

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 16th January, 2023 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present: Gordon Fiddy, Steve Wilcox, James Kiddy, Steve Thurgood, Nick Coates and Kim Pearson.

Public: 6

Also in attendance: Cllr Henry Batchelor.

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1.	Apologies for absence: Paul Anderson, Heather Pierce and Geoff Harvey	
2.	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th October, 2022: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.	
3.	Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item: None	
4.	<p>Public Participation (15 mins):</p> <p>Church Lane: Members of the public complained about the condition of the road in Church Lane and along the front of Old School House. The PC will report again to Highways at the meeting to be held on 26th January, 2023.</p> <p>Scouts: The Chairman of Balsham Scouts explained to the PC that there is a list of outstanding items in the scout hut including finishing off the office space and extractor fans in kitchen and toilets. These works have been costed to approximately £ 1,500.</p> <p>There is also some remedial works required because the regulations have changed.</p> <p>There are also issues with the building leaking. Steve Thurgood offered to have a look at the issues with the drainage at the scout hut.</p>	ST
5.	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st November, 2022: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.	
6.	<p>Report from District and County Councillor:</p> <p>County Councillor: The ‘Making Connections Consultation’ has now closed, there were 24,000 responses (15% of adults in SCDC) and the results are due out in March.</p> <p>Local Plan: The current immersing local plan has shown the results that there will need to be more new houses built in South Cambs as the housing growth isn’t keeping up with the economic growth. 7,500 houses are required. Larger sites to be considered.</p> <p>Joint Highways meeting – Bradley Southwell the Highways Officer is attending the meeting in Balsham on 26th January, 2023. All the issues that will be raised at the meeting have already been raised with Bradley Southwell and there hasn’t been any progress.</p>	GF
7.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes:</p> <p>a) Planting of an oak tree: The PC discussed planting a tree to commemorate the Queen’s Jubilee but there are too many issues with watering the tree and which species is allowed to be planted. The PC decided to put the funds into lighting the Prince Memorial which has been discussed between the PC and the Ploughmen. The Clerk will look into connecting to an electricity supply.</p>	TC

	<p>b) Cleaning of war memorial: The faculty will be discussed at the next diocesan meeting.</p> <p>c) Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments: The PC accepted Rob Ellam's quote for £2,582.86 for the path to the allotments off Hay Close and the entrance to the allotments off Woodhall Lane.</p> <p>d) Tree report: The PC have agreed to have a tree condition report of the trees in the Rookery, the trees opposite Lower Farm and around the Prince Memorial.</p> <p>e) Quote for telephone box: Handy Heroes have quoted £ 250.00 to repair the door and £ 992 to paint the box. The PC agreed the quote to repair the door with hardwood and replace the handle. The repainting will be re-discussed after the door has been mended.</p> <p>f) Paving at the map boards: Dick Padon will organise the paving to be laid in front of the map boards.</p>	<i>DP</i>
8.	<p>Update on the Church Institute Lease: The solicitor has sent some advice back and the PC are waiting for another document to come back.</p>	
9.	<p>Allocation of S106 funds: The PC will wait for Steve Thurgood to visit the scout hut before a decision is made about the allocation of the funds.</p>	<i>ST</i>
10.	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a) For Discussion:</p> <p>Proposal: Certificate Of Lawfulness Under S192 For external window/patio door alterations. Site address: 2 Nine Chimneys Lane Balsham Reference: 23/00001/CL2PD <u>PC Decision:</u> No objections.</p> <p>Proposal: Submission of details required by conditions 3 (Materials), 6 (Hard and soft Landscape works) and 8 (scheme for the disposal of surface water and foul water) water of planning permission 22/00844/S73 Site address: 10 Cambridge Road Balsham Reference: 22/00844/CONDB <u>PC Decision:</u> No objections</p> <p>Proposal: Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to use class E (g) Site address: Rectory Farm Cambridge Road Balsham Reference: 22/05552/PRIOR <u>PC Decision:</u> No objections</p> <p>Proposal: T1 Weeping Willow - re-pollard by removing 2m of growth. T2 Ash - re-pollard by removing 2m of growth and remove ivy. T3 Crab Apple - reduce height and sides by 1.5m. Site address: 1 Trinity Close Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/1491/TTCA <u>PC Decision:</u> No objections</p> <p>Proposal: Dormer extension with rear facing windows. Site address: 5 Woodhall Lane Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/05185/HFUL <u>PC Decision:</u> No objections</p> <p>b) Decisions:</p> <p>Proposal: Two storey extension and pergola to side. Site address: 7 Princes Close Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/04541/HFUL <u>Decision:</u> SCDC refused permission</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 <u>Decision</u>: SCDC granted permission</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 <u>Decision</u>: SCDC granted permission</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 <u>Decision</u>: SCDC granted permission</p>	
11.	Allotment update: Nothing to report.	
12.	<p>Recreation Ground/Pavilion</p> <p>a) Adult gym equipment – Path to the gym equipment: Quotes are being organised by the Clerk.</p> <p>b) Acoustic boards in the pavilion: Information has been received from Kim Pearson about companies to purchase from.</p> <p>c) Additional floodlighting at the recreation ground: The PC have agreed that additional lighting is not required.</p> <p>d) Email from Cricket Club regarding additional screening: The PC will inform the Cricket Club that didn't agree to purchasing a mobile net and suggest that the side screen should be used.</p>	<p><i>TC</i></p> <p><i>TC</i></p> <p><i>TC</i></p>
13.	<p>Highway Matters:</p> <p>a) Highways Improvement Scheme (next round of bids): The Clerk has submitted the application to CCC.</p> <p>b) Issues with manhole cover outside The Old School House: The manhole cover with the electricity supply has had to be moved further along the pavement due to damage by the dustcart and large vehicles.</p> <p>c) Joint Highways meeting: The meeting will take place on 26th January, 23 in the pavilion.</p>	
14.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>a) Parish Nurse letter: Hildersham PCC have sent a letter to the PC explaining that they have not been able to fill the position of Parish Nurse and therefore the Parish Nurse scheme will sadly cease at present.</p>	

