Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of **Meeting** of Ellington Parish Council held
on **Monday 14th September 2026, 7.30pm** at the Village Hall, Ellington.

Present: Councillors: Cllrs: Stening (Chairman), Hinchliffe, Ruddle, Schmidt, Elliott and Crook.

Clerk: Lisa Hazel
County / Disc: Cllr Ian Gardner, Cllr Stephen Cawley

Public: Approximately 17 members of the public were present.

Open Forum
A resident from Windmill Close highlighted he has been in contact with the Parish Council and will cut back the overgrown hedging from the footpath. The initial resident who raised the concerns then gave their view on the situation. The Chairman noting that the conversation was getting heated confirmed the Parish Council is their to represent the views of all residents and asked one of the 2 residents to leave to diffuse the situation. Noted one of the residents left and the other resident was asked to take some time before leaving.

A resident bought to the attention of the Parish Council that the cage around the tree on the village green is in need of attention / removal. The Chairman confirmed steps are being taken for its removal.

A resident raised the issue of the weight limit Thrapston Road and Cambridgeshire County Councils response. The resident highlighted the weight limit was set before the A14 was built, that times have changed and there are more houses on both sides of the road now suggesting the road is no longer suitable for the majority of HGV's that travel along it.

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Mr Taylor, Buffaload Logistics Ltd, asked that his thanks be expressed for the recent drain jetting that was carried out in the village highlighting a good job was done. Mr Taylor also confirmed he will shortly be carrying out works to flatten the soil from recent works and asked that this be recorded in the minutes, notifying residents.

A resident asked about the suggested piece of land that was put forward for development near St Peters Way. The Chairman confirmed that Huntingdonshire District Council has not selected this piece of land for inclusion in the Local Plan.

It was noted that **County** and **District Councillor's** reports was missing from the agenda. Therefore, it was agreed to take this next - Copies of both reports are attached to these minutes.

Cllr Ian Gardener was asked about highways works to corner of footpath, High Street / Grafham Road. Cllr Gardener confirmed the damaged section of footpath is to be repaired again and bollards installed to stop vehicles driving over the corner. The Chairman raised the issue of ANPR cameras again with Cllr Gardener.

2061 To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were noted and approved from Cllr Deal.

2062 Declarations of interest in any agenda item
None.

2063 To approve the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday 10th August 2026

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed.

2064 Matters arising from previous minutes not on the agenda

- **Note Newsletter published**

NOTED. It was resolved to try and publish a newsletter every quarter.

- **Judo Club Financial Request - Update**

The Clerk confirmed the PC has now received the information provided. However, the matter has now been closed, therefore, the information has been passed to the Reserve fund committee who have suggested they can assist.

2065 North Huntingdon Cumulative Impacts Group - Update

The Chairman provided members with an update highlighting the group are disappointed the District Council have voted for the local plan to go through to the next stage. The date of the next meeting was noted and members were asked if anyone can attend on behalf of Ellington PC. It was highlighted the group are meeting with the developers for Brampton Cross in October.

2066 HGV Access / Weight Limits - Update

- **Note FOI request response on weight limits, Ellington**

NOTED. Cllr Elliott provided members with an update highlighting Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) do not have some of the documents requested.

- **Note CCC 18T weight limit response.**

Noted CCC have undertaken a review of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and associated plans. At the time the Order was made, the M1-A1 Link Road (now the A14) had not been constructed. Consequently, all traffic travelling between the A1 and Thrapston passed through Ellington via Thrapston Road. Having considered the historical context in which the Order was made, CCC has come to the view that Thrapston Road was not intended to form part of the restricted zone. Given this the boundary lines on the TRO maps have been altered to reflect this. CCC have apologised for any misinformation that has been given previously by officers.

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National Highways in response have also removed the weight limit sign from the A14 slip road as it created ambiguity on where the restriction started.

- **Resolve to agree response to above.**

RESOLVED to the drat response to CCC as prepared by Cllr Elliott asking for further details on how the decision was reached. **Action: Clerk.**
The Clerk was also asked to contact the neighbouring Parish Council, Spaldwick, as the change in boundary lines also affects them.

- **Note details of HGV Covenant and consider entering into agreement**

The Chairman highlighted at the last meeting that Julie Feltwell, Buffaload Logistics Ltd confirmed she was open to discussion on this.

The Chairman proposed setting up a sub-group consisting of the Chairman, Cllr Elliott and Cllr Ian Gardener as an independent body to arrange a meeting with Buffaload Logistics Ltd to look into HGV covenants with the aim of reaching a mutual agreement with all parties which will be bought to the PC for full approval. Cllr Hinchliffe put forward a suggestion that the PC should wait for the response from CCC on weight limits.

Cllr Ian Gardner highlighted it appears clear that Thrapston Road was never intended to be within the weight limit and that CCC do not have the funds to make any changes confirming if the PC wishes to make changes it would have to be funded privately or through the LHI scheme. This was disputed by some members.

RESOLVED to approve the setting up of the sub-committee whilst waiting for a response from CCC highlighting the 2 can run in parallel with each other.

2067 Trees - Update

- **To receive recommendations from Cllr Schmidt on course of action**

Cllr Schmidt provided an update. Ownership of the playing field has now been identified and the owners have indicated they would like the playing field to be included in future tree surveys. RESOLVED to undertake a tree survey. Cllr Schmidt is to organise this and report back. Cllr Schmidt also confirmed he is arranging a working party to remove the metal cage from abound the tree on the village green.

Members suggested that based on the tree survey outcome, Lady Mary Dinah of Ellington should be approached to help assist financially with any associated costs of the survey and any tree works along with a contribution toward grass cutting costs. This item is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

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2068 Mermaid Pub Asset of Community Value (ACV) application - Update

Cllr Deal's report was read as follows:

- Following our last meeting I had a lengthy meeting with Chris and Kay. AT THIS STAGE they preferred not to enter the idea of ACV , but did not rule it out for the future. They were continuing with the listing for sale and in the meantime , which by now may in place, they have employed a Consultancy company to take a closer look at the company and find solutions which would allow them to continue as owners but not have to be 'hands on' and so relieving some of the day-day pressure. Chris also gave the impression that further down the line should a 'village group' /consortium be interested in purchasing that Chris?Kay might wish to be part of that group . I hope to have a brief chat with them when I return from Holiday

2069 Street Lighting

- **Note broken light Green Lane / St Peters Way**

NOTED. The Clerk confirmed that the light in question is on private land owned by Lady Mary Dinah of Ellington.

Mr Ross Taylor, Buffaload Logistics Ltd offered his support in getting the light fixed.

RESOLVED the Clerk is to obtain a quote for its repair from Balfour Beatty. Lady Mary Dinah of Ellington is to be made aware of the broken light and provided with the quote for its repair.

The Chairman asked members if they were happy if as the new Chairman he approaches Lady Mary to re-establish communications with her and build a relationship. This was approved.

- **Resolve to undertake village street light survey**

The Clerk confirmed previously the PC had an agreement with Balfour Beatty to provide a maintenance contract for 3 street lights in the village that are not under the responsibility of CCC. However, the previous PC agreed not to renew the contract when it expired. The Clerk confirmed she was unable to establish the lights in question.

RESOLVED the Clerk is to undertake a survey of all of the street lights in the village to establish ownership.

2070 Planning

- **To consider the briefing note regarding the HDC meeting and agree further action**

Members noted the content of the briefing notes provided by the Clerk. RESOLVED to approve actions as listed.

- **To note LGR Update** - NOTED.
- **To Note following surveys / Consultations and to consider Parish Council response:**
  - **Cambridgeshire Rights of Way Improvement Survey - closing date 11th October 2026**
    RESOLVED to resend to members. Cllr Elliott is to respond on behalf of the PC.
  - **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review - Scoping Consultation & Call for Sites - closing date 12th October 2026**
    Noted the new Call for Sites is for any land suitable for minerals extraction and waste disposal. The Clerk in discussion with Cllr Deal is to send around a draft response for submission.
  - **Planning Powers for Mayors in England - Open Consultation - closing date 5th October 2026 -** RESOLVED the Chairman is to respond on behalf of the PC.
  - **Temporary Traffic Road Order 26-21748 The Green, Ellington - Proposed Temporary Road Closure for Anglian Water works**
    NOTED - It was agreed to respond asking that access to the Village Hall is maintained at all times. The Chairman asked the Clerk to also ask if ducting can be installed at the same time. **Action:Clerk**
  - **Districtwide Dog Control - Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)**
    NOTED the Clerk based on members comments responded to this application in favour of the PSPO being renewed.

The Clerk confirmed a new planning application has been received as follows:

PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – APPLICATION REF. 26/01669/FULTDC, Technical Details Consent for the erection of 9 dwellings persuant to Permission in Principle approval 25/00966/PIP (appeal ref APP/H0520/W/25/3371361) - Land West Of Grove Cottage Malting Lane Ellington

As per Standing Orders the Clerk is to seek members views and respond accordingly.

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2071 Training

- Note Cllr Deal attending CAPALC Planning Training Understanding the Planning System & Writing Effective Representations - NOTED
- NOTE onlineTraining Session: Commenting on Planning Applications, Public Access and the National Planning Policy Framework Updates - 21st October 2026 - NOTED.

