

Balsham Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 16th November, 2020
Remote meeting via Zoom at 7.30 p.m.

Present: J Kiddy, G Fiddy, D Paton, M Shaheer, P Anderson, K Reyes and Helen Ford

Public: 1

Also in attendance: Cllrs Henry Batchelor, Geoff Harvey

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** A West
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):** Nothing to report
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th October, 2020:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed (remotely) by the Chair.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:**

District Councillor: The Rural Travel Hub and crossing at Hildersham is on hold due to land acquisition.
There is a consultation about social housing allocation which closes on December 18th.
Pond at Hunters Moon: The PC to write a letter to CCC to Brian Hefflon and a without prejudice letter to the developers asking where they intend to move the pond to and why do they intend on move it.
County Council: More grants for businesses available this lockdown. Maximum amount is £ 3,000. There is concern about Brexit and businesses should be ready to prepare to leave without a deal.
Nicola Burdon has moved from the Highways role and the role has been advertised. Parishes are being encouraged to use the website to report faults.
Call for Sites: In recent call for sites 10,000 houses have been applied for around Six Mile Bottom and the PC at Carleton are very concerned.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - a) **Ditch at rear of Balsham Buildings:** The Clerk has chased up the management plan again with Hills.
 - b) **Pond at Hunters Moon:** Clerk to write to the developer.
 - c) **Discussions with Balsham PCC concerning the Church Institute:** No response has been received from the PCC or the Diocese.
 - d) **Community Orchard update:** Melissa Tabecki hasn't had anyone willing to volunteer to help with the orchard and the dead trees need removing. The PC will ask for volunteers again and if no one comes forward they will discuss a way forward with the orchard.
 - g) **Rosie Green Wood update:** James Kiddy and Steve Thurgood have looked at the 2 gates. The one-off Rosie Green is a circular post needs turning around and some of the fence is damaged to keep deer out. Steve Thurgood has cut down some dead trees and leaving on the ground and it would be good to get the brambles out in the Spring. The hedge was cut at the top and not the width so it thickens up.
The PC agreed to look into get the brambled cut out and burnt out in the Spring. Some advice about the wood or is there some thinning out.
James Kiddy to contact Thurlow Estate and a woodland and a wildlife expert to see what we need to do.

Clerk to contact Brett Jones to look at the gate closures and post.

h) Overhanging trees in the Parish: James Kiddy to produce a list of trees/hedges.

7. Covid-19 support in the Parish

a) Foodbank report: There is £ 423.00 to share between the families on the foodbank register.

b) Grants: The PC has received £ 200.00 from SCDC for an emergency grant if any residents are in need.

c) SCDC: The business grant is being paid again. The PC agree to apply for the pavilion but not the Bowls Green.

8. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: Prior approval for a single storey rear extension.

Site address: 89 High Street Balsham Cambridge

Reference: 20/04665/PRI01A

Public Access Link: [https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/? PLAN/20/04665/PRI01A](https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/?PLAN/20/04665/PRI01A)

PC Decision: No objections

b) Decisions: None

c) Tree applications:

Proposal: Beech (T1) Reduce by up to 2m in height and away from Silver fir(not to be pruned)

Silver Birch (T2) Reduce by up to 2m in height. Reduce spread into garden by up to 2m

Silver Birch (T3) Reduce by up to 2m in height. Reduce spread into garden by up to 2m

Elder (T4) Reduce by up to 1m in height

Site address: 18 West Wratting Road Balsham CB21 4DX

Reference: 20/2181/TTCA

PC Decision: No objections

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Proposal: Acacia - A1 - Repollard to previous pollarding points.

Site address: 21 Trinity Close Balsham CB21 4DW

Reference: 20/2168/TTCA

PC Decision: : No objections

9. Allotment update:

a) Vehicles using the track from Woodhall Lane: Allotment tenants have been driving on the track. James Kiddy will put the sign up has been put on the gate asking vehicles not to drive on the track.

10. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) New play area: Debbie Paton and the Clerk have met the playground installers and they hope to install the playground around 19th January.

b) Agree quotes for 2.55m fence: The quotes were assessed and discussed and Jon Baker, Cambridge Fencing was approved and asked to install the fence by the 19th January.

11. Highway Matters:

- a) **Highway Issues:** The PC discussed extending the speed limit on the Cambridge Road. The PC will also ask Highways about countdown signs on Hildersham Road, West Wrattling, West Wickham Road and Linton Road.
- b) **Double yellow lines on corner of West Wrattling Road/High Street:** Clerk to chase up.
- c) **Parking sign on Green for school parking:** Clerk to chase up with Highways.
- d) **Water on West Wrattling Road:** Highways should be contacted the Diocese about the pond, which is higher than the road is and causing flooding on the road. Clerk to send to the Diocese and ask them to address the issue of the pond.
- e) **Delivery of MVAS Sign received. Consider purchase of new laptop to record results.** Mike McCall is looking at the new sign and will assess if he can use the laptop by clearing out some of the data.
- f) **Pavements on West Wrattling Road:** The condition of the pavements will be reported to Highways especially outside the Old Post Office and down West Wrattling Road.
- g) **Storm water in the High Street:** The drains are all blocked. The water is getting into the main pipes and getting into the manholes. Water needs jetting from Lower Farm to the bottom of the High Street. Burrell Way drains needs clearing.

12. Correspondence:

- a) **Application for Street Trading Licence – The Teapod:** The application was refused by SCDC. The PC did not object.
- b) **Bus campaign update:** Debbie Paton has sent off a proposal to Lucy Fraser MP and discussed with Geoff Harvey at SCDC. The proposal is on the website.
- c) **Motorbikes on footpaths:** There was an incident down Woodhall Lane with motorbikes scaring the horses and the horses broke down the fences.
Some issues have been reported concerning residents unhappy with the felling taking place and access into Rosie Green Lane.

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

a)

Receipts November 2020		
Allotments		£ 607.50
Foodbank donations		£ 485.00
SCDC COVID emergency fund		£ 200.00
Total Receipts		£ 1,292.50
Payments November 2020		
T Coston Salary	£ 1,018.55 Exp £ 140.60 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,055.54.
M McCall (Gross £)	26 hours £ 4.50 ex	£ 254.20
S Housden (Gross £)	£ 154.00	£ 154.00
Opus Energy		£ 78.36
Foodbank expenses		£ 578.27
Amazon signs for allotment gate		£ 21.57
A J King		£ 870.00
LGS Internal Auditor		£ 150.00
C Denny		£ 30.00
Kompan		£ 33,114.00
Haven Power		£ 114.95
Total Payments		£ 36,428.44

Bank Balances as at 11/11/2020

Community A/C:	£ 5,686.79
H.I. Account:	£ 245,092.35
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
Total	£ 293,269.81

b) **Grant from Wind Farm:** A grant of £ 10,000 has been promised for the play equipment

14. Area Report:

a) **Bridge on Footpath:** Clerk to chase up with Public Rights of Way.

b) **Call for sites:** The PC thanked Richard Pargeter for writing a document about call for sites which has been put on the website.

c) **Plough Monday and Christmas tree lights:** The Christmas lights will be switched on but no formal occasion this year. Plough Monday will be organised on a smaller scale.

15. Date of Next Meeting: Parish Meeting will be held on 18th January, 2021 at 7.30 pm Remote meeting via Zoom.

Meeting finished at 9.55 pm

Signed

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Date

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