

**MINUTES OF LESSINGHAM AND HEMPSTEAD WITH ECCLES ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING HELD AT LESSINGHAM VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 11TH MARCH
2025 AT 7.30PM**

The Parish Council Chairman, Peter Peruzzi, presided and the following Councillors were present:-

James Holden, Sue Allen, Gina Dunn, Emma Hallums and Helen Twining. The Parish Clerk and County Councillor Richard Price was also present. There was one member of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 12TH MARCH 2024

The minutes of the last meeting were **agreed**, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by James Holden, all in favour. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3. UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman's Report was presented by Peter Peruzzi (**Appendix 1**).

b. Financial Report

The Financial Report was presented by the Clerk (**Appendix 2**). It was noted that the accounts were in draft pending the year end on 31st March 2025. There was expected to be a surplus of around £1,000 at the end of the year.

5. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER REPORTS

- i. County Councillor
Richard Price did not give a report.
- ii. District Councillor
No report.
- iii. Police
No report.
- iv. Village Hall
No report.

6. GENERAL PARISH ISSUES

None.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

Signed:

Dated:

CHAIR'S REPORT – for period 2024/25

Upon reflection of the Parish Council's work this year, I feel it has had an end of cycle feel to it.

The work the Council and its Clerk have carried out to improve its financial stability has come to fruition and it is now on a sound financial footing. This has thankfully meant we didn't have to increase the Parish Precept for this coming financial year.

We have continued to work on road safety in the Parish, and have joined with East Ruston PC in purchasing a SAM2 speed sign, after receiving major funding from NNC.

The Council has continued to monitor the work to the sea defences at Eccles, with work currently ongoing to replace the beach groynes, as part of the EA's 'hold the line' approach to the Parish's section of coast. This has also included attempts to improve dialogue with the major stakeholders to ensure the protection of the beach's ecosystem.

We have seen some Councillors stand down, after several terms of selfless service, and I'd like to thank them for their time. We are also going to see a change in Clerk, with Catherine stepping down from the role after several terms of the most diligent work. Finally, I'd like to pause here to remember Andrew, who sadly passed away last year after many years of serving the Parish.

On a brighter note, we have had several new Councillors join the group, who I'm sure will bring new enthusiasm and ideas. Additionally, I believe that interest in the PC, and the work that it does, is now much increased with the community as a whole.

Lastly, but not least, I would like to thank you all for the work you have carried out this term. I believe we have served the community well, with impartiality and integrity, and I believe that we will continue to do so.

Peter Peruzzi

11/03/25

Lessingham Parish Council
Accounts for year ending 31st March 2025

	2024/25		<i>Budget</i> <i>2024/25</i>	2023/24	
Income					
Precept	£	5,106.00	<i>£5,106.00</i>	£	4,490.00
Grants and Donations	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	-
Misc	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	445.50
Interest	£	188.60	<i>£0.00</i>	£	150.08
VAT Reclaimed	£	118.76	<i>£0.00</i>	£	-
Total	£	5,413.36	£ 5,106.00	£	5,085.58

Expenditure					
Clerk Salary	£	2,206.87	<i>£2,091.00</i>	£	1,927.30
HMRC	£	551.60	<i>£522.00</i>	£	481.60
Mileage	£	-	<i>£50.00</i>	£	-
Administration	£	3.69	<i>£50.00</i>	£	179.44
Working from Home Allowance	£	65.00	<i>£60.00</i>	£	60.00
Training	£	104.00	<i>£200.00</i>	£	44.00
Subscriptions	£	147.50	<i>£100.00</i>	£	90.00
Audit	£	100.00	<i>£100.00</i>	£	50.00
Website	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	-
Bank Charges	£	71.40	<i>£72.00</i>	£	-
Meeting Costs	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	-
Insurance	£	241.00	<i>£250.00</i>	£	214.00
SAM2	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	370.50
S137	£	-	<i>£50.00</i>	£	50.00
Lessingham Village Hall	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	300.00
Hempstead PCC	£	-	<i>£300.00</i>	£	300.00
Litter Bins	£	218.78	<i>£900.00</i>	£	-
Democracy	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	-
Election Costs	£	-	<i>£0.00</i>	£	50.62
Miscellaneous	£	-	<i>£150.00</i>	£	115.30
VAT	£	43.76	<i>£0.00</i>	£	118.76
Contingency			<i>£211.00</i>	£	-
Total	£	3,753.60	£5,106.00	£	4,351.52

Balance B/f	£	7,819.67		£	7,085.61
-------------	---	----------	--	---	----------

Income	£	5,413.36		£	5,085.58
Expenditure	£	3,753.60		£	4,351.52
Balance c/f	£	9,479.43		£	7,819.67

Represented by					
Unity Current	£	417.55		£	179.46
Unity Deposit	£	9,778.81		£	7,640.21
Unpresented Cheques	£	716.93		£	-
	£	9,479.43		£	7,819.67

Difference	£	-
------------	---	---

Norfolk Police Report March 2025

Given its your annual meeting I have compiled a list of the calls made from the parish over the past year and will break them down into categories .

In the past 12 months we have received just 8 calls from the parish , these consist of

-

3x emergency calls which consisted of 1x domestic incident ,1x concern for safety and 1x incident at the school with an unhappy child , none of the calls would impact residents

1x priority call whereby a garage had been broken into and a number of tools and other items taken , this occurred between the end of the year /start of the year but unfortunately no suspect identified

1x scheduled appointment to report a theft of an item out of a garden , suspect identified and dealt with with out of court method

3x non attendance calls , these are either not a police matter or resolved over the phone by the call taker and do not require attendance /further interaction .

On summary you suffer very little crime or anti-social behaviour