



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 18th October 2021**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

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

In attendance: Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), 6 members of the public

5286 Apologies for absence

Cllr Beaumont was not in attendance.

5287 Declarations of interest

Cllr Sheppard declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5291(a) as he is the temporary parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5288 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:

- Pond maintenance
- Gully cleaning on Bromsgrove Rd
- Speed limit coming off A491 onto Western Rd
- Hedges on Odnall Lane. These hedges/trees abut a wall that is owned and is being monitored by the National Trust. The hedges/trees are causing a danger to the highway in that pedestrians have to walk into the road. Cllr May would contact Lucy Reid from the NT.

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

- Brown bin garden waste collection service
- Flytipping, including several successful prosecutions
- Covid-19
- Worcestershire Integrated Care Partnership

5289 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th September 2021 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5290 Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

Sue Pendle-Smith (parishioner) is hoping to form a small group of parishioners to arrange an event. The parish council would be happy to consider a financial contribution towards an event. Mrs Pendle-Smith would draft an article for the parish magazine asking for volunteers which would use the parish council's space in the December edition.

5291 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for October 2021:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£688.26
(ii) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£437.00
(iii) Clent Cricket Club	£350.00
(iv) M-Pass Electrical (re-issue)	£600.00
(v) Came & Co Insurance	£50.00
(vi) Citizens Advice Bureau	£250.00
(vii) St Leonard's Church	£560.00
(viii) Nick Sugden Expenses	£43.17
(ix) NBB Recycled Furniture	£462.00
(x) Mr Ed Sheppard Expenses	£42.00

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 30/09/2021 prepared by the Clerk.

(d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the September 2021 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £85,726.29 as at 30th September 2021.

5292 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

(a) Parking/speed limit on Western Road – Cllr Mudie proposed that the parish council formally support moving the speed limit on Western Rd coming off the A491 which would mean the 30mph limit would extend into Clent parish. It was **RESOLVED** to support this proposal and Cllr Mudie had also written to Hagley PC to gain their support. The Clerk would write to Hagley PC to advise that Clent PC are supporting the proposal and ask for any feedback from Hagley PC's next meeting where it would be on the agenda. Cllr May had been trying to get highways and the police to support improvements to this junction including extending the speed limit into Clent for many years and would raise this again.

(b) Pond Maintenance and Clearing Update. Work on clearing the pond of silt by WCC had begun and Cllr May and Cllr Sheppard were thanked for their persistence. Cllr Bates proposed that the parish council commission an independent report into the health and sustainability of the pond including an analysis of whether road run off should be drained into the pond at all and what the alternatives are. There was no seconder for this proposal, so it did not proceed to a vote. It was deemed too expensive to commission such a report as the run off from Bromsgrove Rd was preventing flash flooding and as long as the silt trap was maintained regularly by WCC there should not be a detrimental effect on the pond from road run off.

(c) Grass cutting and hedge maintenance 2022/23 – Cllr Bates proposed that the council go out to tender for grass cutting for 2022/23. It was noted that the council were happy with the service being provided by the Cricket Club at a very reasonable cost, and the previous contractor may yet return following his accident. The proposal did not attract a seconder and did not proceed to a vote.

(d) Speeding on Church Avenue (from public questions at the last meeting). Cllr May would organise some speed data collection in Church Avenue and also seek some mobile enforcement from the police.

5293 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

(a) Trampoline repairs – Cllr Sheppard had received quotes to repair and replace the trampoline. A full replacement would cost £4000 whereas a repair of the existing unit including new springs would cost around £1000. It was **RESOLVED** to repair the existing unit as a cost up to £1000. Cllr May offered to fund the repairs up to £1000. The Clerk would send Cllr May the details.

5294 Additional Defibrillators

Cllr Sheppard had negotiated an agreement with the landlord at the French Hen to host a defib machine next to the new PC noticeboard. Cllr Andrew Sherrey asked if it was possible to install a defib on Adams Hill too in the former phone box. The Clerk would obtain some quotations for defib units and cabinets ready for the November meeting for inclusion in the 2022/23 budget.

5295 Planning

The following applications were considered by the council in its role as consultee:
There were no new applications to consider.

5296 Parish Magazine

It was agreed that an article about plans for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations would be published in the December magazine.

5297 Community Hub Project

The plans for the new Hub were on display in the parish hall. The planning application had yet to be submitted to BDC.

5298 Items for the Next Agenda

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is the **15th November 2021** at 7.00pm at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____
