

ELVEDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, 28th May 2025 at 7.30pm in Elveden Estate Office Conference Room

Present: Cllrs Rob Minty, Rebecca Younge and Hugo Nugent. Also in attendance, Cllr Gerald Kelly, and members of the public.

The Clerk advised the council that due to continuing problems with holding a quorate meeting, Councillor Kelly had been appointed, for this meeting only, to Elveden Parish Council, to enable business to be transacted in accordance with Section 91 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. **APOLOGIES** Cllr Lukaniuk gave his apologies. Cllr Whitehand was absent.
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
Cllr Rob Minty was proposed as Chairman. The council unanimously agreed. Cllr Minty accepted and signed the Declaration of Office
3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**
The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, 26th March 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record.
4. **MATTERS ARISING**
There were none.
5. **COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**
The council received a report from Cllr Kelly. West Suffolk Council had put back its net zero target to 2039.
6. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS**
Ross Winter was proposed and duly accepted. The certificate of acceptance was signed.
7. **RURAL CRIME**
Police crime figures for February and March showed a total of 9 crimes, with 6 occurring in Centre Parcs.
8. **VILLAGE SIGN**
Plans for the design of the village sign were currently being drawn up. The council considered the addition of planters around the sign and at the entrances to the village. **Cllr Nugent** would draw up a list of suitable plants that were less attractive to deer.

9. **PLANNING**

DC/25/0773/HH – Kitchen Gardens, Elveden. Re-configuring of the existing pitched roofs and demolition of attached outbuilding. Cllr Minty declared an interest. The council made no comments on this application.

10. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Audit and Accounts for financial year 2024/25.

(i) Approval of Annual Governance Statement – this was agreed and signed.

(ii) Approval of Accounting Statements -the accounting statements were agreed and signed.

(iii) Approval of Certificate of Exemption (for expenditure that does not exceed £25,000) – the certificate of exemption was agreed and signed.

(b) Cheques to be signed

(i) Suffolk Association of Local Councils – subscription - £147.76.

(c) Changes to banking terms and conditions.

From January 2025, Lloyds Bank would be charging parish councils business rates for accounts. The bank had failed to provide any clarity on whether both accounts or only one account would be treated in this way. The clerk advised that monthly rates of charges would grossly exceed any interest received, and, consequently, it might be necessary to amalgamate the two accounts. The clerk would monitor the situation and update the council in due course.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Clerk reported that the parish council Face Book page was now live and starting to generate interest.

Problems of domestic water supplies in the parish were commented on by a representative of the Estate.

An item regarding planting schemes around Elveden would be placed on the next agenda.

12. **DATE OF FUTURE MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 23rd July 2025 at 7.30pm.