



Annual Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 16th May 2022**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

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

In attendance: County Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), 4 members of the public.

5361 Apologies for absence

Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr Nick Sugden.

5362 Declarations of interest

Cllr Ed Sheppard declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5371(a)(iii) as he is the parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5363 Dispensations

There were none.

5364 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2022/23

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Nick Sugden as Chairman for 2022/23

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Ed Sheppard as Vice Chairman for 2022/23

Open session

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

Public comments/questions:

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

- Overgrowing trees/hedges on Church Avenue – the Lengthsman would trim as much as he could, and Cllr May would inspect the hedges to see if WCC needed to take action. It may require traffic management.

Updates from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided updates on the following:

- BDC are taking legal action against a prolific flytipper in conjunction with WFDC.
- Flytipping cameras are being rolled out.
- BDC are currently recruiting street cleaning operatives.

County Councillor Karen May provided updates on the following:

- Meeting with National Trust and agreed location for new litter bins and new grit bin on Adams Hill.
- Yellow lines proposed for the full length of Hagley Wood Lane subject to consultation.
- Police to target Walton Hill area particularly after dusk when the drug problem seems to be most evident. Potential for joint working with West Mids police.
- Pipe repair under the playing field is a work in progress with officers at WCC.
- The island needs mowing again but there seems to be a grey area over which council is responsible between WCC and BDC. In the meantime, the Lengthsman will weed spray the pavements.

5365 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th April 2022 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5366 Correspondence

There was no new correspondence.

5367 Policies and Procedures

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following policy documents for the 2022/23 council year:

- (a) Financial Regulations
- (b) Standing Orders
- (c) Risk Schedule
- (d) Asset Register – subject to reviewing the insured value of the war memorial and removal of street furniture in Western Road as this is now in Hagley parish.

5368 Internal Auditor's Report 2021/22

To receive and approve the Internal Auditor's report on the 2021/22 accounts.

5369 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021/22: Annual Governance Statement

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement which is Section 1 on the AGAR and agree that the Chairman and Clerk sign the document and forward this to the external auditor in line with the Accounts and Audit Regulations for parish councils.

5370 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021/22: Accounting Statements

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 2021/22 Accounting Statements which is Section 2 on the AGAR and agree that the Chairman and RFO sign the document and forward this to the external auditor in line with the Accounts and Audit Regulations for parish councils.

5371 Finance

- (a) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for May 2022:
 - (i) Clerk salary & expenses £706.18
 - (ii) HMRC PAYE £1.80
 - (iii) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman £319.00
 - (iv) Cllr Ed Sheppard Expenses £361.90

(v) Clent Cricket Club (grass cutting)	£350.00
(vi) CALC Annual Subscription	£778.12
(vii) Cllr Sugden Expenses (flower tubs)	£191.88
(viii) John Benner Internal Audit	£300.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 30/04/2022 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the April 2022 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £110,472.49 as at 30/04/22.

5372 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

- (a) New picnic bench will be installed by Cllr Sheppard within the next 2 weeks.
- (b) Broken gate into Hossil Lane will be fixed by Cllr Sheppard within the next 2 weeks.
- (c) Holy Cross Gree grass cutting – Cllr Sheppard has started this and will complete in due course.
- (d) Cllr Bates asked about Steve Bubb and whether we had managed to confirm his schedule/hours in relation to the field work for which the council pay £1000 per year. The Clerk will chase this up with Mr Bubb.
- (e) It was **RESOLVED** that the trampoline on the field should be removed as it keeps failing and replaced with something more resilient/appropriate.

5373 Planning

- (a) Appeal against Refusal - The Barn At, Land Adjoining Oldnall Farm, Bromsgrove Rd Removal of condition 6 of planning permission 16/0027 in order to reinstate permitted development rights - 22/00044/S73 - Mrs Donna Westwood - no further action by the PC.
- (b) 22/00595/HHPRIO – Shady Rock Cottage, Bromsgrove Rd – no objection.
- (c) TPO22/067 – Blue Sky View, Bromsgrove Rd – no objection.
- (d) Sunfield School plans – Sunfield’s agent had approached the PC with a view to presenting their plans for the school. It was agreed that the Clerk write back to the agent to ask what dialogue they have had with BDC planners before agreeing to any presentation.

5374 Parish Magazine

Cllr Bates would write the entry for the July magazine.

5375 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

- (a) Using the Clent Residents Facebook page to post PC agendas, minutes etc – Cllr Bates
- (b) Review the use of weed killer by the PC – Cllr Bates
- (c) Surfaced walkway around the cricket pitch – Cllr Sheppard.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the **20th June 2022** at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____