



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 20th July 2026**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr Margaret Sherrey, Cllr Mark Brocklebank, Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr Sara ffoulkes.

In attendance: District Cllr Simon Nock, County & District Cllr Karen May, Nick Farress (Clerk), 0 members of the public.

5884 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

5885 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5886 Dispensations

There were none.

5887 Clent Youth Council

There was a meeting on the 15th July. The issues discussed included:

- There are now 10 members of the Youth Council.
- Options for a new slide
- Multi-use games area (MUGA) – possible consultation with school
- Christmas event

Public comments/questions:

The following issues were raised by the public:

There were no members of the public present.

County and District Councillor Updates

Cllr May and Cllr Nock gave updates on the following:

- LGR decision – North and South Worcestershire unitary authorities to be created.
- BDC finances were in a good position at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

5888 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th June 2026 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5889 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

(a) From BDC Sports Development Officer – Couch to 5K launching in September and asking that the Centenary field hedge along Belbroughton Rd is cut back to help with access from the parish hall to the field for 20+ participants – the Lengthsman had already increased the width of the footway and will check this again nearer the time of the event.

5890 Finance

(a) It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the payment of the following for June 2026:

<u>Clent Parish Council</u>		
<u>Payments</u>		
Date	Supplier	Payments
30/06/2026	Service Charge	7.00
22/06/2026	Direct Debit (SCOTTISHPOWER)	19.40
15/06/2026	B/P to: HMRC PAYE	89.57
15/06/2026	B/P to: Nick Farress	817.49
02/06/2026	B/P to: Clent Parish Hall	99.00
01/06/2026	TRANSFER TO RESERVES ACCOUNT	35,000.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report dated 30/06/26 prepared by the Clerk.

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the June 2026 bank reconciliation noting a total balance (including reserves) of £101,469.18 as at 30/06/2026.

5891 General maintenance & highway matters

(a) VAS for Bromsgrove Road – this was still at the WCC depot awaiting installation.

(b) Poor road surface on Uffmoor Lane on the border with Dudley MBC. Cllr May is talking with WCC engineers about this.

(c) Odnall Lane – overgrowing vegetation onto the footway. The Lengthsman would attend to this.

ACTIONS: KM/ES

5892 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

(a) The Bromsgrove Parish and Community Play Audit & Investment Strategy report from Spray Associates following a site meeting was circulated previously. Some of the headlines were:

- Trim Trail needs to be removed. It was **RESOLVED** to remove all the trim trail equipment as it is life expired.
- MUGA – this project would carry a cost of over £140k and should be subject to community consultation and be lead by the Youth Council.
- Goal posts/nets and goal area artificial surfacing needs to be removed and replaced with suitable alternatives.
- Parking – there is no accessible parking for the play area and a general lack of accessibility into the play area.

- The large slide should be replaced as it is now quite old and not ideal for small children. Three companies have already attended the site to provide plans and quotations for a replacement (Cllrs ffoulkes and Bates are leading on this).
- The rubber chippings should be replaced with a more suitable surface.
- Safety inspections every 3 months are recommended.

(b) Seating – Cllr Bates proposed the following:

- 1x metal wheelchair accessible bench and 1x metal bench in the play area
- 1x metal bench in the skate park

This would likely cost around £4k using metal rather than wood or plastic that would last for longer and require less maintenance. It may be possible to have these installed in the autumn and Cllr Bates would present a fully costed proposal at the September meeting. Cllr May and Cllr Nock offered some financial support which was greatly appreciated.

(c) Holy Cross entrance – there was a tree/hedge overhanging the entrance to the field. Cllr Sheppard would attend to this.

ACTIONS: PB/SF/ES

5893 Planning

(a) New applications - there were no new applications to consider.

(b) There were Certificates of Lawfulness issued by BDC at 5 Kings Meadow and Penorchard Farm.

5894 Parish Magazine

The Clerk would write a general update including householder hedge maintenance.

ACTION: NF

5895 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

There were no further updates.

Items for the next agenda:

- Seating options for playing field and skate park.
- Slide options.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 21st September 2026 at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman:_____ **Date:**_____