

**Cleobury
Mortimer**
Town Council

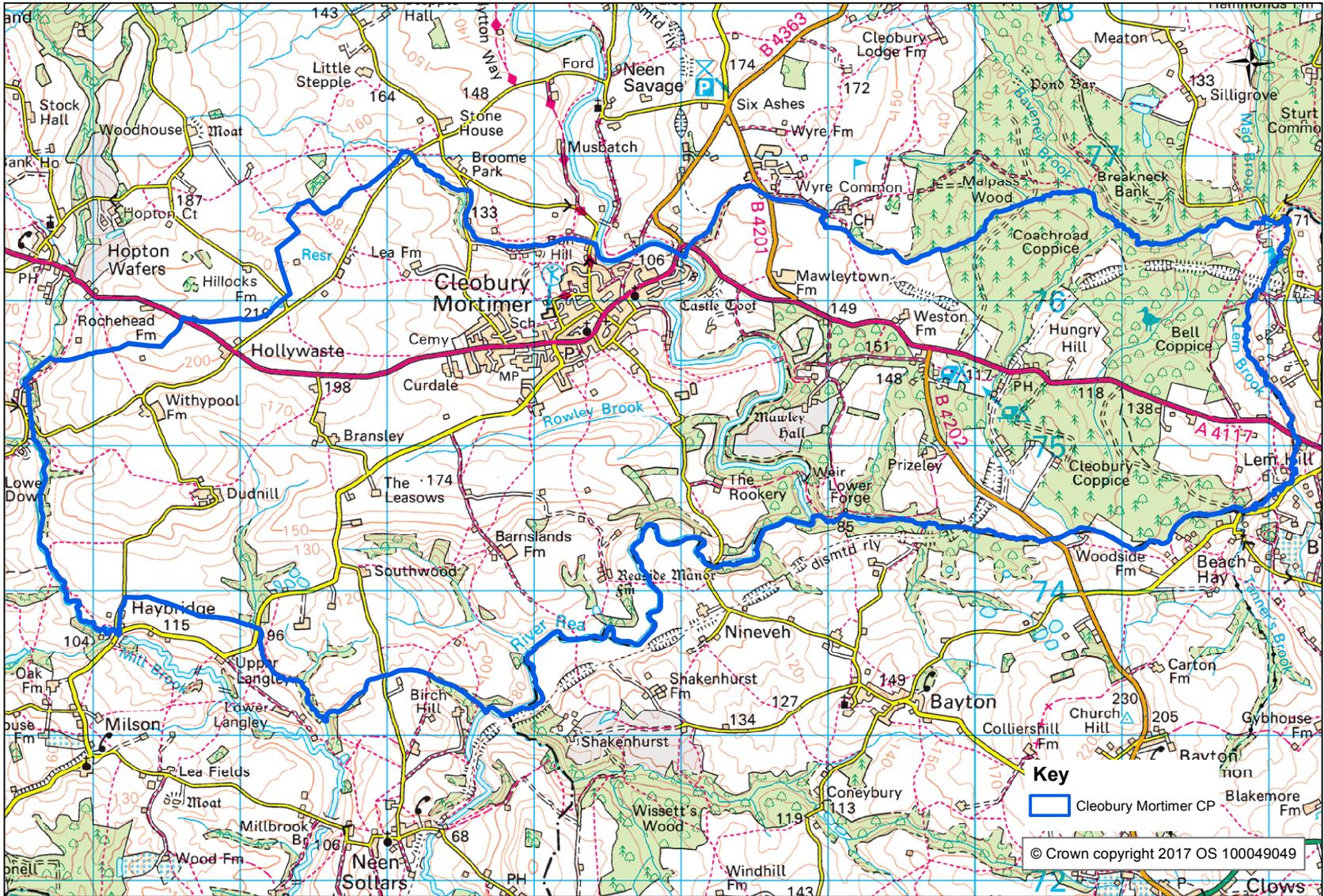


Cleobury Mortimer Town Council Annual Report 2020/21



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

Cleobury Mortimer Town Boundary



Chair's Introduction



A welcoming community
proud of its historic past
that looks forward
to a thriving and sustainable future.



The last year has been one of immense challenge to both the Town Council and the local community due to the pandemic. To meet this challenge the Council worked with local groups and organisations such as Cleobury Compassionate Communities, local shops, and our schools and churches to very quickly set up a network of volunteers to help our most vulnerable residents with shopping, prescription collection and delivery, and befriending support.

