NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th June 2023 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

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

The Chairman, Cllr Arthur Ratcliff welcomed everyone to the June meeting.

- 375/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members Council accepted the following apologies: Cllr Julian Clelford – holiday. Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler.
- 375/02 <u>Declarations of Interest</u> Cllr Sue Del Mar declared an interest in Agenda item 375/06 b(i) and took no part in the discussion.
- 375/03 <u>Public Participation Session</u> There were no members of public present.
- 375/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed subject to one amendment to Item 374/02 where Cllr Tomkinson was elected to be Vice-Chairman, not Chairman.
- 375/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Progress Reports since the last meeting
 - i) Clerk's Report

Water Leak at Six Ashes

Severn Trent are undertaking a trial dig to determine the source of water running into the road at Six Ashes. This will be taking place between 31st July and 2nd August.

Land Registry

The application to Land Registry has still not been acknowledged so the completed documents will be sent again by registered post.

- ii) CrimeWatch WhatsApp Group Report Cllr Sales There have been no incidents reported.
- iii) Environmental Maintenance Report Cllr Tomkinson/Cllr Ratcliff. Cllr Tomkinson reported that there has been a number of small road repairs but there are still lots to do. There is a lot of debris on the roads from Detton via Nethercott to the Nash crossroads from where the road has broken up. Cllr Barrett had seen workmen out today again and spoken to the road surveyor recently who said the road was an 'End of Life' road which needs to be patched and surface-dressed. Cllr Tomkinson has spoken with Mr Harman who will assess the work required to relay the drainage pipe on Picklebatch Bank.
- iv) Cllr Ratcliff has been commissioned to make a bench for Pike Common but the Parish Council need to decide where the best location is for a bench. A bin may be needed in the future if litter is an issue but there will be a requirement for us to empty that bin as it is unlikely that Shropshire Council will do it.
- v) Parish Hall Committee Report Cllr Sales
- There is a Tidy-Up Event on Tuesday 4th July at 6pm. The Scarecrow Event is being held on Saturday 15th July. Cllr Tomkinson offered to help with further advertising of this event. Posts on social media and flyers on notice boards have been put up. Thanks to Ros Haines, the Parish Hall Committee have been awarded a Lottery Grant of £10,000 towards the Hall extension.
- vi) Cllr Hardy attended the recent SALC area committee meeting. Subscriptions for SALC were to be suspended for this year as they have a healthy bank balance but this decision came after the payments for this year had been collected. There was a lot of discussion regarding the Place Plans. Some previously approved projects are listed in the new draft documents and others are not. The Clerk will continue to chase up the Neen Savage projects with the relevant officers at Shirehall. There was also some discussion regarding the status of the Local Plan. Cllr Harris stated it was still being processed by Inspectors and has not been signed off yet.
- 375/06 Payments
 - a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and sign cheques:
 - i) Mrs D McBride Wages (June) £227.40 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC PAYE (June) £56.80 (Cheque).

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- b) Council discussed the request for funding from Neen Savage PCC towards churchyard maintenance. It was felt that felt that the request would meet the requirements of a S.137 payment as the churchyard is a community asset, is open and available to everyone and with the Parish Hall and church, is at the centre of our community and should be supported. It was noted that church waste such as wreaths and flowers should be put in their bins and not in those at the Parish Hall. Further, that recycling and composting should be carefully managed for the environment and ensuring as little as possible general waste goes into the black wheelie bins.
 - i) Neen Savage PCC £500.00 (Cheque).

375/07 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The Unitary Councillors had sent their monthly report which had been distributed to all councillors. Cllr Harris asked if the Parish Council would like a visit by Andy Keyland from Highways if this can be arranged. This was supported so that he could be shown the condition of the roads but also where substantial drainage improvements are needed. Cllr Harris has been chasing for updates on the Ford ClL project and also the missing WSP report regarding a safety review at Six Ashes which had been approved by Shropshire Council's Internal Infrastructure Group (IIG). He is appalled that the Ford project report cost around £20,000 to produce and took 18 months to be received by the Parish Council and we are still awaiting some action, most importantly a site visit to discuss their recommendations. The Parish Council is very concerned about the lack of communication and question the timescales for these projects. Cllr Harris was thanked for his ongoing support with these issues and he confirmed he is happy to help liaise with the Parish and County Council. He is supporting a motion to improve controls on the sale of vaping products at full Council next week and continues to be involved with the Task and Finish Group to improve the quality of water in our river.

375/08 Boundary Commission's consultation for Shropshire Electoral Review

Council discussed the proposals for Shropshire Council's Cleobury Mortimer division. It was felt that no change is needed and we wish to remain aligned with Cleobury Mortimer where we support the shops, businesses and services. We do not accept being put in a ward with Stottesdon which misrepresents where we are geographically. The current proposal from the Boundary Commission offers us nothing and separates us from our adjoining market town of Cleobury Mortimer and we object to this proposal.

375/09 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson have replaced the bin by the Ford bench under Environmental Maintenance work. The old bin (which has no lid) will be considered for Pike Common once a bench has been installed. Cllr Ratcliff has obtained the steel for a replacement bench at Six Ashes – to replace the wooden one which was stolen last year. The new steel bench will be more robust and designed to be built into the site to make it unlikely to be stolen. Costings for the steel, galvanizing and timber will be put on the next Agenda for consideration.
- ii) Council discussed the long-awaited Ford Drainage Investigation Report and Recommendations. Council felt the recommended leaky dam proposals are not a full solution to the issues and do not address the issues with the pipes under the road. The drainage solutions on School House bank will have little impact on the culvert to the Ford if the culvert and ditch are not improved. A site visit is still of high importance and will be requested again.
- iii) The Place Plan had been discussed earlier in the meeting. The Clerk will respond to the Place Plan officer and request the Six Ashes safety review is noted in the Place Plan but also ask for an update on its status as it was approved for funding in 2020.
- iv) Council reviewed the Policing Priorities for the next quarter and agreed they should remain the same ie rural thefts, targeted rural crime and wildlife crimes such as hare coursing and poaching.

375/10 Future Agenda Items

The costings for a replacement bench at Six Ashes and the location of a new bench at Pike Common will be discussed at the next meeting.

375/11 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th July 2023, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.58pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 376/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Arthur Ratcliff		26 th July 2023
Signed	Chairman	Date