

CLAY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Clay Cross Parish Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber at Clay Cross Social Centre on Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 7PM

Present: Councillor G Morley Chair

Councillor Mrs M Jones	Councillor Mrs K Rouse
Councillor E Mansbridge	Councillor D Skinner
Councillor Ms F Petersen	Councillor Ms J Stokes
Councillor A Rouse	

Also Present: Derbyshire County Councillor Kevin Gillott
John King, Chartered Certified Accountant
Dawn Kershaw, Parish Clerk
17 Members of the Public

Public Participation

Members of the public were present and spoke regarding the recent flooding of properties in the Clay Lane/Windermere Road area.

County Councillor/District Councillor Matters

Councillor Gillott reported that the County Council has forecasted an overspend of £34M by 31 March 2024 and that draft budget estimates prepared in December 2023 forecasted a budget gap of more than £39M in 2024/25; a council tax increase of 4.99% has been proposed, which is the maximum increase amount.

Councillor Morley reported that the District Council will be holding their budget meeting next Monday, 29 January 2024.

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

Members were reminded to declare an interest as appropriate.

3423/24 Apologies for Absence

It was reported that Apologies for Absence had been received from Councillor Ms J Cullen (Illness), Councillor G Skinner (Family Bereavement) and Councillor B Wright (Work Commitments).

3424/24 Exclusion of Public

There were no items taken in exclusion.

3425/24 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 November 2023 are approved as a correct record.

Resolution: the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 28 November 2023 are approved as a correct record.

3426/24 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

It was reported that following agreement at the Parish Council meeting held on 28 November 2023, Councillor A Rouse has now given written notice of his decision to withdraw from representing the Parish Council on the Derbyshire Law Centre Management Committee (Minute 3418/23).

Noted.

3427/24 Planning & Environmental Matters

Councillor Ms Petersen and Councillor Ms Rouse declared an interest as they serve on the District Council Planning Committee.

APPLICATION NO: 23/001100/FL

PROPOSAL: Upgrade of existing shop front windows and doors to aluminium (Conservation Area)

ADDRESS: 21A Market Street, Clay Cross, Chesterfield S45 9JE

APPLICANT: Mr Sinan Aydinoglu

NO COMMENTS

APPLICATION NO: 23/01105/FL

PROPOSAL: Proposal for 3 no. single storey attached conservatories

ADDRESS: Unit 6 Incomol Business Park, Derby Road, Clay Cross

APPLICANT: Mr P Dawson

NO COMMENTS

APPLICATION NO: 23/01117/FL

PROPOSAL: Section 73 application to vary condition 15 (Approved plans) of planning application 20/00389/FL to remove restrictions on hours of delivery (Major Development)

ADDRESS: Aldi Foodstores, 8 High Street, Clay Cross, Chesterfield

APPLICANT: Aldi Stores Ltd

NO COMMENT

APPLICATION NO: 23/00786/TPO

PROPOSAL: Application to prune 4no Sycamore trees (T1, T2, T3, T4), prune 1no Sweet Chestnut tree (T5) and prune 1no Oak tree (T6) covered by NEDDC Tree Preservation Order 23

ADDRESS: 84 Ashover Road, Old Tupton, Chesterfield S42 6HJ

APPLICANT: Mrs Helen Ball

COMMENT: It is noted from the planning application that maintenance work is requested for the stated trees which are all matured species.

It should be noted that the amount of live tissue that should be removed depends on the tree size, species and age, as well as the pruning objectives.

Younger trees tolerate the removal of a higher percentage of living tissue better than mature trees do and also to consider an important principle which is, that a tree can recover from several small pruning wounds faster than from one large wound.

A common mistake is to remove too much inner foliage and small branches when it should be important to maintain even distribution of foliage along large limbs and in the lower portion of the crown.

Mature trees should require little routine pruning.

A widely accepted rule of thumb is, never to remove more than one-quarter of a tree's leaf bearing crown unless the tree is to be pollarded. In a mature tree, medium to heavy pruning could have negative effects. Removing even a single, large diameter limb can create a wound that the tree may not be able to close. The older and larger a tree becomes, the less energy it has in reserve to close wounds and defend itself against decay and insect attack.

Over thinning reduces the tree's sugar production capacity and can create tip heavy limbs that are prone to failure.

3428/24 Kenning Park Matters

Consideration was given to a request from a resident to site a memorial bench and a request from Clay Cross Angling Association to make improvements to Meadow Farm Fishing Pond.

Resolution:

- 1. that approval is given in principle to the siting of a memorial bench within Kenning Park once its location has been agreed**
- 2. that Councillor Mansbridge meets with representatives from Clay Cross Angling Association to discuss their improvement proposal further.**

3429/24 Street Scene Matters

There were no matter put forward.

