

CLEE ST. MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Monday 27th March 2023

Attendance: Cllrs Helen Robinson (Chair), Ian Heighway, John Heighway, Ken Jackson and Scarlett Penn.

1. **RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Tamsin Osler. Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).
2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Item 5.1 Cllrs Ian and John Heighway, Item 5.2 Cllr John Heighway
3. **TO APPROVE the MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 27th February 2023:** Item 9.1 sentence 5 removed.
RESOLVED: the alteration was agreed and minutes signed by the chair.
4. **PUBLIC SESSION:** P1 supports the application in item 5.1 but did not get notification via email from the planning portal or see notices of the planning in the vicinity. Cllr Ian Heighway reported that the notices were displayed for the required period by the applicant and removed on the 26th March. P2 asked if item 5.3 was being debated again or whether the Council would retain the present comments. Also, concern was raised about the state of the ford and asked the council to follow up the repairs with Shropshire Council. The Clerk agreed to do this.
5. **PLANNING**
 - 5.1. **[23/00660/FUL](#) – Proposed Affordable Dwelling SW of Clee St Margaret.** Cllrs Ian and John Heighway left the meeting for this item. The proposal is well conceived, justifiable under the affordable housing criteria, uses existing access from the road and is a modest building in keeping with the area.
RESOLVED: To support the application.
 - 5.2. **Consider a Request for Confirmation of Local Connection for an Affordable Dwelling:** Cllr John Heighway left the meeting for this item. The council confirmed the following a) that the applicants have been resident in the parish for over 5 years b) their children have attended the local school and continue to live with the family c) one child is employed in the parish d) elderly parents live less than 4 miles away d) there has been community involvement with local farmers and the village hall.
RESOLVED: To confirm the local connection for an affordable dwelling.
 - 5.3. **[Appeal Reference: APP/L3245/W/23/3316833](#) Mill House, Clee St Margaret – Appeal to the Secretary of State:** The Parish Council wish to see the mill return to working order but have not changed their comment that was made on the original planning application.
RESOLVED: to not change the comment already presented to the Shropshire Council Planning, but to write to the appeal panel to state that the Parish Council's comments remain the same.
6. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES**
 - 6.1. **Shropshire Council – Cllr Cecilia Motley** had sent apologies.
 - 6.2. **Village Hall – Cllr John Heighway. Request for the Nomination of the Village Hall Committee Representative.** Cllr John Heighway will remain as the representative until the May Annual Parish Council meeting when an election of representatives will be carried out.
 - 6.3. **Commoners Association – Cllr Ian Heighway** reported there had not been a meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
 - 6.4. **Our Upland Commons – Cllr Ian Heighway** reported that Matt Williams, Fearn Heritage, will be presenting a session entitled 'Introduction to the Industrial Period' on the 4th April.
7. **FINANCE**
 - 7.1. **Approve the Accounts, Expenditure Against Budget and Bank Reconciliation.**
RESOLVED: The accounts, budget and bank reconciliation were approved.
 - 7.2. **Investment Advisory Group Report:** Cllr Jackson reported that the income from investments will exceed the budgeted investments income for the year. He will carry out the legally required review of the investments and report his findings to the full council.
 - 7.3. **Authorise Payments –** No payments to authorise.
 - 7.4. **Consider the Environmental Maintenance Application:**

CLERK/RFO: Heather Coonick, Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent, Ludlow Shropshire SY8 2BE.

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RESOLVED: To apply to Shropshire Council for £500 matched funding grant to use for clearing drains, gullies, cutting back around signposts and corners.

7.5. Adopt the Budget: RESOLVED: To adopt the budget.

7.6. Appoint the Internal Auditor: Cllr Robinson thanked Mr Jon Kail for agreeing to audit the council again this coming year. Mr Kail does not intend to charge a fee.

RESOLVED: To appoint Mr Jon Kail as auditor for 2023-24.

8. THE COMMON

8.1. Update on the New Maintenance Plan: This will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting.

8.2. Consider Repairs and Replacements to Fencing: The costs of fencing replacements and repairs are unclear at present but will come from the 'repairs' and 'common management' budget headings. Cllr Ian Heighway will investigate if there are any grants available for this work.

8.3. Review the Wayleaves and Access Agreements:

RESOLVED The Clerk will draft a letter renewing agreements for a further 5-year period.

8.4. Consider a Request for a Key to Stone Road Gate by Ms Amanda Knobbs:

RESOLVED: To remove the offer of a third key for Upper Hill House and offer to Ms Knobbs at cost price.

8.5. Note Access for Western Power to Replace the Transformer on Clee Liberty: For information only, Western Power will access the common on the 28th and 29th March.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1. Moonbeam Rally Notifications: A parishioner not on the route has asked that the Parish Council should be informed so they can inform members of the parish of similar events.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will contact Moonbeam Rally organisers to request this in future.

10. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

10.1. Review the SmartWater Roll Out and Signage: most of the kits have been distributed and the signs have been put up in four sites on entrances to the parish.

10.2. Agree Agenda for the Annual Meeting on 17th April at 7.30pm: agreed.

10.3. Update on repairs to the Ford: A member of the public reported that at a meeting with Shropshire council last year they had agreed to make repairs to the ford when the water level was sufficiently low.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to Shropshire Highways requesting action on the repairs.

10.4. Consider Passing a Resolution to Aim at Net Zero

RESOLVED: to include the matter of Climate Change in the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting and the following Parish Council meeting.

11. ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN THE NEXT MEETING WHICH WILL BE THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND THE ORDINARY MEETING at 7.30pm 22nd May 2023

Signed by the chair:

Date: