

***BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL***  
**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at 7.30pm**  
**in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)**

**Present:** Gordon Fiddy, Steve Thurgood, Jennie Tipler, Heather Pierce, Paul Anderson

**Public:** 2

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

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Steve Wilcox, Kim Pearson, James Kiddy, Nick Coates
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):**  
**Churchyard:** The church is desperate for volunteers to help with cutting the grass. The south side of the church is being managed more than the other parts. Some parts are going to be a designed wildlife area.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2023:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:**  
**District Councillor:** Thank you to Geoff Harvey for mending the gate at the recreation ground.  
SCDC 4 day a week was discussed, and Geoff Harvey is pushing for a web response form.  
Princes Close resurfacing has been discussed with CCC and it was discussed that some side roads have been resurfaced as they need minor refurbishment.  
**CCC: Capital priorities fund:** Parish Councils or local groups to bid for grants up to £ 40,000. Match funding and other funding is required. CCC asking for expressions of interest with a proposal. Formal bids asked for in November.  
Project manager A1307 upgrades: Feedback was given.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
  - a) **Illumination and other improvements to the Prince Memorial:** A quote for the lighting hasn't been received. A quote to be received from Rob Ellam for the flagstones. The seating has been looked at by Stan Stinton and brackets will be looked into. Slabs to be put in front of the bench on the Mays Ave Green.
  - b) **Cleaning of war memorial:** The war memorial has been cleaned and the repainting and recutting of the letters will take place asap.
  - c) **Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments:** Rob Ellam has promised to carry out the work by the Autumn.
  - d) **Rookery trees report:** The tree application has been submitted to SCDC.
  - e) **Telephone box refurbishment:** Invoice to be paid.
  - f) **Community orchard:** To be regularly cut with the allotment paths.
  - g) **Purchase of dog bin:** The bin has been received and Steve Thurgood has installed it.
  - h) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** The job has been measured by Rob Ellam.
  - i) **Bus shelter refurbishment:** Specification of works to be done and quotes. Rub down and prime the wood, clean the plastic. Neil Claxton
  - j) **Abandoned car in Recreation Ground car park:** The car has been moved.

**7. Update on the Church Institute Lease/Valuation:** The valuation hasn't been received in writing.

**8. Allocation of S106 funds:** Nothing heard from the Scouts.

**9. Planning:**

**a) For Discussion:**

Proposal: Change of use of 2 agricultural buildings to Use Class E (g)

Site address: Rectory Farm Cambridge Road Balsham

Reference: 23/01927/FUL

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/01927/FUL>

**b) Decisions:**

SCDC approved the application to construct a single storey garden room extension, demolition of existing garage/outbuilding and replace with an outbuilding and removal of the shutters.

Site address: 7 West Wrattling Road Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/01920/LBC / 23/01809/HFUL

SCDC approved the application.

**10. Allotment update:**

**a) Grasscutting at the allotments:** The grass will be cut regularly by Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance.

**11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion**

**a) Blinds:** The blinds will be mended in August by the contractor.

**12. Highway Matters:**

**a) 20 is plenty campaign:** Kim Pearson and Heather Pierce will look at putting an application in during the next round of applications.

**b) West Wickham Road:** An email has been sent to Bradley Southwell at Highways asking for gulleys in West Wickham Road to be cut.

**c) Pothole outside the Old School House:** The pothole has been marked but no work has taken place.

**b) Water issue in West Wrattling and West Wickham Road:** Still ongoing with intermittent communication from Highways.

**13. Correspondence:**

**a) Pre-consultation** – proposed radio base station installation at SCA24892 grass verge of Dolls Close, Balsham: The PC opposed the application.

**b) Anaerobic Digester** – Streetly Hall Farm (Information only): A presentation was given and a joint statement is being put in the review.

**14. Finance:-** Receipts and payments up to 11/07/23 and any invoices/receipts received up until 17/07/23 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

<b>Receipts (July)</b>	
Balsham Cricket Club	£ 435.00
Balsham Football Club	£ 435.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£ 870.00</b>
<b>Payments (July)</b>	
T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 (Gross) Tax £ 33.80 Exp: £ 213.52 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,113.55
M McCall £ 300.00 (Gross) £ 60.00 (Tax)	£ 240.00
S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00	£ 154.00
Drax Energy	£ 17.56
British Gas Lite	£ 138.82
L Samworth	£ 172.80
Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (Grasscutting SI 2577/2575) Inner areas (SI2576)	£ 570.00
Cambridge Water (Pavilion)	£ 390.80
Cambridge Water (Allotments)	£ 47.57
ICO	£ 35.00
Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (Grasscutting) SI 2621	£ 162.00
Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (Allotment paths) SI 2620	£ 288.00
Glasdon Dog bin and post	£ 402.65
Steve Thurgood (fitting dog bin)	£ 26.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 3730.95</b>

**Bank Balances as at 11/07/23**

Community A/C:	£ 3,893.20
H.I. Account:	£ 137,286.91
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 183,670.78</b>

**15. Area Report:**

a) **WI – 100 years old:** The WI will be celebrating 100 years at the end of next year and would like to mark the occasion with a bench and a tree. The PC suggested that the tree needed to be replaced on the Rookery amenity area. A idea of a flower area near the bandstand was discussed.

b) **Zero carbon grant:** West Wickham Village Hall have had to grant for infra red heating.

**16. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Meeting will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion**

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

**Signed**

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**Date**

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