**Minutes of the Annual General meeting of Milson and Neen Sollars Parish Council**

# Date Notice Given: 15/4/2024

**held at:** Victory Hall, Neen Sollars, DY14 0AL **Date**:24/04/2024 **Time**: 19.30 Hrs Started **19.31**

**Minutes**

1. **Apologies.**

Received from Miss M Witts-Hewinson

1. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.**

None

1. **Sign off last meeting minutes.**

All agreed

1. **Address by Shropshire County Councillor Mr G Butler: see attached document**

John Belles is our local Flood Officer

Cllr Simon Harris, responsible for Rivers

1. **Dissolvement of Chair and Vice Chairperson: by Clerk**
2. **Election of Chair and Vice Chairperson:**

Chris Jones proposed as new Chair by Cllr David Jones and seconded by Cllr S Painter- Unami nous

David Jones proposed by Cllr S Painter and seconded by Cllr David Jones- Unami nous

1. **Accounts:**

* 1. **General Accounts Solar Farm/Community benefit : £1207.53**

 **Treasurers Acct: £2864.20**

 **Instant Access Interest: £16504.66 Int earned:£241**

All accounts to be audited by N Penn and will be available at next meeting

Environmental Maintenance Grant has been applied for. This partly pays towards the Lengthsman pay which we them match. All in agreement.

1. **Planning Applications and CIL payments**

Clerk reported that only communication with CIL is that they are very busy. CC G Butler felt that payments were different to what the Clerk understood.

Cllr S Painter, fed back on proposed drainage proposals from Solar Farm which were to increase the size of pipe to allow faster drainage. Discussions ensued as no Cllr’s were sure that the ponds and swales that were in the original refused application had ever been put in to reduce the flow into the river. **Action Clerk write/email planning**

1. **Highways, Drains and “Road Ranger Scheme”**

**Lengthsman report:** see attached

**Cllr Bloomer** reported feedback from recent email from Highways manager. See attached

**Clerk,** reported that his recent conversation with the Highways engineers all suggested that if water was directed better from Fields, via drainage ditches into watercourses, this would be off great benefit to the roads. Please also keep using Fix My Street. **Clerk** to draft letters for Local Landowners for next meeting.

1. **Speeding**

**Chair** reported back that the recent traffic survey in Milson Village had been done at the wrong point, not the one previously agreed with the Highways engineer, and even though contacted on the same day, no action had been taken. He was promised that a new survey would have to take place. The Clerk had also contacted him with no reply either. **Action Clerk (still no reply)**

1. **Flooding risks and recent occurrence’s, Signage and cones**

**Cllr D Jones** reported that yet again there was a build up against the bridge, EA and Highways seem to think each other is responsible, but it is the EA’s responsibility. (We now have the name of the Flood Officer John Bellis who works for the Flood resilience team.) This team were the ones who arranged the most recent clearance in January, when a Bridge Coping stone was damaged.

1. **Pollution risks and noise complaints**

The new treatment plant in Cleobury should help with pollution said CC Butler

1. **Severn Trent Water.**
2. **AED’s**

Updated and working.

1. **Broadband**

Mr G Plunkett asked re branch hanging off Fibre cable. Clerk reported this to Openreach at least 3 x’s in the past. Recommended that Mr Plunkett contacts his supplier. Clerk has had further email correspondence with Openreach following the mess they made on the roads in Milson. Clerk was told that the fibre cables are built to take it, a response was made and if problems occur will be made Public.

1. **Footpaths**

Shropshire Council are discussing with the new landowners FP 12 in Milson. Some confusion but ongoing. *(e mail from Council say they are discussing placement of entrance to FP12 from Milson phone box side and C Jones will discuss with the owners of Hilltop farm how they want to proceed)*

It had also been noted that a tree was obstructing another footpath in Milson. **Action Clerk** (this was all sorted within the week by the landowners)

1. **Public Participation.**

A Milson resident asked re repairs to AED kiosk. Chair asked **Clerk** to action. *(ordered and now have instructions on how to replace)*

The same resident asked if a low fence could be erected by the post box, this was felt to be of no benefit and may even cause problems for the Parish Council if an accident happened.

A discussion also followed about the time for repairs to occur on the Tenbury to Cleobury road which runs through Milson village. As the road runs and joins two communities, it was felt that instead of being unclassified, that it should be a B road. Clerk to look into this but felt that as Highways seems to be so difficult to get answers from it could be very slow, but it was felt that B roads may get quicker repairs. *(answer forwarded from A White at Highways)*

1. **Public Correspondence.**

Speeding on roads, unfortunately the PC has no answers. Recent discussion about “QuietRoads” but no speed limit!

1. **Meeting Closed at 2100** Date of next meeting 17/06/2024 at Victory Hall in morning
2. **Communications to Parish Council**

**Public in attendance,** Mr and Mrs R Smith, Mr and Mrs T Lloyd, Mr Plunkett, Mr C Price, Mr R Steigerwald

**Councillor Butler Reports**

I have added all reports from our County Councillors to the website

**AGM Lengthsman Report**

Lengthsman’s Report 2023-2024 Milson and Neen Sollars Parish Council.

In the Autumn of 2023 we as a Parish got some useful and long awaited input from Shropshire Highways. The most useful help was a thorough cleaning out of many of the gullies. This has now rather backfired as the biggest issue we have (apart from the general poor road surface and associated potholes) is that the outlets from the drainage systems now need attention. Particularly those that seem to end in soakaways. This situation has been exacerbated by the mix of stone (from the degraded road suface), clayey mud (from the run off from arable fields with no setaside round the edge) and fine hedge cuttings. This forms a very good mixture for blocking the outlets from the gullies. I am unable to rod this mixture by hand as it just snaps the rods. It also completely watertight. As a result all of the currently flooded gullies (as they are not draining) I have attempted to unblock (obviously with no success).

I am now after the cleaning and jetting of the gullies on top of keeping the grates and aprons clean. The continued heavy rain has not helped but I only have a few to clean off before they are all manageable.

Potholes continue to be appalling. They don’t seem to be done methodically. Kier shut the main road a few months ago for a week but very soon (within a week) other sizeable potholes were in existence. They must have existed whilst Kier were operating along the road.

Litter continues to be an ongoing problem but manageable. Since COVID there seems to be less flytipping in the layby below Milson heading toward Tenbury, which is good.

My main request is that we get the roads swept and **then** deal with the blocked outflows. The first request will help me control the amount of debris reaching the gully grates.

**E Mail to Cllr Bloomer from Highways 13/4/24**

The Ranger Plus trial is an important initiative and one that we hope will help support the communities we serve more widely. It will always rely heavily on the quality and willingness of Parish staff and the appetite of the Parish team. In the case of Neen Sollars, we recognise and appreciate our fortune as they have both.

As you would expect, I take full responsibility for the deployment of all resources and deployment prioritisation, therefore the deployment of Jonathan and Paul Stigwood (who are the only two individuals within my resource group equipped and qualified sufficiently to complete this kind of work trial). The downside of that is, that they both deliver Winter Maintenance for Shropshire, they lead the entire Drainage service, and one of them drives the grab whilst the other sorts and organises all the work for all the defect gangs. They both keep tabs on and challenge our Keir contractors and they have been central to service stabilisation, throughout the wettest winter I have ever known. I haven't mentioned the rigours of the current financial challenges.

They will come off the Winter Maintenance rota in a couple of weeks and will be free to re-engage with you as a priority.

**Milson Highways Survey**

This will be placed on the website when the Clerk works how and where.

**Signed as a true record by Chairman Mr C Jones:**

 **Date:**