

Cleeve Parish Council

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Adopted by Cleeve Parish Council, 9th April 2019

Aims and Objectives

To develop:

- A vibrant and engaged community that understands the value a parish council can offer.
- A community that uses the council to help develop the parish for the benefit of residents.
- A community that is proud of its parish and actively works to foster pride through involvement in parish development

We deliver on our aims through:

- Support for community facilities: Village Hall, Sinclair Pavilion, King George V Playing fields, Millennium Gardens etc.
- Two-way communication with residents
- Actively encouraging and supporting community involvement

The community and its facilities

The parish of Cleeve is lucky enough to be home to Goblin Combe which is a Site of Special; Scientific Interest. The village is also surrounded by agricultural land despite having the A370 running through the middle. The easy access to Bristol makes the village very popular for those working in the local city. Half of the village is woodland which is in theory managed as a crop.

Community facilities include:

- A village hall which is very active in social events including a weekly toddler group.
- A small well equipped news agents
- A hair dressers
- Cleeve Nursery which also has a café
- A beauty spa
- 1 Chinese takeaway
- 1 Thai takeaway
- An Italian restaurant
- The Sinclair Pavilion is also operating as an occasional bar
- A small primary school within walking distance in the neighbouring parish of Claverham
- A large playing field with various sports facilities.
- Several public footpaths

- 2 public green spaces- Millennium Gardens and Pound Green, these are for the environment and protection of our open spaces for the health and wellbeing of the community.
- A very frequent bus service linking Cleeve to Weston-super-Mare and Bristol.

At its widest the community comprises:

- all those living in, working in and visiting the parish or using its facilities
- businesses and employers in the parish
- voluntary organisations working for the benefit of the community

Provision of information to the community

Cleeve Parish Council provides information to the community in the following ways:

- There is a website (www.cleeveparishcouncil.co.uk) which includes:
 - a front page with news about the Parish Council (including forthcoming meetings) and other news of interest to the community
 - Minutes and Agendas of all Council meetings for the past two years
 - information about payments over £100
 - a copy of the latest Annual Report, including financial information
 - a copy of the most recent audited Statement of Accounts
 - a copy of the current year's budget
 - contact details for all councillors and the Clerk
 - a calendar of meetings
 - a copy of the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
 - a copy of the Council's Complaints Procedure
 - a copy of the Council's Freedom of Information Scheme
 - links to North Somerset Council and other sites of interest
 - Policies on website including: Code of conduct, Freedom of Information, Media and Filming.
- The Parish Council has a Facebook page and the Clerk regularly posts matters of interest. Others can also post comments.
- Agendas of forthcoming meetings are displayed on Parish Council noticeboards
- A monthly article is placed in All About Cleeve (local free magazine)
- The Annual Report is published in December/ January and goes on the website and AAC
- Hard copies of minutes and supporting documents are available on request. More detailed financial information is available on request.

Opportunities for community involvement

Cleeve Parish Council encourages the involvement of residents and community organisations in its activities. In particular:

- A period during every Council and committee meeting is set aside for public participation, which enables residents and representatives of community organisations to comment and ask questions.
- All residents have the opportunity to comment and ask questions at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- Community organisations which have received grants from the Parish Council have the opportunity to make a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- There is a 'Contact Us' page on the website
- Councillor 'surgeries' will hopefully be arranged on a trial period in 2019/20.

Cleeve Parish Council encourages active citizens that are engaged in delivering a vibrant community through:

- financial support for organisations working for the benefit of the community in Cleeve
- financial support for sports clubs providing opportunities for young people in the community

Involvement in partnerships

Cleeve Parish Council is represented on:

- Village Hall Committee
- Sinclair Pavilion Committee
- Parish Council Airport Association
- Bristol Airport Environmental Working Group
- Bristol Airport Consultative Committee
- The Ancient Parish of Yatton United Charities

Role of Council members and officers

Members of Cleeve Parish Council:

- attend Council and committee meetings where there is opportunity for public participation
- discuss all business at Council and committee meetings in public unless there is good reason to exclude the public by reason of the confidential nature of the business

- represent the Council on community organisations (above)
- are available to be contacted by residents and community organisations

The Clerk

- are available to the public via telephone (no Parish Office)
- receive letters, phone calls, emails and website comments and pass them on to members as appropriate
- keep the website and noticeboards up to date, in particular publicising matters of community interest
- provide information to members of the public under the Freedom of Information Act

Specific areas for community involvement

Cleeve Parish Council will consult fully on any major projects or planning applications, for example development of The Lord Nelson Site and Bristol Airport expansion plans.

Scope for Cleeve Parish Council to improve community engagement

Cleeve Parish Council will seek to improve its engagement with all sectors of the community. The Parish Council will consider in particular how to engage more fully with hard-to-reach groups such as:

- Young people
- Older people
- Ethnic minorities
- Disabled people
- People with caring responsibilities

Cleeve Parish Council is keen to hear from people with suggestions for improvements in community engagement.