



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 23RD JULY 2012**

PRESENT:

Cllr J Yates	Cllr A Arnold	Cllr M Rouse
Cllr S Overall	Cllr A Winchester	Cllr J Chaplin
Cllr B Ashton	Cllr R Wood	Cllr A Brear
Cllr N Clarke	Cllr E Every	Cllr P Eden (arrived at 7.08 pm)
Cll R Hobbs		

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Burton and Griffin-Singh. Due to both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's absence, Cllr Yates chaired the meeting.

**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 25TH JUNE & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 25th June were agreed, following the correction of the date to the 25th June and were signed as a true record. Pages 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204 and 1205 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1203, Item 14 – Cllr Yates reported that as the Head of Terms had been agreed in principle, the Council now needed to appoint solicitors to act in this matter. Three quotes had been requested, with only one being received. Members unanimously agreed to appoint Hall, Ennion and Young.

4. QUESTION TIME

Cllr Eden raised his concerns regarding the state of the recycling site at Downham Road. This was not being regularly emptied and was looking an absolute disgrace. The Clerk will contact ECDC to raise these concerns and request the area be emptied more regularly. Members also raised their concerns regarding the appearance of the Magistrates Court with all the weeds at the front. The Clerk will raise this with the Conservation Officer and request this area be weeded.

5. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the Armed Forces Day Service at St Neots; Aquafest, the inaugural meeting of the City Centre Forum; Cambs County Council's Making Assets Count; Fenland District Council Chairman's Reception and Ely Folk Festival.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the RAF Mildenhall Summer Reception.

6. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 9th July 2012 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

7. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work:- 21 Williams Close, Ely; 10 St Mary's Court, Ely; Paradise Sport Centre, Newnham Street, Ely; Princess of Wales Hospital, Lynn Road, Ely; 43 Henley Way, Ely; land adjacent to 1 Merrifield Gardens, Ely; 31 Buckthorn, Ely

East Cambs Strategic Partnership Final Newsletter

Ely Area Neighbourhood Panel Newsletter

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) ADMINISTRATION – Cllr Yates presented a report of a meeting held on the 9th July, which was unanimously approved. Members considered the future of the Ely-Ribe twinning and agreed the Committee was doing a tremendous job and should continue as they had been doing. It was also agreed the 60th anniversary of the twinning in 2016, should be marked with some form of celebration. The Council will provide support with the organisation of this. The Internal Auditor's report from his last visit for the financial year 2011/2012, on the 2nd May was noted. Members had no concerns and were very satisfied with the report. Members unanimously approved the reappointment of the Internal Auditor for this current financial year. Following consideration of two versions of a draft Code of Conduct, members had agreed that neither versions were correct and recommended that they should both be rejected. Members unanimously agreed that Cllr Yates would draft the Council's own version of the Code of Conduct. This would be considered at the next Full Council meeting. It had been agreed the Clerk would draw up a criteria to recognise those members of the parish that had served their community for a number of years, but had received no recognition for this. The Clerk will source training for the newer councillors.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 6th August. Members considered a letter from Cambs County Council regarding a request for legal licensing for the positioning of tables and chairs on the public highway in relation to Kemptons, 1,1A and 3 Market Street, Ely. Members unanimously agreed to support this application subject to brass pins being inserted in the ground to delineate the boundary for the allocated seating areas. The areas must not however, be used on the designated Christmas Lights switch on evening, as the tables and chairs will cause an obstruction with such a large number of people attending this event. This would be a health and safety issue.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Clarke had provided details of three quotes for the new workshop shed. Members unanimously agreed to the quotation from Oz.Uk at a cost of £22,485 plus VAT. This was not the cheapest quote, but due to the quality of the product and the commencement date, this was felt to be the best option and members unanimously agreed to accept the Committee Chairman's recommendation.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Chaplin presented a report of a meeting held on the 16th July, which was unanimously approved. Members had discussed the structural testing of the lamp posts and were awaiting a response from Balfour Beatty regarding the unfairness of this Council paying for structural tests, as it had already paid for information regarding loading. The cost implications for the structural testing of the pull rings would be in the region of £3,750. Members unanimously agreed that due to this exceeding the Christmas Lights budget, further funds would be made available for this testing. However, this would mean the budget for 2013/14 would be reduced by this extra amount. Members had asked if this cost could be shared. This could be a possibility if other organisations wished to hang banners across the street. They could purchase the necessary structural information from the Council for their application. Members unanimously agreed to empower the Chairman to go ahead with this cost, if it was deemed necessary for the Christmas Lights this year.

(v) ELY IN BLOOM – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Overall will contact ECDC regarding the weeds on the roundabout at Cam Drive and request these be removed.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – No report as had not met.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as had not met.

(viii) DIAMOND JUBILEE – Cllr Yates presented a report of a meeting held on the 26th June, which was unanimously approved. Members reviewed the event and received feedback on all aspects of this. As these were the minutes of the last ever meeting of this Committee, Cllr Yates signed them as a correct record. The final income and expenditure statement for this committee will be considered at the next Full Council meeting.

(ix) CCTV – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 31st July.

