

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd February 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 Del Mar and Unitary Cllr Simon Harris.

At 7pm, the Chairman welcomed Mr Pete Blackburn who had been invited to speak about the Cleobury Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Mr Blackburn is the Chair of the Steering Group and said he had no formal reason to address the Parish Council as the NDP will not involve our parish but he wished to share information about the NDP process. NDPs were brought about under the Localism Act 2011 to prevent uncontrolled development. With a NDP communities would have set boundaries for residential and business development, policies for the numbers and types of housing, public open spaces and leisure facilities for the benefit of the community. The Cleobury NDP will not encroach into Neen Savage as development has to be in Cleobury parish. There had been some miscommunication regarding land being available and talk of a path up to the Old Station Business Park which had alarmed some people. The parish boundaries may be reviewed in the future but any further development should adjoin the current town and not be in isolated areas. It is good to consider all options for future development and discuss them openly though. Housing numbers are allocated by Shropshire Council subject to their development policies. If Shropshire cannot meet their five-year housing land supply this could lead to speculative development but currently Shropshire Council is meeting their requirements. Cllr Harris stated that the current Local Plan runs to 2036 and is with the Government examiner. Cleobury Mortimer was allocated 200 houses but around 80 have already been permitted so only 120 are required. Concerns had been raised previously regarding the Tenbury Road junction in Cleobury yet Highways have only recently acknowledged these concerns. There were some communication issues through the NDP consultant who was pushing for a housing density of 20 per hectare but this was not deemed practical and would not meet housing needs. The Steering Group are satisfied with Shropshire Council's recommended housing density of 30 per hectare and are now speaking directly with the landowners. Previous land offered had been withdrawn. Following a new Call for Sites recently, land has now been offered around the cemetery at the new preferred density but with one hectare of public open space, part of which will be used to increase the cemetery. Land has also been offered to extend the New House Industrial Estate. Mr Blackburn was thanked for his time and setting minds at rest regarding the rumours of extending housing into Neen Savage.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

361/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Council accepted the following apologies:

Cllr Sue Barrett – work.

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – work.

361/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

361/03 Public Participation Session

There were no members of public present.

361/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Councillor Simon Harris apologised that he devoted his last report solely to the county's Pension Fund and the investments in fossil fuels. He is happy to meet anyone to discuss this matter. Shropshire Council is meeting tomorrow to discuss their budget for 2022-23. Cllr Harris advised the Parish Council to express its view on the forthcoming boundary reviews to Cllr Cecelia Motley and Graham White at Legal Services. Cleobury Patients Voice will restart once the new Practice Manager is in post. Having a Patients Voice is a statutory requirement and people are encouraged to get involved in this group. Regarding the Jubilee there may be an opportunity to bulk buy between parishes. Cleobury Mortimer Town Council is ordering mugs for children. Cllr Harris is meeting Graham Downes on 14th March and hopes to bring him out to view the road from Nash to Detton via Goesland. Cllr Harris is also chasing for an update on the Ford CIL drainage project. Cllr Tomkinson queried why the Ford project is not mentioned in the CIL funded projects for the area and felt that money was being proposed for a fanciful project to encourage people to walk from Cleobury to the Old Station Business Park along the B4363 when it is unlikely to be used. The Clerk is to confirm the Parish Council's concerns with the proposed CIL funded highway projects in writing to Cllr Harris.

Initials.....

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361/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2022

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2022 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed.

361/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

Highways

As confirmed by Cllr Harris there is a joint effort to get some effective repairs on the road from Nash crossroads to Detton via Goesland (including drainage work near Nash). Cllr Simon Harris has also asked Highways to refix or remove the bollard at Six Ashes.

Ford CIL Project

The Clerk had not received a response from Ffion Horton regarding a site meeting to discuss the proposed work. We applied for the CIL in March 2019 which was agreed and confirmed subject to Technical Checks. We attended a site meeting with a Technician in October 2020 and have been waiting ever since. Cllr Simon Harris is helping to chase Ffion Horton and has now involved Steve Brown to obtain a response and include an update on the other four highway projects in the Place Plan Area. These were notified to us in October 2020. The Clerk has suggested a joint parish meeting with all affected parishes to include our Place Plan Officer. Council agreed that the Ford is the priority project then sightline improvements at Six Ashes. The other items were not requested by this Parish Council and have been put into the Place Plan by others. The Place Plan needs updating and the Clerk will inform the Place Plan officers of this

Outstanding matters from Spring 2000

The riverbank opposite Pike Common has still not been re-instated and safety railings have not been replaced over the culvert at the bottom of Ron Hill.

Parish Hall broadband

BT have notified the Clerk that they are increasing their prices by 9.3% from 1st April. Our contract ends on 2nd November 2022.

- ii) Cllr Sales gave an update from the CrimeWatch WhatsApp Group. One incident was reported in February – a break-in off Green Lane. Cllr Sales has put another message on the app to remind everyone of the aims and expectations for the group.
- iii) Cllr Tomkinson has been in touch with the contractor to help with ditching work. Cllr Ratcliff has spent half a day clearing debris from the culverts on the road from Lower Woodend to Detton. As there is a wide verge beside this road the ditch spoil can be placed there to build up the verge and hopefully protect it from vehicles.
- iv) Cllr Sales' Parish Hall Report. The Committee have not met since the last Parish Council meeting and there have been no further events. The Committee have now appointed Lanyon Bowdler to assist with the issues regarding the roadside hedge including responding to the solicitors' letter received from residents of the Old Vicarage.
- v) Cllr Hardy reported on the progress of the Community Led Parish Plan review. The group are very close to completing the final draft and need one more meeting to agree their report. Cllr Hardy will then forward a copy onto the Parish Council members.

361/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council approved the purchase of a native oak tree, stakes and ties as well as bench materials and a plaque for the commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, up to a limit of £200.00. The location of the tree and bench was subject to some debate but it was agreed that first choice would be at the highest point of Green Lane and second choice on Pike Common. Cllrs Ratcliff and Tomkinson will evaluate both sites.

361/07 Payments

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

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361/09 Code of Conduct and Other Registerable Interest Forms

Council RESOLVED to adopt the new Code of Conduct and Other Registerable Interest Forms. Councillors were asked to review their current Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Forms and to update them where necessary. The Other Registerable Interest Forms only need to be completed if there is something to declare.

361/10 Annual Parish Meeting.

Council agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 18th May. It will be the usual format of inviting community groups to present their reports. Refreshments will be offered subject to any Covid guidance. It was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss the boundary review at its March meeting and report its conclusions at the Annual Parish Meeting.

361/11 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) There were no new parish matters.
- ii) Highways had been covered previously.
- iii) Cllr Sales has looked at prices for an interactive smart screen with a sound bar which would work from a laptop. She will check that the Parish Hall Committee would be happy with this system rather than using a projector and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.
- iv) Cllr Del Mar stated she has welcomed new residents to the parish with a pack of SmartWater and the parish book which has been well received.

361/12 Future Agenda Items

Boundary reviews and the proposed audio-video equipment for the Parish Hall will be discussed at the March meeting.

361/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.04pm.