



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2013**

PRESENT:

Mayor, Cllr E Griffin-Singh

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr B Ashton

Cllr E Every

Cllr M Rouse

District Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr E Every

Cllr P Eden

Cllr N Clarke

Cllr J Tyrrell

Cllr J Mackay

Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr J Yates

Cllr S Overall

Cllr J Chaplin

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Burton.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

**3. REQUEST INTENTION OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON AN
AGENDA ITEM – as per standing order 83 b**

District Cllr S Friend-Smith declared his intention to speak on agenda item 5.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH MAY AND MATTERS ARISING
AND MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 13TH MAY AND MATTERS
ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 7th May were agreed and signed as a true record, with the addition of Cllrs Rouse and Mackay to the present list. Pages 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259 and 1260 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1256, Item 4 – Cllr Clarke reported Cllrs Arnold, Hobbs and himself had met a Highways Department officer on site at Downham Road and West Fen Road, to discuss improvements to this junction. Plans were still awaited for possible improvements.

The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 13th May were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1261, 1262, 1263 and 1264 refer.

5. QUESTION TIME

The Mayor informed those present that item 14 would be discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting. Due to the confidential nature of this item, members of the public would be excluded from the meeting.

District Cllr S Friend-Smith informed members that District Cllr J Friend-Smith had been in contact with ECDC's Legal Department to move forward his concerns of the failure of various developers to complete the footpaths on the bund, especially at Morley Drive connecting to Meadow Way. The City Council will be discussing this issue at the next Section 106 meeting. District Cllr S Friend-Smith said that the Friends of Jubilee Gardens had not been contacted by ECDC regarding the possible installation of a petanque pitch in Jubilee Gardens. She reported that they had previously been consulted on this, but felt that this was not a suitable location. She also reminded councillors of the Isle of Ely Arts Festival being held in June.

5. QUESTION TIME CONTINUED

Cllr Rouse reported in his capacity as a County Councillor and on behalf of County Cllr Anna Bailey. He informed members that Cllr Bailey had attended a briefing on the primary school situation in Ely and would feed this back to the City Council in due course. Cllr Rouse had attended a multi-agency meeting at the Country Park with regard to anti-social behaviour in this area. There had been a small amount of arson damage and one encampment was located near the sewage works. It was being considered whether the Connexions bus should visit this area, but this was not felt appropriate and a better location would be the Market Place. The provision of this service would be subject to funding being available. He had also met County Council officers on site at the Broad Street/Back Hill junction to discuss safe routes to the Station for cyclists. It was felt there was not a lot that could be done at this junction and that it was best to wait to see how the provision of the bypass would affect this route. Cyclists had requested that they should be allowed to trial a cycle route along the riverside instead of having to cycle along Broad Street. Cllr Rouse confirmed this proposal would be going out to consultation through the Riverside Improvement Plan Group.

Cllr Arnold informed members the PCSOs had requested that they been informed of events such as Youth Fairs so they can attend.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended a meeting of the Stuntney Village Council; a performance at Highfield School by their pupils and the Lantern Dance School; the Civic Briefing which was hosted by the TA; had opened Ely Fair; the Community Navigators launch and the Open University annual presentation.

The Mayor had now held two Summer Saturdays on the Market Place, which had been very successful. She had also had her Party in the Park on Sunday, which had been very well attended and very enjoyable. She thanked all the councillors that had helped her with these events.

7. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 20th May 2013 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

8. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Street Naming and Numbering:- 23A and 23B Potters Lane, Ely

Notification of tree work:- 9 Barton Road, Ely; 112 Broad Street, Ely; 114 Broad Street, Ely; 24 Williams Close, Ely; 11 Waterside, Ely; 50 Waterside, Ely

Letter from Cambridgeshire ACRE

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) ADMINISTRATION – No report as Committee had not met.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 20th May, which was unanimously approved. The Clerk gave an update with regards to the table and chairs licensing arrangements. The County Council have now made this application process available on their website, so any business that wishes to put tables and chairs on the pavement need to apply directly to them. New dog bins will be erected in Merivale Way, Ely and on the green in Stuntney. Cllr Clarke proposed the recommendation that the Jubilee Beacon be relocated to the Marina. This was seconded by Cllr Rouse and unanimously approved. Cllr Tyrrell will act as the custodian of the Beacon. It was also suggested the Council could erect another Beacon, opposite the one on the Marina, at the Maltings Cottage. The Mayor informed members that the matter regarding the Riverside signage had originally been raised at the Riverside Improvement Plan Group, as these had been erected in other places such as St Ives. She had not proposed signs on the bridges on the approaches to Ely, but this had been raised in the general discussion. Cllr Eden informed members that there were 'Welcome to Ely' signs on the river banks as you entered the City. These had been provided by the City of Ely Perspective. Cllr Hobbs felt that all the 'Welcome to Ely' signs on the highway at the entrances to the City were looking very shabby. As Ely was such a historic City he felt these should be replaced to reflect this. Cllr Eden informed members the County Council had put forward some proposals for hard standing and bus shelters at Beresford Road and King's Avenue. He therefore suggested that the Council might consider whether it should install the two bus shelters on King's Avenue. Members agreed that as recommended at the Street Furniture meeting a decision will not be made until it is ascertained if the Absolutely bus

