

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 15th January, 2024 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

Present:, Gordon Fiddy, James Kiddy, Jennie Tipler, Heather Pierce, Paul Anderson, Steve Wilcox, Nick Coates and Jeremy Wade.

Public: 6

Also in attendance: Henry Batchelor

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Kim Pearson and Cllr Geoff Harvey
2. **Parish Councillor co-option:** Jeremy Wade and Lynda Henderson applied to the PC for co-option. The PC had received a paragraph about each candidate before the meeting. The PC voted and Jeremy Wade was duly co-opted onto the Parish Council. Lynda Henderson was thanked for applying for co-option.
3. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item.**
James Kiddy registered an interest in 9a).
4. **Public Participation (15 mins):**
 - a) **Balsham Feast funding:** Debbie Paton and Glynis Hanlon attended the PC meeting to ask for funding for Balsham Feast. To reduce the costs there won't be any evening entertainment. There will be a mobile bar, café and food trucks at the Feast and the costs will be between £ 3,000/4000.
The Balsham Feast Committee have asked the PC for a donation of £ 800.00 towards costs.
 - b) **Cricket:** The Cricket Club have reported to the PC that there was an incident at the end of the cricket season a ball rebounded off the gym equipment, but luckily didn't hit anyone. The PC asked the Cricket Club to come back to the PC with some funded options for a mobile net to be discussed at the next meeting.
5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November, 2023:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
6. **Report from District and County Councillor:**

County Councillor: Civil parking enforcement: CCC have been trying to take the traffic enforcement off the police but there are only 2 traffic wardens across the whole District. The PC asked for the area around the school to be regularly checked.
The 20 mph application process is now open.
The proposed Solar farm is between Balsham and West Wrating. Initial plans will be released to the public next month.
Anaerobic Digester plant: The application is still live. Some of the statutory bodies have objected but no decision has been made.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) **Ownership, Illumination and other improvements to the Prince Memorial:** The PC agreed to obtain new quotes for the additional paving outside the Prince Memorial and the replacing of the internal flagstones. Clerk to obtain Highways permission for the works and ask if planning permission is required.
 - b) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** Clerk to speak to Robert Ellam to see when the job can be completed.

c) Bus shelter refurbishment: The Clerk has chased the contractor for a date for the work to be completed.

d) Gigaclear information: No information has been received.

8. Allocation of S106 funds

a) Information from Scouts: The scouts haven't supplied any quotes for the work required.

9. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: Erection of a two bedroom detached dwellinghouse.

Site address: 19 Princes Close Balsham

Reference: 23/04799/FUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/04799/FUL>

PC Decision: No recommendation. To take the neighbours comments into consideration.

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 (Re-submission of 23/02555/FUL)

Site address: Mill Farm Buildings Linton Road Balsham

Reference: 23/04543/FUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/04543/FUL>

PC Decision: No recommendation.

b) Decisions:

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 **GRANTED PERMISSION**

Proposal: T1 Walnut - Crown lift to 2.5m above ground level - this is to allow more light in to the house and a garden.

Site address: 18 West Wickham Road Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/1278/TTPO **GRANTED PERMISSION**

Proposal: T1 Cherry. Overshading rear garden. Marginally qualifies for notification at approximately 10cm dbh approx. Fell and remove to allow replanting of border.

Site address: 58 High Street Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/1277/TTCA **GRANTED PERMISSION**

10. Allotment update:

a) Condition of allotments: There are some allotments available.

b) Allotment payments: There are still a few outstanding payments to be collected in.

11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) Correspondence from Cricket Club regarding adult gym equipment: All discussed in Public Participation.

b) Issues with tag rugby group: The tag rugby group are playing on the recreation ground on a Sunday morning but they are not an affiliated team and therefore are not charged. There is an issue with them playing on the football teams pitch, which is marked out. The PC have asked the team to respect other users.

c) Request for projector screen in the Green Room: The WI have requested that a screen is provided in the pavilion. The PC agreed to the purchase and the Clerk will purchase one to be installed.

12. Highway Matters:

a) 20 is plenty campaign: Kim Pearson and Heather Pierce will proceed with the application now that the process is open.

b) Water issue in West Wratting and West Wickham Road: The Chair and Clerk are chasing up Highways for further information about the repairs.

13. Correspondence:

a) Parish Nurse – Remaining funds: The last donation will be returned to the PC as the Parish Nurse position hasn't been filled and therefore the scheme has been discontinued.

14. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 09/01/2024 and any invoices/receipts received up until 15/01/2024 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts (December)	
Allotments	£ 262.50
Balsham WI	£ 330.00
Total Receipts	£ 592.50
Payments (December)	
T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 (Gross) Tax £ 18.80 Exp: £ 184.90 Pension £ 56.02	£ 1,131.12
M McCall £ 182.25 (Gross) £ 36.40 (Tax) £ 9.00 expenses	£ 154.85
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00	£ 210.00
Drax Energy	£ 17.56
British Gas Lite	£ 85.14
JRB Enterprises	£ 528.00
Viking	£ 43.39
Elan City	£ 113.34
Cambridgeshire Pension	£ 537.80
Amazon (Bin liners)	£ 24.66
Motion Cleaning	£ 188.26
NextNorth	£ 264.00
British Gas Lite	£ 575.90
Cambridge Water	£ 60.28
Cambridge Water	£ 219.21
Payments (January 2024)	
T Coston Salary £ 1,432.60 (Gross) £ 4,140.50 Tax £ 929.80 NI £ 341.78 Exp: £ 172.15 Pension £ 83.09	£ 4,390.58
M McCall £ 290.25 (Gross) £ 58.00 (Tax) £ 5.40 expenses	£ 237.65
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00	£ 210.00
Total Payments (January)	£ 8,991.74

Bank Balances as at 09/01/2024

Community A/C:	£ 3,121.97
H.I. Account:	£ 132,668.41
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
Total	£ 178,281.05

b) Request for funding from Buttercups Playgroup: The PC have requested further financial information for next month's meeting.

c) Request for funding for Balsham Feast: The PC agreed to donate £ 800.00 towards the running costs of the feast.

d) To agree the Clerk's pay review: All information was circulated to the PC prior to the meeting. The PC unanimously approved the pay review to 15 hours at scale point 34.

e) To discuss the budget and agree the 2024-25 precept: The PC discussed the previously circulated budget and agreed to set the precept at £ 50,877.00 which keeps the Band D property at the same amount of £ 66.68.

The PC approved the expenditure of two new benches for Rosie Green wood.

15. Area Report:

Street light: The light near Diary Way is out and will be reported.

16. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Meeting will be held on 19th February, 2024 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Signed
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Date
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