

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

Present: Gordon Fiddy, James Kiddy, Jennie Tipler, Heather Pierce, Paul Anderson and Kim Pearson.

Public: 6

Also in attendance:

Clerk: Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Geoff Harvey, Cllr Henry Batchelor, Steve Wilcox
2. **Parish Councillor vacancy:** The Parish Council thanked Steve Thurgood for all his work in Rosie Green Wood and the pavilion. The PC agreed for Steve Thurgood to continue his work maintaining Rosie Green Wood. The vacancy will be advertised.
3. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item.**
Gordon Fiddy declared an interest in 18 West Wickham Road.
4. **Public Participation (15 mins):**
Chris Covey: Summarised the application for the Anaerobic Digestion Facility at Streetly End.
It was explained that the plant was designed to minimise traffic.
Average current vehicle movements would be doubled. Material to be transported from Grange Farm but depends on the rotation of crops. 4 times the volume of material but all depends on the crop. Two crops to be grown for the plant. Rye and maize which will be harvested at different times of the year.
Sugar beat are being harvested at the moment and the transport movements will double from present time. Lorries will be delivering/collecting from the site all throughout the day but school times could be avoided.
Grange Farm can be used as storage, but it hasn't been part of the planning application.
5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th October, 2023:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
6. **Report from District and County Councillor:** A report has been received and circulated.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) **Ownership, Illumination and other improvements to the Prince Memorial:** The cost to put a new power supply would be over £ 3,000. The PC discussed the connection to the lights and the pathing and improve the flooring in the Prince Memorial.
 - b) **Repainting and re-lettering of the war memorial:** All completed and an invoice will be sent to the Ploughmen for the cleaning and re-painting. The cleaning will be discussed every 2 years.
 - c) **Footpath from Hay House:** PC agreed not to improved this path.
 - d) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** This is still outstanding with Rob Ellam.
 - e) **Bus shelter refurbishment:** Clerk to chase up the work and report that the bench needs refurbishing.
 - f) **Gigaclear information:** Clerk to ask for an up to date programme for Balsham and then PC will discuss. Update at January meeting.

8. Update on the Church Institute Lease/Valuation:

a) Letter from PC Chair to PCC to be signed: The letter was signed by Gordon Fiddy and sent to the PCC.

9. Allocation of S106 funds

a) Information from Scouts: The scouts chair informed the PC that the office needed to be completed, walls painted and cabinets and workspaces installed. The PC have asked for quote for the works and for two extractor fans and an external door before payments will be agreed.

10. 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 objections

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

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/1278/TTPO>

PC Decision: Approved.

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

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/1277/TTCA>

PC Decision: No objections

Proposal: Farm-based anaerobic digestion renewable energy facility, construction of vehicular access/road to A1307, associated infrastructure and landscaping

Application No: CCC/23/110/FUL

Location: Land At Streetly Hall Farm, Webbs Road, West Wickham, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4RP

PC Decision: The public meeting was held on Saturday 18th November.

Consideration to traffic movements school exit and entry times. Storage on Grange Farm.

Draft for approval on email.

b) Decisions: None

11. Allotment update:

a) Condition of allotments: 4 allotments have been allocated to new allotment owners. 2 waived charged and 2 x 50% discounts. 4 plots are available and some on the waiting list.

b) Allotment payments: A list will be updated for the next meeting.

12. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) Flood lights: The PC stand by the decision that the lights won't go on for dog walkers.

13. Highway Matters:

a) **20 is plenty campaign:** The application isn't open until Feb 2024.

b) **Water issue in West Wrattling/ West Wickham Road/ Linton Road:**

Linton Road: A drain has been cleared but it hasn't made any difference.

West Wrattling Road: The dye is going to be put down the pipe by Highways.

The ditches need clearing out by riparian owner and Gordon Fiddy has asked Highways who contacts the riparian owners

West Wickham Road: The blocked drains are still an issue. The ditch needs digging out.

c) **Pothole in front of Old School House:** The temporary filling is still in at the moment.

d) **Pavements from Princes Close to centre of Balsham:** A member of the public has complained about the state of the pavements and how difficult it is to ride a mobility scooter safely into the centre of the village.

14. Correspondence:

a) Parish Nurse – Remaining funds: The £ 1,500 donation is being returned to the PC from Hildersham PCC as the Parish Nurse scheme is not running anymore.

15. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 19/11/2023 and any invoices/receipts received up until 20/11/2023 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts (November)		
Allotments		£ 340.00
Total Receipts		£ 340.00
Payments (November)		
T Coston Salary £ 1,018.55 (Gross) Tax £ 18.80 Exp: £ 184.90 Pension £ 56.02		£ 1,128.63
M McCall £ 398.25 (Gross) £ 79.60 (Tax) £ 5.30 expenses		£ 323.95
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00		£ 210.00
Drax Energy		£ 16.99
British Gas Lite		£ 85.14
Suffolk Brick (2 nd payment)		£ 1,166.00
Suffolk Brick (re-painting)		£ 390.90
Mercer Tree Surgery		£ 480.00
PCC (Rent/Churchyard)		£ 495.00
Saffron Security		£ 108.00
Kleen Windows		£ 30.00
HMRC		£ 287.45
Lighting Sensations		£ 111.00
Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (2884)		£ 108.00
Cyril Denny (CI hedge)		£ 75.00
Amazon (Pavilion cleaning equipment)		£ 23.49
Royal British Legion (Poppy Wreath)		£ 100.00
Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (2908/2897/2828)		£ 864.00
L Samworth & Partners (Allotment field cutting)		£ 252.00
TOTAL		£ 6,255.55

Bank Balances as at 14/11/23

Community A/C:	£	7,711.42
H.I. Account:	£	132,668.41
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£	42,490.67
Total	£	182,870.50

b) Request for funding from Buttercups Playgroup: Buttercups Playgroup have written to the PC to ask for funding as the playgroup as there was a £10,000 loss at the pre-school. It was discussed that the playgroup pay rent to the school. Buttercups received a donation from Daisy Chains when it closed. There are 36 children on the role and government funding is received for some of the children, but it doesn't cover the costs. The PC asked to see the last 3 years accounts, the amount of rent paid and what the expectations are for the next year.

16. Area Report:

- a) Cambridge Road:** Highways will be asked to cut the gullies out.
- b) Electric Charging point:** Geoff Harvey and Helen Ford were looking into the cost of an electric charging point, Clerk to find out if the information was available.

17. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Meeting will be held on 15th January, 2024 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.

Meeting closed at 8.48 pm.

Signed
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Date
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