National legislation allowed us to continue to hold council meetings virtually in 2020 and we are pleased that members of the community embraced this new way of working and regularly joined our meetings over Zoom.

The day to day work of the Council continued throughout 2020 – with streetlight improvements, CCTV management, completion of projects and planning of new ones. We have said farewell to Councillors Jon Bodenham and Toby Kirkby and wish them well for the future. We are pleased to have welcomed Councillors John Greaves, Guy James and Patrick Buck to the team.

We have worked with volunteers who are looking after our community with regular litter picking and our Foodbank continued to operate throughout the pandemic, helping those in food poverty.

Our Neighbourhood Plan continues to be developed by the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

Vision for Cleobury 2036

Developed at the Town Plan Meeting January 2018

- ❖ People of all ages live happily and enjoy a strong sense of community and the security that this brings
 - ❖ There is a state of the art community hub that meets the needs of all sectors of the community
 - ❖ The age profile of the community will be balanced because suitable housing will be available for people and families in all phases of their lives
 - ❖ There is a well-connected public transport system that allows people of all ages and mobility to travel on foot or by bus on safe, convenient and direct routes
 - ❖ Access to the beautiful countryside is available to all with good connections between rural and urban areas
- 

Vision for Cleobury 2036 (cont.)

- ❖ There is a prosperous local economy that meets the needs of the town and surrounding villages and that provides well-paid local jobs, including working from home
- ❖ The town centre is vibrant and meets the needs of local people so that they are not forced to travel long distances to access services
- ❖ Mental and physical health is good for all members of the community because there are ample opportunities to exercise, meet others, and obtain specialist support when it is required
- ❖ There is energy self-sufficiency and the opportunity to benefit from renewable sources of energy and cleaner energy including vehicle charging points
- ❖ Green spaces are improved and enhanced, and local trees of importance are protected.
- ❖ Tourists will visit and contribute to the local economy



Neighbourhood Plan 2020-36

- A Plan for Cleobury's Future that will go to referendum in 2021/22 and become law and part of Shropshire's Local Plan
- It lays out local policies that local people want to preserve Cleobury's heritage, meet our housing and business development needs as well as providing and protecting new green space, trees, habitats and footpaths.
- The plan has been widely consulted and strives to balance the needs of existing residents, the need for development and the availability of land provided by land owners for development.
- The plan is being developed by a broad based team of volunteers before coming to the Town Council for adoption.

Completed

- Achieve Gold Quality status for the Town Council
- New Play area.
- Tree management in Skate Park and other areas from a risk report.
- Completion of renewing old concrete streetlights
- Establishing a Food Bank
- Covering all the main areas of Cleobury with CCTV cameras for complete coverage.
- Working with Shropshire Council to get new streetlighting in the Talbot yard.
- Road safety measures at Newbridge corner

In Progress

- Convert remaining streetlights to LED
- Working with Shropshire Council to get the Talbot yard Car Park resurfaced
- Lighting and drainage for the QEII area by Skate park

Planned Infrastructure Improvements

Solar lighting in Queen Elizabeth's II Park



This has always been a much needed project for our well used parkland area to help make the community feel safer.

Planned Infrastructure Improvements

Drainage at the far end of the QEII park area.



This project is needed to allow better access in the winter when ice from water draining off the Rugby field causes the footpath to be very dangerous to use.

Infrastructure Improvements completed

The new play area is a big hit. There is a special plaque laid in memory of Jack



NEW PLAY AREA



New Voluntary Service - Cleobury Food Bank



Cleobury Food Bank was established in October 2019 to relieve food poverty and financial hardship in Cleobury Mortimer and the surrounding area. It is a collaborative project managed by the Town Council, St. Mary's Church and St. Elizabeth's Church.

The Food Bank is open on Friday Mornings from 9.30 to 11.30 am and operates from an office on the ground floor of the Market Hall in Church Street.

The local community, neighbouring parishes, organisations and Churches have continued to be incredibly generous with donations of both food and cash throughout 2020. The Food Bank has their own dedicated Facebook page and provides regular posts giving information about which items are in short supply. The Food Bank is supported by local company Mawley Milk with a supply of fresh milk every week for our users.



