



## Elston Parish Council



Minutes for Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11 February 2026 at 7.00 PM

Location: Elston Village Hall, Top Street, Elston, NG23 5NP

### MINUTES

Welcome and open the meeting.

- The meeting was opened at 7.00pm.

- Present: Cllrs Bertie Pinchera (Chair), Richard Hargreaves, Steve Harris, James North, Angela Smith, Chrissy McFadyen; Dermot Daly (Clerk); District Cllrs Jack Kellas, Simon Haynes; No members of the public.

26/024 Receive and approve any apologies for absence.

- None.

26/025 Approve the co-option of one Parish Councillor to the Casual Vacancy position either from prior application or from the floor of the meeting.

- It was unanimously RESOLVED to co-opt Hailey Storey as a Parish Councillor into the casual vacancy.

26/026 Receive disclosures of interests from Councillors on matters at this meeting.

Interests declared from members of the village hall committee, being Cllrs Richard Hargreaves, Angela Smith, and Steve Harris, for item 26/033.

26/027 Suspend Standing Orders for this item and allow for Parishioner Questions and Observations and for County and District Councillor reports.

- District Cllr Neil Allen gave his apologies.

- County Cllr Sue Saddington was not present.

- District Cllrs report: Housing Revenue – housing rents set at an increase of 4.99%; in March the Council Tax is to be set but details are not available yet; long-term budget is 1.94% and maximum allowable is 2.99%; Local Government Review consultation has commenced with three options; it was encouraged to complete the associated survey – which will be made available through Social Media streams and the website; the StreetScene team have been called in to Elston to clear the green slippery layer off walkways.

- It was reported to the District Cllrs that a waste vehicle has damaged a pavement kerb – this will be reported to the relevant team.

- Following a question it was announced that the District Council is working with neighbouring districts on the implementation of food waste collection – the communications of this service is to be chased up.

- There were no public comments.

### **PLANNING**

26/028 Address any last minute applications and report on decisions taken.

i) 25/02074/S73 - The Old Chapel, Elston, NG23 5PA - Application for variation of condition 03 to re-word condition (as submitted on the application form) in order to comply with requirements of Bat Mitigation Strategy attached to planning permission 24/01598/FUL; Change of use of vacant Methodist church into a dwelling, demolition of extensions, erection of extension and alterations. [Approved] - This was noted.

ii) 25/02082/TWCA - Holly Cottage, 1 The Orchard, Elston, NG23 5PL - T1 - Cedar - Fell due to outgrowing garden. [Approved] - This was noted.

iii) 26/00064/TWCA - Sutherland House, 6 Tudor Oaks, Elston, NG23 5NW - T1&T2 Oak - Reduce canopy be 2m to keep natural shape and crown rise by 1m to allow more light into the property and keep the tree manageable to keep in good health long term T3 - Ash - Crown lifts over footpath to 2.4m and reduce long lateral limbs that over extends over footpath resulting in limbs breaking and causing risk to users of footpath below. Reduce these limbs by 3 m to reduce load placed upon them but keeping the tree canopy balanced . T4 - Horse Chestnut - Crown rise and canopy over footpath to 2.4m. Reduce lateral limbs overhanging footpath by 2m to again reduce load and in turn risk to users below on the path . T5 - Ash - Crown rise and canopy over footpath to 2.4m. And reduce lateral limbs overhanging footpath by 2m keeping tree balanced this is to again reduce load and in turn risk to users below on the path . T6 - Horse Chestnut - Crown rise and canopy over footpath to 2.4m. Reduce lateral limbs overhanging footpath by 2m keeping tree balanced this is to again reduce load and in turn risk to users below on the path. [For information only] - This was noted.

iv) 26/00131/TWCA - The Delery, Mill Road, Elston, NG23 5NR - T1 - Willow - Fell, rotten and unsafe T2 - Ash - Fell, to facilitate fencing and additional cat security [Information only] - This was noted.

