



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020** at  
Clent Parish Hall, 40 Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

## Minutes

**Present:** Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr David Mudie, Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Andrew Sherrey and Cllr Margaret Sherrey

**In attendance:** Nick Farress (Clerk), 4 members of the public.

### 5094 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Bates, County Cllr Karen May

### 5095 Declarations of interest

Cllr Sheppard declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5099(b) as he is the temporary parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

### 5096 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 of concern:

- Covid-19 community response and new group to meet on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at the Church and PC members welcome to attend. The Parish Council agreed to support the community effort in any way it could, including paying for leaflets to be printed.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided the following updates:

- If absolutely necessary, and in light of the escalating coronavirus outbreak, the refuse depot would limit collections to black bins only.

### 5097 Youth Council

There was no Youth Council meeting this evening.

## 5098 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman with the following correction:

## 5099 Finance

It was **resolved** to approve the following payments and that Cllrs Margaret Sherrey and Andrew Sherrey would sign the cheques:

(a) Clerk salary & expenses	£675.71
(b) Mr Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£240.00
(c) Bromsgrove DC (lease of land at Pool Furlong)	£60.00
(d) Clent Parish Hall (room hire)	£60.00
(e) Nick Sugden (Chairman's Allowance 2019/20)	£500.00
(f) Bromsgrove DC Election Charge	£1345.80

The monthly bank reconciliation report was approved, noting a bank balance of £59,176.15

The monthly budget monitoring report was approved.

It was also **resolved** that the Parish Council would cover any expenses following the cancellation of the VE Day celebrations.

## 5100 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

The following items were discussed:

- (a) All cabling for the Vehicle Activated Sign was in place and it was awaiting the electrician to finish the work.
- (b) Any new tasks for the Probation Service team would be re-considered later in the year.
- (c) The following other issues were considered:
  - i. Repair work had been identified on the footway by the Bell & Cross
  - ii. The pothole on Summerfield Road had also been identified for filling and had also now been swept of slippery leaves and debris
  - iii. A resident has raised how disappointing the Clent boundary flower boxes were looking. Cllr Sheppard said that he thought it would be worth approaching Clent Nurseries for some plants.
  - iv. There was a collapsed drain on St Kenelm's Pass which would be reported.

## 5101 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

The following items were discussed:

- (a) The new surfacing had now been delivered for the play areas
- (b) The bench adjacent to the table tennis table needed replacing, but the rest of the benches were sound and needed pressure washing in the first instance. Cllr Sheppard would arrange this.

(c) The goal mouths on the playing field still need attention. The use of “Astroturf” is not viable, so the Clerk would ask a pitch maintenance company for advice. If re-seeding was required this would be towards the end of the summer.

#### **5102 Planning**

(a) 20/00287/FUL - New single dwelling house, as per previous permission number 17/0075 - 17 Summerfield Road, Holy Cross. It was **resolved** to raise no objection.

(b) 20/00288/FUL – Installation of new dormer window and removal of UPVC enclosed porch/replacement entrance canopy - Bakery Cottage, Belbroughton Road, Holy Cross. It was **resolved** to raise no objection.

#### **5103 Parish Magazine**

The next article would be about tree care and maintenance in the parish and would be written by Cllr A Sherrey.

#### **5104 Councillors’ reports and items for the next agenda**

(a) Some concern was raised about the Parish Hall withdrawing the use of the Hall as a Polling Station. The French Hen had been approved as a Polling Station for the West Mercia PCC elections this May, which have subsequently been cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak. It was noted that the withdrawal of the Hall may only be for this one election, so this will need to be followed up with the Parish Hall.

(b) Cllr Margaret Sherrey advised that she was working on securing a share of S106 monies for Clent Parish Hall following the development on Western Road. Although it is not in Clent parish, Cllr Sherrey is arguing that the funding should be split 50/50 between Hagley Community Centre and Clent Parish Hall as the development is on the border of the two parishes.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next ordinary Parish Council Meeting is the **20<sup>th</sup> April 2020** at 7.00pm, but in light of the current pandemic crisis, this meeting may be cancelled or take place in a different format.

*The meeting closed at 7.45pm*

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_