

# NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff, Cllr Michael Tomkinson, Cllr Chris Hardy, Cllr Julian Cleford, Cllr Olwen Sales, Cllr Sue Del Mar, Cllr Sue Barrett and Unitary Cllr Simon Harris (in-part).

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

363/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Council accepted the following apology:

Cllr Harris will be late as he is attending another meeting.

363/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson declared interests in Agenda Item 363/07 - Payments.

363/03 Public Participation Session

There were no members of public present.

363/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed.

363/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Progress Report

**Highways**

The jetting list was submitted to Shropshire Council. Cllr Tomkinson has since updated the locations on Fix My Street.

There will be further road works on the B4363. On 7<sup>th</sup> May there is work between Kinlet Bank and junction with B4555. Starting on 19<sup>th</sup> May there will be two nights work preparation, from 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May surface dressing work and lining on 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June on the road from Kinlet Bank to Rays Bridge.

**Website**

Chris Bargman is proposing we take over the administration of hosting the website. We could do this and update the site to https (SSL Certificate) and set up a direct debit for the hosting payment. Council agreed this made sense. The Clerk will speak with Mr Bargman and bring back the details to Council for approval.

**Ford CIL Project**

Ffion Horton has confirmed that they are finalising their report on the Ford Project as well as the other four highway projects in the Place Plan Area. The Clerk met with Vicky Turner, our Place Plan Officer and explained our frustrations with the time this is taking and that we have requested a site visit for the Ford work. Vicky informed the Clerk that the Place Plan is being updated. External organisations ie Environment Agency, Severn Trent etc will have first input, followed by internal Shropshire Council departments ie Highways, Education and then the parishes will be able to review the projects.

ii) Cllr Sales had co-ordinated the Spring Litter Pick and sent out several reminders on the WhatsApp Group. Many people offered to pick various lanes and only four people went to the Parish Hall to collect equipment. It was felt that in future we have a 'litter-pick week' rather than one day as many more people get involved this way. Thank you to everyone who participated. The next event will be in late October.

Cllr Sales reported on the CrimeWatch WhatsApp Group. There had been one main incident reported on the group as a theft was in progress. There was a rapid response by local residents to support the farmer but also the police attended within 30 minutes and made an arrest. This prompt notification and action illustrates how well the WhatsApp system can work. PCSO Hyde has been in touch and reiterated the local policing teams support for the parish and they continue to encourage all issues and incidents to be reported.

iii) Cllr Tomkinson and Cllr Ratcliff have spent another day with the contractor clearing ditches and gullies on the Catherton Road and found an overgrown culvert. Cllr Tomkinson has reported 16 defects on the Detton-Nash Road on Fix My Street and encouraged everyone to report issues using this App.

Cllr Ratcliff, Cllr Tomkinson and Cllr Hardy have put the Jubilee bench foundations in. Mr Sales helped Cllr Ratcliff plan the Jubilee Tree – a horse chestnut – which is being watered regularly and looks very healthy. The bench plaque should be ready this week and once affixed to the bench, the bench will be installed. The Clerk will obtain prices for a plaque for the tree and bring back to the next meeting.

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## 363/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting (cont'd)

- iv) Cllr Sales' Parish Hall Report. The Committee has not met since the last Parish Council meeting. There is no update on the hedge issue but preparations are underway for the two events planned this summer at the Parish Hall – a Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June and the Scarecrow Convention and Fete on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July.

## 363/06 Financial Matters

- i) Cllr Sales is looking into the specification requirements and hopes to have some quotes for the interactive/smart TV for the next meeting.
- ii) Council confirmed that the current asset register is suitable for obtaining insurance quotations. The Jubilee bench and tree will be notified to the insurers and noted in the risk assessments.

## 363/07 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and sign cheques:

- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (April) - £199.80 (Cheque)
- ii) HMRC – PAYE (April) - £49.80 (Cheque)
- iii) SALC – Affiliation Fees - £208.92 (Cheque)
- iv) Mrs D McBride – Clerk's quarterly admin expenses - £122.64 (Cheque).

Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson took no part in the following discussion. Cllr Sales took the Chair.

There was an additional invoice received after the Agenda had been published from Nethercott Farms. This payment was approved together with the other payments for Lengthsman work as the Environmental Maintenance Grant will cover this expenditure. The following payments were approved and cheques signed:

- v) Nethercott Farms – Highway Maintenance work - £288.00 (Cheque)
- vi) A Ratcliff – Environmental Maintenance, Jubilee bench materials and tree - £406.06 (Cheque)
- vii) Nethercott Farms – Highway Maintenance - £144.00 (Cheque).

Cllr Ratcliff resumed as Chair and commented that both he and Cllr Tomkinson were reluctant to invoice the Parish Council for their 'Lengthsman' work but the system requires invoices to enable the Grant to be paid. Shropshire Council will not accept free volunteer time.

At 8.10pm Cllr Harris arrived.

## 363/08 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications:

- i) Reference: 22/01615/LBC (validated: 04/04/2022)  
Address: Detton Hall Farm, Neen Savage, Shropshire, DY14 8LW  
Proposal: Repairs to exposed timber framing across solar and hall affecting a Grade II\* listed building  
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Steinmetz (Detton Hall Farm, Neen Savage, DY14 8LW)  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals.

## 363/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Councillor Simon Harris apologised for being late but he had attended a local Conservative meeting where he had some important Council concerns to raise with the Chairman. Stottesdon Parish Council had raised concerns regarding the number of vehicles parked outside Bell Vue Garage. This Parish Council is aware of the issues and the owner has been spoken to previously by residents and the police. There may be less vehicles parked at times but there is an on-going danger of vehicles over-taking the parked cars (from Mawley) and meeting other vehicles turning off the B4363. Whilst this is a valuable local business, it was felt that the number of vehicles detracts from this and even the Planning Officer should have taken this into consideration when granting permission for additional development on the site. Cllr Harris informed the meeting that there is £9m available through Shropshire Council's Sustainable Warmth Programme for people in fuel poverty to apply for funding to improve their properties. Shropshire Council is on a mission to relaunch its brand – primarily to ensure all its services are noted under its brand name. Since our last meeting Shropshire Council has created a 'one-stop' place on its website for information on supporting Ukrainian refugees – Homes for Ukraine. 136 households in Shropshire have volunteered to host refugees and some Ukrainian refugees are already in Shropshire. Cllr Harris has asked how many of these refugees are in our area so that community support could be formed for them if required.

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## 363/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) The proposed Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. Cllr Tomkinson offered to give a Highways Report separate to the Parish Council Report due to the importance of this matter to the community and explain the frustration with the lack of communication from Shropshire Council once issues have been reported. Cllr Harris agreed with this and is trying to establish who the main contact person at Highways is and will let us know. It was agreed to remove any restrictions on numbers at the Annual Parish Meeting and state that everyone is welcome but ask that people either with Covid symptoms or who have been in contact with a positive case refrain from attending. Refreshments will be served.
- ii) Highway matters had already been covered.

## 363/11 Future Agenda Items

At the May meeting, there will be the annual review of councillor roles as well as a review of the Annual Parish Meeting including any feedback on the Community Led Plan and Boundary Reviews discussions.

## 363/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

At 8.47pm the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting moved to exclude the public from the following item.

**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.**

## 363/13 Employment Matters

Council reviewed the Clerk's salary scale based on the latest NJC recommendations. The Clerk's appraisal will take place this summer once the new Parish Councillor Working Groups have been agreed at the May meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.54pm.