

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual meeting of Elsing Parish Council held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday May 17th 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Cllr Bill Horncastle, Cllr Pip Wallwork, Cllr Henry Atkinson,
Cllr Stuart Chaplin, Cllr Oliver Laws and Cllr Steve Crebbin

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk and 1 Member of the Public

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Wallwork welcomed everyone to the meeting. All Parish Councillors were present, so there were no apologies to be received.

Cllr Gordon Bambridge had sent apologies for absence.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no Interests received.

3. To elect the Chair of the Parish Council for the May meeting

As Cllr Wallwork is standing down from the position of Chairperson, she made the proposal that the task of Chair be shared during the year's 6 meetings. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Atkinson and carried. Cllr Horncastle agreed to act as Chair for this meeting, September and January. Cllr Laws will be taking on the position for July, November and March. There will be no Vice Chair

4. To receive the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance form from Cllr Horncastle.

5. To confirm minutes of the meetings held on February 5th, 15th March and 4th May 2021

The minutes had been circulated. The Parish Council voted to accept the three sets of minutes as true and accurate records of the meetings after minor alterations to 5th February and 4th May.

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

There were no matters arising.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no discussion requested under this section.

7. To discuss any Planning Applications submitted and note any Approvals

3PL/2021/0593/F NET on behalf of Vodafone, St Mary's Church, Church Street, installation of one electrical meter cabinet next to the boundary positioned wall, adjacent to Church Street and the installation of one GPS node attached to the cabinet and ancillary development thereto. The Parish Council had no objection.

3PL/2021/0633/HOU, Hall Farm, Hall Road, proposed single storey rear extension. The Parish Council had no objection.

O.L

8. To discuss the Bore Hole situation, the Orchard and Allotments

So far, regarding Grants, the Parish Council has received £1,665.00 and £250.00. There was also the promise of an anonymous donation, whereby the person has promised to match whatever money is generated from the Village Fun Day on 31st July. The project is going well at the moment but it is possible that the quote price could change.

The Orchard is looking good. It will be mowed soon. A few trees were sadly lost. A delivery of muck came from John Carrick and it will be put around the base of the trees.

The allotments are looking very good indeed.

9. To discuss creating a Tree Safety Policy by Cllrs Laws and Horncastle

Cllr Horncastle saw a document regarding dangerous trees. If a similar document is created, it would mean that the Parish Council will have shown that it takes its responsibility seriously for falling trees, so it is sensible to have a Policy in place. This will be dealt with in the future.

10. To discuss the 1 Million Trees for Norfolk Project

In the parish Lyng, trees are already being planted. Cllr Laws gave an in depth update on what would be involved. Cllr Borrett has an allocation of money to distribute for this project and the Clerk has already registered an interest in this project with Norfolk County Council. Cllr Laws thought Cllr Borrett should be asked for a proportion of this budget for Elsing to have some trees so the Clerk will email him again.

11. To authorize financial payments:-

Cllr Wallwork proposed the following financial transactions be made, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

G.H. net salary April/May £280.80 HMRC Tax April/May £70.20 G.H. expenses April/May £30.00

Elsing Community Fun Day –Donation request of £100.00

Claire Morton – Internal Audit £25.00 Cllr Laws –reimbursement of Muck cost £25.00

Cllr Horncastle reported that the Parish Council have overspent on the budget so it will have to be discussed in more detail in July. The other Parish Councillors spoke about the fact that the Parish Council does have a healthy amount of money in reserve, so if necessary it could be used. Cllr Atkinson reported that that he can read on a document that it is not advisable for a Parish Council to actually have large amount of money reserved and distributed copies of the document for information.

12. To adopt the end of year accounts, the AGAR and the Certificate of Exemption

These documents had been circulated. Cllr Wallwork proposed they be adopted, seconded by Cllr Atkinson and carried.

13. To compile a Wish List from the Parish Council for the Solar Farm Project funds

The Parish Councillors will consider this and it will be discussed in July. The Parish Council has the Contract so it must be involved. The Contract says it is for the 'good of the village'. Cllr Chaplin did not think it would actually be 'legal' to support an individual person. It will be put on next year's Parish agenda. Something will be included in the newsletter. It was felt it needed to be an item on the agenda for all future Parish Council meetings for a while.

14. To adopt the revised Code of Conduct

These documents had been circulated. Cllr Laws proposed they be adopted, seconded by Cllr Wallwork and carried.

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15. To adopt the revised Standing Orders

These documents had been circulated. Cllr Laws proposed they be adopted, seconded by Cllr Wallwork and carried.

16. To adopt the Data Protection Policy Privacy Notice and Audit Information document

These documents had been circulated. Cllr Wallwork proposed they be adopted, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

17. To discuss the Insurance policy with Zurich and the Asset register

The premium paid to Zurich is nearly £400 p.a. so the Clerk will negotiate to see if it can be reduced. The offer s simple policy with £10,000 of cover and this could suffice.

18. To discuss the idea of writing to the owners of The Mermaid and offer support in re-opening the Pub and discovering what the residents of the Village would like in the Pub.

Cllr Laws had read some comments on the Breckland website and the Publicans' comments felt negative. Cllr Laws explained what he proposed, but his fellow Councillors did not agree, so the idea will not go forward.

19. To discuss Correspondence

Correspondence from The Planning Inspectorate re Norfolk Vanguard Ltd. No discussion was necessary. Correspondence from Highways England re A47 North Tuddenham to Easton. No discussion was necessary

20. To receive items for the next Agenda

To appoint Cllr Laws as Chair of the meeting and receive signed Form
Administration of Future PACE money

To discuss the current year's budget

To compile a Wish List from the Parish Council for the Solar Farm Project funds

21. To confirm date and time of next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 19th July 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Cllr Horncastle thanked everyone for attending and he declared the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Chair

Date