



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2012 AT 6.45 PM

PRESENT:

Cllr E Griffin-Singh	Cllr J Chaplin	Cllr S Overall	Cllr A Arnold
Cllr C Jones	Cllr P Eden	Cllr J Yates (<i>arrived 6.52</i>)	Cllr N Clarke
<i>Mr M Chinery-Colyer</i>	<i>Mr T Overall</i>	<i>Mr I Newstead</i>	
<i>Mr J Tanner (member of the public)</i>			

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from The Mayor, Cllr W Burton and Mr J Dennick

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

There were no intentions.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2012, were agreed and signed as a true record after amending the financial year from 12/13 to 13/14 on item 5 and 22nd January to 21st January on item 6. Pages CL 103 and CL104 refer.

4. TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON BUDGET UPDATE FROM FINANCE GROUP

Cllr Chaplin reported that the Finance Committee had met prior to this meeting and that there were no significant variances within the budget. Any deficit in expenditure will be deducted from the 2013/14 budget.

5. TO DISCUSS RING PULL TESTING ON BUILDINGS

Cllr Clarke reported that the pull testing and repairs have been carried out. The Assistant Clerk reported that a certificate for this has been received from XS Platforms.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer reported they are progressing with erecting the lights, but have been under pressure due to some buildings being difficult to tackle and with some volunteers been sick and unable to help, they have been unable to progress as quickly as he had hoped. However, the volunteers from USAF Mildenhall have been fantastic with the help that they have given and thanks were given to Mr Tanner on behalf of the Council for all their help. There have been problems with volunteers finding all day parking and 2 volunteers have received parking tickets which have been paid for by the Council. He also reported that next Sunday they will be under pressure to finish by 11am, as the Market Place will be inaccessible as there is an extra Christmas Market and also a Fun Run taking place.

The County Council have agreed to pay for the stress testing to the lampposts after information regarding the features, has been submitted to Balfour Beatty.

Cllr Griffin-Singh will contact the retailers to offer the loan of the spare Christmas Lights for displaying in their windows. Mr Chinery-Colyer will then arrange for the delivery of these.

Mr Chinery-Colyer advised that a photo had been taken which he will forward to the Assistant Clerk in order for a press release to be issued.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE SWITCH ON GROUP

Cllr Eden reported that they had struggled for sponsorship, however it is anticipated that they will break even with the profit carried forward from last year. Mr Newstead reported that all the stalls have been booked and paid for. The road closures are in place and all acts have been booked. Stall holders will need to be set up by 3.30pm. The Loveable Rogues will be switching the lights on with the Mayor.

Cllr Chaplin asked why the announcement that the Loveable Rogues would be switching the lights on, was in the paper before this Committee was notified. Mr Newstead and Cllr Eden agreed this was an oversight and that in future the Mayor, the Chairman of the Committee and the Assistant Clerk will be informed prior to any press releases being issued.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 21st January 2013 at 7.15pm, 18th March 7.15pm and Tuesday 17th June at 7.15pm.