

***BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL***  
**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on**  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at 8pm**  
**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:** 9

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Geoff Harvey

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Henry Batchelor
2. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:** Gordon Fiddy was duly elected as Chair and James Kiddy was duly elected as Vice-Chair. The PC thanked them both for their work over the past year.  
**Other responsibilities:**  
Allotments: Jennie Tipler/Heather Pierce  
Trees: James Kiddy  
Charities: Paul Anderson/James Kiddy  
Highways: Kim Pearson  
Rec Grd/Pavilion: Nick Coates/Jerry Wade  
Church Institute: Steve Wilcox
3. **Councillors are required to review the agenda, and to declare any pecuniary interest in any item:** None
4. **Public Participation (15 mins):**  
**Anaerobic Digester Plant:** The applicant asked the PC if they would consider removing their objection regarding the additional traffic. The applicant explained that the farm already moves crops from Grange Farm to Streetly End. Large vehicles travelling to the Anaerobic Digester plant with feed stock will travel through Balsham, but most will use the A1307, which is the most direct route.  
The vehicle movements are detailed in the application report and the applicant said the school times will be avoided.
5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2024:** The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
6. **Report from District and County Councillor:**  
**District Councillor:** The Zero carbon grant is open for 2/6/24.  
Solar Farm: West Wrattling PC has a lot of information on their website.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
  - a) **Improvements to the Prince Memorial:** Rob Ellam has promised to start on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June.
  - b) **Levelling of the edges at the car park:** : Rob Ellam has promised to start on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June.
  - c) **Bus shelter refurbishment:** The contractor hasn't completed the job and has promised to complete by the end of the month.
  - d) **Tree work at the rear of Anvil Close:** The management committee and Warwick Estates are still not agreeing that the trees that were maintained belong to Warwick Estates. The Clerk will contact them again.

**e) Refurbishment of the old map board case:** It was agreed, following discussions with Dick Paton and Jenifer Gooch to move the map boards from the green by Mays Ave to Rosie Green Wood. The map boards need to be replaced before moving. The Clerk to contact Martin Chamberlain about making a new steel frame for them. The map frame in Rosie Green also needs repairing.

**f) Defibrillator at May's Ave:** SCDC have agreed for the PC to install a defibrillator case and defibrillator outside of Mays Ave Community room. SCDC have agreed for their electricians to install it free of charge. The defibrillator and cabinet will be purchased from the Defib Store at a cost of £ 1,359.00 (ex vat).

**g) Bridge at the recreation ground and allotment field:** Rob Ellam will build the ground up to the bridge on the recreation ground in June. CCC will be chased up for an answer about the bridge near the allotments.

**h) Footpath from Recreation Ground to rear field (bottom left corner):** The area is very wet and uneven. The Clerk to ask permission from Gordon Cubit and cut back the vegetation and but some compacted soil on the path.

## 8. Allocation of S106 funds

**a) Information from Scouts:** The PC are waiting for another quote for the carpentry before a decision is made.

- 9. Update about the Solar Farm plans:** The Clerk has contacted Kingway Solar and they have said that they are planning a public launch by the end of the year. The PC's land at Rat Hall will be land locked if the Diocese land is used for the Solar Farm. The PC agreed not to meet with Kingway Solar to discuss the land until it is known which other farms have agreed to sign up to the solar farm.

## 10. Planning:

### a) For Discussion

Proposal: Single storey extension to courtyard elevation.

Site address: 1 Dotterell Hall Barns Cambridge Road Balsham

Reference: 24/01514/HFUL

Public Access link: <https://applications.gretercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/01514/HFUL>

**PC Decision:** No comments

Proposal: 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

Public Access link: <https://applications.gretercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/0438/TTPO>

**PC Decision:** Approval

Proposal: 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

Public Access link: <https://applications.gretercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/0419/TTCA>

**PC Decision:** Approval

### b) Decisions: None

**c) Update on the Anaerobic Digester planning application:** The PC reviewed their original objections and the new documents on the website and agreed not to change their

comments from the original application.

**11. Allotment update:**

**a) Condition of allotments:** The PC agreed that the allotment holder that hasn't made any significant improvement to the allotment and will be asked to clear the allotment of all equipment as there is no evidence that the allotment has been farmed, just a little grass cutting.

Jerry Wade offered to clear the noticeboard by the allotments as it has rotted.

**12. Recreation Ground/Pavilion:**

**a) Guttering/soffits:** The guttering and soffits need to be replaced around the pavilion. Clerk to arrange a quote.

**b) Bricked area:** The bricked area needs to be sprayed and the weeds cleared regularly.

**c) Zero carbon grant:** To apply for a grant an energy survey is required. Gordon Fiddy is going to investigate companies that will carry out a survey.

**13. Highway Matters:**

**a) 20 is plenty campaign:** No further response as been received since the application was sent in.

**b) Water issue in West Wickham Road:** Bradley Southwell (CCC) has informed that PC that a quote has been organised from floods and drainage department. The PC have asked for information about when the work is going to be carried out.

**c) Hildersham Road:** The sign has fallen down due to the post has broken off. Clerk to report to Highways.

**d) 81 High Street:** The hedge needs cutting back. Clerk to write to the householder.

**e) Blocked drains in the High Street:** The blocked drains will be reported to Highways.

**14. Correspondence:** All emailed.

**15. Finance:-** Receipts and payments up to 14/05/2024 and any invoices/receipts received up until 20/05/2024 will be considered at the meeting.

**a)**

<b>Receipts (May)</b>		
Allotments		£ 15.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£ 15.00</b>
<b>Payments (May)</b>		
T Coston Salary £ 1,432.60 (Gross) Tax/NA £ 132.97 Exp: £ 166.50 Pension £ 78.80		£ 1,384.65
M McCall £ 249.75 (Gross) £ 50.00 (Tax) £ 138.52 expenses		£ 338.27
S Housden (Gross £) £ 210.00		£ 210.00
HMRC (Tax and NI)		£ 2,589.56
Drax Energy		£ 16.43
Dropbox		£ 102.61
British Gas Lite		£ 413.53
Fortress Cricket (Net)		£ 181.44
Herts and Cambridge Grounds Maintenance (Inv 3178/3111)		£ 906.00
Age Concern		£ 900.00
<b>Total payments (May)</b>		<b>£ 7,042.49</b>

**Bank Balances as at 14/05/2024**

Community A/C:	£	1,298.25
H.I. Account:	£	143,326.19
3 month notice account (Lloyds)	£	42,490.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>187,115.11</b>

- b) Age Concern invoice for payment – report received:** The PC agreed to pay the invoice and were pleased that an average of 6 people being visited by the warden.
- c) Bank signatories update:** The bank signatories have been updated to Gordon Fiddy, James Kiddy, Paul Anderson and the Clerk (for admin purposes only).

**16. Area Report:**

- a) UK Power networks trimming trees for PC:** The Clerk will ask UK Power Networks to look at the powerlines in the trees opposite Lower Farm on the PC land.
- b) Persimmon grasscutting:** Clerk to check when the contractors are coming to cut the grass.
- c) Bus Shelter cleaning:** Clerk to speak to the window cleaners and ask them to clear the floor of the bus shelter to a better standard.

**17. Date of Next Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 in Balsham Pavilion.**

Meeting closed at 9.43 pm.

**Signed**  
.....

**Date**  
.....