

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Annual Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday May 15th at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councillors Horncastle, Laws and Palmer

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk, and 2 electors

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To elect the Chairmen of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.

This is a joint position. Cllr Laws proposed Cllr Horncastle, seconded by Cllr Palmer. Cllr Horncastle proposed Cllr Laws, seconded by Cllr Palmer. Both Councillors will chair the meetings alternately.

2. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office Forms from the Chairmen

The Clerk received the forms.

3. To co-opt onto the Parish Council Mr Stuart Chaplin and for the Clerk to receive his signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

Cllr Horncastle proposed that Mr Chaplin be co-opted onto the Parish Council, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried. The Clerk received the form.

4. To appoint the Chairman for the meeting and for the Clerk to receive the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

Cllr Horncastle proposed Cllr Laws, seconded by Cllr Chaplin and carried. The Clerk received the form.

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

Cllr Laws welcomed those present to the meeting and gave a warm welcome to Cllr Palmer, who had joined the Parish Council and to Cllr Stuart for rejoining the Parish Council.

6. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

No interests were declared.

7. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on March 20th.

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

8 To discuss any matters arising from these minutes (not on the agenda)

There were no matters to discuss.

CA

9. To discuss any necessary Correspondence.

The Clerk had sent letters to the Chairs of Mattishall Parish Council and Swanton Morley Parish Council asking about the infrastructure regarding their new housing developments but had not received replies.

10. To discuss any Planning Issues

There were no current planning issues to discuss.

11. To receive an update on the Borehole, Allotment, Nursery and Vineyard

The borehole is pumping well and water is being used all the time. Regarding finances, £200.00 still needs to be raised. Money has been lent for this project and eventually it will all be paid back.

The allotments are looking good, a few are vacant and people are busy working on them.

The tree nursery is looking good and over the summer people will be busy getting organized for planting trees in the autumn.

The vines are now planted in the vineyard and they are growing well. They will need to be left alone for the first couple of years. There is a dark red grape, a lighter one and a white one. Some people from the allotments are in charge of this project.

12. To discuss the Royal Mail Collection times and complain about cancelled afternoon collections.

Residents now have to make sure they post their mail into the letter boxes by 9 a.m. as there is no other collection. If they are too late to do this, their mail will not be collected until 9 a.m. the following morning. Cllr Laws proposed a letter be sent to Royal Mail regarding this situation, as it is regarded unsatisfactory in a rural village. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Horncastle and carried. The Clerk will send the letter.

13. To discuss the purchase of another Dog Bin, to be sited opposite the Village Hall
After discussion, the Parish Council decided not to purchase another dog litter bin.

14. To discuss the Pot Holes situation

The Parish Council has been approached by a resident who wishes for the Parish Council to write to Norfolk County Council about the pot holes. The Parish Council will report the pot holes that require attention to Norfolk County Council. The Clerk will write to them.

15. To discuss trying to have a 20 m.p.h. speed limit on Heath Rd and Church Rd

This subject was raised by a resident living on Heath Road. Church Road also has drivers driving too fast down it. Norfolk County Council will be asked what the procedure is for trying to get the speed lowered, what would be the criteria for having the speed lowered from 30 m.p.h. to 20 m.p.h. in specific areas of the village, certainly Heath Road and Church Road.

16. To discuss whether the Parish Council should write to George Freeman, M.P. regarding the I.D. photo requirement to enable people to Vote.

Discussion took place regarding the fact that photo I.D. was required when voting recently. Cllr Laws proposed a letter be sent to George Freeman, MP outlining the Parish Council's concerns on this matter and objecting to this rule. Cllr Palmer seconded this proposal and it was carried. The Clerk will send the letter.

17. To discuss the proposed New Town Development.

Twenty six parish councils have raised objections to this proposed development. Nineteen are in the Upper Wensum ward. It is a re-run of the 2018 application. The proposal is for 5,000 houses and Elsing would be on the rat run to the A47. The railway is single track and it could not be used. Breckland is making the Local Plan and is calling for Parish Councils to put forward parcels of land for the sites. It would be a good idea to stop it becoming part of the Local Plan. If it should go ahead then the Fakenham Road would probably have to be dualled. At this moment it is only at the Consultation stage. The development does not fit in with the Local Plan development of Breckland. Cllr Laws will send the comments to Breckland. The response will also be sent to Cllr Bambridge.

18. To receive a Financial Update from the Clerk

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

19. To authorize any necessary payments: -

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

Clerk's net salary for April to May £316.27	HMRC tax for April to May £67.40
Clerk's expenses for April to May £77.59	Internal Audit fee £25.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance £167.44	

20. To adopt the end of year accounts.

Cllr Horncastle proposed the accounts be adopted, seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

21. To adopt the AGAR, Certificate of Exemption and Annual Governance Statement

Cllr Horncastle proposed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return be adopted, the Certificate of Exemption be adopted and the Annual Governance Statement be adopted, all seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

22. To receive items for the July agenda

To discuss how to create interest in the Village for residents to join the Parish Council.
To discuss the missing sign at Fustyweed

23. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 17th July at 7.00 p.m. 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 8.40 p.m.

..... C. Homcastt

Chairman

..... 17th Jul '23

Date