

Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held Virtually through Zoom on Monday 15th March 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk and 4 Members of the Public

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Wallwork welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone was present, so there were no apologies to be received.

2. To receive any Declarations of interest re items on the agenda and request for Dispensation.

There were no Requests for Dispensation received.

Cllr Horncastle declared a Personal Interest in item 5, Planning

3. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on January 18th 2021.

The minutes had been circulated. The Parish Council voted to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of January 18th (not on the Agenda)

There were no matters arising.

Open Forum for Public Participation

5. Planning Issues

Update on the Solar Farm situation – no discussion took place on this item.

3PL/2021/0282/F Green Farm, Peaseland Green, to clad in an existing agricultural dutch barn and add a lean-to extension. Planning Application received. The Parish Council agreed they had no objection to this application.

3PL/2021/0200/F land adjacent to Peaseland Green, proposed 2nd temporary glamping accommodation and associated waste & parking facilities (to be used in conjunction with that approved under ref. 3PL/2016/1161/F). Some of the planning documents have been resubmitted and are on the website. Some new boundaries have been set. It is 4 years since the first application was submitted and objections have been raised regarding this second application predominately because conditions set by Brecklad Council relating to the original submission had not been met. The Parish Council commented that the outstanding works should be dealt with soon. The Parish Council was informed that the hedge will come when the gateway comes and it should be dealt with in April. The issues will be dealt with before the glamping site is opened. It will be asphalted as soon as possible. Water comes out of the field and needs to be dealt with, perhaps via a deeper ditch or pond. Hedging has been planted and some trees will be planted. Making the situation more private is difficult at the moment because of the gateway problem. The gateway, hedging and drainage are all that is left to do. The Parish Council was assured the problems would be dealt with as soon as possible, so the Parish Council voted to support the application, with the proviso that conditions are adhered to.

6. To receive an update on the Mermaid Pub

Cllr Horncastle has not heard any updates on the situation. He does not think the Pub is for sale so the Parish Council cannot do anything at the moment.

7. To receive a Financial Update from the Clerk

The Clerk had created a financial update from 12th January up till 12th March and it had been circulated. At the end of that period the Business Premium account held £5,494.56. Throughout that period £1,029.49 had been paid out. In grants for the Bore Hole project £1,915.00 had been obtained and was in the Community account. There were no questions regarding the update.

Cllr Horncastle reported that the budget is overspent and it will remain overspent next year. It will be discussed in May and will be an agenda item. Cllr Crebbin enquired as to whether the Church will be receiving a grant to help with grass cutting costs and was informed that will be the case.

8. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments

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

Clerk's net salary for February and March £280.80 HMRC tax for February and March £70.20,
Clerk's expenses for February and March £31.00, Norfolk Parish Training & Support (subs.) £40.00
NALC subscription £101.30

9. To discuss report from Highways regarding potholes and flooding

The work on the problems at Moor Lane started today. The pot holes have been dealt with by Elsing Hall. Another pipe is going to be put in and workers will be there until Friday. Contractors are on site at the property of Mr Wearmouth. More pipe work is being laid but problems will still exist. Mr Wearmouth suggested that a visit to inspect the work may be advantageous as he does not think what the contractors intend to do will make much difference. The pipe is not big enough for the job in hand.

10. To receive an update on the Bore Hole situation and discuss Orchard, Allotments and footpath

Regarding the Bore Hole Project, two grants had so far been received and there was an agreement to fund raise. An event will take place on 3rd July in the Village Hall and it is hoped there will be more events as well. Cllr Laws is hoping that once events take place, funds will then be raised from the events.

The 100 year wood has trees falling down and they will be sown up and the logs can be collected by anyone that wants them.

Some Councillors thought that some dog bins had not been emptied. The situation will be checked upon and the Clerk will contact Breckland if necessary and report the situation. Cllr Horncastle will contact the Clerk the next day with an update on the situation.

11. To discuss the possibility of creating an Allotment Club or Friends' Society

Cllr Wallwork asked the Parish Councillors what they thought of the idea of a Club. It was Cllr Laws' suggestion to form the Club and allotment holders could pay a small membership fee. They would become a member of the Club and monies would be put into an account. It may then be possible to apply more easily for grants. The money in the account could be used to buy prizes needed at the Allotment Show, etc. It would be compulsory for all allotment holders to join the Club. It would be an incorporated Club/Society and there would be the need for a Constitution to be created. Cllr Wallwork proposed that Cllr Laws goes ahead and sets up the proposed Club, Cllr Horncastle seconded the idea and it was carried.

12. To adopt, if possible, revised Standing Orders

The new Standing Orders could not be adopted at this meeting.

Cllr Laws had taken on the task of trying to create a much shorter version of the Model Standing Orders but it proven to be a complicated task. His new version will be available for the other Parish Councillors to study and will hopefully be adopted at the May meeting. It may be necessary to make a few changes to the version he has created. Cllr Laws will be looking at the Code of Conduct. Cllr Chaplin will liaise with Cllr Laws regarding any changes he considers should be made to the version created by Cllr Laws.

13. Items for the Next Agenda

To elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year

To adopt the end of year accounts

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

14. To confirm date, time and method of next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 17th May 2021 at 7.30 p.m. It may not be necessary in May to hold meetings through Zoom. The Meeting will be preceded at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Meeting of the Parish. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

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Chairman

C. Homcast

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Date

17/5/21