Crime Reduction

We have provided and continue to support:

- CCTV cameras installed to reduce anti-social behavior, to prevent/detect crime
- 12 more CCTV cameras were fitted in 2018 and a further 5 in 2020 to bringing the total to 32 – these were grant aided with community and Council support.
- A CCTV plan that offers a technology with number plate recognition (ANPR) around all entrances and exits to the town.
- A number of crimes have been solved thanks to this system and also used to support insurance claims.
- Smartwater signage and marking of household goods to deter theft.



Using Social Media



The Town Council Facebook page has grown to nearly 1000 followers and is used to promote events, quickly alert the community to local issues and concerns such as road closures and develop a strong community link.

Christmas Lights



Every year a team of local tradesmen, Councillors, staff and other volunteers help to put up the Christmas trees and lights.



Projects we would like to support in 21/22



- Improved safety and traffic management around the Primary School
- Measuring Cleobury's Carbon Footprint
- Identify an action plan for Cleobury to get to net zero carbon by 2030
- Reduction of single use plastics within the town
- Working with local volunteers on litter picking and reduction of dog fouling
- Improved speed management at Newbridge Corner
- Lighting in the Q E II Park area
- Continuing the rolling replacement of all streetlights to LED
- Continuing to improve the annual Cleobury Festival with new ideas. We need volunteers!
- Improvement of the area around the Wells
- Improve the Christmas lights with new additions.

Financial Summary 2020/21

Financial Summary 2020/21						
	18/19 Actual	19/20 Budget	19/20 Actual	20/21 Budget	20/21 Actual*	Notes
Income						
Precept	112,200	115,000	115,000	116,749	116,749	1
Other Income	42,923	70,600	31,446	20,600	91,282	2
Total Income	155,123	185,600	146,446	137,349	208,031	
Expenditure						
Salaries + Travel/Training	57,520	64,400	63,120	61,800	66,340	
Office costs - rent, rates, supplies	5,740	7,550	6,939	7,300	9,453	
Capital Projects	0	60,000	81,205	1,000	3,070	3
Parks, Cemetery and Churchyard	10,152	13,550	18,600	13,800	10,491	4
Asset Maintenance, Lighting, CCTV & Community Projects	63,394	32,750	31,655	33,000	25,594	5
Fees & Subs, VAT	15,834	16,100	28,270	16,200	11,102	
Donations to Community	3,036	5,000	4,190	6,000	3,246	
Total Expenditure	155,676	199,350	233,979	139,100	129,296	
Net Total	-553	-13,750	-87,533	-1,751	78,735	
Reserves	152,974	106,250	65,441	123,249	144,175	6
Notes:						
* Draft Accounts - to be audited						
1. Precept is a charge per household, through Council Tax						
2. Community Infrastructure Levy, Grants, Cemetery Income, Donations						
3. Place Plan projects paid for through Community Infrastructure Levy						
4. Love Lane Play Area, Playing Field, QEII Park, Cemetery, Churchyard and Memorial Garden						
5. Wells, Toilets, Bus Shelters, Street Lighting, CCTV, Festival, WWI, Christmas						
6. Held for earmarked projects, working capital and contingencies						

Notes:

Precept: Income from Council tax based on number of households.

Reserves: Held for long term projects or contingency against the unforeseen.

Your Town Council Staff Team

Matt Sheehan
Town Clerk



Dorothy McBride
Finance Officer



Theresa Ray
Cemetery Administrator



Roger Potter
Groundsman + Maintenance

Derek Pead
Maintenance



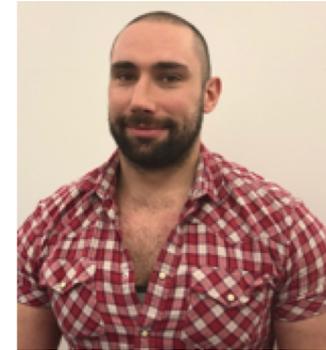
Your Town Councillors – March 2021



Debbie
Brown
Chair



Geoff
Hainsworth



Alexander
Smith



Andy
Goold



Paul
French



John
Greaves



Patrick
Buck



Guy James

Neil
Tysall (Vice
Chair)



For more information go to: www.cleobury.org.uk

In February 2020 Cleobury Town Council was awarded Gold Quality Status, one of a small number of Councils nationally that have achieved this. It is awarded for having good and effective policies and procedures and engaging with the residents to deliver quality and value.

Cleobury Mortimer Town Council
Cleobury Country Centre
Love Lane
Cleobury Mortimer
Kidderminster
DY14 8PE

Tel: 01299 271154



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Mortimer**
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