

MINUTES OF THE BALCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (BPC) HELD IN BRAMBLE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 9th October 2024

Present: Cllrs, Helen Caudrey (HC) – Vice Chairman, Manouchehr Nahvi (MN), Massi Smith (MS), Nick Beecroft (NB), Nicky Gould (NG), Paul Williams (PW), Ian Black (IB) and Lloyd Thompsett (LT).
District Councillor – Jenny Edwards (JE)

904. Apologies for absence

Cllrs Alison Stevenson (AS), Nick Major (NM), Jo Blundell (JB).
Apologies received Cllr Gary Marsh (MSDC) and Cllr Bruce Forbes (WSCC).

905. Declarations of personal or pecuniary interests in any item listed on the agenda

Cllrs NG and HC – Personal interests in item 8, Wynstay.
Cllr NG - personal interest in item 8, Gleddoch.
Cllr MS – personal interest in item 8, Land adjacent to Balcombe House.

906. Public Participation

Three public participants in attendance. Two members to inform the Parish Council about the intention of parents/volunteers to set up a youth football club. The Parish Council and Clerk offered to assist where possible but at the moment the representatives are trying to obtain information. The third member of the public Rolande Burke was there to support the grant application submitted to ask for a contribution towards the fireworks from the Parish Council.

907. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on: 4th September - Approved and signed by Vice-Chairman.

908. Matters currently being pursued, report from the Clerk

Clerk confirmed that some repairs had been carried out to Bramble Hall – Floorboard repairs and a new hinge fitted to one side of the entry doors. The Finger post outside the Half Moon and on the village green have been refurbished as well as some maintenance to the Balcombe sign. A section of fascia board on the Pavilion had also received some repairs.

909. Planning updates

| Number | Site/ Address | Proposal | Comments |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| DM/24/1327 | 21 Newlands | Proposed single storey side conservatory and front porch (Amended plans received 29 August 2024) | No Objection 24 th September 2024 |
| DM/24/2021 | Highfield, Deanland Road | Trees in a Conservation Area Elm (with variegated leaf), Reduce height by 4m. Hawthorns (3 number), reduce in height by 1.5m. Hornbeam, reduce in height by 4m. Liquid Amber, reduce in height by 1m. multi-stemmed Hazel, reduce in height by 2m. Laurel, reduce in height by 1.5m. Beeches (2 | No objection 16 th September 2024 |

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| | | number) reduce in height by 3m. Silver Birch reduce in height by 3m. | |
| DM/24/1881 | Wynstay, Stockcroft Road | Trees in a Conservation Area Tree 1: Crown reduction of 3 metres. Trim back branches overhanging the garden of Wynstay to boundary. Tree 2: Trim back branches overhanging the garden of Wynstay, reduce by 3m. | No objection 17 th September 2024 |
| DM/24/1813 | Stumble Cottage, Oldlands Avenue | Demolition of existing garage and erection of new garage. Two storey side extension and new porch to front elevation. | Granted Permission on 19th September 2024. |
| DM/24/2002 | St Agnes, Bramble Hill | Alterations and extension to detached garage to form 2 storey annexe accommodation ancillary to main dwelling. (Re submission of lapsed application DM/19/1083). | Granted Permission on 7 th October 2024 |

910. Planning - to consider the following applications

| Number | Site/ Address | Proposal | Assigned |
|---|--|---|------------------|
| DM/24/2270 Material changes | Land Adjacent to Balcombe House, London Road | Removal/Variation of Condition No: 3 of planning condition of DM/24/1063 | Nick Beecroft |
| BPC commented that they were concerned about the new proposed variation within the bricks and between the buildings but said that it was difficult to comment looking at the samples provided (small images). | | | |
| DM/24/2282 | Wellwood, Stockcroft Road | Tree Surgery Three Lime trees along Oldlands Road. T1 and T3 cut back apical growth to previous pollard point. T2 - remove to ground level. | Manouche |
| Balcombe Parish Council would like to defer the planning application to the tree officer. | | | |

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| DM/24/2177 | Gleddoch House, Stockcroft Road | Householder Application Proposed installation of 11 solar panels on the South facing roof of the property. | Paul |
| Balcombe Parish Council had no objections to the proposed placement of the solar panels. | | | |
| DM/24/2137 | Brantridge Park, Brantridge Park Drive | Full Application Internal and external amendments to the Stable Block to improve stabling facilities and provide a total of 6 x 1-bed and 2 x 2-bed C3 residential grooms accommodation above the stables, within the original permitted footprint. | Helen |
| Balcombe Parish Council had no objections to the proposed planning application but commented that the additional accommodation space should be used only for the business and were concerned as to if the habitation conformed to space standards. | | | |
| DM/24/2081 | Wynstay, Stockcroft Road | Removal/Variation of Condition Variation of condition no. 2 and 3 relating to planning application DM/24/1317 - Condition 2 - to substitute new drawings showing removal of the extension. Condition 3 - Remove, as no longer serves a purpose. | Massi |
| Balcombe Parish Council had no objections to the proposed planning application. | | | |

