



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 24TH OCTOBER 2011**

PRESENT:

Mayor, Cllr J Yates

Cllr S Overall

Cllr J Chaplin

Cllr A Brear

Cllr R Wood

District Cllr J Friend-Smith

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr P Eden

Cllr B Ashton

Cllr N Clarke

Cllr A Winchester

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr E Every

Sarah Ratcliffe, ECDC

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Burton and Griffin-Singh.

**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 to speak.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 26TH SEPTEMBER & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 26th September were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1153, 1154, 1155 and 1156 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1153, Item 4 – The Mayor informed members that a further presentation on the Ely Surface Water Management Plan was to be given at the Ely Neighbourhood Panel meeting on Wednesday, 26th October. It was felt that the plans forwarded to the Council for members to mark areas they knew to be at risk of flooding, were unclear and did not contain all the new developments. Therefore, it was agreed that following this further presentation, members would make comments as requested.

Page 1155, Item 15 – The Mayor confirmed the two other signatories for the Cambridge Building Society account, along with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, were Cllrs Overall and Griffin-Singh.

**4. PRESENTATION BY SARAH RATCLIFFE, FORWARD PLANNING OFFICER, ECDC REGARDING
MANAGING GROWTH AND CHANGE IN EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE – VILLAGE VISIONS**

The Mayor welcomed Sarah Ratcliffe to the meeting. She explained that summaries of the Village Vision consultation had now been prepared for Prickwillow, Queen Adelaide, Chettisham and Stuntney. From these they had concluded that Chettisham and Stuntney residents did not wish to see any further housing development at the edge of their villages. However, Prickwillow and Queen Adelaide residents were happy to have small scale housing developments. ECDC will go back to the residents of Queen Adelaide and ask which sites within the village they think would be suitable for growth. Members voiced their concerns regarding noise levels affecting most of the proposed sites for development within Queen Adelaide, due to the two large commercial companies based in this village and the existing railway line. Sarah Ratcliffe proposed that it could be written in to the Local Plan that any proposals that come through would be looked at favourably.

It was generally agreed that there were reasonable options for sites for development in Prickwillow and this could also go back to the residents of Prickwillow for consultation. There is currently a NESTA project underway in Prickwillow and it was therefore agreed that ECDC would await the results of this project, before going out to consultation.

Presentation by Sarah Ratcliffe continued

Prickwillow would also like to see some employment and ECDC would also ask through the consultation if any sites were available for this and what they could be used for.

The villages had made requests as follows; Chettisham wanted a play area; Stuntney wanted improvements to the social club and improvements to cycle/pedestrian routes; Queen Adelaide wanted a new community hall/social club and improvements to cycle/pedestrian routes and Prickwillow wanted improvements to cycle/pedestrian routes.

Sarah Ratcliffe said the next steps would be an agreement of the Village Visions; and these would then be incorporated into the draft Local Plan, which would be out for consultation next Spring. She agreed to come back to attend a Full Council meeting in early 2012 to update on any progress made on the Village Visions and to discuss sites in Ely; eg Gateways etc.

Cllr Rouse asked who would pick up the requests regarding the cycle ways. Sarah confirmed these will be put in the Local Plan as a local priority. In terms of delivery, she confirmed this would be down to the City of Ely Council to move forward with Cambs County Council.

The Mayor thanked Sarah Ratcliffe for her very informative and clear presentation and looked forward to being updated in the New Year.

Sarah Ratcliffe left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

District Cllr J Friend-Smith requested Item 5 be discussed before Item 4, as he had to leave the meeting early. The Mayor agreed to this.

5. QUESTION TIME

District Cllr Jeremy Friend-Smith informed members he had attended the Section 106 meeting today, between the City of Ely Council and ECDC. The tenders for the footpaths on the West side of Ely had now been received and a contractor appointed. This work will commence shortly. He informed members that the Saturday Park and Ride would be stopping shortly, as the contract would not be renewed. The lighting in the park had been delayed due to the Cathedral requesting a detailed plan of the positions of the lights.

Cllr Eden asked District Cllr Friend-Smith if the Park and Ride Service could be extended until Christmas. He felt this was an inappropriate time to stop this with Christmas so close. He suggested that perhaps some parties could get together to fund this. Cllr Rouse confirmed the ECDC Transport and Development Committee decided that as this cost £15,000 per year to run, and it was more of a walk and ride, than a park and ride, it should not be renewed. Cllr Eden suggested that perhaps the City of Ely Perspective Group may consider part funding until Christmas. It was agreed to discuss this further outside of the meeting.

