

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday January 19th 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councilors Laws, Chaplin and Horncastle.

Other Members Present: - Dist. Cllr G Bambridge, County Cllr B Borrett and Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Bambridge reported that he has asked another Councillor to enquire as to an adviser for the Jumps problem, and will, and will report back to Cllr Laws when he has some information.

Cllr Borrett spoke about the Breckand Council offer of selling some sites. The question of transferring sites was discussed but the Chairmen did not think there were any sites in Elsing to be given consideration. As to the LGR, the consultation period is finished regarding what shape the government will take on. There will not be an answer available for a while. There is still no answer at the moment as to whether the elections will go ahead in May or not. Neither Cllr Borrett nor Cllr Bambridge thought the elections should be cancelled.

1. To appoint the Chairman for the meeting.

Cllr Laws proposed Cllr Horncastle for Chairman, seconded by Cllr Chaplin and carried.

2. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of Acceptance form.

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance Forms.

3. To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence received.

4. To declare any interests re items on the agenda.

No interests were declared.

5. To confirm and accept minutes of the meeting held on November 3rd.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Laws proposed the minutes of November 3rd be accepted as true and accurate records of the meetings, seconded by Cllr Chaplin and carried.

6. To discuss any matters arising from November minutes (not on the agenda).

Regarding the solar farm site in Elsing, there is no further information to discuss.

7. To discuss any necessary Correspondence.

Email from Marie Curie charity asking for a donation. This will be put on the March agenda.

8. To discuss the Wild Track, current options, and to record efforts so far.

The Parish Council is trying to find a solution to the fact that it is not covered by insurance, as it was not designed by a 'professional'. It is looking around for someone to assess it for

safety or design a new one, which would be less dangerous. Brokers have been approached and they have said they will not do it. Reasonable care has to be shown. Cllr Bambridge suggested the Parish Council contacts the Motor Cross organization, so Cllr Laws will do that.

9. To discuss Allotment matters, and to receive an allotment report.

The allotments are all rented out, although some have been abandoned so will be re-let. There are fence repairs necessary and a gate. A work party is scheduled for 25th January to do some work. Allotment rents will be collected on 28th March. Cllr Laws does not know whether any muntjac have been dealt with.

The orchard had been successfully wassailed, so fertility is guaranteed for another year. The Woodlanders group hosted a film-maker from Wales, who was employed by the wind farm company that gave the grant to buy the shed. The replacement fruit and nut trees planted in the autumn of 2024 are thriving. The tree nursery has trees ready to plant out and has already supplied several oaks for planting along the path by the church. The vineyard was pruned by the winemakers so is therefore ready for the coming growing season. The beekeeping hives are regularly tended.

10. To set the precept for 2026 - 2027

The Councillors considered the financial situation and discussed the document Cllr Horncastle had produced. Cllr Horncastle proposed the precept be set at £5,407.00, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

11. To receive a Financial Update from the Clerk.

This had been circulated and no-one had any questions regarding it. Cllr Horncastle's figures had been circulated also.

12. To authorise necessary financial payments

Cllr Horncastle proposed the following financial payments be authorized, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

Clerk's net salary for December/January £362.45 HMRC tax for December/January £79.00
Clerk's expenses for December/January £32.45

13. To adopt the revised IT policy.

Cllr Laws proposed the revised I.T. Policy be adopted, seconded by Cllr Chaplin and carried.

14. To set a date for a litter pick.

Cllr Laws suggested Monday February 16th for the date for the litter pick, starting at 11.00 a.m. The Clerk will organize the rubbish to be collected from outside Cllr Law's house on February 17th.

15. To discuss contacting the landowner responsible for clearing the bushes and brambles on Green Lane.

Cllr Laws had drafted a letter to the owner and the Clerk will deal with it and send it.

16. To discuss trying to re-register The Mermaid Pub as an Asset of Community Value.

The Parish Council has applied to Breckland Council to re-register the Mermaid Pub as an asset of community value. Councillors will send evidence of activities in the building to Breckland Council.

17. To discuss the Parish Councillor situation.

This situation will probably not be resolved until the cycle jump situation is sorted out. Once it is resolved, there is the possibility one or two of the past Parish Councillors may return.

18. To receive items for the March agenda.

To discuss the email from Marie Curie charity asking for a donation.

The March meeting will be preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish meeting.

19. To set meeting dates for the remainder of the year.

The meeting dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:-

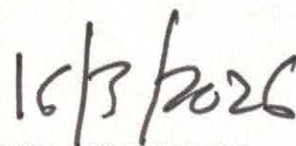
March 16th, May 18th (Annual Parish Council meeting), July 27th, September 21st, November 16th

20. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council meeting in March.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was set for Monday March 16th 2026 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish meeting. As there was no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.



Chairman



Date