

**ELTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT
7.30PM ON THURSDAY 2ND JANUARY 2025
AT ELTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT:- Cllr Earl, Cllr Hall, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Marsden, Cllr Moseley and one member of the public.

01.25 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Swindell.

02.25 VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no variations made.

03.25 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors were asked to consider any interests they may have on matters on the agenda.

04.25 PUBLIC SPEAKING

It was reported that the grit in the bins near Oddo Farm and on Back Lane are solid and unusable.

Following on from the advice received from DALC it was noted that the Parish Council could, if it chose, purchase assets outside the village. Councillors raised a number of questions about what steps would need to be taken, what the Parish Councils obligations would be and what costs are likely to be incurred if it was decided to take the project forward. It was RESOLVED to discuss the matter further at the next meeting when more information would be available.

It was noted that the bus shelter lights need attention and the felt on the bus shelter roof at the crossroads need repairing.

Registering the Village Hall was briefly discussed and the Clerk undertook to re-read the file and discuss the matter further with the solicitors.

05.25 MINUTES

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th December 2024 were approved and were signed by the Chair.

06.25 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and after wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year outlined the business for the evening.

07.25 CLERK'S REPORT ON ONGOING MATTERS

Grit Storage Bin – Purchased – still to be erected
Road Surface/Footpath/Verges/Signs condition – Ongoing
Serco Road Repairs – No update
Street Light – Still to be attended to.
Verge Cutting – Ongoing

08.25 VILLAGE REPORTS

(a) VILLAGE HALL – It was reported that the clearing of the skylight has virtually eliminated the water ingress but may still need to be sealed around the edges. It was reported that the shelving in the kitchen need to be fitted as soon as possible. It was noted that the heating is still to be repaired.

(b) JUBILEE FIELD – There was no update.

(c) FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS, BINS AND VERGES- It was reported that HGV's are using Dudwood Lane and causing damage to the verges. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk contact DCC Highways and request that a suitable warning sign is erected.

It was reported that a number of Footpath signs are missing and damaged and it was RESOLVED that these be reported to the PDNPA.

It was reported that the road surface at West End has deteriorated further and it was RESOLVED to report the matter to DCC Highways again.

(d) SCHOOL – Cllr Moseley reported on School matters including the well-attended Christmas event.

(e) CHURCH – It was reported that the Christmas Services had been well attended and greatly enjoyed.

(f) ELTON ECHO - Articles for the next edition were invited.

(g) GRATTON PHONE BOX –

Advice received from DALC states that the Parish Council could resolve to take over the telephone box if it so wished. Even if it wasn't used for a defibrillator, other PCs have retained telephone boxes for other purposes such a book exchange and seed exchange. The relevant legislation is the LGA1972 s124 which states -124 Acquisition of land by agreement by parish and community councils.

(1) For the purposes of-

(a) any of their functions under this or any other public general Act, or
(b) the benefit, improvement or development of their area, a parish or community council may acquire by agreement any land, whether situated inside or outside their area.

(2) Where under this section a parish or community council are authorised to

acquire land by agreement, the provisions of Part I of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (so far as applicable) other than section 31 shall apply, and in the said Part I as so applied the word "land" shall have the meaning assigned to it by this Act.

(3) References in the foregoing provisions of this section to acquisition by agreement are references to acquisition for money or money's worth, as purchaser or lessee.

09.25 DALC CIRCULARS

December 24 – Home Office Protect and Martyn's Law, National Insurance Changes, DALC new Directors, Remote Meetings, Net Zero takes aim at unmetered streetlights, Tree Tragedy, Respect Orders launch in bid to reclaim lights, Community Safety, Parental Leave, Zero Hours and Probation tackled by new Employment Bill, NALC to host free event on having a .gov.uk domain

January 25 – How to stay safe as a councillor, Planning a VE Day 80th anniversary event, Suspension for bad behaviour, 2025/26 Finance settlement, All Change for Audit System, New Year New Fund New Plan, New Habitats, Go with the FOI Fflow Revised National Planning Policy Framework, Peak Park get new powers, Warning over devolution plans, Energy Partnership Update

10.25 FINANCE

(a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

J Jackson	Salary Jan	£ 127.30
HMRC	Tax Jan	£ 31.22

(b) INCOME

None

(c) BUDGET APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT

The Clerk reported on the current balances, budget and risk assessment.

(d) BUDGET 2025-26 – PRECEPT

Councillors considered the draft budget. Cllr Moseley proposed that the precept be set at £10266 for the 2025-26 financial year. Seconded by Cllr Jackson all voted in favour.

Community Trust Bank still to be contacted.

11.25 PLANNING

(a) Applications – None

(b) Decisions - None

12.25 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Fire & Rescue – Budget Consultation
DDDC – Precept
Gratton Parish – Various
DCC – Mobile Library Route

13.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the date of the next monthly meeting be held on Thursday 6th February 2025 at 7.30pm in Elton Village Hall

There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.09pm