

BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 18th March, 2024 at 7.30pm
in Balsham Pavilion (Green Room)

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

Public: 100 (approx. for presentation) and 5 for PC meeting.

Also in attendance: Geoff Harvey and Henry Batchelor.

Clerk: Tracy Coston

Jim Potter Gordon Fiddy read a tribute about Jim Potter

On behalf of Balsham PC we should pay tribute to the late Jim Potter, whose funeral was held in the grounds of his home earlier today, where he will lay in rest with his late wife, Hilary. Jim Potter was a loyal and hard working member of Balsham Parish Council for many years and we would like to offer our respect and condolences to his family and friends from us all.

- 1. Presentation from Kingsway Solar followed by questions and answers.**
(45 mins/1 hr). The presentation from Kingsway Solar will be uploaded onto the PC website when sent by Kingsway.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** None
- 3. Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
- 4. Public Participation (15 mins):** None
- 5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th February, 2024:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 6. Report from District and County Councillor:**
Report sent. Henry Batchelor suggested to contact Aaron Boddington (Bradley Southwell's boss) to try and get some answers to highway issues.
The County Councillor are increasing the council tax by a 4.99% increase.
- 7. Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) Improvements and permission to the Prince Memorial:** The PC have received an updated quote for the work to the inside of the Prince Memorial (£ 2,718.00) and a new path around Prince Memorial (£ 2,927.58). The PC approved both the quotes. The Clerk and Chair will organise a site meeting with Rob Ellam to discuss the details of the work. Highways have been asked for permission to lay the additional path around the bandstand.
 - b) Levelling of the edges at the car park:** Rob Ellam has this on his list to complete.
 - c) Bus shelter refurbishment:** The work hasn't been completed; a replacement bench is going to be made for £ 70.00.
 - d) Projector screen for the Green Room:** The projector screen has been put up by Steve Thurgood.
 - e) Tree work at the rear of Anvil Close and Rookery hedge:** The PC have arranged some tree work to the trees at the rear of Anvil Close. After the tree work was completed it was realised that the trees were the responsibility of the Management Company/Warwick Estates. Warwick Estates have agreed to pay for the ditch work but are queries the ownership of the trees, despite the Clerk sending a map of the trees

from a conveyancing plan. The Clerk will continue to email Warwick Estates and agree payment.

- f) **Meeting with Buttercups Playgroup:** Gordon Fiddy, Steve Wilcox and Clerk will meet with representatives from Buttercups Playgroup on 28th March to discuss the playgroups financial issues.

8. Allocation of S106 funds

- a) Information from Scouts: The Clerk has chased up the information from the Scouts.

9. Planning:

a) For Discussion:

Proposal: T1 Elm, Fell. T2 Sycamore, Fell. T3 Willow, pollard on main leaders to 4m and 2m respectively.

Site address: Balsham Place 86 High Street Balsham

Reference: 24/0260/TTCA

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/0260/TTCA>

PC Decision: No comments

Proposal: Erection of a two bedroom detached dwellinghouse.

Site address: 19 Princes Close Balsham Cambridgeshire

Reference: 23/04799/FUL

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

PC Decision: Neighbours comments to be taken into consideration.

b) Decisions:

SCDC Approved: Proposal: T1 - Field maple. Lapsed pollard - re pollard at previous pruning points. Leaving a pollarded stem of approximately 4m.

Site address: 41 Plumian Way Balsham Cambridgeshire Reference: 24/0138/TTCA

10. Allotment update:

- a) **Condition of allotments:** There are lots of new allotment owners.

11. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

- a) **Correspondence from Cricket Club regarding adult gym equipment:** Clerk to chase a response from Colin Eade, Cricket Club.

12. Highway Matters:

- a) **20 is plenty campaign:** Kim Pearson has submitted the application with the map and speeding summary data.

b) **Water issue in West Wrattling and West Wickham Road:** No response has been received from Bradley Southwell (Highways).

The West Wickham Road water is bubbling up further out of the village in the drains.

Both sides are permanently wet.

c) **Cambridge Road/Dungate:** The local residents near Dungate lane have contracted Henry Batchelor and the PC as they are very concerned about the safety of the road and speed of the traffic.

13. Correspondence:

- a) **Age Uk Warden Scheme:** The Warden Scheme was at risk at losing funding, but

SCDC are funding the scheme.

- 14. Finance:-** Receipts and payments up to 13/03/2024 and any invoices/receipts received up until 18/03/2024 will be considered at the meeting.

a)

Receipts (March)	
Allotments	£ 55.00
Total Receipts	£ 55.00
Payments (March)	
T Coston Salary £ 1,432.60 (Gross) Tax/NA £ 146.26 Exp: £ 165.90 Pension £ 78.80	£ 1,382.92
M McCall £ 249.75 (Gross) £ 50.00 (Tax) £ 138.52 expenses	£ 296.90
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00	£ 210.00
Cambridgeshire Pensions	£ 378.21
Drax Energy	£ 17.56
Samantha Housden (Cleaning materials)	£ 22.77
Kleen Windows	£ 30.00
Viking (Projector Screen)	£ 180.35
British Gas Lite	£ 1,057.36
Amazon (Toner)	£ 64.70
Kleen Windows	£ 30.00
Saniclean (Pavilion drains)	£ 180.00
Saffron Security (Key fobs & battery)	£ 108.00
Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance (Trees and ditch and Rookery Hedge)	£ 2,088.00
SCDC (Pavilion bins)	£ 759.20
Three Counties Fire (Fire extinguisher check at pavilion)	£ 78.70
Steve Thurgood (Installation of projector screen)	£ 22.50
Total payments (March)	£ 7,007.17

Bank Balances as at 13/03/2024

Community A/C:	£ 3,120.09
H.I. Account:	£ 130,887.69
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£ 42,490.67
Total	£ 176,498.45

15. Area Report:

- a) Old map boards:** A letter has been received about the old map boards on the green near Mays Ave from the Balsham Map Project. The letter will be circulated to the PC and a decision made at the next meeting
- b) Mays Ave:** The PC will check to see if Mays Ave has a defibrillator.
- c) Bridge at allotment field:** The Clerk will contact the PROW Officer Peter Gaskin at CCC to discuss who is responsible for the bridge.
- d) Bridge at Recreation Ground:** Clerk to ask Steve Thurgood or Rob Ellam for ideas to make the bridge access better.

- 16. Date of Next Meeting:** The next Parish Meeting will be held on 15th April, 2024 at 7.30 pm in Balsham Pavilion.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Signed

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Date

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