

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th November 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 and Cllr Sue Del Mar.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

348/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr George Haywood – internet issue.

Cllr Stephen Hinton – work

Council accepted these apologies.

348/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

348/03 Public Participation Session

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

348/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th October 2020

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th October 2020 be ADOPTED as a true record. Minutes to be signed as soon as practicable.

348/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

BT Broadband

Since the last meeting there have been several phone calls and emails with BT who confirmed a credit of £93.67 for the overcharges. The 4G Assure dongle will be free of charge and they confirmed the original price of £24.99 per month. Disappointingly they have charged us £33.29 on the November bill so this requires a further phone call.

Ford Drainage – CIL Project

Following the Ford site meeting with a representative from SC highway consultants WSP on Monday 5th October, we are still awaiting a report despite sending several email reminders requesting an update.

Pike Common

Fallen tree still not removed (as of Friday 21st November). Cllr Sales reported another tree trunk wedged against Walfords Bridge which needs removing. Cllr Shingleton said to report both of these trees to Gurnek Singh at Shropshire Council.

Place Plan

The Clerk has spoken with Vicky Turner regarding the Ford project in the Place Plan which needs to be updated as it was accepted for some CIL Local Funding, subject to Technical Checks. We have also had notification that Shropshire Council's Internal Infrastructure Group met on 22nd October and have agreed to support some highway projects, three of which affect Neen Savage:

- speed restrictions on the B4363 Kinlet Bank/Baveney Wood area extending into Neen Savage
- traffic visibility and road safety measures at Six Ashes junction and
- improvements to pedestrian safety along the B4363 from Newbridge to Six Ashes.

The Clerk has emailed Ffion Horton for specific details on each scheme but has not had a response as yet.

Highways

The Clerk has applied for next year's Environmental Maintenance Grant and chased up the outstanding grants for 2019-20 and the current year – both for £1,500 each as part of £3,000 of work. As advised by Cllr Shingleton this was directed to Andy Wilde.

- ii) Cllr Vanderhook reported on the recent Parish Hall meeting. There will be no Christmas events this year but the Committee are inviting others to join them in producing a Christmas Card to be delivered to every household in the parish. The audio/video project was discussed (see Agenda item 348/06).

Initials...AJR.....

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348/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting(cont'd)

- iii) Cllr Sales reported on the NeenSavageCrimeWatch WhatsApp Group. There have been two incidents in the parish as well as others in Oreton in the past month. This is making residents twitchy as these thefts happen in the middle of the night. Thieves can sometimes avoid detection by CCTV and break locks but people are encouraged to use such devices as well as SmartWater to protect their property. The Chairman and Clerk have some SmartWater packs available. There has been a lot of chitchat on the App so Cllr Sales will add a new message to point out that police monitor this App and whilst we all feel sympathetic, we need to refrain from general chat and just report suspicious and actual incidents only.

348/06 Financial Matters

Council discussed the proposed options for video and audio equipment for the Parish Hall as outlined in Cllr Vanderhook's report. There is little enthusiasm from the Hall Committee but they are happy for it to be installed if paid for by others. It will be of use to them and they could benefit as it will make the Hall more attractive to hire. Cllr Vanderhook and the Clerk confirmed the Parish Council has money available from the Transparency Code funding (£500) which can help cover the cost of the projector and screen. We also have Neighbourhood Fund money (£1,700) available. The audio project was added more recently and is of less benefit to the Parish Council but will be of use to other Parish Hall users. We need a knowledgeable, trustworthy supplier and to be mindful of changes in technology and suitability of equipment. It was felt best to pursue the video project only at this time due to the costs. Cllr Butler then aired the proposal for hybrid meetings (where some participants are on-line at in-person meetings). This would require an interactive screen and/or camera so we would need to ensure the proposed equipment would be capable of this. Having this facility in the Hall would create more opportunity for every councillor and also Shropshire Council officers to join meetings. Cllr Butler suggested Shropshire Council's IT department may be able to help advise us and even support this as an IT pilot with a Parish Council. Cllr Del Mar asked if the Hall Committee would contribute especially as they have had £10,000 of grant money. Cllr Vanderhook will take this back to the Hall Committee. Cllr Tomkinson felt that given we have done most of the work already with getting the broadband installed perhaps the Parish Hall Committee would consider contributing to the rest of the project.

