

DRAFT

CLEE ST MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on

Monday 11th October 2021 at 7.30pm in the VILLAGE HALL

Before the commencement of the formal meeting comments were taken from members of the public attending the meeting:

- Concerns relating to agenda item 7[ii]: Possible conflicts of interest. *Response: Clarification on procedure had been sort from a senior solicitor at SCC and also SALC. The guidance received has been followed.*
Proximity of development to dangerous bend poses accident risk. Potential loss of light and privacy to house opposite development. That the facts of the proposal should be uppermost in discussion of the development. That all opinions are heard. Clarity of PC stance on planning portal. *Response in agenda item 7[ii]*
- Concerns relating to agenda item 4[iv] To be aware that messages might not be perceived as intended. What are the correct protocols for the council if issues are raised by a parishioner – some clarification needed. *Response in agenda item 4[iv]*

Present: Councillors: Mike Hardingham; Tamsin Osler; Ken Jackson; Shalynn Pearson; Scarlett Penn; Helen Robinson

Clerk: Catherine Evry

In attendance: District Councillor Cecilia Motley, eight members of the parish

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

John Heighway

2. OFFICIAL APPROVAL of the MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 9th August 2021 and MATTERS ARISING The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

4. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

i] VHC Councillor Penn has stepped down from the committee. It was agreed to delay a replacement until the Village Hall's AGM.

ii] **Village notice boards.** For information it was reported that on two occasions minutes had been removed, within forty-eight hours, from the boards in the centre of the village and Field Lane. Minutes and agendas are available on the village website.

iii] **Concerns regarding spraying on the hill.** The concerns regard communication with affected residents when spraying is planned. In terms of signs, it was acknowledged that these could be improved in the immediate area affected and will be addressed. It is always the intention of the council to inform, but spraying requires particular weather conditions, so it is not always possible to publish exact times and days in advance. The council is also committed to using as little spray, in as small an area as possible; the weed wiper is a step forward in achieving this.

The council is committed to achieve better communication, again it was suggested that the practicalities of an electronic list could be further investigated.

The bigger question of vegetation management on the hill, and the role the common might play in redressing the national loss of biodiversity, will be included on the agenda of the forthcoming annual parish meeting.

iv] Planning matters from neighbouring parishes. Two concerns were considered. Firstly that in all communications it is important to be aware of how messages might be perceived.

Secondly, the question of how the parish is made aware of planning, or other concerns from neighbouring parishes. Assurance was given that official notifications of any planning, or other issue, that directly affects the parish is received and distributed by the clerk.

Parishioners, of course, can, and do, contact any councillor about issues and concerns which can be included, as appropriate, in a parish council meeting.

v] Question concerning 'footpath closed' sign on fence below Nordy Bank. As yet, nothing further was known about this and will be taken to the next Parish Council meeting.

vi] Parking on The Yeld. The issue of inconsiderate parking was brought to the Council's attention by a visitor. Two suggestions were considered: to mark out, in an affordable and eco-friendly way, parking spaces to maximum effect: extending the area by a few metres by moving back the long fence.

Stone markings had been considered in the past. A solution could be to direct visitors with mobility concerns to other carparks, for example at Heatham Gate.

vii] Parking in the passing place outside Yew Tree Cottage. This issue was deferred to a future meeting. In the meantime, the situation can be monitored as it may be a temporary problem.

FINANCE

i] Current financial position. Current account: £2890.01; Savings account £18,644.88. Hargreaves Lansdown Fund £129,327.34

ii] Discussion on management of investments. A brief outline was given of the possibility of setting up an investment committee comprising of interested councillors and potentially 'experts' from the village. To investigate new funds to invest in for example, 'green'. Discussion deferred to a future parish council meeting.

5. THE COMMON

i] Report on meeting of 26th August regarding repair of sheep scrapes with historic environment strand of OCC. The method of repair was outlined at the site meeting. For the repairs the soil and hessian sacks required are in place. Question remains about the supply of the small amount of temporary fencing needed to protect the scrapes as the repairs take effect. OCC to be asked about the supply of the fencing. Volunteers had come forward and work was to start on 16th October. An archaeological study will be made of some of the sheep scrapes before they are repaired.

ii] Feedback from OCC meeting 21st September. Nothing to report.

iii] Gorse management P. Bolton's 'Response to Clee Liberty Management Plan'.

This item has been deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting.

6. THE VILLAGE

i] Online and broadcast Parish Council meetings. This item has been deferred to the APM to gauge opinion in the first instance and then included in a future Parish Council meeting.

ii] Beacons for Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This item has been deferred to a future Parish Council meeting.

iii] Tree planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Recommendations of suitable tree types have been received by the Council. Discussion of where the trees are to be planted has been deferred to the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting.

iv] Scheduling and agenda items for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Monday 22nd November 7.30 in the village hall.

- The Common and biodiversity
- Gorse management
- Clee liberty Management plan
- Test opinion on broadcast/online Parish Council meetings
- Sustainability – speaker Allan Wilson
- Tree planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- AOB to raise any further issues from parishioners

7.PLANNING

i] Updates

Reference: 21/02037/FUL (validated:17/05/2021)

Address: Proposed Holiday Let Accommodation to the north of, Stoke St Milborough, Shropshire

Proposal: Installation of two partially buried 'hobbit-pod' holiday units to include change of use of land; formation of parking area and landscaping scheme Decision: Refuse

Reference: 21/03804/TCA Church House, Clee St Margaret. Fell trees within Clee St Margaret Conservation Area. Decision: no objection.

Reference: 21/01308/FUL Quarry Cottage, Cockshutford, Clee St Margaret. Extension to dwelling, conversion of outbuilding/barn to holiday let. Permission granted.

Reference: 21/02573/FUL The Orchard Cockshutford, Clee St Margaret. Erection of general-purpose agricultural building. Permission granted.

Reference 20/01454/FUL Affordable dwelling north of Cold Weston, with detached garage and new vehicular access. Permission granted

ii] Applications

Church House.

Reference: 21/04391/FUL(validated:23/09/2021)

Reference: 21/04392/LBC(validated:23/09/2021)

The Council was conflicted on this application. On the invitation of the Chair, District Councillor Motley reminded councillors of the material considerations to be taken into account with any planning application; and in their deliberations to not speculate on possible future developments.

Concerns were raised about the increase in traffic, the proximity of the development to a dangerous bend; the increased number of households in a small area in the centre of the village; the potential impact on the conservation area as well as the potential loss of amenity for the house opposite the development. The question was raised as to what extent the buildings are redundant.

On the other hand, the proposal preserves the buildings in a sympathetic way. It would mean that the buildings are looked after and maintained and potentially enhance the viability of the community. The proposal is in line with the Parish Plan.

A vote was taken on the proposal: in **support** of the proposal **1**; **objecting** to the proposal **1**; to take a **neutral** stance **4**.

This result prompted a second proposal that the Parish Council records a neutral stance. Voting on this proposal was: **5** in **favour**; **1** **abstention**

ACTION: Clerk to submit neutral stance with comments for planning application

8. REVIEW OF DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillors reviewed proceedings and agreed that, to the best of their knowledge, the Council had acted in accordance with procedure.

9. POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

- **NALC Standing Orders**
- **Update Parish Plan**
- **Climate action plan**
- **Footpath closed sign on Nordy Bank**
- **Discussion on management of investments**

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

APM Monday 22nd November 7.30pm in village hall

Parish Council Meeting: 29th November 7.30pm in village hall.

Signature of Chair:

Date:

Locum Clerk/RFO Heather Coonick, Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent SY8 2BE

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