

# NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 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 Julian Cleford, Cllr Sue Del Mar and Cllr Sue Barrett.

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

377/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Council accepted the following apologies:

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler.

Unitary Cllr Simon Harris.

377/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Tomkinson declared an interest in Agenda Item 377/08/a/iii and took no part in this matter when discussed.

Cllr Barrett declared an interest in Agenda Item 377/08/a/iii and took no part in this matter when discussed.

377/03 Public Participation Session

There were four members of public present. No matters were raised at this point.

377/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed.

377/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

**Land Registry**

The forms and documents have been submitted and acknowledged by Land Registry.

**Streetscene**

We have been informed that Streetscene is undergoing an extensive review. There will be a new service leader and it will take time to resolve issues and catch up on the service with their available resources this autumn. We have been asked to report areas of concern and have requested a copy of their asset map and service schedule so we know what they should be doing and we can then report any areas which are outstanding.

**Police**

There is still no update on a replacement PC and PCSO. We currently only have one PCSO in our local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

**Ford Drainage Project**

Since our Site Meeting in July, we have been informed by WSP that there is now not enough funding to undertake any of the Ford drainage proposals. The money allocated from CIL Local has depleted to £9,276 and it was suggested we use £1,500 of our Neighbourhood Fund money together with the CIL money for Ford safety signage and a review of the B4363 from Newbridge to Six Ashes instead. This has been challenged as they are different projects with different funding sources. Unfortunately, we are still awaiting an explanation from the relevant Shropshire Council Officer on all these issues. The WSP Officer we met in July and the Shropshire Council Officer are meeting tomorrow and it is hoped we will receive an informative response. The costings for the Ford drainage project options have also increased since October 2021. The estimated costings are now: Option 4 – deculvert the ditch and fit a screen upstream - £17,000 (previously estimated at £10,000) plus design and/or investigation fees.

Option 5 – install leaky dams on watercourse upstream and screens on the inlets – £26,000, previously £17,000.

Option 6 – catchment wide approach and modelling to slow flow – £50,000, previously £30,000.

The Unitary councillors are meeting with our Place Plan Officer, Vicky Turner on 16<sup>th</sup> October to go through all the local issues and hopefully will receive an update from Ffion Horton on funding for the Ford project.

ii) CrimeWatch WhatsApp Group Report – Cllr Sales

There have been no incidents reported. The tractors stolen from Mawley Farm have since been found.

iii) Highways/Ford Project Updates – covered under Clerk's Report.

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- iv) Environmental Maintenance Report – Cllr Tomkinson/Cllr Ratcliff.  
Cllr Tomkinson stated that the end of a pipe and a headwall had been unearthed in the field adjacent to the road between the Nash Crossroads and Clump Cottage. Cllr Tomkinson has rodded the pipe out towards the Nash Crossroads. There is no connection to the road drain and it is thought it used to drain into a roadside ditch. Shropshire Council are formulating a plan on how to resolve this and have been made aware that the hole will need to be filled in prior to planting the field. Shropshire Council have patched some sections of the Detton Road and on the Six Ashes to Mawley road. A lot of reports have been removed on the Fix My Street app. Cllr Tomkinson has sent a full jetting list to Andy Keyland, for action.
- v) Pike Common Quarterly Report – Cllr Ratcliff  
The grass was mowed in August and will be done again soon. Cllr Ratcliff has made the bench ready for installation.
- vi) Parish Hall Report - Cllr Sales  
The Committee are keen to build the extension but the quotes are higher than expected so other options are being explored. A Christmas Event is planned for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The newly planted section of hedge is looking healthy and growing well.
- vii) SALC Area Meeting Report – Cllr Hardy  
Most of the meeting was taken up with a guest speaker who spoke about Local Plans and Place Plans. Place Plans are currently being updated and will feed into the Local Plan. All parish projects have to be in the Place Plan before being considered for funding. The Local Plan is still under judicial review. CIL funding is being focussed towards priority projects in urban areas. Shropshire is expected to take migration from the West Midlands to keep our county thriving. Cllr Ratcliff noted that money is tight at the moment but rural areas need more consideration.

## 377/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council resolved to approve the appointment of DM Payroll Services as Internal Auditor for 2023-24.

At 20:02 Cllr Tomkinson took the Chair for the following item.

## 377/07 Payments

- a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and sign cheques:
- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (August and September) - £454.60 (Cheque)
  - ii) HMRC – PAYE (August and September) - £113.80 (Cheque)
  - iii) Arthur Ratcliff – Steel for bench at Six Ashes (Environmental Maintenance Grant) - £161.40 - (Cheque).

At 20:03 Cllr Ratcliff resumed as Chair.

## 377/08 Planning Matters

- a) New Planning Applications:
- i) Reference: 23/03245/FUL (validated: 25/07/2023)  
Address: Shutley Farm, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8LH  
Proposal: Installation of 2no. glamping pods for overnight guest use, associated patio, pathways, permeable parking and turning area, recycling/refuse storage and secure bicycle storage as part of farm diversification.  
Applicant: Mr B Link  
Outcome: The application has since been refused by Shropshire Council. Mr Link spoke about the plans for this farm diversification project. The reasons for refusal were noted and other options are being explored.
  - ii) Reference: 23/03620/FUL (validated: 25/08/2023)  
Address: Upper Baveney Farmhouse, Baveney Lane, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8LF  
Proposal: Erection of a domestic garage and office above  
Applicant: Mr Louis Purchase.  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals but request that a condition be set on the garage that it is not to be used as residential accommodation.

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iii) Reference: 23/03362/FUL (validated: 11/09/2023)  
Address: Coneybury, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8LW  
Proposal: Erection of agricultural building and formation of access track and concrete apron  
Applicant: H J Griffiths (Mr J Griffiths, Lower Elcott Farm, DY14 8LB)  
The applicant's representative answered questions from Council and confirmed there will be screening on three sides as a gesture to soften the impact on the landscape of this building but the farm needs a practical access at one side. There will be room for a tractor and hedge cutter to maintain the hedge behind the shed. The building will be a general-purpose agricultural building for crops and animals.  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the application but would like to see screening around the whole building due to the location being very prominent on the landscape. The screening should be mixed planting, to include evergreen trees. There are concerns about the proximity of the footpath and the issue of regular maintenance which is required to ensure the footpath is accessible at all times.

b) Planning Decisions

i) Reference: 23/03245/FUL (validated: 25/07/2023)  
Address: Shutley Farm, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8LH  
Proposal: Installation of 2no. glamping pods for overnight guest use, associated patio, pathways, permeable parking and turning area, recycling/refuse storage and secure bicycle storage as part of farm diversification.  
Decision: Refuse.

377/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The Unitary Councillors had sent their monthly report which had been distributed to all councillors. There were no comments.

377/10 Policing Priorities

Council reviewed the Policing Priorities for the next quarter and agreed they should remain the same ie thefts from outbuildings, organized crime groups such as targeting vehicles and wildlife crimes such as hare coursing and poaching.

377/11 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Del Mar has visited three new families to the parish and gave them a copy of the parish book.
- ii) The Litter Pick week was set for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> until Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Details will be issued on the notice boards and on the WhatsApp Group.
- iii) Cllr Ratcliff and Mr Barrett will install the new bench at Six Ashes next week.

377/12 Future Agenda Items

Cllr Sales will bring updated quotes for an interactive TV screen for the Parish Hall to the next meeting.

377/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.41pm.

**It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 378/04) that these minutes are a true record of the Meeting.**

Signed.....*Arthur Ratcliff*.....Chairman Date.....*25<sup>th</sup> October 2023*.....