

***BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL***  
**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at 7.30 pm**  
**in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)**

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

**Public:** 3

**Also in attendance:**

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr G Harvey, Cllr H Batchelor
2. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None.
3. **Public Participation (15 mins):** Some of the members of the public asked about an update for the Solar Farm and the PC explained that they haven't received an update. It was also noted that Rat Hall has gone out to new tenancy.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2024:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
5. **Report from District and County Councillor:** A report was sent and circulated to all Parish Councillors.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
  - a) **Improvements to the Prince Memorial:** Rob Ellam has promised to complete the improvements to the Prince Memorial by the end of June. Martin Chamberlain is going to make new metal benches for the Prince Memorial and Stan Stinton will purchase wood and fit it to the top of the benches.
  - b) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** Rob Ellam will complete the task by the end of June.
  - c) **Bus shelter refurbishment:** The bus shelter has been refurbished, but the bench has just been mended. The metal benches from the Prince Memorial may be able to be recycled to the bus shelter.
  - d) **Tree work at the rear of Anvil Close:** The Clerk will continue to progress with Warwick Estates.
  - e) **Refurbishment of the old map board cases:** The map cases will be replaced and repositioned to Rosie Green Wood.
  - f) **Defibrillator installation at May's Ave:** The defibrillator is arriving tomorrow and then the Clerk will organise with SCDC to install it at May's Ave Community Hall.
  - g) **Bridge at the recreation ground and allotment field:** The step up to the bridge at the recreation ground will be maintained by Rob Ellam by the end of June. The bridge at the allotment field will be cut back and CCC will be chased up to repair it.
  - h) **Footpath from Recreation Ground to rear field:** The Clerk to ask Gordon Cubitt if they can cut back some of the vegetation to help the ground dry out at the left hand corner of the recreation ground and fill in the dip in the land.
  - i) **UK Power Network wires in trees in High Street:** UK power networks to visit the trees in the High Street to assess the wires.

**7. Allocation of S106 funds**

**a) Information from Scouts** The Clerk will remind the Scouts to provide another quote for the carpentry work required at the Scout hut.

**8. Report from the Solar Farm meeting and updates:**

a) There hasn't been any further updates. The PC discussed that they cannot make a decision or comment about the Solar Farm as they have very limited information and they haven't received any formal plans.

**9. Planning:**

**a) For Discussion:**

Proposal: Removal of existing catslide dormer. One and half storey rear extension with dormer window. Relocation of air source heat pump and rooflight.

(Scheme amended following refusal of similar application: 24/01125/HFUL)

Site address: School Cottage 4A High Street Balsham

Reference: 24/02165/HFUL

Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/02165/HFUL>

**PC Decision:** No recommendation.

**b) Decisions:**

**SCDC granted permission** for a single storey extension to courtyard elevation.

Site address: 1 Dotterell Hall Barns Cambridge Road Reference: 24/01514/HFUL

**SCDC granted permission** T1: Ash - Pollard by approximately 3-4m and remove large dead branch. This is regular maintenance of the tree to allow more light into the garden/property. This tree has been worked on before when the Ash next to it was pollarded in 2019.

Site address: 17 Queens Close Balsham Cambridgeshire Ref: 24/0438/TTPO

**SCDC granted permission** G1 4x Field maples with a combined canopy. Crown reduce in height and width by up to 3m to previous pruning points.

Site address: 43 Plumian Way Balsham Reference: 24/0419/TTCA

**SCDC refused permission** Removal of existing catslide dormer. One and half storey rear extension with dormer window. Relocation of air source heat pump and rooflight. Address: School Cottage 4A High Street Reference: 24/01125/HFUL

**SCDC granted permission** Alterations to existing ground floor utility room and separate WC to create a shower room with WC and a smaller utility area including the demolition of an internal non-load bearing wall and the construction of a new stud wall at right angles to the existing wall and the insertion of a doorway into the existing rear wall of the conservatory to access the new shower room.

Address: 4 West Wickham Road Reference: 24/01128/LBC

**SCDC granted permission** Proposal: T1 Laburnum - Fell. Site address: 36 High Street Ref: 24/0545/TTCA

## 10. Allotment update:

a) **Condition of allotments:** The allotment that hadn't been maintained has been cut back and planted. The PC will regularly monitor the condition of the allotment.

b) **PC allotment rep vacancy:** Heather Pierce has stepped down from being the PC Allotment representative. The PC discussed the possibility of organising a committee made up of PC representatives and allotment tenants. Heather Pierce will send a message out to allotment tenants to see if anyone would like to join a committee.

c) **Allotment grass:** Clerk to organise the allotment grass to be cut by Herts and Cambs.

## 11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) **Key storage:** A key storage box has been purchased for the key cupboard to contain all the external door keys at the pavilion.

b) **Zero carbon grant:** An energy survey is required for the pavilion, before applying for the grant. Clerk and Gordon Fiddy to make some enquiries to obtain an energy survey.

c) **Fascia board replacement:** One quote has been received from Fit47 and the Clerk will organise another quote from Price Right Roofing.

## 12. Highway Matters:

a) **20 is plenty campaign:** No further information has been received about the application submitted.

b) **Water issue in West Wrattling and West Wickham Road:** The water issues have not been solved by CCC Highways. The drains are blocked in Linton Road.

c) **Condition of footpaths in Trinity Close:** CCC Highways have reported that their slurry team will be assessing the area.

d) **Pothole by Manse:** The pothole has been reported to CCC but it still hasn't been repaired. Clerk to chase up.

## 13. Correspondence: All emailed.

## 14. Finance:- Receipts and payments up to 12/06/2024 and any invoices/receipts received up until 17/06/2024 will be considered at the meeting.

### a)

<b>Payments (June)</b>		
T Coston Salary £ 1,432.60 (Gross) Tax/NA £ 132.97 Exp: £ 163.25 Pension £ 78.80		£ 1,384.08
M McCall £ 202.50 (Gross) £ 40.40 (Tax)		£ 162.10
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00		£ 210.00
Drax Energy		£ 20.43
Cambridgeshire Pension (2 months)		£ 739.24
Herts and Cambridge Grounds Maintenance (Inv 3230/3207)		£ 180.00
British Gas Lite		£ 413.53
Viking Stationery/		£ 119.44
Kleen Windows		£ 30.00
Herts and Cambridge Grounds Maintenance (Inv 3214/3215/3242)		£ 750.00
Cambridge Water (Pavilion)		£ 135.35
Cambridge Water (Allotments)		£ 42.11
Defib Store		£ 1,654.80
Damian Clarke		£ 230.00
<b>Total payments (June)</b>		<b>£ 6,072.08</b>

### Bank Balances as at 12/06/2024

Community A/C:	£	1,791.28
H.I. Account:	£	136,326.19
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£	42,490.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>180,608.14</b>

**b) To approve the Statement of Accounts/audit form 2023/2024:** The statement of account and audit form was signed by the Chair and RFO.

**c) Street lighting contract renewal:** The street lighting contract cannot be renewed by Drax as they are not supplying small contracts. A two-year contract has been taken out with Engie, which will be slightly cheaper than Drax.

**15. Area Report:**

**a) Acoustics in the Green Room:** Some of the user groups have complained about the acoustics in the Pavilion. The Clerk will find the quote that was organised before and will ask for it to be updated.

**16. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 in Balsham Pavilion.**

Meeting closed at 9.43 pm.

**Signed**  
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**Date**  
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