

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 20th February, 2023 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present: Gordon Fiddy, Steve Wilcox, James Kiddy, Steve Thurgood, Heather Pierce and Jennie Tipler.

Public: 6

Also in attendance: Cllr Henry Batchelor and Cllr Geoff Harvey

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1.	Apologies for absence: Nick Coates, Paul Anderson, Kim Pearson	
2.	Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item: None.	
3.	<p>Public Participation (15 mins): A member of the public complained about the copper beech tree trimmed on the green when the Christmas tree was put up without permission. The PC noted the complaint and said that the Ploughmen trimmed the branch to enable the village Christmas tree to be put up. The PC and the Ploughmen are working together to try and improve the Prince Memorial with subtle lighting, new benches and some flagstones around the outside.</p>	
4.	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th January, 2023: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.	
5.	<p>Report from District and County Councillor: <u>District Councillor:</u> The Making Connections consultation results won't be available to the mid of the year. A £5,000 grant is available from SCDC for electric charging points. Cambridge Resilience forum is investigating about power outages. SCDC is engaging with UK Power networks. <u>County Councillor:</u> There is a public meeting on 17th February in Linton Village Hall to discuss the installation of the new roundabout. The roundabout will be built in stages over 9 months.</p>	
6.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes: a) Illumination of the Prince Memorial: UK Power Networks have advised the PC that the lighting would have to be a metered supply which would cost in the region of £5,000. The Clerk has spoken to a lighting consultant from 'Lighting Sensations' in Harston who is advising the PC for an hour foc. The suggestion is to put a leisure battery into a lockable container and 12v LED lights. The Clerk is going to send more photographs and some measurements for further advice. b) Cleaning of war memorial: The faculty has been approved in principle, but more information is required from an expert which will be organised from the Diocese to make sure that the replacement letters isn't any bigger in size. The faculty has been advertised inside and outside the Church for 30 days and if there are no comments the faculty will move to the next stage. c) Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments: The quote has been approved and Rob Ellam will carry out the</p>	

	<p>works.</p> <p>d) Rookery trees report: An inspection of the trees will be organised ASAP.</p> <p>e) Telephone box refurbishment: The door will be repaired and then the PC will assess with other works is required.</p>	
7.	<p>Update on the Church Institute Lease: Advice has been received from the solicitor and a working party will be organised before the next PC meeting.</p>	
8.	<p>Allocation of S106 funds:</p> <p>a) Scout Hut: Steve Thurgood has visited the scout hut and looked at the issue of water ingress. When it rains hard 5 litres of water gets into the scout hut. Steve Thurgood has suggested that the guttering is sorted out and other advice was given.</p>	
9.	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a) For Discussion:</p> <p>Proposal: Demolition of porch, utility, garage and chimney. Single storey front side and rear extension with alterations to fenestrations and installation of roof lights. Site address: 13 Nine Chimneys Lane Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 23/00391/HFUL PC Decision: No recommendation</p> <p>Proposal: T1 reduce crown of laburnum tree by 1mtr all round Site address: 82 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 23/0163/TTCA PC Decision: Approved</p> <p>Proposal: S73 application to vary condition 2 (Approved plans) and remove condition 8 (Boundary Treatment) of planning permission S/4176/19/VC (Variation and removal of conditions 2 (Approved plans), 3 (Materials), 4 (Traffic Management), 6 (Access), 14 (Contamination), 15 (Surface Water and foul water drainage) and 16 (Written scheme of investigation) pursuant to planning permission S/4477/17/FL) to allow for a 1.5m high brick wall on the front boundary and to include details of other boundary treatment. Site address: 97 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 23/00484/S73 Public Access Link: PC Decision: The PC will comment that the brick wall is too high and should be 1.2 m.</p> <p>Proposal: Change of use to convert existing agricultural building to 3no dwellings. Site address: Dotterell Hall Cambridge Road Balsham Reference: 23/00360/PRIOR PC Decision: Approved</p> <p>b) Decisions:</p> <p>Proposal: Dormer extension with rear facing windows. Site address: 5 Woodhall Lane Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 22/05185/HFUL Approved.</p>	
10.	<p>Allotment update: The PC agreed that a trailer cannot be stored on an</p>	

	allotment. Community Orchard: Clerk to speak to Melissa Tabecki about the orchard.	
11.	Recreation Ground/Pavilion a) Adult gym equipment – Path to the gym equipment: Rob Ellam is organising a quote for the path. b) Acoustic boards in the pavilion: The Clerk is meeting an acoustic consultant next week. c) Email from Cricket Club regarding additional screening: The PC agreed that the solution to the issue will be to put a sign up on the adult gym equipment to close it off during cricket matches.	
12.	Highway Matters: a) Joint Highways meeting report: The road outside The House on the Green won't be assessed until the new financial year. The meeting was disappointing and nothing will be done because there aren't any finances.	
13.	Correspondence: a) Kings Coronation celebrations: If any residents are organising an event that requires a road closure the residents will need to apply to CCC for a road closure from to CCC.	
14.	Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 16/02/23 and any invoices/receipts received up until 20/02/23 will be considered at the meeting.	
	a)	
	Bowls rent	£ 435.00
	Allotments	£ 460.00
	Total Receipts	£ 895.00
	Payments (February)	
	T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 Exp: £ 219.59 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,028.43
	M McCall (Gross £) £ 222 Ex £ 13.76	£ 191.36
	S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00	£ 154.00
	Age Uk	£ 900.00
	Drax Energy	£ 17.56
	Opus Energy (Jan)	£ 654.95
	Opus Energy (Feb)	£ 786.41
	HMRC	£ 726.31
	Kleen Windows	£ 30.00
	Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance Ltd	£ 4,704.00
	Total	£ 9,193.02
	Bank Balances as at 16/02/23	
	<i>Community A/C:</i> £ 3,140.62	
	<i>H.I. Account:</i> £ 145,905.41	
	<i>3 month notice account (Lloyds)</i> £ 42,490.67	
	Total £ 191,536.70	
	b) Church Institute Lighting: The Church Institute have asked for the cost of the lighting to be changed in the Church Institute. The Church Institute accounts have been circulated to all Councillors. The PC will make a decision at the next meeting.	

15.	<p>Area Report:</p> <p>a) Openreach: The project is due to be starting this summer.</p> <p>b) Street lights: The street lights in Fox Road and Cambridge Road have been repaired but the old posts are still awaiting collection. Clerk to report. Street light 34 opposite Linton Road needs to be reported..</p>	
16.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 20th March, 2023 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed

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Date

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