



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

Minutes

Present: Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr David Mudie, Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr Drew Beaumont (from 7.20pm) and Cllr Peter Bates.

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

5440 Apologies for absence

Cllr Margaret Sherrey (illness), County Cllr Karen May

5441 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5442 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:

- Fencing and safety signage around the pond area – for future agenda.

County and District Councillor Updates

There were none.

5443 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th January 2023 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5444 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

(a) From a resident to report that the gate is broken from Holy Cross Green into Centenary Field. Cllr Sheppard would attend to this.

5445 King's Coronation Update

The team (via Clent Connect) organising the Coronation celebrations requested a further grant for the following:

- Disco - £250
- Procession decorations - £200
- Gospel choir / band - £895
- Printing posters/advertising - £350
- Hall hire - £300
- Craft materials WI - £100
- Medals for school children - £700

It was **RESOLVED** to grant a further £3000 to Clent Connect to cover the remaining costs as listed above, in addition to the £1000 already granted for bunting.

5446 Finance

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

(i) Clerk salary and expenses (Feb 23)	£729.13
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£10.20
(iii) GJH Electrical (xmas tree)	£108.00
(iv) Tree Tops	£5000.00
(v) WCC Street Lighting Q3 2022/23	£667.59
(vi) Cllr David Mudie	£24.68

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 31/1/23 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the January 2023 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £103,997.11 as at 31/01/2023.

5447 General maintenance & highway matters

(a) New Vehicle Activated Sign for Belbroughton Road. It was agreed that the current sign was inadequate and that Belbroughton PC had just installed a much more effective VAS. The sign showed a "thank you" or "slow down" message along with the vehicle speed. The Clerk would investigate potential costs. Cllr May had previously stated that she may be able to assist with funding a new machine.

(b) Street light number 3 on Church Avenue had been unlit since the Christmas tree lights were disconnected. The Clerk would report this to WCC.

(c) The gully on the corner of Clatterbach Lane and Vine Lane is blocked and needs clearing out. The Lengthsman would deal with this.

5448 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

(a) Grass cutting - it was **RESOLVED** to engage the Cricket Club to cut the grass on Centenary Field for the 2023/24 season at a cost of £400 per month. This is an increase of £50 per month to take into account an increase in fuel costs.

(b) New play equipment – more ideas needed as to what to put in place of the old trampoline. A resident suggested a "zip wire" but the cost of this may be prohibitive.

(c) Picnic table – the new table was now in situ.

5449 Planning

(a) 23/00062/FUL - Two storey front and rear extensions, single storey rear extension, garage and carport, entrance gate and alterations to the fenestration - Churchills, Woodman Lane. The carport element had been withdrawn following neighbour objections, but otherwise it was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

5450 Parish Magazine

It was agreed that the annual parish meeting would be advertised in the April magazine.

5451 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

(a) Annual Parish Meeting – this would take place before the council meeting on 17th April 2023. Clent Connect, Coronation group, National Trust, Police would all be invited to attend to provide activity updates.

(b) Voting ID – it was noted that electors will now need photo ID in order to vote in the elections in May.

5452 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Exclusion of Press and Public

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public for the next item due to the confidential nature of the matter to be discussed.

5453 Clent Club

The Chairman provided an update on the history of the Clent Club following a meeting with Club representatives.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 20th March 2023 at Clent Parish Hall. The Chairman and Cllr Mudie had already offered their apologies.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____