

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 18th September, 2023 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

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

Public: 3

Also in attendance: Cllr Geoff Harvey, Cllr Henry Batchelor

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Gordon Fiddy
The PC passed their good wishes to Gordon Fiddy who is in hospital recovering from an operation.
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:**
James Kiddy declared an interest in Mill Farm Building planning application.
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):**
The pothole outside the Old School House has been temporarily filled but needs to have a permanent fill.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th July, 2023 and 7th August, 2023:**
The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by James Kiddy.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:**
District Councillor:
Congestion Zone: It has lost political support but a decision won't be made until the GCP meet at the end of the month.
County Councillor: Roundabout at Linton: There will be road closures on the A1307 for two weekend and then no more closures. More signage to be put up and local logistics companies have been contacted to make sure that lorries do not bypass through the villages.
Bin collection day is changing to a Wednesday.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) **Illumination and other improvements to the Prince Memorial:** The contractor hasn't replied about the lighting at the Prince Memorial. The Clerk will contact planning to see if planning would be required for changes to the Prince Memorial.
 - b) **Repainting and re-lettering of the war memorial:** The war memorial will be inspected regularly to see when further cleaning is required. The letters should be re-cut by the end of September.
 - c) **Footpath from Barton's Close to allotments/Woodhall Lane allotments:** The work has been completed but a mound of soil has been left at Woodhall Lane and Rob Ellam will be contacted about removing it from site.
 - d) **Rookery tree work:** The tree application will be reapplied for the Lime tree.
 - e) **Community orchard:** The community orchard grass has been cut with the allotment grass.
 - f) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** The work will be completed when Rob Ellam has the time.
 - g) **Bus shelter refurbishment:** The PC agreed the quote from Damien Clarke for £ 230.00 for repairs to the bus shelter. The other companies that quoted will be contacted

and thanked for quoting.

7. Update on the Church Institute Lease/Valuation:

a) The PC will discuss at the next meeting.

8. Allocation of S106 funds:

Scouts: A roofer has been on the roof and they think that they have identified the issue. The scouts will be asked for an update.

9. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: Addition of a 2-storey side extension, single storey rear extension and change to the front porch from flat roof to pitched gable roof.

Site address: 2 Church Lane Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/03264/HFUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/03264/HFUL>

PC Decision: No recommendation

Proposal: Two storey side extension, front porch and internal alterations.

Site address: 5 Bartons Close Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/02779/HFUL APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

Proposal: Conversion of existing agricultural building to 2 dwellings and demolition of further agricultural building.

Site address: Dotterell Hall Cambridge Road Balsham

Reference: 23/03410/FUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/03410/FUL>

PC Decision: No recommendation

Proposal: Single Storey Rear infill extension to replace poorly constructed lean-to

Site address: 50 West Wickham Road Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/03380/HFUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/03380/HFUL>

PC Decision: No recommendation

Proposal: T1 Sycamore Fell.

Site address: 86 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/1006/TTCA

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/1006/TTCA>

PC Decision: Approve

Proposal: Demolition of existing agricultural building and replacement with one self-build dwelling, conversion of existing outbuildings to residential ancillary to the host dwelling, change of use of agricultural land to residential ancillary to the host dwelling along with associated works and infrastructure.

Site address: Mill Farm Buildings Linton Road Balsham

Reference: 23/02555/FUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/02555/FUL>

PC Decision: PC Decision: No recommendation

Proposal: T1 - Horse chestnut tree, reduce tree all round by a maximum of 4-5m in height and 2-3m on lateral branches and thin crown by 20% selectively removing the poorly formed unions. Tree has been heavily reduced/pollarded in previous years and now showing signs of decay in main trunk due to poor practice and poorly formed unions in the newer growth.

Site address: 109 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/1068/TTPO

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/1068/TTPO>

PC Decision: The PC agreed that minimum work to manage the signs of decay.

b) Decisions:

Description: Installation of a 15m high monopole and equipment cabinets.

