



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **8:00pm on Monday 17th April 2023**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Nick Sugden (Chairman), Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr Margaret Sherrey, Cllr David Mudie.

In attendance: County Cllr Karen May, George Kirkham (National Trust), Nick Farress (Clerk), 3 members of the public.

5465 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr Drew Beaumont.

5466 Declarations of interest

Cllr Ed Sheppard declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 5470(a)(iii) as he is the parish Lengthsman. Cllr Sheppard did not vote on this item or sign the cheque.

5467 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:

There were no questions as these had been dealt with at the Annual Parish Meeting which preceded this meeting.

County and District Councillor Updates

There were no updates as these had been given at the Annual Parish Meeting which preceded this meeting.

5468 Minutes

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

5469 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

There was no new correspondence.

5470 Finance

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

(i) Clerk salary and expenses	£744.83
(ii) HMRC PAYE	£10.20
(iii) Ed Sheppard Lengthsman	£307.25
(iv) WCC street light replacements	£4622.44
(v) RoSPA Play Safety Ltd	£375.00
(vi) N Sugden Expenses	£52.77
(vii) Severnside Defibs and Training	£300.00
(viii) Clent Connect grant (see Jan 23 minutes)	£6000.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 31/03/23 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the March 2023 bank reconciliation noting a balance of £92,228.75 as at 31/03/2023.

5471 General maintenance & highway matters

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to continue with the County Highways Lengthsman Scheme with an increased grant from WCC of £3040.31, and retain Ed Sheppard as the parish Lengthsman at a rate of £14 per hour.

(b) Blue phone box on Adam's Hill - this is due to be transferred to the PC to house the new defibrillator but there had been no further communication from WMP. Cllr Andrew Sherrey would chase this up with Hindlip.

(c) Replacement VAS for Belbroughton Road. The Clerk had confirmed the location with the WCC Liaison Officer and the type of sign that is required, and a site survey would be carried out. This was several weeks ago, so Cllr May would follow up on this.

5472 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

(a) Replacement for the trampoline in the play area – the Clerk would put together a list of supplier websites for councillors to browse and make a list of ideas.

(b) Fence around the pond. A request had been made from a resident that a fence should be erected around the pond. Councillors were not generally in favour of this preferring a life saving ring as an alternative. The Clerk would make enquiries with the council's insurers.

(c) Trim Trail. Much of the wooden equipment needs to be replaced/repaired following the RoSPA safety inspection, although there were not any immediate safety concerns identified. Quotes would need to be obtained and using recycled plastic would be investigated.

5473 Planning

(a) 23/00407/FUL - Replacement single storey extension following demolition of existing, including alterations to the patio area - St Elizabeth Cottage, Woodman Lane. It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection.

5474 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write a general update for the June edition of the parish magazine.

5475 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

The Chairman brought along the Chairman's Badge to the meeting to be handed to the new Chairman in May. Cllr Sheppard would follow up with getting the past Chairman bars added to the ribbon which had been agreed by the PC several years ago.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 15th May 2023 at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____