

Minutes of Elmsett Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30pm in Elmsett Methodist Church.

01.26.00 **PRESENT:** Alan Newman in the Chair, Nick Bird, John Sones Fran Williams, Fiona Watt, Andrew Woodgate and Kathleen Peacock (clerk).

01.26.01 **APOLOGIES:** Paul Firman, Leigh Jamieson BDC and Robert Lindsay SCC.

01.26.02 **MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes of the Council meetings held on 9 December 2025 were reviewed and amended for presentation to the 24<sup>th</sup> February meeting.

01.26.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None were received.

01.26.04 **COUNCIL REPORTS FROM;**  
**A) COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBERT LINDSAY;**

- Whatfield Road Footway - On 5 December, the relevant officer for this project said she would be talking to the new designers about their criticisms of the former design and would then update us once she knew the next steps.
- The full report will be circulated to the Council with the January minutes.

**B) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR LEIGH JAMIESON**

- The full report will be circulated to the Council with the January minutes.

01.26.05 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Chairman gave an update to the Council on the following topics;

- Repeater signs – the village has 2 faded repeater signs on Ipswich Road that are obscured by hedging. A request has been made to the County to replace the signs. If Councillor Lindsay cannot get these replaced the Parish Council will replace them.
- Parish Newsletter is suffering from a decrease in financial contributions and advertising. As a result the editor has decided to reduce the number of pages in the newsletter and the number of photographs. The Chairman confirmed that he has offered financial support from the parish council should they need it. The editor plans to continue to run the newsletter throughout 2026.
- Post office van – The post office van has been absent for 3 weeks. The Chairman is calling and chasing this up.

## **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

01.26.06 No members of the public were in attendance.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 01.26.07
- a) Obscured Repeater signs – Cllr Robert Lindsay is looking into this. Hedge cutting to be arranged. ACTION KP
  - b) The Methodist Church would like to hold a lunch time fish and chips event to get local residents socialising to prevent rural isolation. The first requires 25 people sign up. The Methodist Church have made a request to the Parish Council for start-up costs of £100. This item was agreed in principle and will be added to the next agenda for ratification.

## **PLANNING;**

01.26.08 The Council noted the following applications.

- a) a) APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREE(S) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - DC/25/05560  
Proposal: Notification of works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation order BT351/T1 – Copper Beech This will reduce the spread of foliage to provide 2m of clearance from buildings, chimneys and utility cables. Remove major deadwood. (Over 20mm diameter). Location: The Old Post Office, Whatfield Road, Elmsett, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 6NA. This was not for the parish council to comment.

## 01.26.09 **VILLAGE SHOP**

Councillor Watt reported that trading figures for the shop remain strong with a good level of turnover during the Christmas period. Next year the shop may change its opening hours over the Christmas period. The shop reached £100,000 in sales over approx 80,000 transactions. The shops first year of trading has been very successful. The shops air con is now fitted, and the flooring has been upgraded. Fund raising continues.

## 01.26.10 **VILLAGE HALL**

New flooring and a new kitchen has been fitted. The lobby and toilet block are due for refurbishment in the next month. All the hard work to upgrade the Village Hall has been paying off and has seen an increase in bookings, from Yoga classes, music on the meadow and a Wedding planned for August.

Discussions around plans to revamp the car park are ongoing. It's a difficult situation as no one solution will suit all parties and some

compromise will be required. Fiona Watt and Paul Firman are Trustees for the Village Hall and both have left the Village Hall Committee.

01.26.11

**FINANCE**

The Council approved the following spending;

Invoice	Cost
Hitchcock Garden Maintenance invoice 339 pipe clearance	£25
SALC payroll - invoice 30500	£19
50% of Churchyard maintenance costs to Coles Garden Services invoice 1589a	£35
Methodist Hall - 9 December	£27
Total	£96

01.26.12 **POLICY REVIEW – GRANTS POLICY**

Deferred until the next meeting.

01.26.13

**DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Methodist Church Hall.**

Signed:-..... Dated:-.....

Chairman