

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 21st November, 2022 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

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

Public: 4

Also in attendance: Cllr Henry Batchelor.

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1.	Apologies for absence: Cllr Geoff Harvey	
2.	Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item: None	
3.	<p>Public Participation (15 mins): Map Boards: The map boards will be installed asap by Rob Ellam. Collapsed drain outside the Old School House: The collapsed drain is on the path and has been reported to CCC. Lighting of the Prince Memorial: This will be discussed with the Ploughmen. Comments on the Local Plan: Gordon Fiddy sent comments to SCDC planning and a copy will be sent to Richard Pargeter. Minutes on Website: The minutes will be updated asap. <u>Presentation by Lucy Cameron – Mobile Warden Scheme:</u> Lucy Cameron, who has been the community warden for the last year, lives in Streetly End and has a background in nursing. At present there are 11 service users within the villages. At the moment there is only one person in Balsham, but up to recently had 4 users. The role to help people stay independent. Lucy works 9-1pm, 5 days a week. Her tasks include telephoning people, check in with people, shopping, contacting SCDC, organising opticians to visit, liaising with Kim Cox, Parish Nurse, completing attendance allowance forms and many more tasks. Lucy Cameron has advertised around the village and could take 4 new people. The residents are lucky in Cambridgeshire to have the warden scheme. Lucy Cameron also has to attend meetings and training. The PC suggested that Lucy attends the May's Ave coffee morning Monday 10.30 am. Gill Parry-Brown to put Lucy's details into the Balsham Directory.</p>	<p>JK</p> <p>TC TC</p>
4.	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th October, 2022: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.	

5.	<p>Report from District and County Councillor:</p> <p>County Councillor: The consultation about congestion charge is closing on 23rd December. Members of the public to be encouraged to get involved. There is more support for a more centralised congestion charge. All comments will be made public.</p> <p>Henry Batchelor explained that he isn't against the principle, but the current proposals are unlikely to be helpful to service the rural villages. Stagecoach have cut the services of the X13.</p> <p>Boundary Commission: There are proposes to move Balsham to South East Cambs from South Cambs.</p> <p>SCDC have 6 free trees to give away.</p> <p>Henry Batchelor will chase up Bradley the Highways Officer on the list of outstanding items. The footpaths around Mays Ave and outside the Bell need resurfacing.</p>	
6.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes:</p> <p>a) Map project signs: Rob Ellam is going to install the map boards asap.</p> <p>b) Planting of oak tree: An oak tree isn't allowed to be planted in Balsham due to Oak Processionary Moth (OPM). The company have suggested a hornbeam which is a tough native tree. The cost of a 16/18cm circumference girth at 4.5 metres tall would be £ 388 + VAT. It would need watering 3 or 4 times a week from April to September for the first 2 years. The Clerk will find out how much water is required and some more quotes.</p> <p>c) Cleaning of war memorial: A faculty has been applied for via the Diocesan Office.</p> <p>The Clerk will ask the contractor if the war memorial can put on the schedule for cleaning.</p> <p>d) Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments: The Clerk has chased up a quote from Rob Ellam.</p> <p>e) Tree root in ditch at recreation ground: The PC have agreed that it isn't necessary to remove the tree root.</p> <p>f) Rookery trees: The Clerk has applied for permission to carry out work on some of the trees at the amenity area and outside No. 11.</p> <p>g) Quote for telephone box: Clerk to chase up Stan Stinton to mend the door and chase up Handy Heroes for a quote.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
7.	<p>Update on the Church Institute Lease: Surrey Hills Solicitors were recommended through other Parish Councils. The solicitor has quoted £ 550 for 2 hours to read the lease and charity commission information and give an opinion.</p>	
8.	<p>Allocation of S106 funds: The Clerk will speak to the scouts to ask for a list of items required for the S106 funds.</p>	TC

