

Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Annual Parish Meeting
on **Monday 12th May 2025, 7.00 pm** at the Village Hall, Ellington.

Present: Councillors: Cllrs Hinchliffe (Vice-Chair), Chapman, Crook, Schmidt, MacKenzie

Clerk Lisa Hazel
County / Disc County Cllr Ian Gardener and District Council Stephen Cawley

Public: 6 members of the public were present.

In the absence of the Parish Council Chair Cllr Hinchliffe as Vice-Chair chaired this meeting.

1. Chairmans Welcome

The Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approve minutes of meeting held on 13th May 2024

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed.

3. Annual Report of Ellington Parish Council by the Chairman:

The Vice-Chair read the Chairman's report in their absence:

Roads:

- Since the inception of the A14 SAG, we have extensively logged and reported all of the incidents we knew of. From FB, group chats such as parent chats, etc. Safety: multiple serious accidents especially around the cross-junctions. On average, ONE accident or incident each WEEK
- Potholes and blocked drains - logged where possible for resolution
- Working with the local authorities we successfully challenged and had reduced the speed limit through Ellington Thorpe.
- Applied to LHI funding for 30mph roundels for Thrapston Road.
- Applied for 20mph zones in and around the village, depending on how successful the bid is.

Community Focus:

- Organised a number of litter-picking events helping to keep Ellington tidy
- Carried out a tree survey and, based on the findings, had tree works completed
- Continue to work with HDC and others on maintenance and repairs of our footpaths and request they hold parties accountable when footpaths are in need of repair etc.
- Contributed to all Active Travel surveys and meetings with CCC, HDC.
- Contributed to surveys for local bus services with the endeavor to provide more frequent and reliable services now and going forward.
- Supported Grafham Village with their campaign to keep the Grafham to Brampton Road

open. We've done this through representing the needs of the Ellington residents and having representatives on the working group actively challenged the closure of this road.

- CIL funds also spent on the Xmas tree. £108 to bring some joy.
- Planning to spend more on Planters to be positioned near the village benches, including some kind words for former Cllr Dave Porter.
- The PC donated £1900 to Grafham Community First Responders.
 - An Ellington resident was recently accepted by the NHS as a Volunteer Community First Responder, holding the nationally accredited FREC3 (First Response in Emergency Care, level 3) qualification.
 - Whilst the group is the Grafham Water First Response Group, the resident is based here and will operate within an 8-min reach
 - Looking to raise equipment funds of £4,600: medical equipment, £750 for PPE, and a further £850 to secure a National Mobilisation Application (NMA) phone.

4. To invite the County Councillor to address the meeting

Cllr Gardner's report is attached Appendix: A

5. To invite the District Councillor to address the meeting

Cllr Cawley's report is attached Appendix: B

6 Receive Report from EPFA

Cllr Hinchliffe provided a verbal report on behalf of the EPFA. Noted:

- There are approximately 10 committee members who help organise events and maintain equipment,
- The main annual events are, Treasure Hunt, Village Gala and Santa Sleigh,
- New items / equipment have been fencing for the tennis court, cricket wicket / nets and a climbing wall.

Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council for their continued support.

7. Receive Report from Ellington Church

The Vice-Chair read the Church Report as follows:

The current Service pattern allows Ellington to enjoy two 9:30 Services a month. With friends from Grafham and Brampton often attending, the average congregation has remained steady at 16 plus children. Our Wednesday Morning Prayer is regularly attended by two Parishioners, which is actually an increase on last year!

Outside these Services, All Saints continues to be well attended during the yearly life of the village. Once again this year, Ann Davies organised a Flower Festival, the 50th to be held at the church, over the weekend of the Village Gala. The weekend closed with Songs of Praise attended by 53 people.

Taken with the 44 people who attended the Remembrance Sunday Service, the 85 who attended the carol service, and the 31 at Christmas Eve communion it can be seen that we will have to continue to challenge ourselves to find ways to draw some of these people to our regular services. The tradition of Carols at the Mermaid, revived last year, was also very successful, as was the distribution of hot cross buns, provided by the Townlands Trust, on Good Friday.

Walter Howell, Dennis Jolley, and the Parish Council continue to maintain the churchyard in excellent condition, and the Village litter pick and Churchyard clean up weekends have been well attended. Finally, the fabric of the church continues to benefit from the hard work and attention of Rob Barker, and the interiors from the efforts of Ann Davies and the flower group. This is very much appreciated.

8. Receive Report from Townlands Charity

Richard Howells provided a verbal report on behalf of the Townlands Charity.

The following points were noted:

- The Charity is over 200 years old.
- 70 acres of land is farmed which the charity receives an income from.
- Over the last year the charity has been able to financially help support the following:-
 - Church with green bin charges, fabric of the building and lighting conductor for the roof
 - Provide assistance to 2 pupils at different schools within the village
 - Help Grafham Water Community First Responder
 - New bench for the playing field,
 - Hot cross buns for all residents

9. Receive Report from Ellington Village Gala Committee

None Received.

10. Parish Council Accounts 2023-2024 Audited

The Clerk highlighted the audited accounts for 2023 - 2024 are available on the website.

11. For members of the public to present, discuss and resolve upon any other matters related to Ellington Parish.

Members of the public in attendance agreed to speak in the Public Forum in the Parish Council meeting which follows this meeting.

12. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed.

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