



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020**  
via the online platform "Zoom".

### **Minutes**

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

**In attendance:** County Councillor Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk).

#### **5122 Apologies for absence**

There were none.

#### **5123 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Sheppard declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5127(a)(ii) as he is the temporary parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

#### **5124 Dispensations**

There were none.

#### **Open session**

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

#### Public comments/questions

There were no public questions.

County & District Councillor Karen May provided an update on the following:

- Grit bin – the Clerk was sent a link to an appropriate grit bin which the parish council would purchase and claim from Cllr May's divisional fund.
- The traffic island adjacent to the plant nursery had now been swept.
- Romsley household waste site had been closed due to traffic problems caused by queuing vehicles. Cllr May was unhappy about this and was following up on how and when it would be reopened.
- Hagley Wood Lane yellow lines installation was imminent. There were still concerns over gatherings at Nimmings car park with reported drug use. When the parking restrictions were installed, district enforcement officers with police support would need to attend the area late at night in order to have any impact on the problem.
- Cllr May would follow up with highways officers on the collapsed pipe and silt trap work still required in the playing field and pond area.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided the following updates:

- Grass cutting in the district was now back on schedule.

## 5125 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

## 5126 Correspondence

The Council considered correspondence on the following matters:

- (a) Uneven ground in the trim trail area. This had now been dealt with by Cllr Sheppard.
- (b) Broken bollards at St Leonard's Square. Cllr Sheppard had seen some suitable replacements at £16.50 each and would circulate to councillors.
- (c) Discarded items in the pond and the impact of any work on resident wildlife. Cllr Sheppard would remove the items from the pond. The council noted the comments that any work around the pond area should consider any impact on local resident wildlife.
- (d) Litter and anti-social behaviour in Centenary field, football field and skate park. Several pieces of correspondence had been received. It was noted that at a recent CALC meeting several parish councils were reporting similar problems since lockdown restrictions were eased. The area is being litter picked daily by community volunteers and by parish councillors and an additional bin was being organised.
- (e) Artrix in Bromsgrove closure. District Cllrs May and Sherrey confirmed that Bromsgrove DC are working with the Trustees on a business case. Despite the correspondent stating that Belbroughton PC had contributed funds, this was not the case as the Trust was not currently able to accept outside funding until certain matters had been resolved.

## 5127 Finance

(a) It was **resolved** to pay the following for July 2020:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£679.08
(ii) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£298.00
(iii) Sutcliffe Play (South West) Ltd (goal posts)	£1,371.60
(iv) Cllr Nick Sugden Expenses (cleaning materials)	£9.63
(v) Clent Cricket Club (grass cutting June)	£325.00
(vi) Bromsgrove DC – lease of land Pool Furlong	£60.00

(b) It was **resolved** to purchase a laminating machine for council use. The Chairman and the Clerk would source one up to a limit of £40.00.

(c) It was **resolved** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 20/07/2020 prepared by the Clerk.

(d) It was **resolved** to approve the June bank reconciliation noting a balance of £72,798.33 as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

It was confirmed that the Clerk had written to Bank of Scotland to cancel the standing order to the grass cutting contractor. The bank had telephoned the Chairman in relation to this as the bank claimed not to be able to find the standing order, despite it going out every month. The Clerk would check that this had been actioned on receipt of the next bank statement.

## 5128 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

- (a) Cllr Bates asked whether the pavements at The Rocks could be sprayed for weeds. Cllr Sheppard would add this to his Lengthsman list of jobs as well as spraying Church Avenue.
- (b) Cllr Sugden asked what had happened to the old village signs that had been removed some years ago. District Cllrs May and Sherrey would check at the district depot.

## 5129 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

The following items were discussed:

- (a) Installation of the new playground surfacing – this had now been completed.
- (b) Picnic table replacement. It was **resolved** to delegate the purchase of a new picnic table to Cllr Sheppard and the Clerk up to a maximum spend of £400.
- (c) The Clerk reported that another quote had been received to install the artificial grass which was £5400 including all materials and labour. This was half the original quotation received from the company who installed the goal posts so the Clerk would check that they had included everything as the latest company to quote had not made a site visit.
- (d) Cllr Sugden reported that he had personally cleaned and prepared the outdoor gym and play equipment for re-opening. It was **resolved** to accept the risk assessment prepared by the Clerk and the mitigation measures and signage put in place in order to re-open the facilities.
- (e) It was **resolved** to agree to a proposal from BDC to provide a fitness professional to help people use the outdoor gym on Sundays in August. The Clerk would respond accordingly.
- (f) It was **resolved** to go ahead with the new bin on the playing field with the community volunteers emptying the bin and leaving this at the gate for BDC to pick up. The Clerk would contact BDC to arrange for the new bin to be installed.
- (g) Other field maintenance matters discussed were:
  - Following the sad passing of former parish councillor John Skelding, a suitable memorial in the park would be discussed at the next meeting.
  - The benches still needed to be pressure washed and then treated with wood preserver. Cllr Sheppard has this in hand but was not a high priority.

## 5130 Planning

The following applications were considered by the council in its role as consultee:

- (a) 20/00740/LBC – Listed Building Consent - Walton Farm, replace back door of farmhouse. It was **resolved** to raise **no objection**.

## 5131 Parish Magazine

Cllr A Sherrey had missed the deadline for the August edition, so his article about trees would be the September submission. The piece would also include the date of the next meeting.

## 5132 Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda

- (a) Cllr Sugden reported that the Covid-19 community support group had requested a Zoom meeting to discuss some ideas they have on how to continue with the community group once demand had reduced for Covid-19 support activities. A meeting had been arranged with Cllr Sugden, Cllr M Sherrey and Cllr May and community group representatives and would report back at the September PC meeting.

(b) It was **resolved** not to hold a meeting in August due to holidays and so the next meeting of the council would be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next ordinary Parish Council Meeting is the **21<sup>st</sup> September 2020** at 7.00pm, either at the Parish Hall or via Zoom.

*The meeting closed at 7.55pm*

**Signed as a true record:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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