

CLEE ST. MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Monday 25th April 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Attendance: Chair Cllr M Hardingham, Cllrs T Osler, I Heighway, J Heighway, K Jackson, S Penn and H Robinson. Cllr C Motley (Shropshire Council) H Coonick (Clerk/RFO)

- 1. RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
- 3. MINUTES:** The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14th March 2022 and the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on the 28th March 2022 were approved and signed.
Prop Cllr Jackson 2nd Cllr Osler.
- 4. PUBLIC SESSION:** No comments.
- 5. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**
 - 5.1. Opt-In Email Distribution List is now up and running. The Clerk will check pending membership requests.
 - 5.2. Cllr Hardingham has written a letter of resignation to the Parish Council and this will be his last meeting. A Notice of the Vacancy will be posted in the next few days.
- 6. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES**
 - 6.1. **Shropshire Council – Cllr Cecilia Motley** thanked Cllr Hardingham for his many years of work for Clee St Margaret Parish Council. She has very much enjoyed working with him and wishes him well for the future. She reported that the Shropshire Council bid for public transport funding had been unsuccessful, but the government is planning to put further money into the funds available so the bid maybe successful at a later date. There is a new strategy for libraries with more services based within them. The mobile library service will be retained. The B4368 is having a lot of repairs so she advised residents to check the Shropshire Council website for updates.
 - 6.2. **Village Hall – Cllr Scarlet Penn** – Nothing to report
 - 6.3. **Commoners Association – Cllr Ian Heighway** reported that the Commoners Association's contribution to bracken control has not been paid yet for the last financial year. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr John Heighway to remedy this.
 - 6.4. **Our Upland Commons – Cllr Ian Heighway** reported that he is now in contact with Renee Wallace, Project Officer for Foundation for Common Land. The quad bike has now been received by the Parish Council and is insured via the NFU.
- 7. FINANCE**
 - 7.1. **Accounts:** The Draft Annual Accounts were presented with an income of £12,913.04 and an expenditure of £13,597.94. The holdings in both bank accounts totals £25,065.91 and the Investment Account totals £132,539.00. The bank reconciliation is correct but the Accounts may change slightly due to a lost cheque. The Accounts will then be audited before the next meeting by Mr J Kail.
RESOLVED to approve: Prop Cllr Jackson 2nd Cllr Hardingham. Unanimous
 - 7.2. **Payments authorised to – Open Spaces Society Membership Fee £45, Insurance with Zurich £775.21 and SALC Affiliation Fee £140.79.**
RESOLVED to approve: Prop Cllr Osler 2nd Cllr Robinson. Unanimous
 - 7.3. **Investment Advisory Group Report** – No action since the last meeting.

7.4. Financial Assistance to the Church for Grass Cutting: The Council considered the National Association of Local Council's (NALC) Legal briefing.

RESOLVED To approve: Cllr Jackson proposed that the budget for Churchyard mowing should not exceed £750 for this financial year. 2nd Cllr Hardingham. Unanimous.

7.5. Donations to Support the Jubilee Celebrations: Proposal for equipment to support the celebrations were discussed. Contingency money will be used to purchase outdoor seating at the village hall to mark the Jubilee.

RESOLVED to approve expenditure of up to £800. Prop Cllr Penn 2nd Cllr J Heighway

7.6. RESOLVED that Cllrs Robinson and Jackson will be added to the list of Bank Signatories and a mandate to reduce signatories for authorisations from three to two. Prop Cllr J Heighway 2nd Cllr I Heighway.

8. THE COMMON

8.1. Maintenance of Bracken and Gorse Control: Mr Chomley has produced a revised map of plans for gorse and bracken control. Ms Reseigh has provided information on the effects of Asulox on the environment which was discussed.

RESOLVED to use two barrels of Asulox this year. Prop Cllr I Heighway 2nd Cllr Jackson. Voted: 4 in favour, 2 abstentions and 1 against.

8.2. 70 Platinum Jubilee Trees and replacements for those that have died have been planted.

8.3. Ground Disturbances Cllrs Robinson and Hardingham have reviewed the damage and are satisfied that it was caused by a digger bucket. The Council ask that those who are permitted to drive on the common use smaller vehicles where possible and take care during wet conditions to cause as little disturbance as possible.

8.4. Wildlife Crime Posters and Setting up a Register of Incidents: Deferred to the next meeting.

8.5. Common Cause Project: Deferred to the next meeting.

8.6. Supplementary Feeding of Stock on the Common: The graziers were thanked for ensuring that supplementary feeding was managed to reduce the effects on the environment.

8.7. Manage the Jubilee Beacon and Include in Insurance: Cllr I Heighway with liaise with Jubilee Beacon Organisers to ensure that the event is risk assessed and managed within the national guidance enabling the Insurers to cover the event.

9. THE VILLAGE

9.1. Property in Disrepair: As the property is not a danger to the public the Council have decided to take no action.

9.2. Mirror at Marshgate: The Clerk reported that the Department of Transport arrange for mirrors to be placed on public highways.

9.3. Update on Defibrillator Status: The Clerk reported that all three defibrillator batteries were over six years old and should be replaced.

RESOLVED: To purchase 3 new batteries at a total cost of £532 plus VAT. Prop Cllr Robinson 2nd Cllr Jackson.

10. POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA: Wind turbines in the AONB

11. THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 24th May, 2022 at 7.30pm

Vice Chair Cllr Tamsin Osler, Councillors and the Clerk thanked Cllr Mike Hardingham for his time as a Parish Councillor and many years as Chair. He was given a card and gift as a token of thanks.

Signed:

Date: