

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
The Parish Council Meeting will be held on
Monday 20th June, 2022 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present: Gordon Fiddy, Steve Wilcox, Steve Thurgood, Paul Anderson, Heather Pierce, James Kiddy, Jenny Tipler, Kim Pearson and Nick Coates.

Public: 6

Also in attendance: Cllr Geoff Harvey, Cllr Henry Batchelor.

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Co-option of Parish Councillors:** The PC were very pleased to co-opt Nick Coates, Jennie Tiper and Kim Pearson onto the Parish Council.
2. **Apologies for absence:** None.
3. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
4. **Public Participation (15 mins):**

Map project signs: The positioning of the new map signs has been agreed on the Prince Memorial bandstand. The map boards will be facing Mays Ave, near the village sign, with a two metre gap. There will be a 900 cm gap so a wheelchair can pass between them and some concrete paving. Access from main pathway around the edge of the road. The lecterns will be ordered as soon as possible as the proofs are being agreed at the moment.
The lecterns will be made out of oak and the wood may need treating. The lecterns are guaranteed for 10 years.
Upgrading of the map signs on the other Green will take place and quotes are being applied for at the moment.
The PC will be responsible for the maintenance and insurance.

Platinum Jubilee Oak tree position: The drainage of the ditch running towards West Wickham Road was discussed. The PC didn't feel that the car park drainage would be an issue.

Local Plan: The report on the responses to the first proposals to the Local Plan have just been published. Balsham gets limited mention. Carter Jonas, the developers at the Old House Road site have put in a reaction to the assessment of the site, which has been published. Accessibility to services and facilities were marked down on, although Carter Jonas said that the bus service will improve, and they should have increased score. Balsham is classed as a group village and a development of 30 houses won't be sustainable without a significantly improved bus service.
5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th May, 2022:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
6. **Report from District and County Councillor:**

County Councillor: Report received. Work on A1307 is continuing by the GCP. Hildersham Crossroads is ongoing. There is local opposition to the Greenway in the village of Abington, but the alternative route would be very costly. The travel hub will be discussed at CCC planning committee as there is lots of local opposition to the proposed local and green busway route The GCP are looking at the budget. The roundabout at Bartlow Road in Linton and Deans crossroads will also be part of the plan. CCC are consulting on the draft transport plan.

District Councillor: Geoff Harvey has been chasing up the replacing of street name signs.

The Local plan is going to cabinet on 11th July.

There has been some reshuffling of the SCDC planning department and Michael Sexton is moving district.

The support from SCDC to Ukrainian has been very good.

7. Matters arising from the minutes:

a) Platinum Jubilee celebrations: The positioning of the map board was discussed in item 4.

b) Cleaning of war memorial: The Clerk is waiting to receive a quote from a stonemasons before permission can be applied for from the Diocese.

c) Field End sign: Geoff Harvey is chasing up.

d) Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments: Quote from Rob Ellam to be chased up.

8. Update on the Church Institute Lease: Gordon Fiddy is preparing an email to be sent to obtain legal advice concerning the Church Institute lease. The email will be circulated before it is sent. There are two parts to the lease, the first part is a standard lease, and second part is all about the Charity Commission. Dick Padon to check other communication with the Charity Commission.

9. Allocation of S106 funds:

The PC has received a quote from Balsham Scouts but the quotes for the disabled toilets at the Church Institute are still to be received. When the quotes for the disabled toilets are received for the Church Institute the PC will discuss and make a decision.

10. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for the installation of a boundary hedge

Site address: 22 Queens Close Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 22/01961/CL2PD

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/01961/CL2PD>

PC Decision: Planting of a hedge will restrict the visibility of vehicles and is not in keeping with the rest of the properties in Queens Close. There are also no details about the height of the hedge.

Proposal: T1 Sycamore - section fell to ground level as stem had gone over neighbours boundary wall and into their property.

A side note on the application SCDC usually replace their trees at a 2:1 ratio and I believe that would be the plan in this case.

