



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 21st June 2021**  
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

## Minutes

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

**In attendance:** County Councillor Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

### 5246 Apologies for absence

Cllr Ed Sheppard (holiday)

### 5247 Declarations of interest

There were none

### 5248 Dispensations

There were none.

### Open session

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

Public comments/questions:

- Village pond and drainage – see 5252(a) below.
- Knotweed in Hossell Lane in the verge opposite the pumping station. This would be passed to the Lengthsman.
- Grass cutting – a question was raised about why the PC were paying the Cricket Club for grass cutting. It was clarified that this was an arrangement made following Steve Tromans' accident and would continue until it was confirmed whether Mr Tromans would be returning to work.
- Holy Cross Green and frequency of cut. This would be added to a future Agenda.

County Councillor Karen May and District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided updates on the following:

- Cllr May is now the portfolio holder for Health and Wellbeing.
- WCC corporate strategy planning will begin in September for the new council term.
- Hedges in Violet Lane, Woodman Lane and Field Lane were being inspected as they are becoming overgrown.
- Blakedown station car park extension
- Grit bin at top of Adams Hill – Cllr May will speak with the NT about this.

- Yellow lines are still planned on the remainder of Hagley Wood Lane to prevent inconsiderate parking for the Clent Hills.
- Bromsgrove DC are accepting application from community groups for the Community Grant (formerly the NHB) and Covid restart grant to support economic regeneration.

#### 5249 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th May 2021 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

#### 5250 Correspondence

(a) From a resident in relation to car parking for the playing field and noise from the skateboard ramps. This was noted but the Chairman advised that there were no plans to increase car parking or to “soundproof” the skateboard park.

(b) From several residents in relation to the poor condition of the pond. Please see item 5252(a) below.

#### 5251 Finance

(a) It was **resolved** to pay the following for June 2021:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£684.86
(ii) HMRC PAYE May 2021	£3.40
(iii) Clent Cricket Club (grass cutting)	£350.00
(iv) A Baldi Hedge Cutting	£150.00
(v) Greenbarns Ltd Noticeboard	£1125.99
(vi) Bromsgrove DC Land Rent	£60.00
(vii) Clent Parish Hall	£23.75
(viii) WCC Street Lighting 2019/20	£1799.11
(ix) Candoo Web Design Hosting 2021/22	£892.00
(x) Sutcliffe Play (See Saw Repairs)	£270.99

(b) It was **resolved** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 31/05/2021 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **resolved** to approve the May 2021 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £96,389.49 as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.

#### 5252 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

(a) The pond and ongoing silt issue were discussed including the work outstanding by WCC which needs to be progressed urgently. The Chairman reported that WCC have agreed to clear the silt from the pond, repair the silt trap and repair the broken pipe underneath the goal mouth on the football field. The current drainage arrangement was put in place to prevent flash flooding of properties along Belbroughton Road so any proposed changes in the future must account for this. Once the silt is removed and repairs carried out, the council intend to consult the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and initiate a clean-up operation including the replacement of the willow in the centre of the pond with something less invasive. A plan for the pond area would be drawn up once WCC have carried out their work.

(b) The raised pavement area along The Rocks needs to be weed sprayed – this will be passed to the Lengthsman.

(c) The Clerk would follow up the bench cleaning with Cllr Sheppard.

### **5253 Field Maintenance and Play Areas**

The following items were discussed:

(a) One of the plastic picnic benches had been damaged with a disposable BBQ and is beyond repair. A new one will need to be sourced using suitably resistant materials. The Clerk would investigate this, and Cllr May would kindly support with funds if necessary.

(b) Cllrs May and Margaret Sherrey would check on whether BDC are looking to renew the lease on the trim trail field. If the lease is to be extended, then work on making improvements to the trim trail will be considered.

(c) Cllr Sheppard has proposed that we part pay the invoice to Heritage for laying the rubber chippings in the play area as in his opinion the work was not completed to a satisfactory standard. It was **resolved** that the Clerk write to Heritage and offer to pay £300 of the £500 invoice in full and final settlement.

### **5254 Annual Police and Crime Commissioner Survey**

The Clerk would re-issue this to councillors for comments ahead of the next meeting.

### **5255 Planning**

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

(a) 21/00545/FUL - Proposed porch to the front elevation. Two storey and single storey rear extension. Mousehall Farm Cottage, Bromsgrove Road. It was **resolved** to raise no objection.

### **5256 Parish Magazine**

The Clerk would write an update on the pond situation for the August edition of the magazine and also post this update on the village Facebook page and PC website.

### **5257 Councillor Updates and Items for the Next Agenda**

- Community Broadband Scheme – update from Cllr Beaumont - next agenda.
- Consider not holding an August meeting – next agenda.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is the **19<sup>th</sup> July 2021** at 7.00pm at Clent Parish Hall.

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm.*

**Signed as a true record:**

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

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