

ELKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held in the Elkesley Memorial Hall
on Thursday 27 November 2025 at 7pm
DRAFT UNTIL RATIFIED

Present : Councillors J Skelton, J O'Brien, M Stronach, T MacIntosh, J Gilson, L Ashley & J Wright

Others : County Councillor K Wright, District Councillor C Adams, the Clerk and five members of public attended

2355/25) To receive and approve apologies and reasons for absence

There were no apologies required

2356/25) To receive and record Declaration of Interests from Members in any item on the agenda

There were no Declarations of Interest.

2357/25) To receive the Chair's report

Cllr Skelton read out his report* and added thanks to Retford Lions for facilitating a further defibrillator training session this week. It means there are now more residents trained on how to deal with an emergency situation.

2358/25) To suspend the meeting to hold a 10-minute public session

One resident thanked the parish council for arranging the CPR training session, and stated that a question had been lodged to be asked at the full Bassetlaw District Council meeting next week regarding the planning refusal of the Brough Lane site. There was a discussion surrounding the subject of the unauthorised development.

2359/25) To receive reports from the District and County Councillors

Cllr Adams reported that there are two enforcement officers working on the Brough Lane site case, and confirmed there is a full Council meeting on Thursday 4 December at 6.30pm, which the public are welcome to attend. Cllr Skelton urged residents to attend to show support to the village.

Cllr Wright reported on several visits he had made, including a meeting with ViaEM regarding the pavements in the village. He confirmed that they would be repaired in the new year, and Cllr O'Brien thanked him for using all his appropriate funding for this job. Cllr Wright expressed his dissatisfaction with Bassetlaw District Council's (BDC) dealings with anti-social behaviour. He continues to arrange veterans' clinics, and drive Adult Social Care as Deputy Cabinet Member for Nottinghamshire County Council.

2360/25) To receive update on the Neighbourhood Plan review

The Neighbourhood Plan Review was accepted by referendum on 13 November, and will now be used by Bassetlaw District Council to help it decide planning applications in the

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neighbourhood area. Pat Douglas spoke on behalf of the steering committee thanking Will Wilson and Mariko Fukunaga at BDC for their assistance in the procedure. Cllr Skelton in return thanked the panel for their work in progressing the review to a successful referendum.

2361/25) To approve the minutes of the meeting held 16 October 2025

Resolved. The minutes of the meeting 16 October were proposed by Cllr MacIntosh, seconded by Cllr O'Brien and accepted as a true record. **Carried**

2362/25) To consider course of action to be taken regarding Brough Lane planning refusal

Resolved. Covered in the Chair's Report

2363/25) To consider any planning applications or planning correspondence

24/00384/FUL – amendments only to Planting Plan

2364/25) To consider the payments as listed and the financial reports for November 2025

Resolved. There was an additional payment of £100 agreed as a donation to Retford Lions as a Thank You for the recent CPR training session. The payments and financial reports were proposed by Cllr O'Brien, seconded by Cllr Ashley and accepted. **Carried**

2365/25) To consider adding Cllr Tom MacIntosh to the Unity Trust bank mandate

Resolved. It was agreed that Cllr MacIntosh be added to the bank mandate. **Carried.** The clerk is to complete the necessary documents

2366/25) To consider draft budget prepared by clerk

Resolved. After discussing the figures, it was decided that an allowance for noticeboard repairs was required, and the matter will be finalised at December's meeting.

2367/25) To consider Community Infrastructure Levy funds notification

Resolved. It was agreed that the funds be drawdown. **Carried**

2368/25) To receive reports and consideration of any expenses on the following:

a. Sports field, play area and BMX safety inspections

The gates will soon be welded to repair them. Cllr MacIntosh is to source missing end caps.

b. Cemetery

Cllr Stronach pressed the parish council on provision of the water butt. The cremation area is intended to be cleared in the spring. The clerk reported a burial due 16 December.

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c. Defibrillator inspections

No issues reported. The clerk stated that there was still a delay to supply of spare pads for the High Street device.

2369/25) To receive highways and service faults

Cllr Stronach reported that he was confirmed as Snow Warden again, and that Jockey Lane/Brick Yard Road will now be included in the gritting schedule.

2370/25) To receive items for information only

There was a reminder about the South-East Bassetlaw Forum online meeting on Wednesday 3 December.

The clerk reported receiving correspondence regarding Bassetlaw Achievers' Awards. Any nominations will be discussed in the December meeting.

2371/25) Time and date of the next Parish Council meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 December at 6.30pm

The Chair ended the meeting at 8.40pm

Signed

Chair

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***Appendix – Chair’s Report and Letter to Bassetlaw District Council**

Good evening everyone, thanks as always to those of you here for your attendance, we are all busy people so it's nice to have some residents when we give our reports and meet.

