



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CLENT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST MAY 2018 AT CLENT PARISH HALL

- 018/35 **WELCOME**
The Chairman welcomed all residents, Parish Councillors, clerk and all 6 parishioners.
- 018/36 **APOLOGIES**
District Cllr. Mrs Sherrey, District Cllr. Allen-Jones and County Cllr. Mrs May.
- 018/37 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
Clerk read out the minutes from the previous meeting and these were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman Cllr. Mrs Howard.
- 018/38 **CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS**
I would like to welcome you all to our annual parish meeting.
- I would like to start by sincerely thanking my fellow councillor's for their support and hard work over the last 12 months. They regularly give up their free time to attend to parish matters.*
- I would also like to thank Ruth our expert clerk for the work she has done throughout the year and for the support she has personally given me as your Chair.*
- It is our 6th year of running a youth council which continues to thrive and we are very proud of them for representing the young people of Clent. I believe it is very important to allow the younger generation to have a say in their community. We are still the only youth council in the whole of Worcestershire.*
- Clent Parish Council have had another busy year working on your behalf to try and continue to make Clent a great place to live.*
- We have continued with our initiative to carry out litter picks biannually, in the autumn and spring. This year's was particularly successful with many residents both young and old turning out to pick litter.*
- We have adopted the phone box by the church which we will be refurbishing with the view to making it a tourist information facility providing walks and other general information.*
- We have worked closely in conjunction with the Cricket Club to provide toilet facilities for the club and users of Centenary Field. This will open it out to the wider community as an event location. I would like to thank Clent Cricket Club for supporting the Council and for working together with our events.*



We have replaced the notice board at the Parish Hall. This was Funded out of our County Councillor's Divisional Funds. I would like to thank Cllr. Karen May for this and also for her support at our meetings. I would like to also thank District Councillor Margaret Sherrey for attending our meetings and giving us District updates.

We have formed a community working party to investigate the feasibility of twinning Clent with a comparable town in Europe. In due course this group will present their findings and recommendations to Council for a decision to be made.

We have successfully obtained grants from the New Homes Bonus and Tesco bags to purchase a table tennis table. Clent Club have kindly agreed to hold the bats which can be borrowed for a small deposit.

This year we have assessed our Lengthsman's role with the working party putting many hours into this project overseeing some changes for the better of the parish. We are happy to have employed a new Lengthsman.

The boules court has been finished with a purposeful made sign providing the rules of the game for your enjoyment.

The roll out of Smartwater to most of the households in Clent was one of our most successful initiatives this year with the aim to make our parish a Smartwater parish. Hopefully deterring criminals. Smartwater signs will be erected to publicise this. Our Smartwater day saw over 200 homes sign up.

It is very important to us that we engage with our parishioners, we continue to communicate with our residents in many different ways. Through our monthly meetings where we allow the public to ask questions, through our website, social media, parish news, newsletters and with information posted on our notice boards. Also residents are able to telephone our clerk directly.

The council arranged a very successful day out for its residents to visit the Houses of Parliament and to meet our local MP. It happened to be on the day RT Hon Sajid Javid was promoted to Home Secretary.

As councillors we take our duties and responsibilities very seriously and encourage residents to attend our meetings so as to engage with us and to work together, only this way we will be able to understand what you would like to be done in our community.

I am particularly pleased with how our community has worked closely together this year forging relationships with the church, Clent Community



and Social Club and the Parish Hall Fundraisers, Clent Cricket Club along with other societies.

We have recently organised a 'Party in the Park' event to celebrate the Royal Wedding. This was a great success with a fantastic day of celebration.

We look forward to our next event in November to celebrate the end of the First World War.

Once again I feel I need to thank my fellow councillors for their help for suggesting initiatives for us to take on and for their hard work in organising our events. We are lucky to have a strong group of active councillors.

On a personal note I have decided not to stand for Chair this year, as most of you know I have become a Grandma and I feel I may not be able to give 100% of my time to the role. However I am keen to remain an active member of this group.

So thank you all and I look forward to working with the new Chairman.

*Cllr. Caroline Howard
Chairman*

018/39 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR KAREN MAY'S REPORT**
No report given

018/40 **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS MARGARET SHERREY AND CHRIS ALLEN-JONES**
No report given

018/41 **OPEN FORUM**
The Chairman invited questions from residents.

Signed

Chairman of the Council