

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ELTISLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th MAY 2026 AT 6.30PM.**

PRESENT:

4 Parish Councillors
4 members of the public
County Councillor C Poulton
SCDC Cllr Sandford
Mrs A Jackson (Parish Clerk)

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chair Cllr R Pinner was elected to preside the meeting. (Prop Cllr M Lines, 2nd Cllr Welland) All in favour.

1. Apologies for Absence.
Mr S Ellis
2. Minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting.
Resolved: That the minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting be signed as a true and correct record. (Prop Cllr M Lines, 2nd Cllr M Welland) All in favour
3. Report of the Council.
Cllr R Pinner read out the report of the Council. No questions were raised.
See Appendix A
Resolved: That the report be accepted. (Prop Cllr M Welland, 2nd Cllr M Lines) All in favour.
4. Financial Report of the Council.
Clerk read out a report on behalf of the Council – See Appendix B.
Resolved: That the report be accepted. (Cllr M Lines, 2nd Cllr J Francis) All in favour
5. Eltisley Village Green Trust Report.
Clerk read out a report on behalf of the Eltisley Village Green Trust – See Appendix B
Resolved: That the report be accepted. (Cllr M Welland, 2nd Cllr M Lines) All in favour
6. Cade Management Committee Report.
Sandra Sills, Chair of the Cade Management Committee read out the Cade Management Committee Report.
See Appendix C
Cllr M Welland asked on what basis was the A428 Legacy funding application declined. Sandra Sills advised they got through the first round but were declined in the next round due to the structure of their budget not meeting the standard. She will share the correspondence with the Parish Council.
Cllr R Pinner suggested contacting the MP regarding this matter.
7. Newton Primary School Report.
None received
8. Report from District Councillor.
SCDC P Sandford reported:
 - District elections had a good turnout of 47%, Cllr P Sandford and Cllr C Poulton were elected as Caxton & Papworth Ward Councillors. Liberal Democrats hold 43 of the 45 seats.
 - North Cambourne proposed development – attended 6-8 presentations over the last year hoping to move the development as far south as possible.

- New Environment & Climate Policy – over the next 1-2yrs SCDC will acquire 18 more electric bin lorries however the range is not good enough to use in rural areas.
- Separate food waste collection – 2 bins will be delivered with a weekly collection of food waste.

Cllr M Lines queried whether there has been any joined-up work regarding the number of developments in the area.

SCD Cllr P Sandford advised this is the purpose of the Local Plan.

9. Report from County Councillor.

CC Cllr C Poulton reported:

- Local Plan anticipated 2 zones for logistics hubs, however there are 4 being proposed 2 at the Boxworth junction and 2 at the Bar Hill junction of the A14. These are being proposed at the junction so no extra traffic is going through local villages.
- A428 – looks to be progressing as expected and should be open next year. The ongoing works have been difficult for Eltisley. Once the road is de trunked then CCC can investigate ways to reduce speeds and encourage other forms of active travel.
- Local Government Reorganisation – in 2yrs SCDC and CCC will be replaced with at least 2 Unitary Authorities. This time next year elections will be held for the Shadow Authority which will run in parallel with SCDC & CCC for a year with the Unitary Authorities taking over in 2028.

Cllr R Pinner commented that traffic calming measures need to be discussed with Highways.

CC Cllr C Poulton advised there are County bids for traffic mitigation ie. LHI Bids and the 20mph scheme. The Highways Officer has previously met with the Chairman to look at options available.

10. Report from the local Police.

None received

11. To receive questions relating to reports from the following local organisations / bodies

None

12. **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM.**

None

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.13pm

Date

Chairman

APPENDIX A

Thank you all for attending the Annual Parish Meeting for our village. Following the uncontested election the following have been elected to Eltisley Parish Council: Steve Ellis, Jackie Francis, Martin Lines, Roger Pinner and Mark Welland. Thanks to Darren Stevenson and Bill Bidgood, who decided not to stand for re-election, for all of their work with the Parish Council.

Works continue on the A428. East West Rail have a consultation open until 9th June 2026.

Peter Sandford was re-elected as our District Councillor following the election on 7th May 2026.

A new Parish Council website has been launched to make it easier to access information about council business and village services. The website address is <https://eltisley-pc.gov.uk>.

We have been successful in winning two Community Chest grants from South Cambridgeshire District Council. The first was to provide the wildflower seeds for again sowing on the verge front of the church. The second was for the provision of a Duck House for the village pond to provide a safe haven for our wild fowl.

Following a request from a resident we asked the grass cutting contractor Bradgates to refrain from cutting the verges along Potton End while the wildflowers are blooming.

