

Elsham Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Elsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st April 2026 commencing at 7pm at the Village Hall, Elsham

Present: Chair – Cllr Sandra Van Oosterhout
Cllr Andrew Horner (Vice Chair), Cllr Mark Lilley, Cllr Michael Percy,
Clerk – Louise Price
Cllr N Sherwood and Cllr C Sherwood – North Lincolnshire Council
Humberside Police – PCSO Horsfall
1 member of the public

2604/01 Apologies

Resolved: To accept the apologies received from Cllr M Everett – personal reasons and Cllr S Moir - holiday

2604/02 Public Participation

A member of the public present sought clarification on the Council's policy regarding planning applications outside of the development boundary and raised questions about two planning applications recently considered by the Council. Additionally, he requested further information about the Parish precept, specifically the reasons for its increase for 2026/27 from £8000 to £10000.

2604/03 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 17th March 2026 were an accurate and true record and these were signed by the Chair, Councillor Van Oosterhout.

2604/04 Declarations of Interest

- a) Cllr Horner declared an interest in Item 2604/11c – payments made March 2026.
- b) No dispensations were given.

2604/05 Report from Ward Councillors

Cllr C Sherwood reported that there would be grant available for heating oil. This would not be means tested. In conjunction with Marie Curie, the Council would be giving a 100 percent Council Tax discount to terminally ill people for a year. In Bloom grant information has been

Signed _____ Date _____

Elsham Parish Council.

circulated to Councils and he hoped that decisions would be made timely as timescales for planting were urgent. The closing date is 30th April. From Monday 26th April, NLC are introducing a new bus service called Connect 2. It is App based and with a different provider. Bookings can be made 7 days in advance as opposed to 28 days. Payment can also be made on the app. Collection of the old red bins is still in progress with 17000 still to collect. 99,9% of the new bins have now been delivered. Vehicles are fitted with a new dashboard data system to improve performance.

The Ward Councillors left the meeting.

2604/06 Highways, Drainage, Footpaths and NLC issues

- a) Traffic attempting to enter Elsham Hall via Hall Lane was discussed. The new sign is in place and it is hoped that this will improve the situation. NLC have offered to install a 'No Through Road' sign however it was thought this would not help.
- b) Cllr Percy reported he had not received any contact regarding the SIDs. One has appeared on the post on Barnetby Lane.
- c) Cllr Van Oosterhout reported that the directional sign at Barnetby top had been replaced.

2604/07 Police Matters/Neighbourhood Watch/NATS

- a) Sgt Harrison had sent his apologies to the meeting. PCSO Horsfall updated the Council on the theft of the cables from Middlegate Lane and Newland Hill. A vehicle had been apprehended with cable theft equipment on board. This had been seized for forensics. The Rural Task Force (RTF) are based at Brigg. The RTF now have drone capabilities and are currently training in the use of them. The NATS priorities for Brigg and the Wolds include drugs intel, speeding and poaching. Humberside Police are currently trying to instigate a Farmwatch group. There would be a meeting on 11th June in Winterton and he would send the information to the Clerk for circulation.
- b) PCSO Horsfall updated the Council on the damage to the triangle. The driver of the HGV had been identified and would be receiving a penalty notice for entering a 7.5t weight limit. Elsham Parish Council could submit an FOI request to Humberside Police asking for the company information but this would be a lengthy process.

Resolved: The Clerk write a letter to the company and send it to PCSO Horsfall for him to send to the transport company involved requesting they make a donation towards repairing the damage to the triangle.

The Chair thanked PCSO Horsfall for his time and he left the meeting.

Signed _____ Date _____

Elsham Parish Council

2604/08 Planning

Planning Decisions received:

- a) Application No: PA/2026/36 – Planning granted
Proposal: Planning permission to remove condition 2 of PA/1989/1133 dated 15/03/1990 namely to remove the agricultural occupancy restriction
Location: Village Farm, Wooton Road, Elsham DN20 ONU
Planning Applications received:
 - a) Application number: PA/2026/364
Proposal: Notice of intention under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 to remove a 6m section of hedgerow at grid reference TA 03558 13699 W3W married.speak.televise
Site location: Land north of Elsham Water Treatment Works, Middlegate Lane, Elsham DN20 ONU
Applicant: Anglian Water
Resolved: No comments or objections
- b) Application number: PA/2026/332
Proposal: Planning permission to erect a replacement stock shed
Site location: Manor Farm, 1 Wooton Road, Elsham DN20 9NU
Applicant: Mr Willox
Resolved: No comments or objections

2604/09 Parish Projects, Reports and other Parish Matters

- a) Play Area
Cllr Percy provided the April inspection sheets and the repairs to the Playpark were discussed. There are some cracks appearing in the woodwork. The bench is now dry. Cllr Percy has replaced a bolt. The pull up and press bars may need some work.
- b) Nature Reserve
Cllr Van Oosterhout reported that there are some small trees had fallen down but had been dealt with. Several members of the public had commented that the person gate on Middlegate Road was often left open.
Resolved: Cllr Van Oosterhout will purchase some soft close hinges at a cost of no more than £30.
- c) April-May planting was discussed briefly.
Resolved: A budget of £150 for planting was agreed.
- d) Handyman jobs for April include tidy up work around the Village Hall, placing of slabs at the side of the village hall, clearing of the area under the conifer hedge and maybe some work in the playpark.
- e) The Best Kept Village competition entry form was discussed.
Resolved: to enter the playpark and community planting categories
- f) Cllr Van Oosterhout had circulated an email from All Saints Church regarding their application to the Ministry of Justice to close the churchyard. The closure notice had come through.