2072 To receive verbal updates for noting (if not covered above):

Village Hall Committee Representative - Cllr Ruddle - Nothing to report.
A14 SAG / Roads / Footpaths - Cllr Elliott - Nothing to report.
Planning - Cllr Deal - Nothing to report.
Trees - Cllr Schmidt - This has been covered earlier on in the meeting.
North Huntingdon Cumulative Impacts Group - Cllr Stening - Covered earlier on.
Woolley Hill Wind Farm Representative - Lisa Hazel (Clerk)
The Clerk confirmed the fund is now closed for applications. The group are to meet towards the end of the year to consider all applications submitted.
Speed Watch - Cllr Hinchliffe - Noted speed watch sessions are to resume shorlty.
Community Action Plan - Cllr Crook - Nothing to report.
Ellington Church + Townlands Charity Representative - Cllr Ruddle
Cllr Ruddle reiterated the fund is there to support persons or families in need.
Noted the Churchyard clear up has been arranged for the 7th of November 2026.
RESOLVED to hold a village litter pick at the same time. It was put forward that the current vicar's time is split between 3 villages, Grafham, Ellington and Brampton with Brampton taking up the most of the vicars time. Members suggested inviting the vicar of the Church to a future meeting to meet members and discuss future plans of the Church.
EPFA - Cllr Hinchliffe
Noted the EPFA are looking into purchasing new rubber matting. It was highlighted that there has been recent anti- social behaviour on the playing field, littering and broken glass being found in several places.
RESOLVED the Clerk is to produce a Facebook post highlighting the PC do not condone such behaviour and asking that all litter is picked up and disposed of in the bin.

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2073 Finance & Administration:-

a. To receive financial situation of Council and to note bank reconciliation
The Clerk confirmed she will produce a bank reconciliation for the next meeting.
b. Note payments made since last meeting and payments to be authorised
NOTED and listed at the bottom of the minutes.
c. Consider donation request from East Anglian Air Ambulance
It was highlighted that the air ambulance was put on standby for a resident in need in the village recently. Given the close proximity to the A14 which experiences crashes where on occasion the Air Ambulance is required to attend and the on the basis the air ambulance is there potentially for all residents should they ever need it, it was agreed to donate £100 under S137 of the LGA 1974.
d. To consider purchase of lamppost poppies for Remembrance Day
RESOLVED to purchase 25 lamppost poppies.
e. Consider and approve quick book recommendations
The Chairman is to assist the Clerk in choosing the appropriate plan.
f. Resolve to retrieve documents from Lloyds Bank safety deposit box

The Clerk confirmed after investigation over the last year she has become aware that documents are being held in the bank vault on behalf of the PC. It was suggested that they may be deeds to the VH but no-one is aware exactly what documents are there.
RESOLVED to retrieve documents from the bank.

2074 Any other Business for information only

- **Review Councillor Email Communications**

The Clerk highlighted important emails appear to go unanswered or get missed due to the plethora of emails received / sent and asked members on their email preferences.
RESOLVED the clerk is to 'flag or prioritise' important emails to members.

The Chairman confirmed he will help assist the Clerk with preparing a draft budget for the November meeting highlighting that the precept is likely to increase.

Cllr Hinchliffe highlighted on Thrapston Road near the entrance to the A14 over bridge that there is recent kerb damage and a dip is starting to develop in the road where works have taken place. Cllr Hinchliffe is to report this on the CCC portal.

The Clerk was asked to contact National Highways requesting that extra signage is installed for the upcoming A14 road closures to ensure villagers are not impacted.

2075 Date of next meetings: Nov 9th 2026

- **Consider change of date for November 2026 meeting date.**

RESOLVED due to the unavailability of the Clerk and Chairman to re-arrange the November meeting to the 23rd of November 2026 subject to the VH's availability.

- **Agree to set dates for 2027 meetings**

RESOLVED to continue holding bi-monthly meetings starting in January 2027.

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There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.16pm.

20/07/2026	BEAM - Grass Cutting	£250.00
20/07/2026	BEAM - Grass Cutting - Fete	£80.00
20/07/2026	BEAM - Grass Cutting	£250.00
20/07/2026	Core Synergy - Email Fees	£24.00
20/07/2026	Core Synergy - Email Fees	£24.00
20/07/2026	L Hazel - Clerk Salary	£389.50
20/07/2026	Supernova Group Ltd - VH SURVEY - (CIL MONEY)	£360.00
20/07/2026	Bank Charges	£4.25
10/08/2025	L Hazel - Clerk Salary	£389.50
11/08/2026	SLCC - Affiliation Fee	£200.00
11/08/2026	HDC Election Costs	£1,841.94

17/08/2026	Bank Charges	£4.25
10/09/2026	G Crouch Village Hall Emegency Sign - CIL MONEY	£142.30
10/09/2026	L Hazel - Clerk Salary	£389.50

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