

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at Neen Savage Parish Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting Chairman: Cllr Arthur Ratcliff.

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

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

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

385/01 Election of Chairman and receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Cllr Arthur Ratcliff was elected Chairman (proposed Cllr Hardy, seconded Cllr Cleford). Cllr Ratcliff signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

385/02 Election of Vice-Chairman and receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Cllr Michael Tomkinson was elected Vice-Chairman (proposed Cllr Ratcliff, seconded Cllr Barrett). Cllr Tomkinson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
Cllr Ratcliff and Cllr Tomkinson thanked Council members for their support and noted there will be an election next year and time for a change of roles.

385/03 Apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
Council accepted the following apology:
Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – attending another meeting.

385/04 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

385/05 Public Participation Session
There were no members of public present.

385/06 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2024
It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2024 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed, subject to one amendment to Item No. 384/10/iv – Mr Harman assisted Cllr Tomkinson with clearing the blocked drain near Six Ashes.

385/07 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Public Spaces Protection Order

The PSPO (to help tackle dog fouling and nuisance) was made on 17th April and comes into effect from 1st June. If anyone has any issues or concerns regarding dogs, please report them to Shropshire Council via their website, on FixMyStreet or telephone 0345 678 9006.

New Council Year

All members were reminded to review their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Forms to ensure they are up-to-date.

Website

Mr Bargman is looking to stop providing website hosting so transferring to a new host along with a change to a gov.uk website is suggested. We can revisit the gov.uk option after the summer when we may have more information via SALC or other local councils which may help with discussions.

Mr Bargman is happy to carry on providing hosting and domain registration for the Parish Council for now but with very limited support. Having checked his records, he has sent an invoice to cover costs up to October 2023.

Annual Parish Meeting

This meeting is being held on Wednesday 29th May 2024. The Clerk will purchase refreshments and set up the room from 7pm. A meeting reminder will be put out on the WhatsApp Support Group a few days beforehand.

ii) CrimeWatchNeenSavage WhatsApp Group Report – Cllr Sales

There have been two reports of hare coursing since the last meeting.

iii) Environmental Maintenance Report – Cllr Tomkinson/Cllr Ratcliff

The contractor has not carried out any Environmental Maintenance work since the last meeting. Cllr Ratcliff has mown the grass again at Pike Common.

iv) Parish Hall Report – Cllr Sales

ASE have started the remodelling work in the Parish Hall. They have made a lot of progress in two weeks and are working very tidily which is appreciated by the Hall users.

Initials...AJR...

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

385/08 Annual Review of Council Appointments, Policies and Procedures

- i) Council reviewed roles, appointments to committees and outside bodies which were agreed as follows:-

Councillor Duties and Parish Roles

Chairman	Cllr Arthur Ratcliff
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Michael Tomkinson
Employment Sub-Committee	Cllrs Olwen Sales, Chris Hardy, Sue Barrett and Sue Del Mar
Highways Sub-Committee	Cllrs Arthur Ratcliff, Michael Tomkinson and Julian Cleford
Flood Wardens	Highways Sub-Committee
Policies Sub-Committee	Cllrs Olwen Sales, Chris Hardy and Sue Barrett
Communications Sub-Committee	Cllrs Olwen Sales, Arthur Ratcliff and Sue Del Mar
Emergency Planning Officer	Cllr Sue Del Mar
Pike Common	Cllr Arthur Ratcliff
Baveney Common	Cllr Michael Tomkinson

Appointments to Committees outside the Parish Council

Place Plan representative	Cllr Michael Tomkinson
Parish Hall Committee representative	Cllr Olwen Sales
SALC representatives	Cllrs Michael Tomkinson and Chris Hardy

Non-Councillor appointments to Parish Roles

Snow Warden	Mr George Haywood
Tree Warden	Mr Chris Butterworth

Non-Councillor appointments to Parish Charity

Edwards & Hinckesman's Foundation	Mrs Emma Haywood (re-appointed June 2021 – four-year term) Mr Charles Whitworth (re-appointed June 2021 – four-year term).
-----------------------------------	---

