



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 21st March 2022**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

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

In attendance: County Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), 1 member of the public

5337 Apologies for absence

Cllr Nick Sugden and Cllr Drew Beaumont.

5338 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5339 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:

There were no public questions.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided updates on the following:

- BDC vehicles are to be converted to be able to run on refined vegetable oil instead of diesel.

County Councillor Karen May provided updates on the following:

- There are multiple vacancies at both BDC and WCC particularly in finance due to a number of staff taking up roles in the private sector.
- Integrated Care System
- WCC council tax rise of 3.94%, 3% of which is directly related to adult social care.
- Clent Connect – thanks to the PC for their support to the project.
- New Highways Liaison Engineer is now in post.
- Lights on the roundabout are now on following WPD cutting through cabling.
- Funding received for flood and water management surveys.

5340 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st February 2022 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5341 Clent Connect Update

There were no updates.

5342 Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Sheppard reported that he now has the beacon socket ready for installation on Centenary Field.

5343 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for March 2022:

- (i) Clerk salary & expenses £792.45
- (ii) Clent Cricket Club Grass Cutting Sept £350.00
- (iii) Bromsgrove DC Lease of Land £60.00
- (iv) Clent Parish Hall – Hall Hire £55.00
- (v) Clent Connect (Hub Grant 1st payment) £1500.00
- (vi) Nick Sugden – Chairman's Allowance £500.00
- (vii) Steve Bubb (field maintenance 21/22) £1000.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 28/02/2022 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the February 2022 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £96,587.98 as at 28/02/22.

5344 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

(a) Grit bins on Adams Hill and Kings Meadow – Cllr May is meeting with the NT soon and will agree a location for the bin. Cllr Sheppard has the bin for Kings Meadow and will liaise with the resident about its location. The PC would fill the bin (funding from Cllr May).

(b) Village Pond – Cllr May had received confirmation from WCC that the silt trap has been cleared out. Cllr Sheppard is still obtaining quotes for the tree work.

(c) Walton Pool Hedge Cutting – Cllr Sheppard has inspected this and the encroachment onto the highway is very minor and he will deal with this in due course.

(d) Lengthsman Scheme – it was **RESOLVED** to agree to sign up to the scheme for 2022/23 with an increased grant of £2895.53 from WCC. The Clerk would sign the agreement.

(e) TRO on Hagley Wood Lane - It was **RESOLVED** to provide a positive response to a consultation from WCC to make the No Waiting restriction permanent on Hagley Wood Lane.

(f) Village entry flower boxes - It was **RESOLVED** to spend up to £250 to plant up the village entry flower boxes.

(g) Western Road speed limit - Cllr May is meeting has a meeting on the 31st March with the police and council officers in relation to the extension of the 30mph speed limit on Western Rd and will provide an update at the next PC meeting.

(h) Pot holes on Adams Hill – These have been reported and Cllr Andrew Sherrey would send details to Cllr May.

5345 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

(a) Lease on Trim Trail – awaiting information/decision from BDC.

(b) Boggy area behind goalposts – Cllr Sheppard would barrier off the area. The pipework needs investigating which would be a WCC responsibility. The Clerk would send information to Cllr May.

(c) Replacement picnic table – The table has been put together but it may need a slab surface. Cllr Sheppard would investigate this.

(d) Gate from field onto Hossil Lane has dropped and is difficult to open – Cllr Sheppard would look at this.

5346 Additional Defibrillators

The defib cabinets have not yet arrived so the Clerk would chase the supplier again. The telephone box on Adams Hill still belongs to WMP so the unit cannot be installed until it is formally offered to the PC.

5347 Planning

No updates.

5348 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write a general PC update for the May edition.

5349 Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting would take place on 25th April at 7.00pm. The Clerk reported that representatives from the National Trust, West Mercia Police, Clent Connect and the Queen's Jubilee Group will be in attendance. Cllr Margaret Sherrey would organise tea and coffee.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is the **25th April 2022** following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____
