

**Balsham Parish Council**  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020  
at Green Room, Balsham Sports Pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** A West, G Fiddy, J Kiddy, D Paton, M Shaheer and S Thurgood.

**Public:** 3

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Henry Batchelor

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Harvey, K Reyes, P Anderson
2. **PC Vacancy:** The PC has received the resignation from Julia Scotland. The PC thanked Julia Scotland for all her work on the PC. The vacancy will be advertised.
3. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
4. **Public Participation (15 mins):**

The indoor carpet bowls roller, funded by the Balsham Ploughmen is due to be delivered this week.

Balsham Feast: The feast maybe postponed until July 2021.

VE Day: A decision will be made concerning celebrations next month.

Woodhall hedging and allotment hedge: The PC contractor Andrew King to cut back.

Fox Road: Overgrown hedge. It is thought that the hedge is owned by Cambridge Housing Association and enquiries will be made by the Clerk.

Covid-19: A group will be formed to look after the needs of people in the Parish. Steve Jordon is making plans for information to be sent out and the group to be formed. A meeting will be arranged with Steve Jordon, Gill Parry-Brown and Annie West to discuss.
5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020:** The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
6. **Report from District and County Councillor:**

**County Councillor:** The LHI scheme for 2 x VAS signs has been approved via CCC. The PC complained about the lack of responses from CCC Highways.

A1307: The Linton High Street junction has been completed and the next stage will be a similar set up at the Hildersham junction and traffic lighted pedestrian crossing.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes**
  - a) **Street light on path between Plumian Way/Burrell Way:** The street light is working now.
  - b) **Ditch at rear of Balsham Buildings:** The ditch will be cleaned out on 23<sup>rd</sup> March along the length of Balsham Buildings. The ditch near the last council house in Bartons Close needs cleaning out after a garage was removed by the SCDC.
  - c) **Bus survey:** Debbie Paton met Lucy Fraser MP and she is going to feedback to the Major's office. Due to Covid-19 there has been a delay in the meetings. The next step is to speak to the Little Green Bus Company to put on new services.
  - d) **Street light contract:** The quotes still haven't been received.
  - e) **Community Car Scheme:** No further information has been received.
  - f) **Pond at Hunters Moon:** The PC are still concerned about the pond being filled in. The security fencing has been put back up.
  - g) **Report from meeting with Diocese regarding Church Institute lease:** A meeting was

held with the Vicar, A representative from the Diocese, Dick Padon, Brian Down, Gordon Fiddy, Annie West, Karis Reyes and Tracy Coston. The lease expires in 3 years' time. It was agreed that more information is required from the Diocese. The PC and Church asked the Diocesan representative what the cost of buying the freehold was but no answer given. The land belongs to the Diocese and the building was built by public subscription. Gordon Fiddy and Annie West will send a letter to the Diocese to ask for the answers to the questions.

## 8. Planning:

### a) For Discussion:

#### **20/01089/HFUL Glovers Dell, 28 High Street, Balsham**

Conversion for garage to office, new rooflights to roof

#### **PC Decision:** Object

The new footprint of 34/36 High Street are not on the footprint plans.

The PC are concerned that the gardens of No 34 & 36 will be overlooked and a loss of privacy.

The two roof lights on the right are not on any plans.

Conversion of garage to the office: A large house should have a garage and concerns about over development of the site.

### b) Decisions: None

## 9. Allotment update: The spraying of some of the plots will be organised with Andrew King.

## 10. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) **Building work:** All the building work has been completed.

b) **Replacement flooring:** All complete. Steve Thurgood/Clerk to orders rubber protectors for the bottom of the chairs.

c) **Security lighting and additional light replacement:** Lighting to be assessed in the dark.

d) **Conifer hedge cutting:** Alex Talbot will be contacted to be asked for a list of options and prices. The PC suggested cutting a section out at a time. The cost of reducing the leylandii hedge on the recreation ground by a third of the height will be asked for.

e) **Play area inspection report:** Wicksteed have visited the play area to organise a quote. New ideas have been received from the school children. Additional grants to be applied for.

f) **Gulley:** To be clear out in the car park.

## 11. Highway Matters:

### a) Highway Issues:

b) **Pedestrian crossing outside The Meadow School:** Clerk to remind CCC to put the cover over the pedestrian cover lights.

b) **Parking at the school:** Parking on the bend is still taking place. The PC are applying to put double yellow lines on the corner and in front of the show house. The PC have to pay for the double yellow lines and will find out who pays for the upkeep.

d) **Parking sign on Green for school parking:** The PC will complete the form for the sign signposting the Church, Recreation Ground, Church Institute and Pavilion.

e) **Water on West Wratting Road:** An email has been received this evening from Nicola Burdon from CCC.

f) **Access line at the Old Butchers Café:** The PC has paid for the line to be painted by CCC.

## 12. Correspondence:

a) **Good Neighbour Scheme:** A donation has been asked for to the Good Neighbour Scheme for £ 500.00. The PC agreed that more information is required and clarification of whether the DBS checks for volunteers have to be paid for.

**13. Finance:-** Receipts and payments up to 11/03/2020 and any invoices/receipts received up until 16/03/2020 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

<b>Receipts</b>		
Interest		£ 517.41
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>£ 517.41</b>
<b>Payments March 2020</b>		
T Coston Salary	£ 1,018.55 Exp £ 180.89 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,087.07
M McCall (Gross £)	21.5 hrs / £ 6.98 expenses	£ 213.38
S Housden (Gross £)	£ 154.00	£ 154.00
Kleen windows		£ 30.00
Staples		£ 32.08
Northamptonshire Pensions		£ 430.85
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>£ 1,947.38</b>

**Bank Balances as at 11/03/2020**

Community A/C:	£ 4,627.77
H.I. Account:	£ 46,357.65
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 93,476.09</b>

**14. Area Report:**

a) **Report from Pop up PC Surgery:** The surgery was held at the café and attended by Annie West, Tracy Coston, Geoff Harvey and Gordon Fiddy.

b) **Electrical Waste recycling:** More information to be received from SCDC.

**15. Date of Next Meeting: Parish Meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 7.30 pm in The Green Room, Balsham Pavilion, Balsham.**

Meeting finished at 9.50 pm

Signed

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Date

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