

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday March 17th 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councilors Laws, Chaplin, Palmer, Butler, Horncastle, Adams

Other Members Present: - 1 Elector, Dist. Cllr G Bambridge and Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nothing was discussed under Public Participation.

1. To appoint the Chairman for the meeting and Clerk to receive signed form.

Cllr Palmer proposed Cllr Laws, seconded by Cllr Butler and carried.

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance Form.

2. Welcome by the Chair and to receive apologies for absence.

Cllr Laws welcomed those present. There were apologies for absence received from Cllr A Brailsford and these were accepted.

3. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda.

No interests were declared.

4. To confirm and accept minutes of the meeting held on January 20th.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Laws proposed the minutes of January 20th be accepted as true and accurate records of the meetings, seconded by Cllr Horncastle and carried.

5. To discuss any matters arising from the January minutes (not on the agenda).

Cllr Palmer will write an article for the Hill and Vale magazine informing residents what the situation is regarding the Mermaid Pub project.

6. To discuss the Parish Council's level of responsibility regarding the Jumps and how the Parish Council meets the responsibility.

Dist. Cllr Bambridge suggested that maybe the Parish Councillors could have a meeting with a member from Breckland Council to discuss the health and safety issue regarding the jumps. They agreed so he will set up a meeting and Cllrs Horncastle, Laws and Palmer will attend the meeting. Cllr Bambridge will try to arrange for a Health and Safety Expert to be at the meeting as well. The Parish Councillors are custodial trustees for the land. Cllr Laws wants to know at what point do the Parish Councillors become personally responsible for people having accidents. Cllr Bambridge thought a notice would be useful stating that bike riding is prohibited. This subject was discussed at length and although the Parish Council will always have a degree of responsibility it is a dangerous activity. The Clerk will email the Zurich Insurance policy to the Parish Councillors.

7. To discuss contacting Zurich Municipal Insurance regarding the tree survey being carried out by the Parish Council.

Cllr Laws has drafted a letter to Zurich and the Clerk will send it to them. The letter asks if the tree survey, which is carried out, but not by a qualified arboriculturist, is sufficient or not.

8. To discuss any necessary Correspondence.

A donation request had been received from Dereham Meeting Point. The Clerk was asked to ascertain from the organization how many residents from the village of Elsing use the Dereham Meeting Point before deciding if they will or will not send a donation.

The Clerk had received a reply from Norfolk Constabulary regarding her request for some speeding equipment to be installed but the reply was not favourable. Cllr Horncastle does not think Norfolk Constabulary understood the request, so she will contact them again and investigate whether it will be possible to have a digital recording device put on a lamp post or any other suitable post. He had attended a S.N.A.P. meeting and was told it was possible to have such a thing, for a period of time.

Cllr Horncastle is investigating joining the Open Spaces Society.

9. To receive update on the Beekeeping idea on the P. C. land above the orchard and fencing.

At the end of April there will be 2 bee hives in the village. A resident from Lenwade Mills is supplying the bees.

10. To discuss any Planning Issues.

3PL/2025/0275/FMIN Elsing Village Allotments, Orchard and Tree Nursery – to erect a timber shed. The Parish Council had no objections to this planning application.

11. To discuss the Borehole, Allotment, Nursery, Vineyard & receive update on the deer problem.

Cllr Laws had provided a report and the main points were:-

The vines are all set to thrive this summer and mulch is around the bases. Ten new trees have been planted on the orchard, mainly plums and a couple of cob nuts, purchased because of a grant from Breckland Council. There are a couple of old trees on the orchard that need to be removed and many need some sort of maintenance and care. This is in hand.

The Woodlanders have been planting hazel from the tree nursery in the 100 Year Wood. Field maple and oak from the nursery have been planted over the winter and several trees remain heled-in on the nursery ready to plant. These are mainly good-sized oak. Trees will continue to be planted for the next couple of weeks.

The planning application for the Woodlanders' shed is being considered by Breckland Council, funds are in place for this and it is planned as a 12' x 8' shed with a similar size overhang to create a sheltered outdoor area.

Regarding the allotments, all the plots are let and there is a communal muck heap. The shed near the entrance gate is soon to be moved. A 12' gate is needed to be installed along the line

C.A.

of the fence so large trailers can easily reverse and dump muck. Deer are still coming on the allotments and there are some measures to control them. Attempts have been made to contact the owner of the field behind the allotments to encourage them to mow the vegetation so that there is less cover for the deer, but with no success so far. The Parish Council could make an application to the Land Registry to find out the name and address of the landowner, so a letter can be sent directly, but they already have this information.

12. To receive update on the Woodlanders Children's Group having a workshop on the Village Orchard.

There is no update on this at the moment.

13. 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.

14. To authorize any necessary financial payments.

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

Clerk's net salary for Feb./March £313.36 HMRC tax £66.80

Clerk's expenses for February to March £43.03

Norfolk Parish Training & Support. Subs. £57.50 (this will be paid in April)

Since the last meeting a bank interest payment for £20.34 was received. Two Comm. Car payments were made, one for £35.75 and one for £26.25 and £216.50 was paid for a planning application fee.

15. To receive an update on the purchasing of a SAM2 flashing sign.

The cost of the sign is £3,175.00 which excludes V.A.T. If the Parish Council wishes for the data to be collected, this device will cost £379.00 which excludes V.A.T. It would be sensible to have this device, which can be used to download the data. The total cost would be £3,554.00 and the V.A.T. will be extra, but it can be reclaimed back. At the end of the year it will be possible to apply for it to be fifty percent funded by Norfolk Council Council through the Parish Partnership.

16. To discuss the WW2 Armistice Remembrance in May.

The resident present spoke about his ideas for celebrating this event. What was suggested was that participants meet on 8th May at the Orchard and a big bonfire is created and then lit. It can be an event which starts when it is lit and finishes when it is dusk. People can come with their own refreshments. At 9.30 p.m. there will be many beacons lit around the county. The bonfire could be set alight whenever people wished, as long as it is alight at 9.30 p.m. On Saturday May 10th there will be a Tea Party in the Village Hall from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome and it could possibly be a fancy dress affair. It would be good to involve the Village Historical Society and there will be the opportunity for people to display memorabilia if they wish. They can be put on tables. Cllr Palmer proposed a donation of £100.00 be given, seconded by Cllr Horncastle and carried. This will cover any necessary costs involved to have the Tea Party event.

17. To discuss Fire and Storm Risks

This subject was discussed because of the fact that some children make fires near the Jumps but it was not considered a danger.

18. To set a date for the Village Litter Pick

A litter pick will take place on Wednesday 23rd April. When it is finished the rubbish will be left outside Cllr Laws' house at the Clerk will arrange for it to be collected on Thursday 24th April.

19. To receive items for the May agenda.

To elect the Chairmen of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.
To adopt the end of year accounts.

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

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday May 19th 2025 in the Village Hall. It will be preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting. The Annual Parish Council Meeting will commence when the Annual Parish Meeting has concluded.

As there was no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

.....
C. Horne

Chairman

.....
19/5/25

Date