



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 20th March 2023**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Ed Sheppard (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr Margaret Sherrey.

In attendance: County Cllr Karen May, George Kirkham (National Trust), Nick Farress (Clerk), 6 members of the public.

5454 Apologies for absence

Cllr Nick Sugden, Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr David Mudie, Cllr Drew Beaumont.

5455 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5456 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 the public:

- Plastic barriers belonging to Ringway are still in the park following work on the pipes.
- Tree planting on pond island. It was clarified by the Vice Chairman that following the clearance of the willow etc there would not be any more planting on the island.
- Flooding/drainage problem on Hossil Lane is still as bad as ever. Cllr May would follow up on this with officers at WCC.
- Hedge cutting debris has been left on the footpath alongside the pond. Cllr Sheppard would deal with this.
- Surfacing of path alongside pond. This was ongoing.
- Parking issues on Hagley Wood Lane – yellow lines need to be extended by 1 car length towards the car park. Cllr May would take this up.
- Parking issues around the Bell and Cross. BDC have issued tickets but Cllr May would ask for more enforcement.

County and District Councillor Updates

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided updates on the following:

- Street cleaning – 2 new employees

County & District Councillor Karen May provided updates on the following:

- Bromsgrove Artrix's future
- Levelling up funding for Bromsgrove
- Bowel screening
- Clent Connect

George Kirkham from the National Trust provided updates on the following:

- Winter gritting on car parks and paths
- Managing horse riders on the hills
- Pot hole on Adam's Hill is on the "priority list"
- Four Stones restaurant is now a café – the NT allowed access to their land to the rear of the building.
- Nimmings car park entrance and anti social behaviour particularly at night. The NT are working with the police to try and stop the dealing of drugs on the premises at night.

5457 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th February 2023 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5458 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

(a) From a resident reporting some defects on the Trim Trail equipment (referred to Cllr Sheppard by the Clerk). These would be dealt with when the Trim Trail work is undertaken and following the RoSPA inspection due in March.

(b) From a resident complaining about an overgrowing hedge along Odnall Lane (referred to the Lengthsman by the Clerk). The Lengthsman would attend to this.

5459 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of the following for March 2023:

(i) Clerk salary and expenses (March 23)	£835.08
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£10.20
(iii) Cllr Ed Sheppard expenses (verge markers & picnic table)	£395.48
(iv) Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£646.00
(v) Heritage Maintenance (replacement chq)	£300.00
(vi) Cllr N Sugden Chairman's Allowance	£500.00
(vii) Clent Parish Hall	£60.00
(viii) Clent Connect (Coronation grant)	£3000.00
(ix) Clent Cricket Club (fuel surcharge)	£63.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 28/02/23 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the February 2023 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £97,463.71 as at 28/02/2023.

5460 General maintenance & highway matters

(a) Street lamp 3 outside the village hall is now lit.

(b) Inconsiderate parking around the Bell and Cross Public House – a consultation by WCC to install further parking restrictions is due to be carried out.

5461 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

(a) Replacement of trampoline in play area – ideas welcome. Needs to be something more robust than the trampoline. Zip wire was mentioned by a resident.

(b) Pathway beside the pond – quote is being obtained from the company who did the work on the drainage in/around the pond.

(c) Fencing around Boules pitch. The fence around the Boules pitch needs to be replaced. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Sheppard would carry out this work at a cost of up to £700 (ex VAT).

5462 Planning

(a) 23/00300/FUL - Proposed new dwelling - 1 Kings Meadow, Holy Cross. It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

(b) Application for Technical Details Consent for the erection of detached self-build, live/work dwelling following approval of Permission in Principle (ref. 21/00017/PIP. The Parish Council passed on concerns raised by parishioners living nearby who had issues over increased traffic flows from running a business in a narrow lane. There were also concerns that the traffic survey carried out by the applicant had been done in the middle of lockdown and was therefore not a true reflection of normal flows. The PC were not objecting to the application.

5463 Parish Magazine

The PC's annual finance summary would go into the May edition.

5464 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

(a) Fence around pond

(b) New play equipment

(c) Blue phone box on Adam's Hill

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 17th April 2023 at Clent Parish Hall following the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____