Committee Reports continued

(x) LOCALISM ADVISORY – Cllr Clarke presented a report of a meeting held on the 2nd July, which was unanimously approved. Members agreed and approved the adoption of the Terms of Reference for this Committee. A draft of a live document, which sets out possible buildings or services that the Council may wish to take responsibility for will be adopted, subject to a few minor additions. Draft forms in relation to a business plan and building/land were unanimously approved for adoption by members.

(xi) CITY CENTRE FORUM – Cllr Yates present a report of the first meeting of this Committee held on the 4th July, which was unanimously approved. The objectives of the Forum and the Terms of Reference were agreed. A discussion on the vision for Ely was noted. Members also identified priorities to be pursued and formed a working party to explore what is involved in the Business Improvement Districts (BIDS). A presentation on the Ely APP will also be organised for the Ely Traders. It was agreed that the tourist signage in the City Centre was incorrect and this needs addressing. This will be passed to the Street Furniture Committee. A list of areas that need to be addressed where also drawn up.

9. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Prickwillow Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 2nd July were noted.

Section 106 – minutes of a meeting held on the 5th July were noted.

City of Ely Perspective Riverside Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 10th July were tabled and noted.

Ely Food Bank – minutes of a meeting regarding the formation of an Ely Food Bank, held on the 12th July were tabled and noted.

10. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC DRAFT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION LICENSING POLICY

Members unanimously agreed to appoint the Mayor and Cllr Yates to comment on this proposed policy, on behalf of the Council.

11. TO APPOINT A PROTECTED ROAD VERGE WARDEN FOR E9 – DELPH BRIDGE, SOHAM ROAD, ELY

Cllrs Hobbs and Rouse volunteered to be appointed as the Council's Protected Road Verge Warden for E9 – Delph Bridge, Soham Road, Ely.

12. TO DISCUSS CAR PARKING IN ELY

Cllr Yates briefed members on behalf of the Mayor, stating that a joint committee is proposed between ECDC and this Council to work together on car parking issues. The Mayor will report back to the next Full Council on the progress made. Members unanimously agreed they were content to follow this pathway to reach an outcome, which would be acceptable to this Council. It was felt imperative that nothing should be agreed without coming back to Full Council for approval first.

13. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC'S ELY CINEMA SITE OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Members discussed the ECDC's Ely cinema site options at great length. Members voted on option 1 with 7 members in favour of this site and then voted on option 2 with 5 councillors in favour of this site. These councillors were Cllrs Eden, Overall, Chaplin, Brear and Arnold. Cllr Yates abstained. On the balance of consideration the majority view of the Council was that Option 1 was the preferred option. This will be the response given to ECDC.

14. TO DISCUSS TIMINGS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members unanimously agreed that all Committee meetings would be held in the evenings, with the exception of the CCTV Committee, Section 106 meetings and working group meetings. The Clerk however, will enquire with the ECDC Chief Executive if there would be a possibility of holding the Section 106 meeting during the evening.

15. TO DISCUSS FUNDING FOR THE ELY STEAM FIRE ENGINE

Members considered a request by the Prickwillow Engine Museum for financial assistance towards the cost of containers to house the old Ely fire engines. These are being restored by the Museum for the Council and are on permanent loan to them. Members unanimously agreed to provide a grant of £1000 towards this cost. This would be allocated from the grants budget.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted: The Clerk

Clerks & Councils Direct

17. FINANCE

The following were approved for payment:

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHQ NO
ECDC	360.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	506.00	paid by direct debit
Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Barclays	27.02	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	158.16	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	70.16	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	240.34	paid by direct debit
ESPO	49.39	paid by direct debit
ESPO	70.62	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	293.83	paid by direct debit
Quadrant Security Group Ltd	1610.68	108701
Saffron Walden Town Band	150.00	108702
CoolerAid Ltd	54.48	108703
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	84.00	108704
Deeping Direct Deliveries	32.00	108705
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.60	108706
Voluntary&Community ActionEast Cambs	100.00	108707
CCTV Volunteer	27.04	108708
CCTV Volunteer	164.05	108709
CCTV Volunteer	67.94	108710
CCTV Volunteer	21.12	108711
CCTV Volunteer	14.08	108712
CCTV Volunteer	43.60	108713
CCTV Volunteer	17.60	108714
CCTV Volunteer	69.44	108715
ESPO	144.84	108717
G & J Peck Ltd	359.57	108718
Mrs S Overall	152.26	108719
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	14.69	108728
Countryside Services	216.00	108720
Anglian Water	68.86	108699
Prior Associates Consulting Engineers	420.00	108700
Manea Silver Band	150.00	108721
City Cycle Centre	10.84	108722
Campbell Solutions Ltd	396.00	108723
Wicken Coronation Brass Band	150.00	108724
ECDC	16.20	108725
CCTV Advisory Service	1573.20	108726
Soundstage One Event Services	2400.00	108735
The CCTV Training Academy	225.00	108734
Jewson Ltd	69.99	108732
ESPO	3.96	108731
Quadrant Security Group	435.66	108730
Barclaycard	75.20	paid by direct debit
M Clements	34.00	108733
Gordon Harrison	60.02	108727
ESPO	124.79	paid by direct debit
ESPO	91.15	paid by direct debit

Finance continued

Payments relating to staff since meeting on 25th June 2012

Salaries and wages	£8549.90
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2385.18
Pension fund payments	£2613.36

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th June 2012, which was tabled.