At 8.06pm there was a short break in the meeting. Meeting re-convened at 8.09pm.

Cllr Vanderhook will go back to the suppliers and request revised quotations for discussion at the next meeting.

348/07 Approve Payments

- (a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
 - i) Mrs D McBride – Wages – (November) - £199.80 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE – (November) - £49.80 (Cheque)

Cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

348/08 Planning Matters

- (a) Planning Decisions (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):

- i) 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

- ii) 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

348/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Cllr Shingleton and Cllr Butler's reports had been forwarded onto all council members prior to the meeting (copy attached with Minutes). Further points raised by Cllr Shingleton included the opportunity to name the Council's gritters. Further business and broadband grants are available. Please contact Ben Walker or Chris Taylor at Shropshire Council with any issues of poor broadband. Cllr Vanderhook stated that a lot of the parish is covered with superfast broadband from Cleobury but not Baveney or Catherton Road although this is covered mostly by Airband. Cllr Del Mar will put a note about this in the next Vital Link. There is emergency assistance available for those short of food etc – please contact Lucy Simpson on 0345 678 9078.

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NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

348/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports (cont'd)

Cllr Butler's added that following the Spending Review today Shropshire Council will be allowed to increase the Council Tax by up to 1.99% and Adult Social Care by 3%. There is still no narrative regarding Fairer Funding but the Rural Services Network and others will continue to press Government on this. Cllr Butler asked that elections and Lengthsman work is planned for in next year's budget. The Regulation 18: Draft Local Plan is progressing but Bridgnorth cannot agree on development. None of the previous allocation of 550 houses have been built and now 1,000 more are needed but the community is split. If there are further delays which impact the five-year housing land supply it will open up the market for development anywhere. Cllr Del Mar asked what Shropshire Council is doing about the shortage of housing for older people. Cllr Butler said this is difficult to enforce and a real challenge in rural areas where people wish to down size as bungalows and retirement apartments are less financially lucrative for builders and is why Cleobury is pushing for a Neighbourhood Plan. Shropshire Council has also worked on Right Home Right Place and set up the company Cornovii to build the required types of housing.

348/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Ratcliff raised the matter of a parish Christmas Card which would include Covid support information and advice which Cllr Sales is putting together. The card would be delivered by volunteers and there could be some personalisation to each person. Council supported the idea in principle but it will need to be on the next Agenda for formal agreement on a financial contribution. Cllr Butler said the card could also include the Cleobury Support Group number.
- ii) Cllr Sales will also create a Covid folder on our website and share the various Covid support advice and information which is regularly sent out. This could also be shared on our Facebook page.
- iii) Cllr Ratcliff reported potholes near Shunesley. Cllr Tomkinson said the Nethercott to Detton road is still deteriorating as the few repairs carried out earlier this year were very poor. Cllr Butler said Government has made £1.7bn available to repair pot holes in England but he does not know how much Shropshire Council will get nor the timescales for the money to be spent.
- iv) Cllr Tomkinson had seen the jet wash vehicle a few weeks ago but they were just wandering around and did not appear to know where to go to clean the drains out.

348/11 Future Agenda Items

The video and audio equipment for the Parish Hall will be discussed further at the next meeting, also, the proposal for Council to contribute towards the cost of producing a Christmas card for every household in the parish and the draft Budget for 2021-22.

348/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd December 2020 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.42pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 349/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff **23rd December 2020**
Signed.....Chairman Date.....