



Balne Parish Council

# Balne Parish Council

## Minutes for Meeting 243

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room  
Mrs L Holliday - Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

**In attendance:** Cllr Woods, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Kealey, Cllr Faulkner, Cllr Firth

1. To **receive** apologies for absence and record these in the minutes **RESOLVED**
  - a. To **consider** approval of reasons for absence given by councillors
2. To **receive** any declarations of interest **RESOLVED**
3. To **confirm** the minutes of meeting **242 held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025** as a correct record **RESOLVED**
4. To **receive** information on the following ongoing issues and **decide** further action where necessary:
  - a. Consider installing two electric extractor fans to relieve damp issue in The Parish Room at an estimated cost of £250-500. **RESOLVED**

A Positive Input Ventilation fan has been recommended at a cost of approximately £250, plus the cost of installation by an electrician. As much preparation as possible will be done by volunteers to keep the cost down. It was resolved to purchase a PIV fan.
  - b. To **consider** appointing multiple defibrillator guardians, as it requires checking once a week, and **consider** a schedule for checks. **DEFERRED**

Deferred until defibrillator is delivered.
5. Matters requested by councillors:
  - a. To **note** the library service is dropping to one hour only from January. **Consider** advertising the service in the neighbouring villages. **RESOLVED**

It was agreed to advertise the library service in neighbouring villages.
  - b. To **consider** options for increasing followers and engagement on Facebook. **RESOLVED**

Cllr Wood and Cllr Faulkner volunteered to post to encourage engagement
  - c. To **note** the donation of a sign to the Parish Room from Cllr Kealey. **RESOLVED**

The Parish Council thanks Cllr Kealey for his donation
  - d. To **consider** fundraising plans, including deciding which online fundraising platform to use, and finalising plans for the Balne Christmas lights. **RESOLVED**

It was resolved to use Go Fund Me for the online fundraising – Clerk to set this up  
Councillors have volunteered to co-ordinate supplies and the Christmas tree  
Cllr Wood has designed a flyer to advertise the fundraising activities
6. Finance:
  - a. To **receive and note** the current bank balance as at 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025 **£3,261.91 RECEIVED**
  - b. To **receive and note** the bank reconciliation **RECEIVED**
  - c. To **receive and note** the budget and year to date variances for 2025/26 **RECEIVED**
  - d. To **approve** the budget for 2026/27 **APPROVED**

Costs for 2026/27 are expected to be around £7k. This is far higher than previous years mainly due to the necessity of employing a Parish Clerk. Additionally, costs have increased across the board, and the PC has tried to mitigate these rises by securing longer contracts for both electricity and water.

- e. To **decide** the precept for 2026/27 **RESOLVED**  
 The Clerk recommended a precept of £9000 to cover the 2026/27 budget, and re-coup some of the reserves. The Councillors felt this increase was too steep and would not be well received by village residents. Councillors agreed to a precept of £6500 for 2026/27.
- f. To **note** that a refund of £462.47 has been requested from British Gas **NOTED**
- g. To **approve** the following accounts for payment: N/A **RESOLVED**
- h. To **note** the following payments previously authorised: **NOTED**
- i. Everflow £7.52 – water direct debit
  - ii. IONOS £10.80 – website direct debit
  - iii. Clerk salary Sep25 £216.83
  - iv. Smarty £6.00 – Clerk’s mobile phone – Oct
  - v. NYC Business Rates £324.00
- i. To **note** the following payments received: **NOTED**
- i. None
7. To **consider and decide** upon the following planning applications: **NO OBJECTION**
- a. ZG2025/0588/COU – Wentdale South End Lane, Balne – Change of use of land for siting of a mobile home annexe on land adjacent to Wentdale - APPEAL
8. To **receive and note** the following planning decisions/information: **NOTED**
- a. None this month
9. To **notify** the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting
- a. A resident has requested signs to slow drivers going through the village because there was a near miss with a horse and rider. This is a question for NYC Highways – could they install signs at each of the entrances into the village? (4x signs)
10. To **confirm** the date of the next meeting as **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 6:30pm – UPDATED TIME**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21:04