

# NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Cllr Chris Hardy, Cllr Michael Tomkinson, Cllr Julian Cleford, Cllr Olwen Sales and Cllr Sue Barrett.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

360/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Council accepted the following apologies:

Cllr Sue Del Mar - holiday

Unitary Cllrs Gwilym Butler and Simon Harris were unable to attend but had sent reports.

360/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made at this point.

360/03 Public Participation Session

There was one member of public present. No matters were raised.

360/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

360/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

**Highways**

Following the site visit with Unitary Cllr Simon Harris to view the road condition from Nash to Detton via Goesland (including drainage near Nash), Cllr Harris wrote to everyone to confirm the issues which the Clerk forwarded as evidence to Highways and also requested that the broken drain at Picklebatch was repaired. A response was received from Andy Wilde, Head of Highways who confirmed one of their teams would investigate the issues highlighted and that once the drainage is resolved the defects on the road would be attended to. The site visit was due on 6<sup>th</sup> December but there has been no further correspondence. Council noted there has been some repairs on the road but it is still very bad. The repair team had knocked over a bollard at Six Ashes and left a lot of mess there which will be reported to Shropshire Council.

**Ford CIL Project**

The Clerk had requested a site visit to discuss the proposed work but there has been no response other than to say there is an area wide freeze on new CIL projects but the existing ones will continue to be progressed.

**Cleobury Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan**

There is a new Call for Sites regarding future housing development in Cleobury Mortimer. Council felt it would be beneficial for someone to attend a meeting of the NDP Steering Group to find out more about the proposals. With parish boundaries being reviewed later this year there are discussions between some councils where housing has been built in adjoining parishes as an overspill. This can create differences in the council tax levy between two parishes but also CIL development money is awarded to the parish who took the additional housing whilst the main towns need the money for infrastructure. It was felt a good idea to open up a communication channel with the Cleobury NDP Group so we can find out more and keep our parishioners informed. The Chairman is attending a SALC meeting tomorrow where boundary reviews are being discussed so he will report back on this at the next meeting.

**Training Courses**

The Clerk reminded everyone of the new Training Programme for 2022 and recommended the Code of Conduct training due to the latest updates.

Initials....AJR.....

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- ii) Cllr Sales gave an update from the CrimeWatch WhatsApp Group. In November there was a report of a theft of tin sheets from a shed on Ron Hill/Green Lane. In December there was a report of debris left in the hedge by a vehicle which had left the road on Kinlet Bank. There was a report of vehicles being driven in fields at Catherton leaving deep ruts. This was probably due to hare coursing or deer poachers and had been seen on land off the Worcester Road also. Unfortunately, there was a negative comment regarding the police which was promptly replied to by PC Strangwood. However, there was a further post which did not meet the purposes of this Group. Council agreed that a new message is put on the group by the administrators to remind people that the group is for sharing information on incidents or suspicious activities with the intention of preventing crime and not to express personal opinions or political mandates, also to not be abusive or personally critical of the partners we are trying to work with to make Neen Savage a safer, crime free place.
- iii) Cllr Tomkinson reported that there has been some progress on patching the road from Nash to Detton via Goesland but much more work is needed. The contractor has been booked to help with ditching in February. Once the culvert has been checked in Baveney Lane Cllr Tomkinson will send a list for jetting to the Clerk to forward onto Shropshire Council for prompt action.
- iv) Cllr Sales' Parish Hall Report. There was a very successful Christmas social on Saturday 19 December which was held outside at the Village Hall. There were refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies and Father Christmas attended with gifts for young children. Cllr Cleford declared a personal interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion. As has been previously reported the Committee wish to improve the roadside boundary of the Village Hall. Over the years the hedge has been allowed to grow tall and has become thin. Having taken professional advice, the intention is to cut it back and gap up with native species. In a short time, this will create a much thicker, healthier hedge which will also be easier maintained from the roadside and car park. As a courtesy, representatives of the Committee informed the residents of The Old Vicarage of their intentions. At the end of November 2021, the Trustees of the Village Hall received a long solicitors' letter initiated by the residents of The Old Vicarage objecting to the proposed works to improve the roadside hedge boundary. They argue that a contract exists between them and the Village Hall to maintain the hedge at a certain height. They also want the Trustees to agree to a covenant that any future cutting or replacing of the hedge or trees should be subject to the agreement of owners of the Old Vicarage in perpetuity. The Committee could not agree to that. This letter has caused considerable stress to the Trustees who have met a number of times to discuss it. Committee members have spoken to previous trustees and reviewed all past minutes and are completely satisfied that no such contract exists. As the Committee have to deal with this legal letter, they have referred the matter to the Village Hall insurers who are currently advising on the best way forward. If the legal costs in dealing with the matter are not covered by the Parish Hall insurance, then the Committee will need to appoint lawyers for advice in dealing with this matter. It was felt that as the Custodian Trustee of the Parish Hall, the Parish Council need to be made aware of the situation and provided with any updates. The Parish Hall Committee are also following advice from the county's Village Hall advisor.
- v) Cllr Hardy reported on the progress of the Community Led Parish Plan review. The group have now prioritized all the action points and started to put the review into a publishable format. Covid and Christmas delayed things but there should be a full report for the Parish Council at their February meeting.

## 360/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the draft Budget and Precept proposals for 2022-23 with the Precept being set at £5,800.
- ii) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the third quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- iii) Council noted the income received from Western Power for wayleaves - £55.52.

## 360/07 Payments

- (a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (December and January) - £399.20 – (Cheque)
  - ii) HMRC – PAYE (December and January) - £100.00 - (Cheque)
  - iii) Information Commissioner – Data Protection Annual Fee - £40.00 – (Cheque)
  - iv) Mrs D McBride – Clerk's quarterly admin expenses - £82.00 – (Cheque).

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

# NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

## 360/08 Planning Matters

### (a) New Planning Applications:

- i) Reference - 22/00140/LBC  
Address: Detton Hall Farm, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire.  
Proposal: Conversion of existing outbuildings to ancillary dwelling for family use and alteration of pool house glazing (Alterations to 21/01992/FUL & 21/01993/LBC).  
Applicant: Mr M Steinmetz.  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals.
- ii) Reference - 22/00139/FUL  
Address: Detton Hall Farm, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire.  
Proposal: Conversion of existing outbuildings to ancillary dwelling for family use and alteration of pool house glazing (Alterations to 21/01992/FUL & 21/01993/LBC)  
Applicant: Mr M Steinmetz.  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals.

### (b) Planning Decisions (for information only):

- i) Reference: 21/04592/FUL (validated: 23/09/2021)  
Address: The Larch Barn, Six Ashes Nursery, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8JF  
Proposal: Erection of an extension to the existing building to form additional kitchen facilities.  
Decision: Grant Permission.
- ii) Reference: 21/04471/CPL  
Address: Walfords Cottage, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer.  
Proposal: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed siting of a caravan for ancillary use to the existing dwelling.  
Decision: Grant Permission.

## 360/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

There were no Unitary Councillors in attendance but they had both sent reports which had been circulated. The Clerk will give an update on the state of the road from Nash to Detton via Goesland to Cllr Harris.

## 360/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) There were no new parish matters.
- ii) Item previously covered in Highway Reports.
- iii) It was agreed that Pike Common looks much better than in previous years and will be mown regularly this summer with additional clearance of undergrowth towards Walfords Bridge. It is disappointing that the river bank has not been maintained on the other side of Pike Common.
- iv) Council agreed the Spring litter pick will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022.
- v) Council discussed ways to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and felt that a native tree could be planted. Cllr Ratcliff kindly volunteered to make a bench. Costings to be approved at the next meeting with a view to siting the tree and bench at Pike Common.

## 360/11 Future Agenda Items

The Clerk will check whether there will be any funding from Shropshire Council to purchase an audio video system for the Parish Hall. Prices for an independent system will be discussed at a future meeting.

## 360/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

**It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 361/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-**

**Arthur Ratcliff** **23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**  
Signed.....Chairman Date.....