3430/24 Cemetery Matters

It was reported that due to the recent high wind, District Council operatives had found a memorial bench blown off its concrete base. It has extensive damage; due to the wood rotting at the joints and the lats it is unsafe to leave in situ so it has been removed and placed in the Chapel, where it will remain until the family get in contact.

Noted.

3431/24 Social Centre & Events Matters

It was reported that the Social Centre has been opened up as a 'warm space' on a Monday morning and that this will continue until the end of March. Further information regarding a 'Warm Welcome Spaces Grant' from Derbyshire County Council would be pursued.

Noted.

3432/24 Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)

Consideration was given to the information gathered for the cost of 2 SIDs for Holmgate Road (Minute 3404/23). The cost will be in the region of £6,500 which will cover both units, solar panels etc, back up batteries, installation and commissioning. When batteries need to be replaced, this has to be done by the contractor, so that will be an additional cost. The results will be downloaded each month and then transferred to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) for analysis. The Police & Crime Commissioner will grant match funding for the units themselves but not for ongoing maintenance and so on. The trial period is for 12 months, so a review can be carried out to consider results and ongoing costs. There will also be an addition cost for DCC to install posts and an 'Object in the Highway' licence would have to be granted; the support of County Councillors is also required.

Resolution: the provision and installation of two Speed Indicator Devices in Holmgate is progressed, subject to an 'Object in the Highway' licence being granted from Derbyshire County Council and a match funding grant application to the Police & Crime Commissioner being successful.

(It was proposed and seconded that Clay Cross Parish Council Standing Orders 3x be suspended [9.00PM] and the meeting continued)

3433/24 Precept 2024/25

Details received from Jayne Dethick, Assistant Director – Finance & Resources at North East Derbyshire District Council (circulated) were noted.

Parish Clerk and John King proceeded to talk Councillors present through the projected budgets (circulated):

- Wages budgets have been increased to take into consideration the National Living Wage (NLW) rise of £1.02p per hour (or 9.8%) from 1 April 2024
- a contingency increase of 10% has been applied to both Cemetery Supply of Services Provision costs and the Grounds Maintenance Contribution
- It was **agreed** that the Cemetery Lodge rent is increased by £3 to £98 per week from 3 April 2024
- It was **agreed** that the Cemetery Fees & Charges are increased by 10% from 1 April 2024

Resolution: a Precept figure of £282,965.13 for 2024/25 is submitted to North East Derbyshire District Council

3434/24 Finance Matters

Resolution:

1. the following balances in the bank accounts held with Unity Trust as at 23 January 2024 are received:

- **Instant Access Account: £ 62,644.60**
- **Current T2 Account: £242,008.63**

2. that any cheques/BACS payments authorised by designated signatories are confirmed:

CXPC STAFF WAGES: TAX MONTHS 8/9	£10,829.49
DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2023	£445.50
HMRC CUMBERNAULD: NI & TAX FOR DECEMBER 2023	£589.45
TV LICENCE REFUNDS (7 @ £25 PER APPLICATION)	£175.00
CROWN GAS & POWER: SOCIAL CENTRE GAS 30.11.23 TO 31.12.23	£735.53
SCOTTISH POWER: ELECTRICTY FOR PUBLIC TOILET BLOCK (MONTHLY DD)	£220.09
WATER PLUS: TOILET BLOCK WATER SUPPLY SERVICES 3.12.23 TO 3.1.24	£211.69
WATER PLUS: SOCIAL CENTRE WATER SUPPLY SERVICES 26.11.23 TO 8.1.24	£76.73
PKF LITTLEJOHN: FEES IN RELATION TO AGAR FOR YEAR ENDED 31.3.23	£1,008.00
EMCAT LTD: COST TO REPAIR SOCIAL CENTRE BAR GLASSWASHER	£262.95
EDGE IT SYSTEMS: FINANCE SERVICIES RELATING TO YEAR ENDED 31.3.23	£295.20
BOOKER CASH & CARRY: SOCIAL CENTRE SUPPLIES DECEMBER 2023	£326.75
CHESTERFIELD GAS CO (AGARS): BAR SUPPLIES FOR DECEMBER 2023	£3,693.88
NPOWER: HILL STREET LIGHTING 1.10.23 TO 31.12.23	£34.62
OPEN SPACES SOCIETY: ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£45.00
TOTAL:	£18,949.88
3. that the Income received is noted:	
SOCIAL CENTRE HIRE	£562.00
SOCIAL CENTRE BAR TAKINGS	£5,360.50
TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB 9.1.24, 16.1.24	£452.00
THURSDAY DANCE 11.1.24	£150.50
CEMETERY LODGE RENT	£190.00
HMRC VAT REFUND FOR PERIOD 1.4.23 TO 30.9.23	£17,735.55
PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND DIVIDEND PAYMENT	£150.73
TOTAL:	£24,601.28

3435/24 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 27 February 2024.

Meeting Closed at 9.10PM