<p>9.</p>	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a) For Discussion:</p> <p>Proposal: Two storey extension and pergola to side. Site address: 7 Princes Close Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/04541/HFUL PC Decision: No recommendation but please take into the account the neighbours comments.</p> <p>Proposal: 5 day notice - agreed by TO Cedar T 20 - fell dead and in a dangerous condition Site address: Meadow Primary School High Street Balsham Reference: 22/1285/TTCA PC Decision: Approve</p> <p>Proposal: Convert loft of existing detached double garage to side into roof extension with rear facing dormer window. Site address: 8 Field End Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/04417/HFUL PC Decision: Approve</p> <p>Proposal: Ash - A1 - Crown lift to 4m above footpath and pub carpark and cut back away from property roof by up to 2m. Site address: 1 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/1250/TTCA PC Decision: Approve</p> <p>Proposal: T3 Prunus avium: -Crown lift over path to 2.5m T4 Acer spp.: -Crown lift to 3m -Crown reduce to clear building by 1-2m T24 Quercus cerris: -Crown reduce to clear building by 1-2m Site address: Meadow Primary School High Street Balsham Reference: 22/1172/TTCA PC Decision: Approve</p> <p>b) Decisions: None</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Allotment update:</p> <p>a) Allotment inspections: The inspections are all completed and the allotment holders that allotments require more work have been written to.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Recreation Ground/Pavilion</p> <p>a) Adult gym equipment – Path to the gym equipment: The Clerk will arrange quotes for a path from the gate to the adult gym equipment.</p> <p>b) Acoustic boards in the pavilion: Clerk to buy some boards to use at the pavilion, as the church boards are too large to borrow.</p> <p>c) Additional floodlighting at the recreation ground: The Clerk has asked P & C Whiffen for a quote for additional</p>	

	<p>floodlighting to light up the adult gym equipment.</p> <p>d) Pavilion windows: Clerk to chase up the replacement windows.</p> <p>e) Outside light: Clerk to check with the electrician as it isn't working.</p>		
12.	<p>Highway Matters:</p> <p>a) Highways Improvement Scheme (next round of bids): The PC would like to meet a member of Highways to discuss the Highways Improvement Scheme and submit an application in January to extend the 30mph in Linton Road and install countdown signs.</p>		
13.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>a) Greater Cambridgeshire Consultation concerning congestion tax: The PC discussed the consultation and agreed that each Parish Councillor will reply to the consultation with their own opinion and encourage others to respond to the consultation.</p>		
14.	<p>Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 16/11/2022 and any invoices/receipts received up until 21/11/22 will be considered at the meeting.</p> <p>a)</p>		
	Receipts (November 2022)		
	Allotments	£ 102.50	
	HMRC (VAT reclaim)	£ 12,150.99	
	Total Receipts	£ 12,253.49	
	Payments (November 2022)		
	T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 Exp: £ 219.59 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,023.12	
	M McCall (Gross £) 22 hours	£ 211.20	
	S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00	£ 154.00	
	Dropbox	£ 28.11	
	Screwfix	£ 243.93	
	Defib Warehouse	£ 123.54	
	Herts and Cambridgeshire Grounds Maintenance	£ 606.00	
	Kleen Windows	£ 30.00	
	Balsham PCC	£ 495.00	
	Viking	£ 50.21	
	The Great Outdoor Company	£ 20,759.99	
	CAS Business Services	£ 15.97	
	JRB Enterprises	£ 292.00	
	P & C Electrical	£ 192.25	
	Age Uk	£ 900.00	
	Total	£ 25,125.32	

	<p>Bank Balances as at 16/11/2022</p> <p><i>Community A/C:</i> £ 11,858.85</p> <p><i>H.I. Account:</i> £ 145,622.22</p> <p><i>3 month notice account (Lloyds)</i> £ 42,490.67</p> <p>Total £ 199,974.74</p> <p>b) The PC agreed to pay the £ 900.00 invoice to Age Concern for the mobile warden and ask for a three monthly update about the scheme.</p>	
15.	<p>Area Report:</p> <p>a) Trees in the village: Clerk to speak to the trees officer to find out the process of obtaining permission to work on trees on private property.</p> <p>b) Trees in Church Lane: The ownership of the trees opposite Long Thatch to be discussed with Highways and the trees officer.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
16.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting will be held on 16th January, 2023 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.</p>	

Meeting closed at: 9.55 pm.

Signed

.....

Date

.....