

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th November 2025 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 Julian Cleford, Cllr Michael Tomkinson, Cllr Olwen Sales and Cllr Alison Price.

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

401/01 Apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sue Del Mar.

401/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hardy declared an interest in Agenda Item 401/07 (a) iii, and took no part in that item.

Cllr Tomkinson declared an interest in Agenda Item 401/07 (a) iv, and took no part in that item.

401/03 Public Participation Session

Unitary Cllrs Pamela and David Davies and three members of public were in attendance. Mr Bartlett spoke about his hope to build a house on land adjacent to Melbury. Mr Bartlett confirmed he has installed a caravan on this land and will continue to live in it until the situation is resolved. He also answered questions regarding his request for the Parish Council to consider whether he satisfies the 'Strong Local Connection' criteria to the parish.

401/04 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd October 2025

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd October 2025 be ADOPTED as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.

401/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Parking outside Belle Vue Garage.

The Clerk has received another complaint regarding the number of parked cars outside Belle Vue Garage. Cllr Davies stated that residents from other parishes also complain to him about the situation. Council understands that the business may be moving to a new site which would solve all of the parking issues.

Lloyds Bank update

Lloyds Business Banking has advised that the Council signatories need to individually register for Business Online Banking and then request access to the Parish Council's accounts. The Councillors will endeavour to do this to enable access to online banking.

Highways

The works to repair the road near Goesland from 1st – 5th December have been postponed. The Clerk will ask the Highways Maintenance Manager when the work will be rescheduled.

ii) CrimeWatchNeenSavage WhatsApp Group Report – Cllr Sales

There had been one report of hare-coursing and several reports of suspicious vehicles in the local area.

iii) Environmental Maintenance Report – Cllr Tomkinson/Cllr Ratcliff

Cllr Tomkinson, Cllr Hardy, Cllr Ratcliff and the contractor have cleared 25 gullies and removed 10 tons of material. They have since spent one morning clearing the culvert near the Ford. The Highways Surveyor met them on site and discussed options to install grids to keep the debris out of the pipe.

iv) Cllr Tomkinson – Highways Site Meeting Report.

At the site meeting on 7th November with the Highways Maintenance Manager and his Surveyor, a plan of action was proposed to improve the culvert near to the Old School House. They can also replace the Ford signage to the correct levels. The Highways team felt they could do all of the work within the CIL budget available. They also looked at the issues with the culvert and missing barrier at Goesland.

v) Parish Hall Report – Cllr Sales

The electrician has postponed the work to install a new solar light at the main gate and a light in the car park. The Committee have put up a banner at Six Ashes to promote the Hall.

Initials.....

NEEN SAVAGE PARISH COUNCIL

401/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council considered the request from the Friends of Cleobury Sports Centre for financial support to help keep the Centre open. Council is aware that Shropshire Council is struggling to provide any further financial support to the Centre and that the current operator's licence is due to end in July 2027. Council agreed in principle to support the Centre, up to £500 in 2026-27 subject to other demands on the budget and precept.
- ii) Council considered the revised specification and quotation for a new notice board to be jointly funded and shared by St Mary's PCC, Neen Savage Parish Hall and Neen Savage Parish Council and RESOLVED to approve the design and quotation. It was felt that the front of the board need not be divided into three sections to allow flexibility for all users.

401/07 Payments

- a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
 - i) Mrs D McBride – Wages (November) - £270.40 (Cheque).
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE (November) - £67.60 (Direct Debit).
 - iii) C Hardy – Environmental Maintenance work - £135.00 (Cheque)
 - iv) M G Tomkinson – Environmental Maintenance work - £310.50 (Cheque)
 - v) Royal British Legion – Remembrance Wreaths - £40.00 (Cheque).

401/08 Planning Matters

- a) Request for Council to confirm a 'Strong Local Connection' qualification for planning:
 - i) Council had previously discussed the application at its September meeting. Council reviewed the additional information provided by Mr Bartlett, and whilst sympathetic to his personal circumstances, reiterated its previous stance that there is not a 'Strong Local Connection'.

401/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The Unitary Councillor's report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting. Further to the Highways Site Meeting report discussed earlier, the safety railing on the south-east side of the Ford will also be replaced. The pothole near the Elcott bend has still not been repaired. Concerns were raised that FixMyStreet says issues have been completed even when it has merely allocated a job for action, which is misleading. Cllr Tomkinson had given a list of drains which need jet-washing to Mr Davies (Surveyor).

401/10 Parish Matters / Highways

- i) There were no new parish matters.
- ii) Highways matters had already been covered during the meeting.

401/11 Future Agenda Items

There were no matters proposed for future Agendas.

401/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th December 2025, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.42pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 402/04) that these minutes are a true record of the Meeting.

Signed.....Chairman

17th December 2025
Date.....