

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th July 2024 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 Sue Del Mar, Cllr Sue Barrett, Cllr Chris Hardy, Cllr Olwen Sales, Cllr Julian Cleford and Unitary Cllr Simon Harris.

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

387/01 Apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Council accepted the following apology:
Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – on leave.

387/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Tomkinson declared an interest in Agenda Item 387/07 – Payment for Environmental Maintenance Work and took no part in this item.
Cllr Cleford declared an interest in Agenda Item 387/08 – Planning for April Cottage and took no part in this item.

387/03 Public Participation Session

There were no members of public present.

387/04 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th June 2024

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th June 2024 be ADOPTED as a true record and signed.

387/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Environmental Maintenance Grant

There has been no response from the supplier regarding the order for the planters. Council agreed to seek another supplier and deem the original order cancelled.

Ford Drainage and Ford Signage Projects

Our comments were submitted to WSP officers but there has been no acknowledgement or response.

ii) CrimeWatchNeenSavage WhatsApp Group Report – Cllr Sales

There have been no incidents reported since the last Council meeting.

iii) Environmental Maintenance Report – Cllr Tomkinson/Cllr Ratcliff

Cllr Tomkinson informed the meeting that there is still some work to be done in the area between the Nash Crossroads and Clump Cottage. The profile of the gully at the Nash crossroads needs building up, a broken pipe is to be fixed and some general tidying up is required. There are also a lot of pot holes which need reporting to Fix My Street – especially on Neen Lane and the B4201.

Cllr Ratcliff has installed the bench on Pike Common and mowed the grass again. It is noted that the bank is being eroded due to the fallen trees on the other side of the river. The Clerk will contact Shropshire Council drainage team and the landowner about this matter.

iv) Parish Hall Report – Cllr Sales

The Committee met last week. There is an Apple Festival on Saturday 14th September with a number of competitions and activities. The Brass Band will be playing too. An order has been placed for the new tables and chairs. The existing ones will be stored in the new shed.

387/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council reviewed the Bank Mandate (as per Financial Regulations) and were satisfied that it meets the Council's requirements.
- ii) Council reviewed and confirmed the variable direct debit for BT (as per Financial Regulations). The Clerk will report the poor download/upload speeds to BT again. It was noted that the contract is due for renewal this autumn.
- iii) Council resolved to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation to 30th June 2024.

Initials...AJR.....

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

387/07 Payments

- a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and sign cheques:
- i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (July) - £243.40 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE (July) - £60.80 (Cheque)
 - iii) M G Tomkinson – Environmental Maintenance Work - £321.30 (Cheque)
 - iv) Mrs D McBride – Clerk’s quarterly admin expenses - £124.64 (Cheque).

387/08 Planning Matters

- a) New Planning Applications:
- i) Reference: 24/02485/CPL (validated: 24/04/2024)
Address: April Cottage, Kinlet Bank, Neen Savage, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8LF
Proposal: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed erection of an outbuilding.
Applicant: Mr N Spragg.
Outcome: Council noted that Shropshire Council has determined this application as not lawful.

387/09 Unitary Councillors’ Reports

The Unitary Councillors had sent a Summer Report.

Cllr Harris is requesting confirmation on whether the HS2 money, proposed to be reallocated for Highway Maintenance through a Ministerial Statement by the last Government, will still be going ahead. Cllr Harris has asked for health and wellbeing support information to be sent to all Clerks to publicly share to help residents. Cllr Harris continues to chase for action on cleaner waterways despite delays in progressing this through Shirehall. The Task and Finish Group initially started in January 2022 and finished in November 2023 but there has still been no report despite there being a Scrutiny Meeting this November. Cllr Harris met a Traffic Engineering Officer at Kinlet earlier today. No action has been taken on a number of local projects in recent years and Cllr Harris is taking this up with the Portfolio Holder, Dan Morris, the Council Leader, Lezley Picton and CEO, Andy Begley. Cllr Tomkinson questioned whether Shropshire Council values the work we do under the Environmental Maintenance Grant. Cllr Harris commented that budgets are tight and a planned Road Rangers pilot scheme in Neen Sollars did not go ahead. Council noted that there has been some good highways work in the parish but we are also let down by poor quality repairs; most recently, by the Stonehouse, where tumps of tarmac were left in the road.

387/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) Cllr Del Mar highlighted local concerns about the lack of defibrillators in the parish. Cllr Sales commented that the Parish Hall Committee is looking to install one.
- ii) Cllr Tomkinson and Cllr Ratcliff will build the headwall for the drainage pipe near the Nash. They will also assess what work is needed to improve the angle of the gully on the corner of the crossroads.

387/11 Policing Matters

- i) Council considered the local policing priorities for the next six months. They were set as 1, Thefts (Outbuildings), 2, Organised Crime Groups (thefts of vehicles), and 3, Wildlife Crime (poaching and hare-coursing).
- ii) Council completed the annual Police and Crime Commissioner Town and Parish Council Survey.

387/12 Future Agenda Items

The appointment of a new internal auditor will be discussed at the next meeting.

387/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th September 2024, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.36pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 388/04) that these minutes are a true record of the Meeting.

Arthur Ratcliff

Signed.....Chairman

25th September 2024

Date.....