- ii) Council RESOLVED to set the dates for Parish Council meetings for forthcoming year as follows:

<u>Date of Meeting</u>
Wednesday 26 th June 2024
Wednesday 24 th July 2024
Wednesday 25 th September 2024
Wednesday 23 rd October 2024
Wednesday 27 th November 2024
Wednesday 18 th December 2024
Wednesday 22 nd January 2025
Wednesday 26 th February 2025
Wednesday 26 th March 2025
Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
Wednesday 28 th May 2025

It was noted that the May 2025 Council meeting may be held on a different date subject to the parish council elections due to be held in early May. The Annual Parish Meeting may be held in March 2025 to ensure the Council has time to plan and prepare for this meeting before the election period.

- iii) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are on an annual review with all other policies on a four-year review. New Model Financial Regulations have been supplied through NALC. Council RESOLVED to approve the reviewed Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. The Policies Sub-Committee will meet next Spring to review all Council policies for the May 2025 meeting.

385/09 Financial Matters

- i) Council noted receipt of the Precept - £6,500.00.
- ii) There were no conflicts of interest with PKF Littlejohn LLP.
- iii) Council received and noted the Internal Auditor's reports.
- iv) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2023/24.
- v) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ending 31st March 2024.
- vi) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2023/24.
- vii) Council RESOLVED to certify the Parish Council's exemption from a limited assurance review. All sections of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return were completed and signed.

Initials...AJR...

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

385/10 Payments

- a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and sign cheques:
- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (May) - £243.40 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE (May) - £60.80 (Cheque)
 - iii) SALC – Annual Affiliation Fees - £210.35 (Cheque)
 - iv) D M Payroll Services - Internal Audit Fee - £100.00 (Cheque)
 - v) Chris Bargman – website hosting and domain fees - £84.00 (Cheque).

385/11 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The Unitary Councillors had sent their May report which had been distributed to all councillors. Cllr Harris noted that there have been some repairs on the road from Six Ashes to the Parish Hall but other potholes on the Bridgnorth Road near Newbridge have not been attended to. Cllr Harris remarked that the HS2 money from Government for road repairs is still just a Ministerial Statement and has not been allocated yet. However, capital money provided by Shropshire Council for highways has actually increased by 20% on previous years. Cllr Harris commented on the number of current consultations and that the green waste/household recycling centre consultation had received over 17,000 responses. Responses will be reviewed before final decisions are made.

Cllr Harris felt that the Parish Council should write directly to the Traffic Engineering Officer for the Ford signage, emphasising the urgency for it following the two recent incidents.

Cllr Harris will continue to press Severn Trent for accurate reporting of water treatment plant releases into the River Rea, especially on non-rain days.

385/12 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Tomkinson will arrange a meeting with relevant landowners regarding the Ford drainage project once the area has been tidied up to enable access.
- ii) Cllr Ratcliff has received an email via NALC asking if the Parish Council was interested in supporting the LGBTQ+ community through the display of a flag. If anyone is interested in this, please let the Clerk know as Pride 2024 takes place in June.
- iii) Delivery of the planters for Six Ashes is being chased up. They will be planted as soon as they arrive.
- iv) It was agreed that the lack of adequate Ford signage is causing a lot of concern locally and if not provided by Shropshire Council, the Parish Council will look at displaying alternative signage to highlight recent issues.
- v) Cllr Tomkinson noted surveyors have been out to assess the Detton to Baveney road (via Nethercott) for resurfacing work which is due to take place this summer.

385/13 Future Agenda Items

No other matters were raised for future meetings.

385/14 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th June 2024, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.53pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 386/04) that these minutes are a true record of the Meeting.

Signed.....*Arthur Ratcliff*.....Chairman Date.....*26th June 2024*.....