Cllr Ratcliff confirmed he and the Clerk had a very positive and encouraging site meeting at the Ford with a representative from WSP. WSP are more approving of open ditches rather than closed pipes for environmental reasons and they will be cheaper also. The Ford will be a great landmark if we can get the work done. Cllr Shingleton asked for a copy of the report when it is available.
- iii) Cllr Vanderhook commented on the West Mercia Police 'How's My Driving' signs around the parish to encourage people to report bad driving. Cllr Shingleton stated there was a large police presence in Cleobury recently to catch joy-riders, speeding vehicles and drug related issues. This will be repeated again. Cllr Del Mar commented on the nuisance vans parked near the Newbridge junction. Cllr Shingleton stated Graham Downes is getting a design processed to improve the junction to reduce the number of accidents and this upgrade will get rid of vehicles parking here too.
- iv) There will be a low-key event to lay wreaths and observe a minute's silence on Remembrance Sunday. People to gather at 10.50am outside. There will be no indoor service.
- v) Cllr Sales raised concerns regarding a potential lockdown coming and the effects on residents when the furlough scheme ends. Cllr Ratcliff will speak with the Neen Savage Support Group and offer our help and support. CoCo has already discussed the potential for the Cleobury Support Group to spring into action. There has been a recent issue regarding the provision of school meals which Shropshire Council has now picked up. Cllr Vanderhook felt that there may be an increase in crime due to people losing their jobs. Cllr Sales will write an article for the next Vital Link to encourage everyone to look out for each other in the months ahead.

347/11 Future Agenda Items

The projector and audio equipment for the Parish Hall will be discussed at the next meeting.

347/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th November 2020 at 7.30pm. The Parish Council will continue to follow Government guidance and the next meeting is likely to be using Zoom again – this will be confirmed on the next Agenda.

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed under Item 13 the public and press shall be excluded under S1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

The remaining members of the public left the meeting at 8.39pm.

347/13 Staff Review

The Clerk's appraisal was held on Wednesday 7th October via Zoom. Council thanked the Clerk for her work, approved the appraisal and reviewed the Clerk's NJC pay scale.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 348/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff	27th November 2020
Signed.....Chairman	Date.....