Authorising Signature

Name: B. Pinchera

Date: 11/02/26

Signature: [Signature]

- 26/029 26/00083/HOUSE - Holly Byre, Elston, NG23 5PA - Front and Rear Extension and Dormer. [Deadline: 23/02/2026]  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to respond in the following manner: No objection.
- MEETINGS**
- 26/030 Approve the Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 14th January 2026.  
- It was RESOLVED unanimously that the Minutes be approved as circulated.
- FINANCE**
- 26/031 Present the period accounts and sign the bank reconciliation.  
- The period accounts were presented and accepted.  
- Clarifications were addressed regarding the amount of unspent budget still allotted to the Erasmus Darwin Park Pavilion build.
- 26/032 Present and approve the accounts for payment.  
- It was RESOLVED unanimously that the accounts for payment be approved as circulated.
- 26/033 Discuss and agree grant for Village Hall.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Village Hall grant of £2,750.
- GENERAL**
- 26/034 Discuss plans proposing landscaping of Erasmus Darwin Park and decide on associated actions.  
- A grant has been approved to cover all costs for the purchase of trees and 15-year maintenance.  
- There will be a community planting day on 14th March 2026.  
- Cllr James North is managing the scheme.
- 8.03pm Cllr Bertie Pinchera left the meeting and Cllr Richard Hargreaves took over the Chair position for the meeting.
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to adopt this scheme expenditure of up to £6,500.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to apply for the NCC grant as circulated.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the District Council to manage the risk assessment.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED that the grant money is requested up front from NCC for phase 1.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to agree the planting scheme provided by the woodland creation manager of the District Council.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to agree the purchase of five benches of varying lengths and information board at £2,130 (included in the above grant together with the ringfenced reserve of the Methodist donation).  
- Post-planting, in principle there will be a naming of the path around the site to Walker's Walk which is expected to have a later plaque approval.
- 26/035 Agree the approach on the Church Lane, Car Park, and 'Church Land' as part of the legal process of land registration.  
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to progress the land valuation through as per the Richard Watkinson quote.
- 26/036 Agree position on and response to the review of the Nottinghamshire County Council's Guidance Note on the Validation of Planning Applications.  
- It was agreed that the Parish Council does not a view on this topic.
- 26/037 Review action log, making relevant changes and associated actions.  
- Some adjustments were made to the actions list as circulated.  
- It was noted that Turton building control contractors have highlighted further work for the Erasmus Darwin Park Pavilion build; this includes fire-doors self-closers, fire alarm, pull cord for showers, fire-proof hatch for the roof, and emergency exit signage. It was RESOLVED that this needs to be carried out under emergency measures and approved retrospectively at the March meeting.
- REPORTS (For information only)**
- 26/038 Clerk's Report.  
- The agenda for the next meeting (11th March) is to be issued by 26th February.  
- New team swing has been ordered for the playpark.  
- The maintenance work on the playpark is expected to commence third week of March.  
- Need to move the Staffing Committee as the Clerk is not available on 18th February – 18th March was agreed.
- 26/039 Provide an update on the Village Hall Committee.  
- Painting nearing completion.  
- Photos will be taken.  
- Bookings are doing well.
- 26/040 Provide an update on the Finance and General Purposes Working Group.  
- No update.
- 26/041 Provide an update on the Communications Working Group.  
- New photos required for the website.
- 26/042 Provide an update on the Environment Working Group.  
- Dog poo bin off Cargate Lane to be addressed at next meeting.  
- Litter pick to be organised – need litter-picking equipment from District Council.

Authorising Signature

Name: B. Pinchera Date: 14/03/26 Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

**NEXT MEETING**

- 26/043** Note further agenda items and arrangements for the next meeting (11th March 2026).  
- Dog bin review.  
- Darwin park build.  
- Darwin park trees.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

- 26/044** Agree to enter closed session for confidential matters, excluding press and public.  
- The meeting entered a closed session.

- 26/045** Discuss and agree actions relating to a financial irregularity.  
- The meeting identified a change of product that was ordered and the expected partial reimbursement of a payment already made.  
Close meeting.  
- The meeting was closed at 9.19pm.

Authorising Signature

Name: B. Pincus Date: 11/03/26 Signature: B Pincus