



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 17th October 2022**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

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

In attendance: Nick Farress (Clerk), 6 members of the public.

5399 Apologies for absence

Cllr Margaret Sherrey, Cllr Drew Beaumont and County Councillor Karen May

5400 Declarations of interest

Cllr Ed Sheppard declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5404(b)(v, vi) as he is the parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5401 Dispensations

There were none.

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:

- Potholes in Hossil Lane – resident advised to report to WCC online.
- Spring into pond – needs maintenance. Cllr Sheppard will deal.
- Strimming on Holy Cross Green. Cllr Sheppard will deal.
- Parking on yellow lines around the Bell & Cross. The Clerk would follow up with Cllrs May and Margaret Sherrey as to ongoing enforcement.
- Hedge around cricket pitch needs cutting. Hedge cutting will begin imminently.
- Pond maintenance and island trees. Work on trees will begin once the new lease on the trim trail field has been agreed with BDC.
- Tree overhang outside 10 Church Ave – this had been inspected by Highways and action agreed, but the problem persists. The Clerk would follow up with Cllr May.
- State of pavements outside the Bell & Cross – the resident was advised to report to WCC online.
- Light is still out on Bromsgrove Road. The Clerk would follow up with Cllr May.

- National Trust – an update was provided by George in relation to the work on improving the Nimmings car park area to deter night-time ASB. George will also follow up on potholes in Adams Hill car park and the use of recyclable cups in the café.

5402 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th July 2022 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5403 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

- (a) From Citizens Advice Bureau requesting grant funding from the Parish Council – It was **RESOLVED** to grant £250
- (b) From St Leonards Church requesting a grant towards flowers for the Remembrance Sunday service – It was **RESOLVED** to grant £100.

5404 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the payment of the following for August & September 2022:

(i) Came & Company Insurance	£1,831.01
(ii) N Farress Salary Aug & Sept	£1,371.43
(iii) Bromsgrove DC Lease of Land	£60.00
(iv) Cricket Club Grass Cutting July & Aug	£700.00
(v) Greenwaste (pipe repairs)	£3,828.00
(vi) Clent Parish Hall	£55.00
(vii) John Horton (defib installation)	£350.00
(viii) WCC Street Lighting 2021/2022	£752.51
(ix) WCC Street Lighting 2022/2023 Q1	£663.97
(x) PKF Littlejohn (external auditor)	£360.00
(xi) HMRC PAYE	£134.44
(xii) Heritage Maintenance (work in play area 2021)	£300.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for October 2022:

(i) Clerk salary and expenses	£675.72
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£2.00
(iii) WCC Street Lighting Maint Fee 21/22	£1053.85
(iv) Nick Sugden Zoom Expenses	£43.17
(v) Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£820.00
(vi) Cllr Sheppard expenses	£99.50
(vii) Clent Connect Grant	£3000.00

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 30/09/22 prepared by the Clerk.

(d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the September 2022 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £94,345.89 as at 30/09/22.

(e) It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the details of the council's insurance policy for 2022/2023 as agreed by e-mail.

5405 General maintenance & highway matters

- (a) It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the landowner whose hedge is overgrowing onto Holy Cross Green to request that it is cut away from the highway. The details will be on the planning application 22/01242/FUL.
- (b) A tree branch on Sunfield land by the Fountain Inn had recently fallen onto the road. The Clerk would write to Sunfield to report the issue.
- (c) Speeding on Church Avenue. This had been raised previously and Cllr May had said that she would arrange for a speed survey to take place. The Clerk would follow this up with Cllr May.

5406 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

- (a) Trim Trail land lease – this is still outstanding from BDC and the Clerk would ask Cllr Margaret Sherrey to follow up on this.
- (b) The new picnic table would be placed where the old trampoline was, and Cllr Sheppard will install this in the next few weeks.
- (c) It was **RESOLVED** to withdraw the dog waste bag service as it was being abused and did not seem to reduce dog fouling on the fields. The existing stock would be used up first and appropriate signage will be installed to advise field users and pointing out where the bins are.

5407 Planning

- (a) 22/01242/FUL - Installation of external cladding to existing barn - Land West of Green Farm, Holy Cross Green – no objection.

5408 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write the November article about scamming, and Cllr Bates would write the December article including the withdrawal of the dog waste bag service.

5409 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

Items for next agenda:

- King's Coronation
- Defibrillator Training
- No December meeting
- Three Roses Homes Hamper

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the **21st November 2022** at Clent Parish Hall, following which will be the budget 2023/24 meeting of councillors only.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____