

## **MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2026 IN THE PARISH ROOM**

### **Present**

Mr Richard Wells	Chair
Mr Alan Fullerton	Councillor
Mrs Christine Dent	Councillor
Mrs Andrea Cooper	Councillor
Ms Sarah Sayer	Clerk to the Council

### **Item 1 - Introduction and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies were received from NYC Cllr Karin Sedgwick, Cllr Tony Whitbread, Julia Brown and Catherine Whitbread. The reasons were due to other commitments and illness and were accepted.

### **Item 2 – Minutes of Previous AGM**

Minutes of the last annual meeting held on 07 May 2025 (signed 25/09/24). There were no matters arising from these minutes.

### **Item 3 – Public Participation**

No questions received in advance of the meeting. No speakers registered.

### **Item 4 – Chairman’s Report**

The Chair read out the report on the previous year’s Council business, a copy is attached.

### **Item 5 – Report from the Charity of Elizabeth Barnett**

The Chair verbally presented the annual report for the Elizabeth Barnett Charity. The Income (from investments) for the year 2025/26 was around £6400.00 and the awards totalled £8790.00. The Trust contacts all eligible families and schools directly every year.

### **Item 6 – Exemption Criteria – External Audit**

Considered the criteria: *Councils that are exempt from having an audit, ie those with gross budgeted income or expenditure (whichever is the higher) of less than £25,000 per annum*

Resolved: EWPC are exempt

### **Item 7 – Internal Audit Report**

The internal audit was undertaken by Mr Andrew Mills. The signed report, included at page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 was noted.

### **Item 8 – Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement**

Section 1, included at page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 was presented by the Clerk.

The Parish Council members:

- i) Considered the findings of the review and;
- ii) Approved the Annual Governance Statement by resolution.

Resolved to approve Section 1 of the Annual Return. Section 1 was signed as correct by the presiding officer.

**Item 9 – Accounting Statement 2025/26 (Section 2)**

The RFO presented Section 2 of the annual audit, which had been signed by the RFO in advance of the meeting.

The Parish Council members:

- i) Considered the Accounting Statements as a whole;
- ii) Approved the Accounting Statements by resolution.

Resolved to approve Section 2 of Annual Accounting Statements. Section 2 was signed as correct by the presiding officer.

The opening balance for 2025/26 stood at £963

The annual expenditure was £4423

The annual income was £5712

The closing balance for 2025/26 stood at £998

**Item 10 – To approve the Publication of Documents**

Approved.

Date for next AGM – May 2027 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room.

**Signature**.....

**Date**.....