



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2012**

PRESENT:

Mayor, Cllr J Yates

Cllr S Overall

Cllr J Chaplin

Cllr A Brear

Cllr W Burton

District Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr A Winchester

Cllr B Ashton

Cllr N Clarke

Cllr E Griffin-Singh

Cllr R Wood

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr E Every

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Eden.

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

No intentions were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 23RD JANUARY & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 23rd January were agreed and signed as a true record with a correction to item 9, which should have read Cllr Winchester, not Cllr Brear. Pages 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176 and 1177 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1172, Item 3 – The Mayor reported the CCTV Partnership Agreement amendments had been agreed by ECDC and the Agreement should be signed shortly.

Page 1172, Item 3 – The Mayor reported he had met with the ECDC Chief Executive to discuss the Maltings Cottage and is awaiting a letter from him regarding this.

Page 1172, Item 3 – Members were informed that the work had now started on the buffer zone in Ely West. This was expected to take approximately 7 weeks. ECDC are currently considering how to involve the local residents in the future work.

Page 1174, Item 11 – The Mayor informed members he had only received 3 responses from members regarding Section 106 priorities. It was agreed the Mayor would put together a draft list of priorities and would circulate to all members for approval. This will be undertaken before the next Section 106 meeting.

Page 1174, Item 12 – The Mayor informed members a letter from ECDC had been received acknowledging the Council's comments regarding car parking proposals. A meeting will be arranged with ECDC regarding the City Centre Management Team, once the Council has agreed of how to move this forward.

Page 1174, Item 14 – One quote had been received for the cost of a new Mayoral robe and another is awaited.

4. QUESTION TIME

District Cllr Sheila Friend-Smith informed members she had been down to look at the work, which had been started on the paths in the buffer zone in Ely West. She asked if the Council had received a letter from Sanctuary regarding the High Barns Community Room nursery provision. The Mayor confirmed he would be meeting with a representative from Sanctuary the next day. She asked if there was any progress on the licence regarding the lights in the park. The Mayor confirmed this had now been signed and the lights were being installed at the beginning of March. Cllr Friend-Smith confirmed that the City of Ely Perspective would be able to provide costs for Steeple Row, once the last planning approval had been obtained. This would then allow the project to be considered for Section 106 funding.

5. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the launch of the Quaker Tapestry Exhibition at Ely Cathedral; attended the Ely School's Partnership Careers Conference; attended RAF Mildenhall's Winter Open House; attended the ECDC Business Ratepayers' Consultation meeting; attended the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the fall of Singapore service at the Cathedral and attended the Elysian Winter beer festival.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Ely Soham Dial a Ride AGM.

6. PLANNING

Reports of a planning committee meeting held on the 9th January 2012 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

7. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Letter from Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council regarding joint development management policies preferred options consultation document

Notification of tree work:- 36 Williams Close, Ely; Woolpack Yard, Newnham Street, Ely; 12 Deacons Lane, Ely

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) ADMINISTRATION – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 6th February, which was approved. Members unanimously approved the adoption of the CCTV Lone Working Policy, which the Mayor then signed. The report from the Internal Auditor's visit on the 19th October was noted. The Local Needs Housing scheme, rent and administration charge annual review was noted and approved. The charges will be increased by the RPI at the end of January 2012, as set out in the scheme's lease. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk will undertake the annual review of the Council's adopted policies and procedures. The Localism Advisory Group will consider the proposal of a questionnaire being sent out to all households within the parish, asking what services they would like this Council to be responsible for. The next Council drop in stall will be arranged for April.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 27th February. Cllr Griffin-Singh reported that the review of the dog bin, litter bins and benches audit had now been completed.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – Cllr Hobbs presented a report of a meeting held on the 30th January, which was approved. A replacement roundabout at Paradise play area will be ordered from either Wicksteed Leisure or Fenland Leisure Products, with the cost not exceeding £7695. From April, 2 part-time members of staff will be employed, with their total combined hours equating to 37. Members agreed to allow some flexibility for these two posts. If two suitable staff members could not be found one full-time member of staff may be considered instead. A review of the current and potential future staffing hours for the recreation areas and cemetery will be undertaken by Cllrs Clarke and Every and the Assistant Clerk. Members noted the increase in cemetery fees by 5%. These will come into effect from the 1st April 2012. The updated lease for the High Barns recreation area had now been completed and the Mayor had signed this. As this had been completed the MUGA had now been ordered. The update regarding the cemetery workshop improvements was noted.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 5th March. Cllr Chaplin reported that new features had been ordered for this year's display.