Address: Grass Area Dolls Close Balsham

Reference: 23/02856/PRIOR **Refused by SCDC**

10. Allotment update:

a) Grasscutting at the allotments: The allotment paths will be cut again and added into the regular contract next year.

b) Condition of allotments: The condition of the allotments were discussed and more decisions will be made after the end of October.

c) Allotment payments: Allotments payments to increase from £ 7.50 to £ 10.00 for a half plot and £ 15.00 to £ 20.00 for a full plot for Balsham residents. Tenants who live outside of Balsham will pay £ 15.00 for a half plot and £ 30.00 for a full plot.

d) Hedgecutting around the allotments: Justin Willmott has been asked to quote for cutting all the allotment hedges.

11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) Pavilion cleaner: The PC agreed to increase the hourly rate of the cleaner to £ 15.00 an hour.

b) Litter picker: The PC agreed to increase the hourly rate of the cleaner to £ 13.50 an hour.

c) Flood lighting: The PC agreed that the floodlights would only be turned on for football training and not every evening for dog walking to try and cut the cost of the electricity at the pavilion.

12. Highway Matters:

a) 20 is plenty campaign: Two new sets of brackets have been ordered for the speed signs so that they can be placed in a position to record the data required for the 20mph application form.

b) Water issue in West Wrattling/West Wickham Road/Linton Road: Further emails will be sent to Highways as the water problems have still not been resolved.

c) Pothole in front of Old School House: Clerk to chase up Bradley Southwell at Highways as the pothole has only been filled temporarily and no further work has been done to the road.

13. Correspondence:

a) Burning and smoking at High Street property: The person has been issued with a notice from SCDC to stop burning without a license.

- b) Gigaclear information:** The Clerk will ask about the location and size of the box.
c) Kingsway Solar Farm presentation: A short presentation no longer than 30 mins at a future meeting.

14. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 13/09/2023 and any invoices/receipts received up until 18/09/2023 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

| Receipts (August/Sept) | | |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Allotments | | £ 100.00 |
| Balsham Singers | | £ 120.00 |
| Deadman and Broadfield | | £ 180.00 |
| Total Receipts | | £ 400.00 |
| Payments (Aug/September) | | |
| T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 (Gross) Tax £ -56.20 Exp: £ 213.52 Pension £ 56.02 | | £ 1,137.56 |
| M McCall £ 270.00 (Gross) £ 54.00 (Tax) | | £ 227.70 |
| S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00 | | £ 154.00 |
| Drax Energy | | £ 16.99 |
| British Gas Lite | | £ 79.14 |
| JRB Enterprise | | £ 292.80 |
| Age UK | | £ 900.00 |
| Sean Van Rooijen (Handy Heroes) | | £ 300.00 |
| HMRC | | £ 354.65 |
| British Gas Lite | | £ 17.56 |
| Kevin Housden | | £ 50.00 |
| Cambridgeshire Pensions | | £ 268.90 |
| Suffolk Brick (Stonemason) | | £ 3,400.00 |
| Arkwright & Co (Valuation of CI) | | £ 600.00 |
| NextNorth (Website) | | £ 180.00 |
| Herts and Cambs Ground Maintenance SI- 2702/2701/2713/2675/2756/ | | £ 1,500.00 |
| LGS Services (Internal Audit) | | £ 186.00 |
| Ansvar Insurance | | £ 1,760.68 |
| C Denney (Hedgecutting) | | £ 75.00 |
| Kleen Windows (Bus shelter cleaning) | | £ 30.00 |
| T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 (Gross) Tax £ -56.20 Exp: £ 195.03 Pension £ 56.02 | | £ 1,210.76 |
| M McCall £ 270.00 (Gross) £ 54.00 (Tax) £ 66.09 Exp | | £ 282.09 |
| S Housden (Gross £) £ 154.00 | | £ 154.00 |
| TOTAL | | £ 13,177.83 |

Bank Balances as at 14/09/23

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Community A/C: | £ | 3,496.49 |
| H.I. Account: | £ | 127,286.91 |
| 3 month notice account (Lloyds) | £ | 42,490.67 |
| Total | £ | 173,274.07 |

15. Area Report:

16. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Meeting will be held on 16th October, 2023 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Signed

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Date

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