



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE VERNON CROSS ROOM, ELY MUSEUM, MARKET STREET, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 6TH MAY 2014

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Griffin-Singh
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr N Clarke

Deputy Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr J Yates
Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr M Rouse
Cllr J Pearson

Mrs V Holden (parishioner)

Mrs M Haynes (parishioner)

Mr R Morgan

Ms A Whelan

Ms C Whelan

Mr I Lindsay

Mr N Hitchin

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ashton and Barber.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no requests for dispensations and no declarations of interest requested.

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

Mrs Holden declared an intention to speak on agenda items 4. Cllr Hobbs declared an intention to speak on agenda item 12.

4. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 24TH MARCH AND MATTERS ARISING AND MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH APRIL AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting, held on the 24th March, were agreed and signed as a true record. Page 1331 refers.

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 7th April were agreed and signed as a true record, following the addition of Mrs Haynes as present. Pages 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336 and 1337 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1332, item 4 – Mrs Holden informed members she had contacted ECDC regarding the planning application for the Magistrates Court. The Clerk informed her that the application had been registered, but had not been processed yet, as further information was awaited from the Council's architect. Cllr Yates confirmed that he and Cllr Every would arrange a meeting with her as soon as possible.

Page 1333, item 5 – Members had not received an update from the Post Office and therefore requested the Clerk chase this and invite a Post Office representative to a future Full Council meeting.

5. QUESTION TIME

The Mayor informed those present that item 18 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.

Cllr Hobbs in his capacity as a District Councillor reported that following complaints regarding the litter bins within the City Centre, these are now being refurbished by the Payback Team. Public conveniences within the City are currently being inspected to ensure they meet the necessary standards. There are concerns regarding the standard of the Palace Green toilets. He also said what a fabulous weekend it had been in Ely last week, with the Eel Weekend. Members agreed that there had been so much going on and was very well organised. The Mayor will send a letter of congratulations to Tracey Harding of ECDC and her team, for all their hard work, in making it such a success. Cllr Every reported that the Perspective Group and the City Centre Forum had collected 28 money off vouchers from businesses within the City, which had been made into a leaflet and given out over the weekend. These were available for a week, to allow people to come back and use the vouchers.

Cllr Rouse in his capacity as a District Councillor reported there would be a Street Velodrome on the 1st June in the Market Place. They were still looking at the cycle link between Allen Road to Summerhayes and still hoping to provide a rear, pedestrian entrance in to St Mary's School. As a County Councillor he reported that longer term plans for Ely will emerge and there will also be a need to address the doctor's surgery provision. Is this currently in a suitable location? They will be looking to the North of Ely to provide premises.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the re-launch of the Mango Valley restaurant at Stretham; Ely Choral Society performance at the Cathedral; held a Charity Fashion Show at the Cloisters; attended Viva's Spring Party; the St George's Day Service; Fenprobe AGM; CAT's premier performance of the Owl and the Pussy Cat; Eel Day and Town Crier Competition; Food Fair; Pet service in Ely Cathedral and the K9 dog show.

The Mayor took item 7 before item 6, as one of the applicants had another meeting to attend.

7. CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES IN THE SOUTH WARD

Members considered five applicants for the co-option of the two vacancies in the South Ward. All applicants gave a short talk about themselves and why they would like to be a councillor. Following these members followed the Council's Standing Orders and undertook a confidential vote. After eliminating two of the applicants, on the third vote all three remaining applicants tied with 6 votes each. Therefore, the Chairman had the casting vote and elected Ms A Whelan and Mr I Lindsay as the two new councillors.

All the applicants left the meeting at 7.40 pm,

8. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 24th March 2014 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work:- 9 The Paddock, Ely; 19B Downham Road, Ely; 6 Cardinals Way, Ely; Heaton Close, Ely; 34 St Mary's Street, Ely; 63B Prickwillow Road, Ely; 11A Barton Road, Ely; 90 St Mary's Street, Ely; 4 The Vineyards, Ely; 19 Castlehythe, Ely; 96 Morton Close, Ely; 94 Morton Close, Ely

Notification of full road closure – Padnal Bank (Drove Way) – 21 – 22.7.14

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (i) FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – No report as Committee had not met
- (ii) STREET FURNITURE – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 14th April, which was approved. Cllr Every proposed the Tree Planting Policy be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr Pearson and unanimously approved. Cllr Arnold reported that the total cost of fixing the river signage was £900 plus VAT. Members unanimously agreed to this cost. However, Cllr Hobbs strongly objected to the use of the old ‘Welcome to Ely’ signs, as he felt these were not in keeping with the City image.
- (iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. The Clerk reported that a third quote for the fencing at High Barns play area had been received. This however, was higher than that received from Kestrel Fencing, which was at a cost of £4116.57. Therefore, members unanimously agreed to award the contract to Kestrel Fencing.
- (iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met.
- (v) ELY IN BLOOM – Members asked when the hanging baskets and planters would be ready. The Clerk agreed to verify the dates for these and inform members.
- (vi) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met.
- (vii) ELY/RIBE – Notes of a meeting held on the 15th April were noted.
- (viii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as not met. Cllr Yates informed members that he was continuing to meet with Centre 33 and The Forum. A report will be presented to Full Council shortly. The Council will be able to elect a representative on to the Board of The Forum shortly.

11. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously agreed. *Due to the confidential nature of this item, this was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.*

CCTV - a verbal report was given in Committee at the end of the meeting.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Section 106 – minutes of a meeting held on the 23rd April were noted. Cllr Hobbs requested that the City Council consider making a financial contribution towards the cost of a summer physical activity programme, using the Country Park and Jubilee Gardens. Members agreed to make a contribution of £250 towards this. Cllr Hobbs confirmed that ECDC would report back to the City of Ely Council on how successful this had been. The Clerk informed members she had sought clarification from ECDC regarding the maintenance of the solar lights along the Riverside. The City of Ely Council had agreed to fund these through Section 106 monies, subject to ECDC taking responsibility for the maintenance. However, on clarification ECDC had said they would not do this. Cllr Hobbs agreed to look into this matter. No lights will be purchased until the situation has been confirmed.

City of Ely Allotment Association – minutes of a meeting held on the 19th February were noted.

Notes of a meeting re Lisle Lane Cycle facilities held on the 9th April were noted.

Notes of a meeting re cobbles held on the 10th April were noted.

13. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON POST HEARING 'SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS RELATING TO THE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL PLAN

Members noted the proposed modifications, but had no comments to make.

14. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF PUBLIC PAYPHONE AT WALSINGHAM WAY, ELY

Members had no objections to the removal of this public payphone.

15. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM PRICKWILLOW ENGINE TRUST

Members considered the request from the Prickwillow Engine Trust for a financial contribution towards a trailer, which would be used to transport the old Ely Fire Engine to various shows and events. Members felt that it may be possible to make a contribution from the grants heading, before the grants are considered in September. Cllr Hobbs proposed that the Clerk speak to the Trust to obtain further information. This would include what other sources of funding they have; do they ask for donations at shows and when they need to purchase this. This was seconded by Cllr Arnold and unanimously agreed. It was felt that a grant of up to £1000 could be offered by the Clerk.

Cllr Arnold left the meeting at 8.35 pm to attend the Prickwillow Village Council meeting.

16. TO CONSIDER QUOTES REGARDING ADDITONAL PAINTING OF THE EXTERIOR OF THE MAGISTRATES COURT AND UPDATE

The Clerk informed members that the additional quotes for the painting of the exterior of the Magistrates Court had been received from Greg Blunt, who had been awarded the contract for the paining of the exterior windows and doors. The painting of the main masonry, which includes the columns, was £1880 plus VAT. The painting of the balustrades was £1190 plus VAT. He had also obtained a quote for £2600 plus VAT for the scaffolding to undertake this work. Members unanimously approved these quotes.

17. ADEC AND ELY MUSUEUM GRANT AWARD

Members agreed that the approved payment to ADeC could be released. Ely Museum’s part grant payment was discussed. It was confirmed that ECDC pay their grant to Ely Museum pro rata and do not pay in advance. They also have a meeting to discuss the service they have provided with the grant money. It was agreed Cllr Every and the Clerk would agree a method of payment and feedback.

Cllr Every said that as this was Cllr Griffin-Singh’s last Council meeting as Mayor, she would like to give personal thanks, as well as thanks from all the Council members and the people of Ely, for being such a fantastic Mayor this last year. She had promoted the community and undertaken so many events. It had been a wonderful year for both her and the City. All members unanimously agreed.

18. COUNCIL SERVICES

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously agreed. *Due to the confidential nature of this item, this was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.*

19. FINANCE

Members approved the following for payment:

ECDC	377.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	530.00	paid by direct debit
Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Barclays	27.18	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	271.09	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	318.53	paid by direct debit
ESPO	105.60	paid by direct debit
ESPO	119.43	paid by direct debit
Jewson Ltd	37.58	109472
City Cycle Centre	13.07	109473
Gordon Harrison	129.97	109474
NALC	17.00	109475
Ely Tyre Services	19.20	109476
Create Signs Ltd	252.00	109477
Turelink Ltd	480.00	109478
Zurich Municipal Management Ser	114.00	109479
ESPO	11.05	109480

Finance continued

G & J Peck Ltd	31.96	109481
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109482
CCTV Volunteer	12.00	109483
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109484
CCTV Volunteer	13.16	109485
Clearview Communications Ltd	39249.36	109491
Wider Plan Ltd	112.54	
Neil Cutforth & Associates	1187.85	109487
Ely Museum	40.00	109488
Clearview Communications Ltd	42016.44	109491
Local World	86.40	109489
Clearview Communications Ltd	9600.00	109499
Southern Electric	143.33	paid by direct debit
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109493
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.60	109502
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	96.15	109501
ECDC	1.00	109500
ESPO	41.02	109498
Frontier Agricultural Ltd	45.16	109497
G & J Peck Ltd	54.33	109496
K Ellis	1000.00	109495
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	232.00	109494
Stannah Lift Services Ltd	209.33	109492
Mr Hannaford	300.00	109490

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 7th April 2014

Salaries and wages	£9550.56
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2176.23
Pension fund payments	£3124.38

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st March 2014.