



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 20th September 2021**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr David Mudie and Cllr Ed Sheppard.

In attendance: Nick Farress (Clerk), 4 members of the public

5271 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Bates (holiday), Cllr Margaret Sherrey (illness), County Cllr Karen May.

5272 Declarations of interest

Cllr Drew Beaumont are on the District Planning Committee and did not comment on or vote on any planning matters.

Cllr Sheppard declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5278(iii) as he is the temporary parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5273 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:

- Speeding on Church Avenue – this would be put on the October Agenda.
- Broadband project (see 5283 below)

5274 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th July 2021 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5275 Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

The parishioner who is leading on organising an event could not make this meeting but would hopefully be available for the next meeting. In the meantime, it was **RESOLVED** to allow the beacon to be lit on Centenary Field as the National Trust were not allowing it to be lit on the Hills as in previous years.

5276 Grant Applications

It was **RESOLVED** to issue grants to the following organisations following applications to the parish council:

(a) Citizen's Advice Bureau - £250

(b) St Leonard's Church - £60 for Remembrance Flowers and £500 towards a flower festival for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The Chairman would enquire as to whether the community appeal to raise money for an additional defibrillator at the Clent Club was short of donations. If so, it was agreed that the PC consider a grant at the next meeting. The installation of a unit at the French Hen would be added to the October Agenda.

5277 Council Insurance Renewal

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the council's insurance renewal schedule and payment of the annual premium of £1409.75.

5278 Finance

(a) The Conclusion of Audit Notice from PKF Littlejohn for the 2020/21 accounts was received and noted. No issues were raised by the auditor.

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for Aug/Sept 2021:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£1,291.58
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£147.34
(iii) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£517.00
(iv) Clent Cricket Club (grass cutting July)	£350.00
(v) PKF Littlejohn LLP	£360.00
(vi) Ecohound Dog Waste Bags	£114.53
(vii) Came & Co Insurance	£1,409.75
(viii) Clent Parish Hall (hall hire)	£47.50
(ix) Sutcliffe Play (seesaw seat)	£125.88
(x) Ed Sheppard (general maintenance)	£254.00

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 31/08/2021 prepared by the Clerk.

(d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the August 2021 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £90,349.87 as at 31st August 2021.

5279 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

(a) Parking/speed limit on Western Road – Cllr Mudie raised this issue and had been in conversation with Cllr Karen May in relation to potential solutions. This was a cross border issue between Clent and Hagley parishes and would involve moving the start of the 30mph limit to slow vehicles down earlier from the A491.

(b) Pond maintenance – The Clerk would ask Cllr May for an update on when WCC are likely to start work on the pond/silt trap.

5280 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

The following items were discussed:

(a) A quotation for the ball catch netting behind the football goals was received which came in at around £4000. The Clerk had approached other play companies but none of them provided this type of netting with two of them recommending the company the quote is from. It was agreed that the cost of the netting outweighed the benefits at this time and the project would not be taken forward.

(b) Cllr Sheppard would obtain quotes for replacing the small trampoline on the field and report back to a future meeting.

5281 Planning

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

(a) 20/01421/FUL - Two storey side extension to No. 12 and new attached dwelling - 12 Kings Meadow, Holy Cross – it was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

(b) 21/01158/FUL - Loft conversion to create additional bedroom and study area. New dormer to rear, rooflights to front, amendments to ground floor kitchen elevation - Peel House, 2 Woodman Lane - it was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

(c) 21/01248/FUL - Single storey side extension - The Barn, Woodman Lane - it was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

(d) 21/01205/FUL - Single storey rear extension - Westlodge, Thicknall Lane - it was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

Cllr Andrew Sherrey raised the issue that the parish council aren't "re-consulted" when material amendments to plans are made. He would take this up with officers at BDC planning department.

5282 Parish Magazine

It was agreed that Cllr Beaumont would provide an update on the Broadband project for the November magazine.

5283 Broadband Project

Cllr Beaumont reported that unfortunately the funding to bring superfast broadband to Clent had been withdrawn by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. This means that it will be 2026 at the earliest when Clent is likely to be upgraded. Cllr Beaumont would write to all households who applied and also write an update for the parish magazine, website and Facebook page.

5284 Community Hub Project

There is a public meeting being planned in the parish hall in the next few weeks to share plans for the new "hub" and community shop where more information on the proposed location will be made available.

5285 Items for the Next Agenda

(a) Speeding on Church Avenue

(b) Speeding off the A491 into Clent village (Cllr Mudie)

(c) Pond Maintenance Update (Cllr Karen May, Cllr Sheppard)

(d) Queen's Jubilee Events

(d) Defibrillator at The French Hen (Cllr Sheppard)

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is the **18th October 2021** at 7.00pm at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____