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service will continue. The issues raised regarding the amount of litter in the City Centre will be raised at the next City Centre Forum meeting. Cllr Every felt that there needed to be a partnership with the City traders so there can be corporate responsibility.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Clarke informed members the replacement play equipment for St John's play area had been ordered and should be installed before the summer holidays. The replacement equipment at Stuntney had been installed and the new specification for the roadways at the cemetery will be sent out to contractors for re-tendering.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 10th June. A small group of the Committee will be visiting USAF Mildenhall on the 10th June to present certificates to their personnel who had volunteered and helped erect the Christmas Lights in the City.

(v) ELY IN BLOOM – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 4th June. The hanging baskets were now in place around the City.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – Not met.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – Cllr Yates presented a report of a meeting held on the 1st May, which was unanimously approved. A further Youth Fair had been held on the 31st May between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm on the Market Place. Five exhibitors had taken place and this proved to be a very good afternoon.

(viii) CITY CENTRE COMMITTEE – Cllr Yates presented a report of a meeting held on the 8th May, which was unanimously approved. A City Centre Strategy Sub-Group had now been formed to look at developing a collaborative approach to Tourism, Marketing and Development. They will report back to the City Centre Forum with their ideas for discussion, before being considered at Full Council. It had been proposed at the meeting that this Committee needed to revert back to a Working Party, rather than a Committee. As a Committee it is more restrictive about who can speak and does not allow for a full discussion of matters. Members unanimously agreed that it would now become a Working Party and would be called the City Centre Forum.

It was also agreed that a members' seminar would be held for the Council to discuss what their aims and objectives for the City Centre should be. This would also include a discussion on tourism in the City.

District Cllr S Friend-Smith left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

10. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

There were no reports from Working Parties or Steering Groups.

11. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Prickwillow Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 7th May were noted.

Stuntney Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 15th May were noted. Members unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Every as the Council's representative on Stuntney Village Council.

City of Ely Perspective Riverside Group – tabled minutes of a meeting held on the 14th May were noted. Cllr Yates reported that ECDC would be funding repairs to the play area at Jubilee Gardens, subject to the Friends of Jubilee Gardens making a contribution to this, which they had agreed to do.

12. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2013

A proposal for the approval of the accounts and the signing of the Annual Governance Statement for the Annual Return and the Supporting Statement was put forward by Cllr Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Overall. This was unanimously approved and the Mayor and Clerk signed the Annual Statement, Annual Governance Statement and the Supporting Statement.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted:-

The Clerk

14. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE MAGISTRATES COURT

Due to the confidential nature of this item it was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.

15. FINANCE

Members approved the following for payment:

East Cambs District Council	370.00	paid by direct debit
East Cambs District Council	520.00	paid by direct debit
Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Francotyp-Postalia Ltd	100.00	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	330.59	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	417.49	paid by direct debit
Barclays Bank	55.92	paid by direct debit
ESPO	110.44	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	58.32	paid by direct debit
ESPO	672.31	paid by direct debit
Francotyp-Postalia Ltd	60.00	paid by direct debit
Ely Methodist Church	60.00	109091
Ely College	10.00	109092
W E Dunnico	611.00	109094
ESPO	624.72	109095
Andrew Firebrace Partnership	1200.00	109096
Quadrant Security Group Ltd	1781.38	109097
G & J Peck Ltd	121.45	109098
Michael Kilpatrick	150.00	109099
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	24.48	109100
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	2900.64	109101
Wider Plan Ltd	164.80	109093
Middle Fen & Mere Internal DB	75.60	109102
ESPO	49.81	109103
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109104
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109105
CCTV Volunteer	6.00	109106
CCTV Volunteer	13.16	109107
G & J Peck Ltd	33.70	109108
Southern Electric	107.79	paid by direct debit

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 7th May 2013

Salaries and wages	£9702.86
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2210.25
Pension fund payments	£3093.60

The bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st May 2013 was not tabled as the bank statement had not been received. It will be considered at the next Full Council meeting.