



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

Minutes

Present: Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr David Mudie, Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr Margaret Sherrey and Cllr Drew Beaumont (from 8pm).

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

5312 Apologies for absence

County Councillor Karen May

5313 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5314 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:

- Speeding on Church Avenue. The Clerk would follow up with Cllr May about speed monitoring equipment.
- Grit bin at Kings Meadow. Cllr May had advised the resident that she would fund a new bin at Kings Meadow. The Clerk would follow this up with Cllr May.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey provided updates on the following:

- Waste collections and staffing issues due to Covid-19
- Brown bin collections resume in February
- Flytipping enforcement cameras are now up and running.

5315 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th November 2021 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5316 Correspondence

(a) From a parishioner raising concern about a lack of street lighting along Belbroughton Road. It was agreed that the council would not support additional street lighting at this time and the Clerk would write back to the resident.

(b) From a parishioner in relation to the silt that had been removed from the pond that is affecting his mother's boundary fence. This had been investigated by the Chairman, Cllr May, Cllrs Margaret and Andrew Sherrey and the Lengthsman and it was confirmed that no damage had taken place and the silt was not affecting the boundary fence. No further action would be taken.

(c) From the landowner of Penorchard Farm in relation to the PROW across the land and a vandalised stile, and anti-social behaviour at the adjoining Nimmings NT car park. The Clerk would ask Cllr May about the process for replacing a stile with a kissing gate as this would be a WCC matter. In relation to the anti-social behaviour at the Nimmings car park, this would be placed on the February PC agenda.

5317 Funding Request – Clent Connect

Bonnie Harvey (board member) presented a request for funding from Clent Connect Ltd for £1000 to cover the cost of hiring the parish hall for 4 hours on a Wednesday at £5 per hour for 50 weeks a year (current café opening) and £1200 to cover the cost of hiring the hall for 4 hours on a Saturday morning at £6 per hour for 50 weeks a year (hopeful next step) = Total £2200 for 2022. It was **proposed** by the Chairman that the parish council grants £1000 now to cover the Wednesday hire and agree in principal to the additional £1200 as and when requested by Clent Connect. This was **seconded** by Cllr Sheppard. Cllr Beaumont raised concerns about the future viability and sustainability of the project and requested a named vote. The vote was as follows:

Cllr Sugden (proposer) – FOR

Cllr Andrew Sherrey – FOR

Cllr Margaret Sherrey – FOR

Cllr Sheppard (seconded) – FOR

Cllr Beaumont – AGAINST

Cllr Mudie – FOR

Cllr Bates – FOR

It was therefore **RESOLVED** to grant £1000 now to cover the Wednesday hire and agree in principal to the additional £1200 as and when required. A cheque was written and signed in favour of Clent Connect Ltd and passed to Bonnie Harvey by the Clerk.

5318 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following for December 2021 & January 2022:

(i) Clerk salary & expenses	£1301.58
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£147.34
(iii) Clent Parish Hall (hall hire)	£78.75
(iv) Bromsgrove DC Lease of Land	£60.00
(v) GJH Electrical (Christmas tree lights)	£420.00
(vi) Roadware Ltd (grit bin for Adams Hill)	£109.14
(vii) Nick Sugden expenses (hamper)	£88.10
(viii) Nick Sugden expenses (Zoom & ink)	£107.59

(ix) Worcestershire CC – Street Lighting	£1806.25
(x) British Heart Foundation Defibs x2	£3,519.98
(xi) Clent Connect Ltd	£1000.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 31/12/2021 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the November & December 2021 bank reconciliations noting a balance of £105,385.10 as at 31st December 2021.

(d) It was **RESOLVED** to agree the 2022/23 budget requirement and demand a precept from Bromsgrove DC of £49,850 which is a NIL increase on 2021/22.

5319 General Maintenance and Highway Matters

- (a) Grit bin on Adams Hill – the grit bin had been ordered and delivered but the location still needed to be agreed with the NT. The Clerk would speak with Cllr May about this.
- (b) Speed limit extension on Western Rd – Cllr Mudie reported that Hagley Parish Council are also on board with this, but it could take up to 12 months for WCC to make any changes.
- (c) Island by Clent nurseries grass cutting – Cllr Bates asked who should be maintaining this area long term. The Clerk would ask Cllr May as it is a WCC matter.
- (d) Hedge cutting in Walton Pool – this overgrown hedge was last cut by the PC although it isn't a PC hedge. The Lengthsman would have a look at this.
- (e) Village pond and highways silt trap – Cllr Bates asked when the WCC silt trap would be emptied and added to a routine maintenance plan. The Clerk would follow this up with Cllr May.
- (f) Village Christmas tree - Cllr Bates asked whether the village needs a Christmas tree. It was agreed that the council should continue to provide a Christmas tree.

5320 Field Maintenance and Play Areas

- (a) Lease on trim trail. Bromsgrove DC have yet to confirm whether the lease to the PC is going to be renewed. Once this is established, a decision can be made about the future of the trim trail. Cllr Margaret Sherrey would follow this up with BDC.
- (b) A parishioner had an oak sapling that he offered to the parish council which was received with thanks. It was agreed to plant the sapling next to the pond.
- (c) The annual play area inspection was booked for March. Cllr Sheppard would check the equipment prior to the inspection. One of the skate ramps does need some repairs to the steel surface.

5321 Additional Defibrillators

The new units had been received but the cabinets were still outstanding. Cllr Andrew Sherrey reported that West Mercia Police were looking to dispose of the blue phone box on Adam's Hill to the parish council and the Clerk was to expect an e-mail.

5322 Planning

There were no new applications to consider, however Cllr Andrew Sherrey reported that the planning application for the new Clent Connect Hub at the parish hall had been approved. There were also several TPO applications that the parish council are not notified of.

5323 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write about the new Clent Connect Hub stating the parish council's support for the project for the March magazine.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is the **21st February 2022** at 7.00pm at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____