The Cade has been rethatched with reed, so it should last many years now. It should also be safer as a fireproof membrane was added below the thatch. The bulk of the cost was paid for from an 'Improve The High Street' grant from South Cambridgeshire District Council and S106 agreement dated 26 November 2020 with the remainder being paid by the Parish Council.

The village was one of the parishes across South Cambridgeshire to be given a free commemorative blossom tree by the District Council to honour community volunteers and remember those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The wild cherry tree was planted on the north side of The Green to replace a tree that had died in last summer's heat wave.

Thanks to everyone who participates in the Speedwatch initiative. It really does make a difference to the speeds of the people who travel through the village. If you have a few hours a month to spare, please consider volunteering.

Thank you to everyone who supports our village.

APPENDIX C

The Cade

Chairwoman's Report 2026

Many thanks for your invitation to attend today and for the opportunity to thank you and the village for their support over the past year.

Can I take this opportunity, on behalf of the committee, to also thank the Parish Council for our wonderful new thatch? Cobbs did a fantastic job and their 7:30am start work ethic impressed not only us but many of the villagers. We congratulate you on covering much of the outlay with a grant and we are regretful that the Cade Committee were unable to donate towards the additional costs of the fire membrane, but as you can see, we have had some outlays of our own to cover.

You'll notice that we've had the floor sanded and revarnished, the ceiling repainted, the changing room dividers removed, and the doorways blocked up, made good and repainted. We're now calling this area, 'The Snug' and we are looking for appropriate soft furnishings to go in the space. We have installed new acoustic panelling and repainted the walls.

We have new chairs on order including some bar chairs and we have new blinds to fit. You'll also notice we have new lighting and we're able to use the lights as flexibly as any event could wish for.

Our contractor also rectified the doors and secured the surrounds. The bar is yet to be spruced up but we aim to get started in there soon.

We're hoping to be as ready as we can be for our Annual General Meeting on Friday 26th June and we hope as many villagers as possible will come out and see what we've achieved.

Just one negative point. We had our request for funding of our refresh from the A428 road scheme declined and we collectively agree that it's pretty disgraceful that the village will receive zero funding from the scheme despite the many diversions, noise, loss of water pressure and water altogether, power cuts and extra fuel expense we've all endured over the past 2 years and will continue to endure for another year.

What I can say though is that through our trusted contractors and dedicated volunteers, we're working on modernising The Cade yet again and we really hope the village comes out and uses this amazing, historic and picturesque space to sustain it for future generations.

As regards ongoing management: This has been my third year as Chair and Julie Herring has retained the Secretary role for a third year also. We welcomed John MacBrayne to the committee as Treasurer, but he has decided that it is not really the right role for him and will step down by the end of this calendar year. Darren Stephenson also resigned as a committee member during the year, and Patrick Fox joined us as his replacement. Can I take this opportunity to thank my committee for their hard work, especially over the course of the last few months as we've worked on the internal refresh and our thanks go to Darren and John for their service.

As regards sustainability: As always, lettings remain an important aspect of keeping The Cade sustainable and they remain buoyant. Considering our recent and planned capital outlays, our finances remain in good shape and the past years income versus outlay, evened themselves out again. We are aiming to retain a significant rainy day fund following completion of the internal refresh and could delay some items into next year rather than leave our selves unable to cope with any significant issues.

As regards, village support and active involvement: Our winter month Sunday Lunches were again well attended, and our sincere thanks go to our chefs and helpers.

This year's Christmas lights were a great success, and this was only achieved through the efforts mainly of Jim Booth, John MacBryne, Patrick Fox and Chris Flinders. We hope that their endeavours in stripping the lights right back and rehangng them will enable them to withstand 2026's weather events.

The monthly quiz remains a reliable and well supported event, and I would like to thank again Chris & Mary Flinders and Chris & Steve Ellis as well as the other quiz masters for their time, efforts and creativity!

2025's Feast Week was a great success culminating in the ceilidh organised by Chris Ellis which was brilliantly attended.

It was so good, we're doing again and will top off 2026's feast week with the same band 'Catch the pigeon' on Friday 17th July following a Fun, Food & Frolics evening on the Tuesday, Lisa's bingo on the Wed and our Cade Quiz on the Thursday. Our thanks go to the PCC, Lisa Johnson, our quiz masters and Chris Ellis in advance of this year's events.

As ever The Cade cannot exist without its bar volunteers. Can I take this opportunity to thank them for sparing their cherished time in service to their village community and as ever, we could always do with more volunteers to provide support and cover.

As a final statement, can I thank most earnestly, Chris Flinders. I really don't know what we'd do without him. From his quiz mastership to his peace tree lighting, his feast week power to the marquee and most recently his tremendous hard work in replacing the Cade lighting and for tolerating his interior decorator's whims (AKA me & Julie), we are eternally grateful.

Best regards, Sandra Sills, Chair of The Cade Management Committee