(iii) ELY IN BLOOM – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 6th March.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – Minutes of meetings held on the 18th January and the 15th February were noted.

(vii) YOUTH COUNCIL – Youth Council had not met.

(viii) DIAMOND JUBILEE – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Burton informed members the sub-group had met and the main items have now been ordered. A decision on the final selection of the music was still to be made. A decision would need to be made about whether to make a charge for entrance or to hold a raffle to raise funds. Members were generally of the opinion that this should be a free event for the City. Cllr Burton requested the Council consider the possibility of an overspend of approximately £5000, to the agreed budget of £5000, which would have to be met out of the Council's funds. It was agreed the Committee needed to bring a breakdown of costs to the next Full Council meeting, so a decision on this request could be made. He also confirmed that if bunting in the City centre was required, this could not be funded from the Diamond Jubilee budget and would have to be found from some other budget.

9. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

City of Ely Allotments Association – minutes of a meeting held on the 11th January were noted. The Council will order the work to the roadway on Bridge Fen allotments. The possibility of an area for allotments within the West of Ely needs to be explored.

City of Ely Perspective Design Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 17th January were noted.

Section 106 – minutes of a meeting held on the 23rd January were noted.

10. NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2012/2013

The nominations of Cllr William Burton for Mayor, proposed by Cllr John Yates and seconded by Cllr Brian Ashton and Cllr Elaine Griffin-Singh for Deputy Mayor, proposed by Cllr William Burton and seconded by Cllr John Yates were unanimously approved.

11. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM ECDC REGARDING LOCALISM ACT 2011 – STANDARDS REGIME – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS

Members noted this letter and agreed not to submit any comments.

12. TO REVIEW HIGHWAY WARDENS SCHEME

Members considered this scheme at the Full Council meeting on the 7th March 2011 and had agreed to review this again once results from the pilot schemes were available. With this information now available, members unanimously agreed not to proceed with this scheme as they felt it duplicated the procedures already in place. Members agreed to discuss the recent issues regarding the clearing of snow from footpaths and provision of grit bins at the next Street Furniture meeting.

13. FUTURE OF YOUTH COUNCIL

The Mayor has had an opportunity due to his Mayoral theme for the year of youth, to look at how the Youth Council could develop. He has been meeting on a monthly basis with representatives from a number of different organisations. He felt the way to move the Youth Council forward would be to create a Youth Forum, which would consist of youth groups/organisations, schools and other groups. This would allow a two way flow of communications and ideas. It would create an understanding of what that particular age group needs. He was keen to come together with some businesses. He had also discussed ideas with District Cllr Tom Hunt, who had suggested it could possibly include the next youth group after teenagers. The Mayor proposed the Council forms this Youth Forum in place of the Youth Council. This was seconded by Cllr Rouse and unanimously approved. The Mayor agreed to produce the aims and objections of the new Forum and get groups together to meet with him.

14. FINANCE

The following were approved for payment:

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHQ NO
ECDC	346.00	paid by direct debit
Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	22.70	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	59.33	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	107.99	paid by direct debit
Lightmedia Displays Ltd	563.40	108517
Soulved	50.00	108516
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	97.96	108515
Allen’s Skip Hire Ltd	84.00	108595
Thurlow Nunn Standen	65.69	108594
CCTV Volunteer	16.96	108593
CCTV Volunteer	40.46	108592
CCTV Volunteer	14.08	108591
CCTV Volunteer	17.60	108590
CCTV Volunteer	129.76	108589
AmeyCespa	6.60	108588

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MAYOR
19th March 2012

Finance continued

Holgate & French (Shelford) Ltd	175.79	108587
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	14.69	108586
ECDC	2312.36	108585
Stoke Ferry Timber Ltd	162.60	108584
G B Sport & Leisure	1162.44	108583
Ely Tyre Services	19.20	108582
CoolerAid Ltd	4.80	108581
G & J Peck Ltd	282.94	108520
Jewson Ltd	9.90	108519
ESPO	224.96	108518
ESPO	33.57	paid by direct debit
Ace Supplies UK Ltd	40.92	paid by direct debit – credit card payment
The Site Supply Company Ltd	36.24	paid by direct debit – credit card payment
FIA	36.00	paid by direct debit – credit card payment
Royal Mail	82.00	paid by direct debit – credit card payment

Payments relating to staff since meeting on 23rd January 2012

Salaries and wages	£7478.04
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2214.61
Pension fund payments	£2107.56

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending the 31st January 2012