District Cllr J Friend-Smith left the meeting at 7.10 pm.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended Cambridgeshire Acre's AGM; the celebration of 650 years of the Magistracy at a Dinner at Selwyn College, Cambridge; presentation of Ely Library Challenge awards; Ely Inner Wheel Charity Night; performance by Ely Sinfonia at Ely Cathedral; the Justices Service at Ely Cathedral; was a guest of Cambs County Council's Chairman at a Citizens' Service; a charity collection at a local supermarket for the Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund; spent a day in Ely with the High Sheriff; and attended E-Space's 10th anniversary. He had also attended a lunch with the Rotary Clubs Group Exchange visitors from the US; the unveiling of the EEL donation box at ADeC; Apple Day; British Red Cross AGM in Cambridge; St Ives Mayor Charity Concert; Godmanchester Civic Service; visited the Parkinson's Group at Bell Holt; Ely Choral Society Concert; Mayor of Huntingdon's Charity Lunch; March Civic Service and lunch with visitors from Vercilli. He had also attended meetings regarding the Cemetery workshop, pavement permits, the Maltings Cottage, Section 106 and the Ely Neighbourhood Panel agenda.

7. PLANNING

Reports of a planning committee meeting held on the 12th September 2011 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

8. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Report from the City of Ely Town Crier for 2011

Response from ECDC re Polling Districts, Polling Places & Polling Stations Review

Letter from the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire

Notification of tree works:- 22 Cromwell Road, Ely; 3 Barton Square, Ely; 47 Cambridge Road, Ely; East Lawn, rear of the Cathedral, Ely; 15B Silver Street, Ely; 74A Broad Street, Ely; Acremont House, Egremont Street, Ely; 2 Waterside, Ely; 28 Henley Way, Ely; 9 Summerhayes, Ely

Notification of TPOs: Littleport House, 2 Redman Close, Ely; outside 39, 55 & opposite 65 Waterside, Ely

Notification of Street Naming and Numbering:- 17, 18, 19, 20 Ship Lane, Ely; Witchford Recycling Centre, Stirling Way, Ely; 19A Main Street, Prickwillow, Ely; 41 & 41A Ely Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely

Notification of open space, sport and recreation supplementary planning document (SPD) adoption – Forest Health Local Development Framework (LDF)

Grant thank you letters from: Prickwillow Village Council; Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride; Magpas; Ely Runners;

Voluntary; Community Action East Cambridgeshire; EARTH; ADeC; Witchford Display of Memorabilia; St

Mary's Church; CAB; City of Ely Netball Club; City of Ely Cricket Club; Isle of Ely Rowing Club and the City of Ely Football Club

Letter from Ely College re the Free School application

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) ADMINISTRATION – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 31st October at 7.00 pm.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – No report as Committee had not met. It was requested that members of the Street Furniture Committee undertake a walkabout of the city centre to look at what street furniture needs repainting. The Council have a budget of £500 for this as they were in partnership with ECDC and Cambs County Council. However, this partnership has not been active for quite a few years. The Clerk will contact both parties to see if this can commence again to undertake any refurbishment work needed. This will be added on to the next agenda for the meeting of the 14th November. It was also suggested that the seats in Palace Green were not wide enough. A further pavement permit meeting had now taken place and a draft agreement for this service had been drawn up and circulated to all parties for comments. The County Council will remain as the administrators of this service, as they cannot legally delegate it to the City of Ely Council. They will issue the permits, but will consult with this Council first before any permits are issued. The City of Ely Council will be responsible for monitoring the service, but the County Council will enforce it. The City of Ely Council will retain part of the permit fee to undertake this.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – Cllr Hobbs presented a report of a meeting held on the 3rd October, which was approved. Details of the quotes for a multi-use games area at High Barns had been circulated with the agenda. The Mayor proposed that the quote from Wickstead at a cost of £42,573 be approved, subject to funding being obtained. This was seconded by Cllr Rouse and unanimously agreed by all members. The Mayor reported that the planning application for the new cemetery workshop had been deferred at the ECDC's Planning Committee meeting. Planning Officers are liaising with this Council regarding possible ideas for improvements to the design of the building. He and the Clerk will be meeting with the Officers tomorrow to find a compromise.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Chaplin presented a report of a meeting held on the 17th October, which had been tabled. The erection of the lights would commence on the weekend of the 29th October.

(iii) ELY IN BLOOM – Cllr Overall presented a report of a meeting held on the 27th September, which was approved. The feedbacks from the Ely in Bloom 2011 scheme and competitions were noted. The winter planting scheme had been agreed. Cllr Overall asked if the new trough at the war memorial might cause an obstruction for Remembrance Sunday. It was agreed to look at this with the Royal British Legion.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – The notes of the AGM held on the 28th September were noted. The tapestry leaflets have incorrect details of the opening times of the Maltings and until the issues regarding the Maltings were resolved these would not be distributed.

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

(viii) CCTV – No report as Committee had not met.

(ix) DIAMOND JUBILEE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 18th October, which was approved. The ideas for the celebrations were noted and will be discussed in more detail at item 11.

10. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

City of Ely Allotments Association – minutes of a meeting held on the 14th September were noted.

City of Ely Riverside Perspective Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 13th September were noted.

City of Ely Council Drop-in stall – feedback from the drop-in stall on the 1st October was noted.

