

Website address:- brecklandparish.wixsite.com/elsingpc

ELSING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Elsing Parish Council meeting held in Elsing Village Hall, Church Street on
Monday July 18th 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

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

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

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. To elect the Chairman for the meeting

Cllr Atkinson proposed Cllr Laws, seconded by Cllr Chaplin and carried.

2. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of acceptance of Office form

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance form.

3. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Laws welcomed those present. Apologies had been received from Cllr P Wallwork and these were accepted.

4. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

Cllr Laws declared a Personal Interest in item 8 Planning.

5. To confirm minutes of the meetings held on 16th May 2022

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Chaplin proposed the minutes of 16th May be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Laws and carried, so Cllr Laws signed the minutes.

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

There were no matters arising.

7. To discuss any necessary Correspondence

Letter from Hill & Vale magazine regarding a donation. Cllr Laws proposed a donation of £110.00 be sent, seconded by Cllr Atkinson and carried. This will be subject to an annual review, so a donation may be sent also next year.

The Clerk had written to Breckland Council and Norfolk County Council regarding fly tipping on Green Lane. Both replies say that Serco are responsible and Breckland stated they have asked Serco to deal with the problem. At the end of the month the Clerk will contact the Chairman to see if it has been removed.

8. To discuss planning applications and note any approvals or refusals

3DC/2022/0137/DOC Elsing Hall, Hall Road, Discharge of Conditions 5 & 6 on

3PL/2002/0008/F DOC Complete

3PL/2022/0595/HOU The Old Shop, Church St., replace existing shed at front of property with open-fronted 3 bay car port and storage area. Planning Permission has been received.

9. To discuss a Proposal that the Parish Council takes an active role in trying to preserve the Mermaid Inn as a working pub and that the Parish Council considers ways of doing this

So far nothing has transpired regarding the future of the Mermaid Inn. Cllr Atkinson thought it is a private matter and it is not the Parish Council's business to get involved. Cllr Chaplin mentioned that in other parishes, the parishioners had bought their local pub and he suggested some advice be sought from any village that had done this. Cllr Horncastle spoke about the possibility of a feasibility study. Cllr Laws has already written two letters to the owners, but to date he has not received any replies. Cllr Horncastle proposed that the Parish Council, in principle, takes on an exploratory role in trying to preserve the Mermaid Inn as a working Pub and that the Parish Council considers ways of doing this, proposal seconded by Cllr Laws. Cllr Atkinson and Cllr Chaplin abstained from voting. A letter will be sent eventually to the owners of the Mermaid Inn.

10. To discuss the painting of the telephone boxes

A quote has been obtained but it will cost the Parish Council quite a lot of money to have this job done. The Clerk is going to contact the Probation Service to investigate whether this is the kind of job that could be undertaken by that service.

11. To discuss Tree Maintenance on Church Meadow, which is Diocese Land

Mr Doubleday has an idea of planting a line of oak trees to replace the fallen tree. Cllr Laws has approached the Diocese and they have said they approve in principle but they do not want to be responsible, the Parish Council must be responsible for them. Cllr Laws will draft a letter back to the Diocese and the trees will go on the Tree Schedule.

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

The Borehole is up and running and pumping water. Over the winter pipes will be put in so allotment holders do not have to walk too far to get water. The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Horncastle for all his hard work on this matter.

The allotments are looking good and are all rented out. The fence is good all the way round. The Nursery is looking good considering the draught. The trees that were planted now need watering and Cllr Laws will deal with this.

Highways Surveyors Land. Nothing to report on this.

13. To discuss the increase in HGV traffic on Rectory Road and Back Lane

There is nothing to report on this subject.

14. To discuss the Community Car Scheme and the current mileage rate

The Parish Council do not object to increasing the contribution rate to drivers but this would mean that the drivers would have to pay tax on the increase and fill in a tax assessment form at the end of the financial year. They can only receive 45p per mile without the need to do this. The Clerk will contact George Freeman MP to seek advice on how the Parish Council can help.

15. To receive financial update from the Clerk for May to July

This had been circulated and no one had any questions regarding it.

16. To authorise any necessary payments

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

Clerk's net salary £254.12 HMRC tax £63.40 Clerk's expenses for June and July £39.84
Donation to Hill & Vale magazine £110.00
Cllr Horncastle proposed a £400.00 donation each to the Village Hall and Churchyard, seconded by Cllr Atkinson and carried.
Cllr Atkinson proposed a £200.00 donation to help with the printing of the Footpath leaflet, seconded by Cllr Horncastle and carried.

17. To discuss further a notice board for the Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall has not decided exactly what sort of notice board it wants, so it will be put on the next agenda.

18. To adopt an Equal Opportunities Policy

Cllr Laws proposed the Policy be adopted, seconded by Cllr Horncastle and carried. The Policy will be put on the website.

19. To adopt revised Financial Regulations

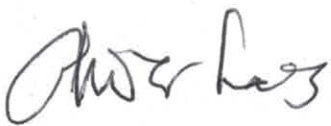
These will be adopted in September.

20. To receive items for the next agenda

How to recruit more Parish Councillors

21. To confirm date and time of next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 12th September at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. Cllr Laws thanked everyone for attending and he declared the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.


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Chair

16/1/2023
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Date