

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the Recreation Centre on Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr P Ewin (Chairman), Cllr A Broughton, Cllr R Croft, Cllr H Mellor, Cllr S Mellor & Cllr S Southcott

In attendance: Parish Clerk and 1 member of the public

- 1. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if applicable** – No reports were received from District Councillor S Suggitt, or County Councillor E Connolly.

A member of the public asked about the traffic calming that has been promised along Long Street. Cllr Croft reported he had located paperwork that confirmed NCC had approved the work in April 2024, but clarified the work may take between 9-18 months. It had to go through Highways and the pinch points would be analysed before the final clarification. The Road Safety Community Fund had a discretionary fund that would help. Cllr Croft to follow-up and report back in April. **ACTION: Cllr Croft**

A member of the public also reported the raised metal covers in the road outside Mellor Metals and The Chair confirmed these had been reported to Highways, but no action had been taken.

A member of the public also reported the raised OpenReach covers opposite the entrance to Poppy Way – one of the three had not seated correctly when lowered after work – The Chair would speak to the contractor

ACTION: The Chair

- 2. To consider and approve apologies for absence** – Cllr P Bonner & County Councillor E Connolly.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – Cllr H Mellor & Cllr S Mellor declared an interested in planning application PL/2025/0212/FMIN.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 19th February 2025** – The minutes were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
- 5. To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman's report** – The Chair reported that the recent planting has started to flower and was looking good. The Chair had contacted the owner of the bus seen previously in the layby and the problem now appears resolved but will be monitored. The Chair thanked the Clerk for her work on the 2023/24 accounts, which had now been completed and audited. The AGAR form was to be signed later in the meeting.

The Chair reported that a resident had come forward about the roundabout and was planning to put a proposal forward for planting, which he would report back on once received.

- 6. To receive reports from Councillors and/or the Clerk**
- a. **Planning Policy** – Cllr Broughton reported he had done a provisional draft, which he had circulated to Councillors and was waiting their responses. He reported that the Government are starting to push rural schemes with a likely 5,000-7,500 houses to be built in Breckland, so it was important to get a policy in place. Cllr Croft commented that maybe something specific to Great Ellingham would help and it was agreed that the “lighting” and “low density” policies should be included.
 - b. **Crime Concerns** – Cllr H Mellor reported that following concerns raised by the public about a man acting suspiciously outside the school, had been investigated by the police and nothing untoward was reported.
- 7. To hear of planning decisions and other information: –**

Appendix 1: Planning

- a) PL/2025/0206/DCA (PL/2024/1073/HOU) – Notification of Discharge of condition No. 7 - 85a Long Street, Great Ellingham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1LN.

Signed:
Chairman

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- b) PL/2025/0214/DCA (3PL/2024/0647/VAR) – Notification of Discharge of conditions 6, 7 & 17 – 85 Long Street, Great Ellingham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1LN

Appendix 2: Planning Applications

- c) PL/2024/1209/PAQ - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of buildings on agricultural Units and former Agricultural Buildings to 1 No. dwelling house (Class C3), which may include extension of the building and/or building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion - Kempley House Stalland Common, Great Ellingham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1JF - Amendments submitted.
- d) PL/2025/0212/FMIN – Proposed demolition of dilapidated bungalow and construction of replacement bungalow. **No comments – all ok.**
- e) PL/2025/0242/HOU - Install 11 solar panels to free standing garage roof on south side only – 39 Church Street, Gt. Ellingham. **No comments – all ok.**
- f) PL/2025/0168/VAR - Removal of condition 9 on 3PL/2020/1036/D – land off Attleborough Road, Great Ellingham NR17 1LE.

8. To consider the following payments: – Agreed.

Amount	To whom	Description
£363.63	Clerk	Salary 19.02 – 28.02.25 & O/T
£90.80	HMRC	PAYE
£29.82	P Bonner	Perspex for Noticeboard
£784.71	Zurich	Parish Council Insurance (3yr deal)
£298.63	NALC	2025/26 Subscription
£140.00	NPTS	2025/26 Subscription

9. To receive completed Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Other Registrable Interests Forms. Most had been received via email or on the night – 3 to be received. **ACTION: Clerk**

10. To receive an update on the Walsingham Court “Keep Clear” Markings: Cllr Croft reported no update at present.

11. To review and sign the AGAR form for the year 2023/24 – The Clerk presented the previously circulated AGAR form for signature, which was signed. The fee from the Auditor for £240 was considered and other quotes are to be sought.

12. To receive an update on the new village hall – The Chair and Cllr S Mellor met with the developers and Breckland Council to discuss the new village hall. The likely cost to be between £500,000-£850,000 based on the current design. There are a lot of things still to be finalised, as a few items are not included – i.e. demolition of the current village hall, kitchen fitting. The retail units have been taken out of the original plans now, and the housing has increased to 173 (more smaller units). The developer has confirmed he would be willing to start building when occupancy of the development reaches 50%, which could be next year. It was agreed that the developer be approached to confirm what is included in his quote and two alternative quotes to be sought. **ACTION: Chairman**

13. To receive an update on the village pond between Lake View and Mill Farm, Church Street – A discussion took place, and it was agreed that no further action would be taken as Breckland had indicated to re-dig the pond may cause more ecological damage and make the matter worse. The owner was to be contacted to firm up his plans for the hedge at the front and the land. **ACTION: Chairman**

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14. To consider correspondence received and Any Other Business:

- a) Long Street ditches – a member of the public had contacted The Chair, concerned about the ditches which had been dug along Long Street and the narrowness of the verges. It was decided no further action was to be taken.
- b) It was reported letters had been sent to the residents of Poppy Way to advise that the road was to be cleared of cars between 23-26 March as the road was being dug up and ironwork would be raised. No information had been found and no Highways action received, so residents were advised to ignore the letter.
- c) The two councillor vacancies were to be advertised, and the Clerk said she would contact the Monitoring Officer. Cllr Southcott thought he may know interested parties and would contact them. **ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Southcott**
- d) It was brought to the meeting's attention that the policies on the website were very out of date. These are to be circulated to Councillors for their input. **ACTION: The Chair.**

15. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 16th April 2025 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm – Noted.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm