

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 17th April, 2023 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present: Gordon Fiddy, Steve Wilcox, Steve Thurgood, Jennie Tipler, Heather Pierce and Kim Pearson.

Public: 2

Also in attendance: Cllr Geoff Harvey

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** James Kiddy, Paul Anderson, Nick Coates and Henry Batchelor.
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None.
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):** None
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th March, 2023:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:**
District Councillor: SCDC has reached the end of the original hosting for Ukrainian families and they have hosted more families than other councils. More hosts are requested for families.
Works are taking place on A1307. The combined authority has announced a new permanent CEO.
Potholes are still a disaster and haven't been mended.
Geoff Harvey has agreed to ask SCDC about the procedure of renting out a garage as a local resident who were having issues getting an answer from SCDC.
The congestion zone consultation results due on 10th May.
SCDC has a zero carbon communities grant to apply for.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) **Illumination of the Prince Memorial:** The Clerk is waiting for information from the lighting contractor. When more information is received, the PC will speak to the Ploughmen.
 - b) **Cleaning of war memorial:** The faculty application is progressing with the Diocese. The PC agreed to pay £ 317.00 to the Diocese for the administration charge.
 - c) **Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments:** Rob Ellam will complete the work as soon as possible.
 - d) **Rookery trees report:** The Rookery tree report has been received and will be sent out to tree surgeons and Herts and Cambs for quotes. All trees owned by the PC, in the High Street opposite Lower Farm, on the Prince Memorial green will be surveyed when Martin Hugi is available.
 - e) **Telephone box refurbishment:** The work will be carried out by the contractor as soon as possible.
 - f) **Community orchard:** Steve Thurgood has visited the orchard and there are 136 trees of which there are 41 dead, 49 need attention and 55 need grass removing from the base. Clerk to organise a quote from Herts and Cambs and put a request in the magazine for volunteers. Herts and Cambs will also be asked to quote to cut the grass in the middle of the orchard. Clerk to ask the ploughmen where the two benches are installed.
 - g) **Request to pay invoice for Church Institute lighting:** The PC agreed for the invoice to be paid for the lighting upgrade.

h) Street lights in Fox Road/Cambridge Road: The bracket will be put back on No 34 street light.

7. Update on the Church Institute Lease: The PC and PCC have organised a meeting on 30th May to discuss the response from the Diocese.

8. Allocation of S106 funds: The PC has not heard from the scouts.

9. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: Front Garden: T3 Field maple nearest house reduce to previous pruning points by up to 3m T2 Silver birch. reduce to match field maple by up to 3m

T1 Field maple at end of drive reduce stems over drive to pruning points by up to 3m

Rear Garden T4 and T5 2x silver birch reduce by up to 4m back to previous pruning points

T6 Field maple reduce in height by up to 3m.

Site address: 1 Field End Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/0350/TTCA <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/0350/TTCA>

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: 64 West Wickham Road, Balsham 23/01350/HFUL

Second storey on part of existing house to create two bedrooms.

PC Decision: Approval

b) Decisions: None

10. Allotment update: There are 7 allotments available.

11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) Adult gym equipment – Path to the gym equipment: Rob Ellam has been asked to revise the quote to a path that is 1 metre wide.

b) No ball sign: A resident has asked for a ‘No ball’ sign at the play area but the PC agreed that they didn’t think it would be effect.

c) Cricket sign: The sign will be ordered for the gym equipment.

d) Good Community lunch: The pavilion was used for the Good Community lunch and it was really successful and the PC have agreed that the Pavilion can be used for free for future events.

12. Highway Matters:

a) 20 is plenty campaign: Kim Pearson and Heather Pierce have collected information for the application but there isn’t enough time to put the application in for the end of April.

13. Correspondence:

a) Kings Coronation: The PC have agreed to do further improvements to the Prince Memorial for the Kings Coronation.

14. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 12/04/23 and any invoices/receipts received up until 17/04/23 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts (April)		
Allotments		£ 25.00
Balsham Singers		£ 400.00
Total Receipts		£ 425.00
Payments (April)		
T Coston Salary	£ 1,018.55 Exp: £ 228.00 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,156.73
M McCall (Gross £)	£ 240.00 Ex £ 10.80	£ 202.80
S Housden (Gross £)	£ 154.00	£ 154.00
Drax Energy		£ 15.86
Cambridgeshire Pension		£ 550.02
RS Components Ltd		£ 220.51
Wel Medical		£ 204.00
Easily		£ 22.79
Eco Tree Care & Conservation		£ 397.38
Chris Hall (taps)		£ 257.90
Herts & Cambs Grounds Maintenance		£ 108.00
Three Counties Fire (Pavilion & CI)		£ 157.15
Cambridgeshire Pensions		£ 268.90
Total		£ 3,716.04

Bank Balances as at 13/04/23

<i>Community A/C:</i>	£	5,617.01
<i>H.I. Account:</i>	£	125,905.41
<i>3 month notice account (Lloyds)</i>	£	42,490.67
Total	£	174,013.09

15. Area Report:

a) **Car park:** Rob Ellam will be asked to level the edges out and filling out the area at the end of the car park.

b) **Dog bin:** An additional dog bin and post will be ordered at the end of Rosie Green Wood.

16. Date of Next Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 15th May, 2023 at 7.30 pm followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting at 8pm in Balsham Pavilion.

Meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

Signed

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Date

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