



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 17th February 2020** at
Clent Parish Hall, 40 Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Andrew Sherrey and Cllr Margaret Sherrey

In attendance: County Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), members of the public.

5079 Apologies for absence

Cllr David Mudie (holiday).

5080 Declarations of interest

Cllr Sheppard declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 10(b) (Minute 5086(b)) as he is the temporary parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5081 Dispensations

There were none.

Open session

The meeting was adjourned for the open session and the following reports/updates were noted.

Public comments/questions

Members of the public raised the following issues of concern:

- Envirosort recycling facility visits are open to the public and parish councillors should be encouraged to arrange a visit;
- Moles on Centenary Field;
- Vehicle Activated Sign not yet working.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided the following updates:

- Consideration of new food waste recycling facilities;
- Testing for bore hole water supply in Bromsgrove;
- Visit to the Envirosort recycling facility.

County and District Councillor Karen May provided the following updates:

- Creation of “community hubs” to ensure local and national services are accessible;

- £15k allocated in the district budget for enforcing parking around schools;
- The district council have budgeted to maintain current service delivery in 2020/2021;
- Flytipping – there have been some prosecutions, but it remains a problem in the district;
- WCC will not be selling the land at Church Avenue which is subject to a stopping up order;
- Clent roundabout – this will be revisited in the spring;
- Grit bin – the slabs have been laid and the bin ordered;
- Footway at Bell & Cross – inspector will revisit;
- Water leak at Hossill Lane – Severn Trent Water are investigating;
- Parking at Clent Nurseries – Cllr May continues to talk to the owner to reach a solution;
- The Lengthsman scheme is to continue in 2020/2021.

5082 Youth Council

The Youth Council Chairman provided an update and a summary of the issues the Youth Council wish to raise:

- The next litter pick would be organised once the weather starts to improve;
- The benches in the park and by the pond need attention. The Parish Council agreed to look at this in the spring;
- The path down past the allotments is bad again following heavy rain. This will be monitored;
- The Youth Council are to discuss how they and the wider parish can do their bit in relation to climate change.

5083 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th January 2020 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman with the following correction:

(a) That the Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council Meetings would take place on Monday 18th May 2020, **not** Thursday 21st May as stated in the Minutes.

5084 Correspondence

The following correspondence was received and considered by the Council:

(a) From Mrs Gemma Lloyd who is applying for a “stopping up” order in relation to land in Church Avenue, Clent following the Council’s objection to the DfT, asking the Parish Council to reconsider its position. It was agreed to note this correspondence and take no further action.

5085 Defibrillator

Richard Price (former Councillor) had reported that the defibrillator pads had been removed from the unit. The until had either been deployed, or the pads had been taken maliciously. New pads had been ordered (authorised by the Chairman and Clerk as an urgent matter).

5086 Finance

It was **resolved** to approve the following payments and that Cllrs Bates and Beaumont would sign the cheques:

(a) Clerk salary & expenses	£672.73
(b) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£308.00
(c) Community Heartbeat Trust (Defibrillator Pads)	£104.40
(d) JRB Enterprise Ltd (dog bags)	£149.70
(e) Eco Chippings Ltd (already paid)	£3,824.40
(f) Bromsgrove DC (dog bin emptying 2019/20)	£2,700.00
(g) Magazine Account (Parish Magazine)	£272.00

The monthly bank reconciliation report was approved, noting a bank balance of £60,225.78.

The monthly budget monitoring report was approved.

The Clerk reported that a refund of £880 had been received from Scottish Power and the direct debit had reduced significantly to around £6 per month.

5087 Internal Auditor

It was **resolved** to ask the current internal auditor, John Benner of Worcester, to perform the internal audit on the 2019/20 accounts.

5088 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

- (a) Roundabout maintenance – this would be re-visited in the spring by Cllr May.
- (b) Parking around Clent Nurseries – this was being pursued with the nursery owner by Cllr May.
- (c) Vehicle Activated Sign – Cllr Sheppard is just waiting for the weather to improve to have the necessary electrical work carried out.
- (d) It was noted that Bromsgrove Rd at the junction of Summerfield Road had still not been swept by BDC. Cllrs Karen May and Margaret Sherrey would follow this up.
- (e) Cllr May would follow up the Walton Pool large vehicle signage issue.
- (f) Councillors were asked to consider any further jobs for the Probation Service and report back to the next meeting.

5089 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

The following items were discussed:

- (a) The installation date of the new goal posts of 6th April 2020 was noted;
- (b) Cllr Sheppard reported that due to having to use an 18-tonne vehicle to deliver the new rubber chippings, a £40 charge would be made. It was **resolved** to pay this additional charge.

5090 Planning

(a) Planning application 19/01529/FUL - Rear two storey extension at 20 Pool Furlong, Holy Cross. It was **resolved** to raise no objection.

(b) The call for sites report had been released by BDC as part of the Local Plan Review process. Several sites had been put forward in Clent but the issues and options stage was some time ahead in the future and the Parish Council would respond to any formal consultation at the appropriate time.

5091 Worcestershire County Council Pollinator Strategy Consultation

It was **resolved** to respond in the positive to this consultation and support the proposed strategy.

5092 Parish Magazine

The next article would be about the VE Day celebrations in May, and Cllr A Sherrey would be writing the April submission about trees in the parish as agreed at the last meeting.

5093 Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda

There were none.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary Parish Council Meeting is the **16th March 2020** at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman

Date