Signed _____ Date _____

Elsham Parish Council

- g) The Big Lunch is due to be held 6th/7th June 2026. Cllr Van Oosterhout will contact the residents that had expressed an interest in helping with events.

2604/10 Clerks Report

The Clerk informed the Council that a letter had been received from Worlaby Academy inviting Councillors to attend the Year 6 leavers assembly. This would be on the Agenda for the May meeting.

2604/11 Finance/IT/Policies/Other Council business

- a) The Clerk had circulated the bank statements and bank reconciliation to the end of the financial year.
Resolved: That the financial expenditure, receipts, budget monitoring, bank reconciliation and bank statements be approved to 28th March 2026.
- b) The current Asset Register was circulated to Councillors. Councillors were asked to scrutinise it before the next meeting.
- c) The following payments had been made – March 2026. These were noted.
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|-----------------------------|--|---------|
| 2 nd March 2026 | Eve Middleton – LEADER | £25.00 |
| 9 th March 2026 | Balfours – Play Park rent | £30.00 |
| 25 th March 2026 | Mrs L Price – Clerks Salary and Expenses | |
| 25 th March 2026 | Cllr A Horner – Planting | £60.79 |
| 25 th March 2026 | Autella Payroll | £102.00 |
| 25 th March 2026 | HMRC – P32 | £66.40 |
| 27 th March 2026 | Cllr A Horner – Planting | £25.00 |
- d) Payments presented at the meeting included an invoice from Cllr Lilley for wood for the planters.
Resolved: To pay the Invoice to Cllr Lilley £158.40.
- e) The Insurance Renewal was discussed. The Clerk will analyse the renewal in time for the next meeting.
- f) The Clerk gave an update on the Banking arrangements. The difficulty is that the previous Clerks and current Clerk use the same email address. The preference was to stay with Natwest however due to the issues encountered, it was proving difficult.
Resolved: To open an account with Unity.
- g) The Clerk had circulated a Councillor Apologies Policy.
Resolved: That the Councillor Apologies Policy be approved
- h) Cllr Van Oosterhout had circulated her idea of the Council's mission statement. Cllr Lilley had written his version. Cllr Van Oosterhout will mix the two up and report back to the next meeting.
- i) The Councils Risk Assessments were discussed. The Clerk will look at these for the next meeting.
- j) The In-Bloom Grant for 2026 was discussed. Cllrs Horner and Van Oosterhout will liaise with the Clerk to get the application completed and submitted by the deadline.

Signed _____ Date _____

Elsham Parish Council

- k) The SLA payments for 26/27 had been received.
Playground Inspections: 4 @ £122.00 each plus VAT
Litter Bins: 18 @ £9.00 each plus VAT
Resolved: To approve the SLA payments for 2026/27
- l) It was not possible to approve the payment of the Elancity warranty as there was not attached Invoice on the email from the LVF.

2604/12 Ongoing, Minor Items, Correspondence and Agenda items for the next meeting

- a) Councillors to inform the Clerk of any items for the May Agenda.
b) There were no Councillors available to attend the ERNLLCA Executive.
c) It was agreed to note the email from the Environment Agency.
d) Anglian Water were sending a letter to all households in Elsham updating them on the Elsham-Lincoln Pipeline.
e) The Clerk had responded to the complaint from the resident on Hall Lane regarding vehicles trying to enter the back gate of Elsham Hall. It is hoped the new sign may work.
f) The Clerk reported receipt of the 2025/2026 external audit from PKF Littlejohn.
g) It was agreed that Cllr Van Oosterhout would respond to the email from the Wilder Lincolnshire Network.

2604/13 Grass cutting contract – Churchyard, Verges, PROWs

- a) The All-Saints Church Churchyard is now closed. Elsham Parish Council have been asked to take over the devolution of the grass cutting from NLC. The cost of £120 per cut – 12 cuts – for the 2026/27 financial year would be added to our contract from NLC.
Resolved: Elsham Parish Council take over the grass cutting of the churchyard from North Lincolnshire Council under devolved services.
- b) A discussion took place on the number of verge cuts per annum.
Resolved: To increase contracted cuts on Verges to 12 per annum and PROW to 3 per annum with additional requested if needed.

2604/14 Date and Time of forthcoming meetings

The dates of the forthcoming meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 19 th May 2026	The Annual Meeting of Elsham Parish Council
Tuesday 19 th May 2026	followed by the May meeting of the Council

2604/15 Closure of the Meeting to the press and public

Resolved: That the Council move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s 1(2) due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed.

Signed _____ Date _____

Elsham Parish Council

2604/16 Staffing

- a) Resolved: To pay the Clerks salary and expenses
- b) Resolved: Cllr Van Oosterhout to discuss the Clerks appraisal with the full Council and to add a Personnel meeting to the May Agenda.

Meeting closed 9.28pm.

Signed _____ Date _____