



Prior to commencement of the business of the meeting the Chairman Cllr Sugden allowed parishioners present to address the Council. There were approximately 18 parishioners in attendance.

Minutes of the Meeting of Clent Parish Council held on Monday 18th January 2016 at Clent Parish Hall

2016/4391 **APOLOGIES/ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

Present – Cllr. Bates, Cllr. Hess, Cllr. Sugden, Cllr. Sheppard, Cllr. Price, Cllr. Mrs Howard and Cllr. Smith

Apologies – Cllr. Mrs Sherrey, Cllr. Allen-Jones, Cllr. Collella and Cllr. Mrs Jenkins

Also Present – Ruth Mullett Clerk,

The Councillors present signed the Attendance Register.

2016/4392 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the Agenda.

Other Disclosable Interest – Cllr. Sheppard – Maintenance of Clent Cricket Pitch, Member of Clent Club Social

Cllr. Sugden – Member of Clent Club Social

Cllr. Smith – Member of Clent Cricket Club and Member of Clent Club Social

Cllr. Mrs Howard – Member of Clent Club Social

Cllr. Sugden member of Clent History Society

Cllr. Hess – Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – Strathearn Development and planning application 14/0408 – Land R/O Algoa House, Western Road – Cllr. Hess has a Dispensation Granted on this item

Cllr, Mrs Howard Member of Comic Theatre Group

2016/4393 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 16th November 2015 be signed as a correct record. The Chairman duly signed and initialled each page.

2016/4394 **YOUTH COUNCIL**

1. Centenary Field – it was agreed to reorganise the skateboard ramp and insert some smaller kick boxes/grind rails in the middle. It was also mentioned whether we could have a zip-wire?
2. Bus shelter – it was agreed to put this project on hold for the time being.
3. House of Commons – As this event was cancelled, Clerk to get an alternative date.
4. Queen's 90th Birthday – Youth Council would like to organise some kind of street party theme, maybe involving the Clent Cricket Club and holding the event on Centenary Field. They also agreed to hold



a “Clean Up the Village” event in April. It was agreed for the Youth Council to form a sub-committee to take this event forward.

5. A member of the Rotary Club has approached the Youth Council to see whether they could do some fundraising with them?

2016/4395

FINANCE

1. Cash Flow and Bank Reconciliation – reports circulated. Bank Statements scrutinised by the Chairman.
2. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to go with NALC’s recommended Audit Provider for 2016/16.
3. **PRECEPT** – it was **RESOLVED** that the Council would Precept upon the District Council the sum of £45,000 for the year 2016/17. Any shortfall of expenditure over income will be taken from reserves.
4. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to ratify payments made on 18th December 2015.
5. Accounts for payment

Cheque	Payee	Detail	Sum
11229	Viking Direct	Stationery	148.17
11230	HMRC	Payroll Taxes Due	320.13
11231	N Sugden	Three Roses Hamper	70.75
11232	GJH Electrical	Christmas Lights	300.00
11233	R Mullett	Contractors Gifts	90.00
11235	N Sugden	Mileage	39.15
11236	Parish Hall	Hire of hall	141.00
11237	P Dunkley	Lengthsman	193.20
11238	HMRC	Payroll Taxes Due	319.93
11240	CPRE	Subscription	36.00
11241	Worcestershire CC	Painting Street Lamps	2620.80
11242	Midland Masonry	War Memorial	4181.40
11243	P Dunkley	Lengthsman	431.95
11244	GJH Electrical	Christmas Lights	121.00
11245	Steve Bubb	Maintenance	100.00

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Sugden and Cllr. Smith sign the cheques.

2016/4396

TO RECEIVE CLERK’S REPORT

Nothing to report.

2016/4397

TO RECEIVE UPDATES/REPORTS

1. **Police Report/NHW** – Reports circulated to Councillors and placed on website. We have received an email from David Rischmiller, Rural and Business Crime Co-Ordinator, North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership introducing himself to the Parish Council. It was agreed for the Clerk to invite him to one of our Parish Council meetings.
2. **District Councillors** –



Cllr. Sherrey – *Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend the Parish Council meeting. I have to attend an Overview and Scrutiny Board at District Council this evening.*

The Council moved into Parkside on 15th December.