Site address: 49 High Street Balsham Cambridge Reference: 22/0592/TTPO

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/0592/TTPO>

PC Decision: Approve

Proposal: First floor side extension

Site address: 50 Fox Road Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 22/01885/HFUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/01885/HFUL>

PC Decision: Approve.

b) Decisions: None

11. Allotment update:

a) **Waiting list** 4 people are on the waiting list. Debbie Paton, Heather Pierce and Tracy Coston walked the allotments together. Clerk to contact Roger Scotland to see if he is going to cut the footpaths at the allotments.

12. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) **Adult gym equipment:** The Wind Farm bid for additional funds for the adult gym equipment wasn't agreed. The Clerk will apply for updated quote from the adult pay equipment.

b) **Blinds for the pavilion:** The perfect fit blinds and roller blinds have been fitted. The roller blinds are fine but the perfect fit blinds are not satisfactory and Interface is contacting the factory and will organise replacement.

c) **Acoustic boards in the pavilion:** Clerk to obtain quotes for some boards.

d) **Electrical check at the pavilion:** The electric check has all been completed.

e) **Hiring of the pavilion:** The PC discussed hiring costs and will make a decision at the next meeting.

13. Highway Matters:

a) **Parking sign on Green for school parking:** Highways have informed the PC that this isn't something to be applied through the Highways Improvement scheme. The Clerk will look into purchasing a sign and having it installed.

b) **Movable speed sign computer:** The computer is on order.

c) **Highway issues:** The new Highways officer visited Balsham on 31st May, 2022. A list of issues has been received but the PC are concerned that nothing has happened apart from the Highways Officer asking for costings for the white lines at one of the junctions. The costings can take up to 6 weeks to be received and the work has to be carried out within 12 weeks. Henry Batchelor will chase up.

d) **Highways improvement scheme:** The PC's bid for village gateways wasn't successful. The application can be reapplied for when the scheme is opened next year this time. It was suggested to focus the bids and get an engineer view for Sept/October. Clerk to contact Josh Rutherford at CCC.

14. Correspondence: All emailed.

15. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 15/06/22 and any invoices/receipts received up until 20/06/22 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts (June 2022)		
CCC (Grasscutting)		£ 444.18
Total Receipts		£ 444.18
Payments (June 2022)		
T Coston Salary	£ 1,018.55 Exp: 253.45 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,020.93
M McCall (Gross £)	21.5 hours & £ 9.00 exp	£ 215.40
S Housden (Gross £)	£ 154.00	£ 154.00
Opus Energy		£ 122.55
Misco		£ 170.11
Microsoft		£ 113.76
The Play Inspection Company		£ 90.00
P & C Electrical		£ 4,288.16
SCDC		£ 135.00
Saffron Security		£ 72.00
NextNorth (Website)		£ 288.00
HMRC		£ 394.90
Herts and Cambs		£ 1,428.00
Kevin Housden (waste removal)		£ 250.00
Cambridgeshire Pensions		£ 550.02
Herts and Cambs		£ 624.00
Total Payments June 2022		£ 9,629.00

Bank Balances as at 15/06/22

Community A/C:	£ 6,516.01
H.I. Account:	£ 171,622.22
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
Total	£ 220,628.90

16. Area Report:

a) Tree root in ditch in Lower Field: The tree root, that belongs to Jim Potter needs to be cleared. Clerk to contact Jim Potter. The redundant rollers will taken away by a scrap merchant needs to be cleared from the ditch.

b) Joint Parishes planning meeting: No one is attending from Balsham PC as there aren't any planning issues at present.

c) Grass container: James Kiddy to empty ASAP and see if he can lift the lid of the gully in the car park,

d) Fox Road: The hedge between the The Old Fox and Orchard Close is very overgrown and the owner is known. Clerk to investigate and get it cut.

17. Date of Next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting will be held on 18th July, 2022 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion. A representative from Gigaclear will meet with members of the PC between 7pm – 7.30pm

Meeting finished at 9.20 pm.

Signed

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Date

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