15.	Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 11/01/23 and any invoices/receipts received up until 16/01/23 will be considered at the meeting.		
	Receipts (December/January 2022/23)		
	Allotments	£ 32.50	
	WI Hall Hire	£ 240.00	
	Total Receipts	£ 272.50	
	Payments (December 2022)		
	T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 Exp: £ 219.59 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1018.93	
	M McCall (Gross £)	£ 179.40	
	S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00	£ 154.00	
	Drax Energy	£ 17.56	
	Opus Energy	£ 143.85	
	Drax Energy	£ 16.99	
	Opus Energy	£ 263.70	
	Rialtas	£ 70.00	
	Rob Ellam	£ 314.32	
	Cambridge Water (allotments)	£ 89.50	
	Cambridgeshire Pensions	£ 550.02	
	Cambridge Water (pavilion)	£ 136.82	
	Herts and Cambs	£ 126.00	
	P & C Electrical	£ 291.67	
	Surrey Hills Solicitors	£ 720.00	
	Roger Scotland Building Services	£ 160.00	
	Nextnorth	£ 264.00	
	Kleen Windows	£ 30.00	
	Total	£ 4,546.76	
	Bank Balances as at 11/01/23		
	<i>Community A/C:</i>	£ 7,924.76	
	<i>H.I. Account:</i>	£ 145,622.22	
	<i>3 month notice account (Lloyds)</i>	£ 42,490.67	
	Total	£ 196,039.65	
16.	<p>a) Electricity costs: The cost of electricity has significantly increased. The PC agreed that only some heaters will have the frost stats on to try and cut costs. The flood lights will be reduced in the morning and only on until 7pm in the evening. All bookings will have the heaters on but only for 1 hour before a booking and half an hour before the end of the booking.</p> <p>The electricity contract with Opus energy has just expired and the Clerk has found the cheapest quote for a contract with British Gas Lite through Energy Save Experts.</p> <p>b) Budget and precept setting: The PC discussed the budget and accounts and agreed a budget of £ 50,763, this will mean that the precept for a Band D property will not be increased, due to new properties in the Parish.</p>		

17.	<p>Area Report:</p> <p>a) Salt bins: The PC will find out how much a new salt bin costs and if CCC refill the salt bins in the Parish.</p> <p>b) Water on Linton Road: There is a large puddle outside Samworth Close when it rains. The drains are not working properly. This issue has been reported to CCC many times before.</p> <p>c) Church Institute request for funding for new lighting: A letter has been received from Dick Paton and will be added to the next agenda.</p>	
18.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting will be held on 20th February, 2023 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.</p>	

Meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

Signed
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Date
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