

# COTON IN THE ELM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Held on Wednesday 11th March 2026

Present: Cllr K Bradford (Chairman), Cllr Leech (Vice Chairman), Cllr Oliver and Cllr Wheelton (DCC/SDDC). Clerk: Sue Hughes. Members of the public - 0

1. **Apologies** – Cllr C Bradford, Cllr Antcliffe and Cllr Wood (SDDC)
2. **Declarations of interest** - None
3. **Members of the public** – No public present
4. **County/District Councillors**
  - a. Burton Road drain now repaired.
  - b. Ending of forum – Members urged to send in response.
  - c. NSP Oaklands Solar – application for funding. Details to follow.

**Meeting closed to the public and guest Councillor**

5. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**
  - a. Minutes **approved** from 11.2.2026 by all members present. These were circulated before the meeting, taken as read, and **signed** by the Chairman
  - b. Matters arising - None
6. **Local items**
  - a. The memorial – Awaiting companies name via Cllr Antcliffe for quotes.
  - b. Grit Bins – Location approved by SDDC for New Road, Glebe Close and the top end of Elms Road and on the Triangle. The purchase cost to be agreed at the next meeting.
  - c. Planning & Area Forum

**Planning Forum** – Cllr K Bradford attended forum meeting and reported:

    - Part 1 to be submitted in May 2026. No changes affecting Parishes.
    - Part 2 work to be completed on traveller provision, settlement boundaries and environmental protections. Further consultations by early autumn before submission by 31.12.2026.
    - Meeting with developers planned for March to address 5 years housing supply issues. Further identified sites to be consulted in Part 2 local plan.
    - Planning applications - aim for decisions/further information requests within 8 weeks\* for routine/residential applications, 13-16 weeks\* commercial. Not always possible to extend time limits for comments due to time frames \*from validation date.
    - Solar/Battery Storage - will be dealt with in the Local Plan. Fire Service not a statutory consultee and currently do not have sufficient training/information to comment
    - Section 106 - Ian Hay officer now dealing with commercial infrastructure. S106 agreement required for developments 10+ houses.
    - Oaklands solar funding a substantial Community Benefit Fund in addition to 106 funding. Expect contact shortly with suggestions for projects. e.g community buildings, sports facilities, leisure / recreational schemes. PCs suggestions welcome even if objecting to a project
    - Reminder - new combined authorities to come into effect April 2028.

**Area Forum** – The Chairman and Vice Chair to submit response and will share this with all members. **Approved** by all present.
  - d. Survey of the culvert – Awaiting a new date. Clerk chase before the next meeting.

7. **Highways update** – PC Highways report shared.
  - a. Clerk to follow up on outstanding reported items.
  - b. Email Jamie Stone to request a temporary sign for new road layout for Mill St/Burton Rd.
  - c. Outstanding requests to SDDC/DCC to be an agenda item for every meeting.
  
8. **Gov. email domain migration**  
 The agreement made in February to use Parish online for cost of @ £260 + VAT was overturned as on further investigation it was deemed too expensive. The members agreed to use Zephi Limited at the cost of £50 + VAT annual charge – **Approved**
  
9. **Finance - Documents, invoices and bank statements shared before and during the meeting. Bank statements signed by the Chairman**

Balance of accounts are: **£10503.35** savings account @1.3.26  
**£4,517.25** Current account @12.2.26

Payment **approved** by all members present for:

- a. £37.70 Clerks expense
- b. £170.40 Defib warehouse – pads
- c. £20 + £7.50 delivery Newton Flags – union Jack flag.
- d. Earmarked funds (EMF) for 2026/2027 – **Agreed and Approved** by all members present  
 £8300 6 months running cost. £5000 Brook maintenance
- d. £110 Craig Miller CM027 – Ground Maintenance

Bank Reconciliation	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	BALANCE	STATEMENT DATE
Previous balance			6100.79	12.1.2025
13.1.2025-12.2.2026	0	1583.54	4517.25	12.2.2026

10. **Groundsman costs** – Safety attire £140 share with Rosliston PC  
**Request denied.** Members agreed this is not required at present.
  
11. **Local Government Reorganisation** –  
 Invite to comment by 26.3.2026. Members urged to submit their personal responses too.
  
12. **Summer scheme – confirmed dates**  
 Adventure mobile 10-12pm on 29.7.2026 & Playmobile 2-4pm on 20.8.2026
  
13. **Clerks holiday balance** – **Approved** by all members present to carry over 8hrs to April 2026
  
14. **Reports for next meeting**  
 Plan for maintenance of brook/mowing/rowan trees/flower bed at new junction.  
 Members to come with suggestions for the next meeting.

**Meeting concluded @ 19:45**

**Next Parish Council meetings in 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 @ 6pm**