

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
The Parish Council Meeting will be held on
Monday 21st February, 2022 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present: J Kiddy, S Thurgood, K Reyes, S Wilcox, H Ford and Paul Anderson

Public: 5

Also in attendance: Geoff Harvey, Henry Batchelor

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Annie West, Gordon Fiddy
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None.
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):**
 - a) **Ploughmen:** The Ploughmen raised more than £ 5,160.00 at Plough Monday. The money will be shared between Balsham Football Club, Balsham Feast Committee, a new bench, repair the bench in Rosie Green Wood and a donation towards the War Memorial refurbishment.
 - b) **Allotments:** The pedestrian access to the allotments before the Scout Hut is very muddy so pedestrians would like to use the second gate into the allotments below the Scout Hut if a pedestrian gate was put in. The PC discussed the possibility of putting in a gate with a pedestrian gate in it. A gap could be made in the hedge but the ditch is an issue. Clerk to assess the access and report back.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th January, 2022:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by James Kiddy.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:**

District Councillor: Climate event fortnight organised by SCDC. The Community Chest grant is still available. Residents of Queen's Close are concerned about flooding in the road near Samworth Close.

There is a new Highways Officer for Balsham who will make contact ASAP.

The upgrade of Hildersham Crossroads on A1307 has started and there will be disruption for a few weeks.

LHI Bid: The results to be published in April.

There is a joint Parishes meeting on Thursday and the planning officer is attending.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) **Overhanging hedges/trees in the village:** Clerk to send the list of overhanging hedges to Parish Councillors.
 - b) **Platinum Jubilee celebrations – flower festival donation:** The PC have received a request for a donation towards the cost of flowers for the flower festival over the Jubilee weekend. Entry to the flower festival will be free. The flowers will cost £ 594.00 and the PC agreed a donation of £ 300.00.

Map: The Balsham Map group would like to purchase a display board map and 2 x oak lectern style boards with A1 maps outside the House on the Green. One historical map and one map of the village as it is now. The cost will be approximately £ 3250.00. The map group have applied for a Community Chest grant for £ 1,000 and the Map group will make a contribution £ 1,250. The original map boards will be refurbished. The project will hopefully be completed in time for the jubilee. The PC agreed to make a donation of £ 1,000 towards the project.

- c) **Cleaning of war memorial:** The Clerk to contact the listed buildings officer at SCDC and the War Memorial Trust who may give a grant towards the restoration.
- d) **Field End sign:** SCDC will be chased up again as the sign still hasn't been replaced.
- e) **Street light in Plumian Way:** The light on the footpath through to Plumian Way belongs to SCDC and still hasn't been mended. Clerk to chase up.
- f) **Footpath in West Wrattling Road:** Reported to Highways.
- g) **Telephone box:** Steve Thurgood has mended the door, it was wooden and not shutting properly.

7. Discussion and decision regarding the Church Institute Lease:

The PC explained that the implications of signing or not signing the lease. The Parish Council has had a pre-discussion and the vote will take place at this meeting. Dick Paton explained that the lease costs would be shared 50% with the PCC. The PCC felt that the lease can be simplified. The PC proposed a motion to sign the lease and it was 1 for and 5 against. The PC are not happy with renewing the lease in the present form.

The PC agreed that they would write to the PCC with the outcome of the vote and open discussions about negotiating the terms of the lease.

8. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: T 1 Yew to fell to increase light onto the terrace and allow for more planting.

T2 – T5 Yew to fell due to close proximity to a listed wall.

Site address: 13 West Wrattling Road Balsham Cambridge

Reference: 22/0164/TTCA

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: Removal and replacement of timber entrance gates with timber fence and single gate

Site address: 1-3 West Wrattling Road Balsham Cambridge

Reference: 22/00347/LBC

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: Demolition of existing side extension and new side extension with a porch to the front elevation

Site address: 25 Sleaford Close Balsham Reference: 22/00370/HFUL

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: Erection of a single storey gazebo in the rear garden.

Site address: 95 High Street Balsham CB21 4EP

Reference: 22/00133/HFUL

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: Proposed Single Storey Extension. Resubmission of 21/04474/HFUL

Site address: 5 Woodhall Lane Balsham CB21 4DT

Reference: 22/00164/HFUL

PC Decision: No objections

Demolition and replacement and extension of existing timber framed outbuilding.

Site address: 4 West Wrattling Road Balsham CB21 4DX

Reference: 22/00472/HFUL - 22/00473/LBC

PC Decision: No objections

b) Decisions:

Conversion of existing annexe into 2no 2bed flats and associated works.

Address: 46 High Street Balsham CB21 4EP

Reference: 21/05251/FUL - 21/05252/LBC REFUSED

9. Allotment update:

a) **Allotment shed:** The shed has been erected by Debbie Paton.

10. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) **Adult gym equipment:** The PC have applied for a £ 10,000 grant from the Wind Farm to add to the S106 funding for the project.

b) **Benches at the recreation ground:** The Indoor Bowls have kindly agreed to purchase two benches and the PC will purchase another bench. The ploughmen are also purchasing a new bench. Clerk to organise an order.

c) **Purchase of tables/blinds/chairs for pavilion:** The Clerk will look at tables and chairs at Silverman's showroom in Cambridge. Quotes are in the process of being arranged for blinds for the doors and windows in the Pavilion.

d) **Storage heaters:** The storage heaters in the pavilion have been reduced in heat and some turned off to save energy.

11. Highway Matters:

a) **Parking sign on Green for school parking:** Wording for the sign was agreed and the PC will ask Highways if it is possible to have a double-sided sign.

b) **Movable speed sign computer:** Steve Wilcox will contact Mike McCall to discuss the capacity and memory that is required.

c) **LHI – countdown signs in village entrances:** The CCC will contact the PC when the results are known.

12. Correspondence: All emailed.

13. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 15/02/22 and any invoices/receipts received up until 21/02/22 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts February 2022)	
HMRC (VAT reclaim)	£ 10,103.38
Hire of pavilion	£ 40.00
Total Receipts	£ 10,143.38
Payments (February 2022)	
T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 Exp: 133.25 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,155.69
M McCall (Gross £) 34.5 hours 14.70 expenses	£ 235.20
S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00	£ 154.00
Drax Energy	£ 115.81
Cambridgeshire Pension	£ 326.95
Daniel Gilbert (Shed)	£ 50.00
Steve Thurgood (Guttering)	£ 142.02
Opus Energy	£ 437.89
Microsoft	£ 113.76
Total Payments February 2022	£ 2,731.32

Bank Balances as at 15/02/22

<i>Community A/C:</i>	£ 13,341.00
<i>H.I. Account:</i>	£ 171,622.20
<i>3 month notice account (Lloyds)</i>	£ 42,490.67
Total	£ 227,453.87

14. Area Report:

- a) West Wrattling Road water:** The water is still an issue, and the flooding hasn't been resolved. The water is not coming out of the pond but flooding out of the gully.
- b) West Wickham Road water:** The drain outside No 37A (last drain opposite Rosie Green Wood) needs to be cleared as there are flooding issues in Dolls Close and Princes Close.
- c) Elections:** There are elections for the whole Parish Council in May. To be advertised to the Parish.
- d) Lighting at the Prince Memorial:** Ploughman would like to look into a renovation of the Prince Memorial and lighting. It has been suggested to put some lighting and benches all around and possibly paving around the memorial. Clerk to chase up Stan Stinton, who is going to do some repairs and check the building.

15. Date of Next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting will be held on 21st March, 2022 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.

Signed

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Date

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