

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday July 21st 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councilors Laws, Chaplin, Butler, Adams and Brailsford

Other Members Present: - 22 Electors, Dist. Cllr G Bambridge and Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The residents present were at the meeting to discuss a particular planning issue. The comments are recorded on a separate document and attached to the minutes.

1. To appoint the Chairman for the meeting,

Cllr Butler proposed Cllr Laws for Chairmen, 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 apologies for absence received from Cllr H Palmer and Cllr B Horncastle and these were accepted.

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

No interests were declared.

5. To confirm and accept minutes of the Annual meeting held on May 19th.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Laws proposed the minutes of May 19th be accepted as true and accurate records of the meetings, seconded by Cllr Adams and carried.

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

There were no matters arising.

7. To discuss any necessary Correspondence.

Cllr Laws had approached Zurich Insurance some time ago. Cllrs Laws and Horncastle looked through the policy and photos were sent to Zurich Insurance, showing the insurance company exactly what happens. It was obvious reasonable care needed to be taken. A video was also taken and sent. Zurich Insurance state that the Parish Council is not responsible for various things, including BMX bikes, but the Parish Council is responsible so Cllr Laws will be contacting them again. Cllr Adams is going to get the sign redone with words saying 'You must use Helmets and Protective Equipment'.

8. To discuss the Wild Track risk management and our policy with Zurich Insurance.

This was discussed under item 7.

9. To discuss any Planning Issues.

PL/2025/0956/HOU 1, The Common, Fustyweed. Proposed 2 storey side extension. The Parish Council had no objections to this planning application.

10. To discuss the Borehole, Allotment, Nursery, Vineyard & Beekeeping.

Cllr Laws had created a report and it had been circulated.

Allotments: - they are all let and the vast majority are being used. The allotment club has purchased 2 loads of cow muck, which is available for the use of all tenants. A gate has been purchased that will hang in front of the new communal muck pile to facilitate access for people dumping muck from a trailer. The Annual Produce Show is on Friday 29th August at 6.30 p.m.

Deer on the allotments: - 2 muntjac have been shot entering the allotments from the field to the north. A group of 3 friends have been engaged, who have agreed to shoot muntjac both on the allotments and in Bartles Lodge, which is where muntjac are coming from at the moment. A fencing company has been contacted and they will provide an estimate for fencing the site. Cllr Laws has written a draft letter, giving permission to shoot on Parish land.

Orchard: - The trees that were planted in the winter have been watered and good fruit is forming on the trees. Many of the trees need pruning and attention and a works party will be organized in the autumn.

Tree nursery: - The tree nursery has been hoed to retain moisture in the soil and the saplings planted there do not seem to have suffered in the drought. Several trees were planted over the winter and the trees in the nursery have been sprayed against mildew.

11. To receive update on the Woodlanders workshop on the Village Orchard.

This is in place and has already been the site of an inaugural event. The workbench is nearly finished and work on a wildlife pond has started. It will be refreshed by water gathered from the workshop roof. The grass around it has been seeded. There are Woodlanders events planned for 27th July in the 100 Year Wood and a picnic on 31st August on the Orchard.

12. To discuss paying for a fence, and / or a person to control deer on the allotments.

This was discussed under item 10.

13. To discuss the Parish Partnership Scheme 2025 – 2026.

The idea of a footpath between Mill Street and The Rectory was discussed. The option of Highways funding it was discussed and also it might be part funded through the Parish Partnership Scheme. The situation will be investigated.

14. 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.

15. To discuss donating £36 to CPRE, Clerk's net salary, tax, expenses for June to July and any other necessary payments.

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

Clerk's net salary June/July £313.36 HMRC tax June/July £66.80

Clerk's expenses for June/ July £34.75

Cllr Laws proposed the membership of £36.00 with Campaign to Protect Rural England be paid, seconded by Cllr Adams. Cllrs Butler and Brailsford voted in favour but Cllr Chaplin wished for it to be minuted that he objected to the membership renewal.

The Parish Council agreed for Cllr Adams to purchase 2 signs, at a cost of £60.00 and to pay a £62.00 donation to The Elsing Heritage Society, to help with printing costs.

Since the May meeting, Clerk's net salary of £351.48, expenses £51.75, tax payment £76.20, N.P.T.S. £57.50, 2 community car payments, one for £29.50 and one for £8.25, Zurich Insurance £214.00 and Internal Audit £30.00 have been paid out.

Recycling credit of £25.25 was received and £22.03 in Interest.

16. To note activity on the photo electric site.

Cllr Horncastle will be getting in touch with P.A.C.E. to discover what is taking place there.

17. To receive from the Clerk suggestions regarding the points made in the auditor's Report.

The Sanding Orders need to be updated and adopted.

The Financial Regulations need to be updated and adopted.

The Asset Register to be accepted and minuted.

The auditor had stated that payments over £100.00 should go on the website. However, the Parish Council is aware that full accounts are available for inspection on the website; so the Parish Councillors do not think it is necessary to display these invoices.

18. To discuss a contribution for printing costs for the Heritage Society.

This was discussed under item 15.

19. To receive items for the September agenda.

To discuss the Parish Partnership and footpath. To discuss P.A.C.E.

To discuss the answers to Zurich Insurance's questions.

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

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday September 15th 2025 in the Village Hall. As there was no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

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Chairman

.....15/09/2025

Date