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| DM/24/1898 | Forest View House, Haywards Heath Road | Householder Application Propose to erect a single storey side extension, demolish the existing conservatory and replace with a pergola to the rear elevation, and convert an existing outbuilding by replacing the existing frame to become part of the existing annexe. (amended plans received 27/09) | Ian |
| Balcombe Parish Council had no objections to the proposed changes. | | | |
| DM/24/2291 | Boundary House, 1 Boundary Road | Householder Application Proposed single storey extension. | Nicky |
| Balcombe Parish Council had no objections to the proposed planning application. | | | |
| DM/24/2349 | Troytown Cottage, | Ash Trees x3 - (T1,T2 and T3)- Cut back by approx 1-2 metres and remove overhanging branches over car port | All |
| Balcombe Parish Council would like to defer to the tree officer. | | | |

911. To approve the quote received from Shelter Solutions for the bus shelter on Haywards Heath Road and agree expenditure from the Parish Council's general reserves budget (*in absence of \$106*). Option 1 - £4380 + VAT (Top Panels only)
It was approved to purchase the bus shelter using general reserves. Cllrs PW and NB raised and seconded the decision. Clerk to contact the contractor to instruct them.

912. To approve the quote from Jakk Furniture Ltd for the replacement finger post on the London Road/junction with Stoney Lane – and agree expenditure up to £1250 (*to allow for additional letters if required*)
The councillors did not approve the decision. Clerk to obtain another quote if a suitable contractor can be sourced, it was agreed to relook at the financials at the end of the current financial year. Cllr PW volunteered to investigate alternative quotes for the finger post as the quote received was felt to be too high.

913. Grants - To consider grant application from Balcombe Scouts for £500 as contribution towards fireworks and bonfire event on Thursday 7th November.
The Councillors did not approve the grant as they felt it more appropriate to grant village organisations for improvements rather than towards a fundraising event. It was agreed to provide FFBR with the £2000 pledged in December should they still require the funds to reach their target.

914. Financial - To review and approve September's Cash Book Receipts &

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Payments

The September finances were approved, and included payments to: Wightman and Parrish £73.37 for sundry supplies, Jakk Furniture £683.52 to repair the finger post at the far end of Mill Lane, Mark Tupper £160 & £400 for renovating the fingerposts, and village sign and painting fascia boards at the pavilion, £860.05 transferred to Mid Sussex District Council for recreation ground hire from Balcombe Football team.

915. Update from working group on surgery closure.

The Surgery working group/Patient Participation Group are in the process of drafting a letter to the Integrated Care Board to ask for their support in challenging the news to close the surgery in Balcombe.

916. Receive an update from - "Recreation, play, youth, halls, schools/ Neighbourhood Plan/ Planning & New Development/ Traffic/ Public Transport/ Energy/ Admin and Assurance, Health.

Recreation, play, youth, halls, schools – A meeting is to be organised with Mid Sussex District Council to try to progress the upgrade of the play facilities.

Neighbourhood Plan – The Parish Council have been made aware that an officer from West Sussex County Council will be leading a consultation with the Parish in 2025 to set out plans for traffic management/ Safer Routes to Schools programme. The Parish Council have submitted two Community Highway schemes and hope that the Village Centre enhancements will be taken into consideration in the WSCC consultation. Cllr LT volunteered to go back to WSCC and check whether they are aware of BPC's Community Highway Scheme for the Village. Moderation of the CHS's isn't likely to complete until towards the end of the year.

Planning & New Development - Cllr NB has been in contact with Shanly Homes to try to obtain further answers to questions in order try to progress obtaining the legal/management plan for the Village Car Park.

Public Transport – The bus shelter outside the Rectory has been approved.

Energy – Further upgrades have been authorised, and lanterns have/will be fitted to the lampposts in Newlands and Stockcroft Road.

Admin and Assurance – No updates

Health – On going work by the Surgery working group to try to stop the closure of the Balcombe Surgery. Clerk attended a meeting with a member of The Mid Sussex Wellbeing team who has provided some posters for the residents to outline various services/ help available.

917. Correspondence

918. Exchange of Information

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE
Wednesday 6th November 2024 – 8pm
in Bramble Hall