



**Newsletter**  
**January/February 2019**

**Supporting Our Community**



**Balsall Parish Council**

**Balsall Parish Council Budget 2019/20**

The main role of any public authority that provides facilities and services that are financed by raising taxes from residents is to operate a budget that spends efficiently and effectively. Balsall Parish Council is pleased to advise that it has improved both efficiency and effectiveness over the last four years since the last Parish Council elections in 2015. Your council has developed a better financial control system which means that it is able to hold lower reserves and for a second year, able to reduce the tax burden on Balsall parish residents. In 2018/19 Balsall Parish Council reduced the tax collected from residents by 24%. In the next financial year budget (2019/20) Balsall Parish Council are able to go even further and to reduce the tax by a further 57%. The Band D annual parish precept charge added to Council tax per household in Balsall parish will be £11.70. We have negotiated better local contracts for looking after our cemetery at Temple Balsall, our parks and flowers in the village centre. We have invested reserves in refurbishing the Jubilee Centre, better and more Christmas lights, new children's play equipment and new footpaths at Willow Park, a memorial garden at the cemetery, new lights at St Peter's Hall and a new website for better communication. We are committed to provide facilities and services efficiently and effectively to our residents.

**Many Thanks to all who supported the Balsall Parish NDP -**

**Over 60 responses received containing over 320 areas of comment.**

To those residents who commented and responded to the NDP, many thanks, we really appreciate your participation. Thanks too to BalsallCom.com and the Communicator for their support and to our local schools who distributed information and the library who held copies of the consultation document and displayed our posters. Finally, a big thank you to all the shopkeepers in the village who allowed us to display our Neighbourhood Development Plan posters and information for residents.

The consultation is now closed; all responses made are being carefully considered with a view to changes being made to the draft ready for the final version to be submitted to SMBC.

## **The WWI Armistice Centenary Event is celebrated in Balsall Common village with a new bench**



A memorial bench is now in place in the village. Councillors Judy Lea, Marie-Louise Marsden - Chair of the Facilities Committee who looks after our cemetery and war memorial at Temple Balsall and Chairman Mark Tattum are pictured above with Sue Marsden, a member of Balsall Common Village Residents Association Committee who suggested the purchase of the bench by Balsall Parish Council on behalf of Balsall parish.

### **During January 2019 we held the following meetings**

9<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee - 9<sup>th</sup> Finance & General Purposes Committee - 16<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting  
All minutes from these meetings are available on our website:

<http://www.balsallparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

### **Solihull Local Plan review consultation until 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

The Solihull Local Plan is available for review at this web address – <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/lpr>

We encourage residents to respond to the consultation. It is the responsibility of SMBC to allocate strategic housing sites in the borough and “The Draft Local Plan Supplementary Consultation Document” has a specific section about Balsall Common - Section 5 page 21. Also SMBC officers will be at the Library to take your questions on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 11am to 3pm.

### **Parish Council Elections**

Parish Council Elections are applicable this year in May. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact our clerk Judith Parry-Evans for more information at this address. [balsallparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:balsallparishcouncil@gmail.com)

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