City of Ely Riverside Perspective Group – minutes tabled of a meeting held on the 13th October were noted.

11. TO AGREE EVENTS FOR DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS, THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND COSTS

Members discussed the possibilities of the events that this Council could put on to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. It was unanimously agreed that the proposed daytime picnic should be moved to the day before, Sunday 3rd June and coincide with the Big Lunch event. There would then only be the evening event in the Park on Monday, 4th June. This would include performances from local bands and the lighting of a beacon. It was also agreed that this Council would only underwrite this to a maximum of £5000. These recommendations will go back to the next Diamond Jubilee Committee meeting on the 8th November for further discussion.

Cllr Overall suggested that the Council could also plant a commemorative tree, possibly in Jubilee Gardens. In 2002 Prince Philip planted a tree in Jubilee Gardens when he opened them, so it would be nice to add another one to mark the Diamond Jubilee. It was agreed that this could be funded from the Street Furniture Committee's budget.

12. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION REGARDING AN ELY CROSSING AS ONE OF IT'S KEY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The City of Ely Council had hosted a seminar in July to discuss the various options. Members unanimously agreed that the preferred option was Route B. This route will have a strategic benefit for Ely and the surrounding areas and will allow growth to occur in Ely, attract further businesses which will result in subsequent employment opportunities. It will also solve the queuing issues at the level crossing and improve the traffic flow around the station area, allowing that area of Ely to be redeveloped.

Cllr Chaplin left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

13. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE DECISION TO REMOVE ALL SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE FUNDING

This item had been deferred from the last Full Council for Cllr Eden to look at these proposals and report back to this Full Council meeting with a draft response on behalf of the Council. Cllr Eden had unfortunately, been unable to draft this in time for the meeting. He agreed to draft the response and forward to councillors for approval.

14. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR THE NEW BUS SERVICE TO AND FROM THE NEW SAINSBURY'S STORE

Cllr Eden tabled a response to the proposed timetable and two versions of a new timetable which would make the service more economically viable. Members thanked Cllr Eden for all his hard work and unanimously agreed to submit this response to the County Council as the City of Ely Council's comments.

15. TO CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TOWARDS AN EVENT TO BE HELD IN ELY CATHEDRAL ON THE 12TH FEBRAURY 2012 TO MARK THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

The 15th February 2012 marks the 70th anniversary of the fall of Singapore and the NFFWRA are planning to hold a service on the 12th February 2012 at Ely Cathedral to commemorate this. They had asked if the Council would consider making a donation to support this event. Members unanimously agreed to support this event and agreed to make a donation of £750. They felt it was very important to support the local veterans that were lost in this conflict and the families that remain. Ely in Bloom agreed to plant the trough at the war memorial in the Cambridgeshire Regiment's colours next year.

16. FINANCE

The following were approved for payment:

| PAYEE | AMOUNT | CHQ NO |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| ECDC | 487.00 | paid by direct debit |
| ECDC | 346.00 | paid by direct debit |
| Talk Talk | 15.31 | paid by direct debit |
| Internet Marketing Company | 24.00 | paid by direct debit |
| Anglian Water | 58.75 | 108374 |
| P A Hibble | 135.00 | 108375 |
| ESPO | 5.00 | paid by direct debit |
| British Telecommunications | 203.06 | paid by direct debit |
| British Telecommunications | 62.36 | paid by direct debit |
| British Telecommunications | 173.08 | paid by direct debit |
| Allen's Skip Hire Ltd | 84.00 | 108403 |
| Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd | 78.65 | 108404 |
| CoolerAid Ltd | 9.60 | 108405 |
| G & J Peck Ltd | 422.21 | 108406 |
| 1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd | 32.03 | 108407 |
| FuelGenie Ltd | 248.97 | paid by direct debit |
| Cheffins | 110.00 | 108408 |
| CCTV Volunteer | 31.68 | 108409 |
| Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd | 185.23 | 108410 |
| ESPO | 22.32 | 108411 |
| Balfour Beatty | 433.08 | 108412 |
| XMA Ltd | 48.94 | 108413 |
| CCTV Volunteer | 48.96 | 108414 |
| CCTV Volunteer | 26.88 | 108415 |
| Festive Lights Ltd | 3443.40 | 108416 |
| Wicken Coronation Band | 150.00 | 108417 |
| City Cycle Centre | 6.52 | 108418 |
| BACS Bank Charges | 7.94 | paid by direct debit |
| T Coulson by cash | 85.00 | 108419 |
| City of Ely Perspective Ltd | 835.00 | 108420 |
| Nationwide Peterborough | 695.00 | paid by direct debit – credit card payment |
| Somersham Town Band | 150.00 | 108421 |
| NFFWAA | 750.00 | 108425 |

Payments relating to staff since meeting on 26th September 2011

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|------------------------------------|----------|
| Salaries and wages and honorariums | £7500.12 |
| Inland Revenue (tax & NI) | £2218.78 |
| Pension fund payments | £2049.14 |

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th September 2011