A couple of new things I would like to trial this month...

Firstly, if we have anyone that doesn't necessarily want to be a Parish Councillor but has an interest in the village and how we future proof and develop it, we would love to have you on board to give us a dig out with projects and any other tasks we undertake.

We only have a limited number of hands and your Parish Councillors only have so many hours to give. We would love to work on all the projects and agenda items we discuss but time, energy and abilities sometimes prevent us gaining as much traction as we can.

Do you know anyone who could or would be willing to help?

Secondly, we don't often have too much input or many ideas raised by you, the residents. As a Parish Council we are always looking at ways to be innovative, productive and efficient and maybe once again, some of you have thoughts and ideas on things that affect the village good and bad. If so, we would be really keen to hear them and bring them to this forum for future discussions.

Onto what we've been doing as your Parish Council this last month, we as a collective have spent in excess of 20 hours doing the things that matter, things such as:

- Christmas event planning.
- Liaison with the School over mutual topics.
- Input, information and social media posts and updates regarding village matters such as the Elkesley Village Plan.
- Regular conversations with other agencies, Police, BDC and both the Councillors.
- Meetings with VIA regarding pavement and highways issues.
- Meetings regards industries in the village such as ECO Prime.
- Meetings and conversations regarding the HMO issues.
- Meetings and conversations with other Parish Councils regarding mutual topics, defibrillator training and other matters.
- Park safety inspections
- Installing the new defibrillator cabinet at Best One Shop on Lawnwood Lane.

As you can see, a lot of what we do goes on behind the scenes and it's not always obvious how much work and investment we as a Parish Council are making in the background.

I would also once again like to thanks both the Village Hall and the sub-committee for their continued hard work and input in supporting the PC, from opening, closing and hosting events

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in the Hall, to being a part of the Elkesley Village Plan assembly, promotion and input. It really is humbling that we have such a vast amount of knowledge within the village and people who are willing to get involved.

On that note and I will speak personally as a one off. Thanks to all who turned out to vote and what a resounding win for the community. It's good to see common sense prevail and Elkesley hold the title deeds to our own future.

Regardless of personal opinion and some negative dialect, I will stand fast and will always advocate our village being in charge of our own destiny where we can. I am under absolutely no illusion that anything we suggest or advise can be overturned and in the long run our plan overturned in individual circumstances, however, it's good to have a plan in the first place based upon a voice of the masses, in my opinion that holds weight and should be relied upon when making future decisions within our community.

The Village plan and all things related have naturally had to take first place of late and that battle is now won, that brings me onto our second and one of equal significance and importance, the illegal site on Brough Lane.

I have composed and drafted a lengthy document that will this evening be mailed and emailed out to the CEO of BDC.

I make absolutely no apology for the tone of the letter and the content within, although it is quite cut throat, it is as equally professional and we have to set an example and precedent that enough is enough and no longer will we be walked over by supposed leaders who are toothless tigers who are both in effective and professionally incompetent in role.

It is my intention that my letter reaches the top in order to invoke communications and conversations with those who can have an input and address some of our wants and concerns. This has been long overdue and this is now the vocal point of each and every meeting until resolution. We will have this topic as a standing agenda item until further notice, I will now share my intended letter.**

Onto a lighter note, for those who don't know, so far we now have pledges from other businesses within the area who have agreed to match Starbucks.

Eco Prime and A1 metals from Jockey Lane have now also pledged £250 each per year to the Parish Council to go towards defibs, maintenance and other life-saving equipment. This means each year as a minimum we will receive £750 for the upkeep and replenishment of items.

The money has already been received and more than £400 of this has already been well spent on the new plastic defibrillator cabinet housed at the Best One Shop. Thanks to Kumar and Abiya for their continued support and selfless kindness to the village.

Also massive thanks to Scott Redfern for fitting the cabinet for us, very decent of him.

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I have yet to hear back from Grantham Caravans, Plevins and the Vicarage, if I don't receive a reply by the next meeting I will assume they don't want to assist or contribute towards vital lifesaving equipment within our village.

Those with a keen eye will also note that we've had bulldozers and clearance equipment on the Elkesley side of the airfield. As it stands, they are demolishing all the old commercial buildings and clearing the wasteland with future plans to re-build and modernise the site.

For anyone with an interest, Google "M1 agency Nottingham" and put Retford or Gamston into the search bar and you'll see the information. I don't think it's a bad thing; it's certainly better than the eyesore we've endured over the past years.

Once again, thank you all for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you all Sunday for the Christingle, lights switch on and festivities.

PS: if anyone wants to help us put up the village Christmas Tree the help will be well received.

***To be posted on website in due course*