The reduction of 54% in the Revenue Support Grant for the next financial year from central government was much higher than expected. For 2017/18 onwards payments will be made to the government. This was not expected until 2019/20. The retention of part of the business rates revenue from 2020 will probably not cover the shortfall. We are currently looking at how we can absorb this reduction without affecting front line services. I will also be having a meeting with Greg Clark, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, to see whether this can be changed. We are working on attracting more businesses, both large and small, to set up in the District. These will not only be in the town centre area but also throughout the District. A proportion of business rates on new businesses will go direct into our own finances to help offset the drop in Revenue Support Grant.

Cllr. Colella

- *Government Consultation on New Homes Bonus – a 12 week consultation has begun on the New Homes Bonus. A number of changes are being proposed which include, reducing the payment period from 6 years to 4 or even less, no NHB paid where there is no local plan, no NHB paid where application was determined on appeal and NHB only paid where housing delivered above what would have been delivered anyway i.e. ‘overspill’ from adjoining authorities. As a result Bromsgrove faces a deficit of £2.3m.*
- *16/17 Bromsgrove Budget setting and three year financial planning – Bromsgrove is entering its 2016/17 budget planning stage and long term financial planning. Opposition groups (including the Independent Alliance Group of which I am the Deputy Leader) will be submitting their own alternative budget proposals. Bromsgrove faces a significant higher reduction in its Revenue Support Grant than those across England. Bromsgrove is also only a small number of none ‘southern authorities’ to face such a high cut. The reason given is because Bromsgrove’s high level of property based wealth i.e. Houses above band D level. As a result they face a reduction of £3.2m from 2016/17 across the remaining Parliament.*
- *Official Council Office move to Parkside, Stourbridge Road. All meetings will now be held at Parkside but please be aware of the limited number of parking spaces.*

Cllr. Allan-Jones – *No report given.*



County Cllr. Jenkins – *Major cuts in funding from Central Government, council tax increased by 3.9%. 2% Social Services which central government allowing them to increase, 1.9% maximum allowed to increase without going to a referendum. The original government grant is going to be completely reduced to nothing by 2020 and believe it is 39% decrease this year alone but haven't yet got full budget till February, I will bring the full budget to the next meeting.*

3. **Community Governance Review** – Agreement has been reached between Bromsgrove District Council, Hagley Parish Council and Clent Parish Council. We are now awaiting the completed Section 99 Agreement and the transfer will commence from 1st April 2016.
4. **Bus Shelter** – this project has been put on hold.
5. **Queen's 90th Birthday** – this has been discussed under Youth Council.

2016/4398

PLANNING MATTERS

District Council Decisions

15/0835 – 14 Pool Furlong, Holy Cross – two storey side and rear extension and new porch - **Approved**

Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

15/1027 – 6 Camel Cottages, Holy Cross Green – two storey side extension with garage under ground floor and new flat roof added to existing conservatory - **Objections**

Planning Appeals

None

Planning Appeals Decisions

None

2016/4399

GRASS CUTTING/HEDGE MANAGEMENT/CENTENARY FIELD/PLAY AREAS

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to ratify decision to replace younger children's swings and climbing frame and upgrade skateboard ramps. There is also a problem with water pooling near the pond. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Richard Clewer, Highways to look at the problem.

2016/4400

HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

Nothing to report

2016/4401

STREET LIGHTING /SIGNS

Nothing to report

2016/4402

PARISH MAINTENANCE/LENGTHSMAN

Lengthsman to clear the leaves leading down to the school. Also to look at a dangerous tree stump by the entrance to Pool Furlong.



2016/4403 **OUTSIDE MEETINGS**

Nothing to report

2016/4404 **CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

Nothing to report

2016/4405 **NEW ISSUES AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2016, 7.00PM AT CLENT PARISH HALL**

Mains sewage across Centenary Field

Public Access Defibrillator

Website Update

Newsletter

2016/4406 **CHEQUE SIGNING**

Cheques signed as approved under Minute No. 2016/4395

Signed
Chairman of the Council

QUESTIONS ASKED DURING PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Notices were put up about the bus shelter and they were taken down.
2. Will you be holding a farewell party on Hagley residents?