

Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on Monday January 17th 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
No members of the Public were present

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence
Cllr Crebbin did not attend the meeting and he did not send apologies.

District Councillor Gordon Bambridge had sent apologies for absence.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda
There were no Interests received.

3. To appoint Cllr Horncastle as Chair for the November meeting
Cllr Wallwork proposed Cllr Horncastle is appointed as Chair for this meeting. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Laws and carried.

4. To receive the signed Declaration of Acceptance Form from Cllr Horncastle
The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance form from Cllr Horncastle.

5. To confirm minutes of the meetings held on 22nd November 2021
The minutes had been circulated. The Parish Council agreed the minutes of 22nd November meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes.

6. To discuss any matters arising from theses minutes (not on the agenda)
There was some discussion regarding the logs that were mentioned at the last meeting. These logs are available to residents and, if necessary, could be cut up for them, if they are unable to do it themselves. Cllr Atkinson wondered how people would become aware of the logs and by 'word of mouth' seemed to be the answer, plus the fact that the logs were made available is recorded in the minutes. The minutes are put on the notice board and the website.

7. To discuss any necessary Correspondence
The Clerk had received a letter from the Citizens Advice Bureau requesting a donation. Cllr Horncastle proposed a donation of £25.00, seconded by Cllr Wallwork and carried.

8. To discuss planning applications and note any approvals
3PL/2021/1493?HOU Mermaid Cottage, Peaseland Green, proposed single storey & two storey extension with balcony to the rear of the dwelling house and proposed garage conversion to an annexe, Planning Permission Received.

3PL/2021/1596/HOU Holmwood, Rectory Road, single storey side extension (garden room, studio & toilet), Planning Permission Received

9. To receive an update on the Borehole, Allotments, Nursery and Highway Surveyor's Land

Cllr Laws updated those present with the situation regarding the Borehole. It has been drilled, capped off and lined and fundraising continues for the amount needed to purchase the preferred solar-powered pump and ancillary equipment. A steel frame has been made for the solar panels and a hard-core base has been put down, ready for concreting. Financially, about £1,600 is needed and £900.00 remains to be raised. There are to be 3 fund raising events taking place in the near future. Unfortunately Breckland Council will not extend the match funding.

Allotments are all let out, which is good. The fence needs repairing. The Parish Council will need to buy some posts.

The Tree Nursery is looking very good and is up and running. A group of people came along recently and it was explained to them how the nursery could work well. There will be another event in March and children will be invited to come and do some planting. In the coming months land owners will be contacted to see if they will allow trees to be planted on their land and also the Parish Council will be approached regarding planting trees on Parish Council land.

Regarding the Orchard, there was a successful wassailing event held on 8th January. Another load of muck is needed to mulch around the trees, as we have been doing ever year recently, so this will be purchased.

On the Highways Surveyors Land, the trees have been felled. Some of the logs still need to be removed. On the 100 Year Wood, there is a tree that still has to be taken down and Cllrs Horncastle and Laws will attend to this.

10. To discuss the lack of hedge cutting around the village

Cllr Chaplin discussed the problem of hedge cutting and wondered how the situation could be rectified. He felt the hedges were not cut when they should be. Cllr Atkinson reported that the hedges in the village had in fact been cut. It was felt, in future, it should be an item for the agenda in November.

11. To receive financial update from the Clerk and budget figures for 2022 - 2023

The Clerk had created and circulated a Financial Update and there were no questions regarding this document. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had submitted a V.A.T. reclaims form for £993.18.

12. To authorise any necessary payments

Cllr Laws proposed the following financial payments be authorised, seconded by Cllr Wallwork and carried.

Norfolk Citizens Advice (donation) £25.00	Norfolk Parish Training & Support £20.00
Clerk's net salary for Dec. - January £280.80	HMRC tax £70.20 Clerk's Expenses £27.82

13. To receive an update on the General Power of Competence situation

The Clerk has contacted Norfolk Parish Training & Support and has arranged a training session in February and the cost will be £20.00. When she has completed the Module it will be submitted to SLCC to be marked and they require a fee of £30.00 for carrying out the marking.

14. To discuss a celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

This was discussed and it was decided that a Bonfire event on a field should take place on Thursday 2nd June and a Pop Up Pub event in the evening. On Saturday 4th June there are potentially plans for a Street Party being discussed by the Village Hall Committee. Elsing Hall Gardens will be open on Sunday 5th June. Han Yang Yap, Deputy Lieutenant, has accepted our invitation to come to the celebration and light the Bonfire.

15. To discuss the Clerk receiving a Contract of Employment at the next meeting

The Clerk will compile a Contract and email it to the Parish Councillors and it can be submitted to the Clerk in March.

16. To receive items for the next agenda

No other items were requested.

17. To confirm date and time of next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 21st March at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The meeting will be preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Horncastle thanked everyone for attending and he declared the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

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Chair

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Date