



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN EAST CAMBS DISTRICT
COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON
MONDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2014**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr B Ashton
Cllr S Pittock
Cllr R Hobbs

Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Yates
Cllr M Rouse
Cllr I Lindsay
Cllr G Barber

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr N Clarke
Cllr A Whelan
Cllr J Pearson

Mrs V Holden, parishioner

Mrs M Haynes, parishioner

3 other parishioners

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Griffin-Singh. Cllr Tyrrell was also absent, but no apologies had been received from him.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests from Councillors as per Standing Order 83b were received.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST SEPTEMBER AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 1st September were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370 and 1371 refer.

Matters arising:

Cllr Hobbs asked the Mayor why agenda item 3 had been amended. The Clerk explained that this was to ensure the Standing Orders are strictly adhered to. He felt that members of the public should have the opportunity for a greater level of input. The Mayor explained that members of the public should only speak under agenda item 5, but agreed that this would be reviewed at a future Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee meeting.

Page 1368, item 13 – The Mayor informed members the planning application for the proposed new Post Office had now been received.

Page 1367, item 14 – The Mayor reported the Council's response to this consultation had now been submitted.

Page 1367, item 18 – The Mayor confirmed that since the signing of the lease at the last Full Council, the Council had taken over the 99 year lease for the Maltings on the 23rd September.

5. QUESTION TIME

The Mayor informed those present, that item 13 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 Rouse, in his capacity as a District Councillor, informed members the County Council had approved the planning application for the Ely Southern By-pass. Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, had considered and accepted this decision. A committee of the County Council had also agreed, in principle to the County Archives being relocated and stored in Ely. A final decision on this will be made on the 7th October. The Cambridgeshire Collection from Cambridge Library will also be stored at Ely. Cllr Rouse felt this was a real opportunity for Ely.

Mr Henri McGoough, a parishioner, informed members of a road traffic accident that occurred on the 27th September, on King's Avenue. This was the first major accident since the roundabout at Thistle Corner had opened, but there had been quite a few minor accidents and near misses. There are no marked parking bays for residents on this road, but it always has a significant number of cars parked along the road, and on the bends and corners. As the number of lorries using this road had increased, he felt it was only a matter of time before there was another serious accident. The Mayor informed Mr McGoough that councillors were also concerned about the problems with traffic along this road. Cllr Rouse felt the old part of King's Avenue worked well, but on the new section he felt it was appalling due to on-road parking. He had taken a County Council Officer to this area and identified the problems to them and asked if there was anything that could be done to improve it.

Cllr Whelan said that she witnesses the problems everyday and that the majority of the parking is the residents. She felt guest parking bays off the road, on some of the green area space would improve the problems.

Members agreed that this issue was a real concern and agreed to discuss the matter at the next Environment Committee, where a small Working Party would be formed. They would then meet with the County Council to discuss this issue and hopefully resolve some of the problems.

The Clerk informed members the issue of speeding had been raised at the last drop-in and she had arranged for the local police to undertake random speed checks on King's Avenue.

Mrs Holden, a parishioner, asked the Mayor what progress had been made on the audits of the Council's buildings and services. The Mayor confirmed the audits had been booked. Training for staff and councillors will be undertaken on equality and diversity in October. She asked about the Council's services and the Mayor said she would be reporting on this later in the meeting.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the ECDC Funding Fair; opened Ely Photographic Society Exhibition; attended an art exhibition at Babylon Gallery; spoke as Mayor at the CCC Planning Committee in support of the Southern By-pass; attended Ely Arts Festival Committee; attended the Cathedral Business Group's Committee to further support the Business Mentoring scheme currently running in Ely Sixth Form; handed out certificates for the Summer Reading Challenge at Ely Library.

7. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 11th August 2014 and immediately prior to this meeting were received from Cllr Yates.

8. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work:- St Mary's Cottage, 20 Church Lane, Ely, 14 Williams Close, Ely, 19 Williams Close, Ely,

10 Holly Walk, Ely; 37 Prickwillow Road, Ely; Quayside, Ely, Magistrates Court Sessions House, Lynn Road, Ely, Rear of 35/36 Annesdale, Ely, 1 Elysian Close, Ely, 105 Columbine Road, Ely, 144 Lynn Road, Ely

Street Naming & Numbering:- 48A Cambridge Road, Ely

Letters from ECDC regarding developer contributions – transitional arrangements to CIL

Clerks & Councils Direct

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 15th September, which was approved. The Mayor proposed the recommendations for the grant applications 2014/15 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously approved.
- (ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Arnold informed members that formal approval for the erection of the 'Welcome to Ely' signs on the bridges has now been received.
- (iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 30th September.
- (iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Hobbs presented a report of a meeting held on the 15th September, which was approved. Cllr Hobbs informed members that due to the increasing number of people attending the switch-on event, it has become necessary to move most of the stalls to the High Street, Dolphin Lane and far side of the Market Place. This will give more room for the public. This will result in the High Street being closed from 6.00 am on that day.
- (v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met.
- (vi) ELY/RIBE – Cllr Hobbs informed members the AGM had recently been held. The Association were now making arrangements for the 60th celebrations of the twinning agreement to be held in May 2015.
- (vii) YOUTH FORUM – Not met.

10. 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 Yates 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.

City Centre Forum Sub-Group – notes of a meeting held on the 9th September, which were tabled, were noted.

Communications and PR Working Group – notes of a meeting held on the 2nd September, which were tabled, were noted. The Mayor responded to Mrs Holden earlier point, regarding the audit of council services and explained that through this Working Party, the Council were reviewing the Council's communications materials, which included the Council website. People should be able to access information regarding the Council and its services through the website. It was felt this was outdated and needed to be redesigned. Further work would be undertaken to move this forward. The Council also agreed to look at the current situation with regard to the City of Ely Neighbourhood Panel and whether this should be reinstated. A report on both of these items will be considered at the next Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee.

Mrs Holden and Mrs Haynes left the meeting at 7.50 pm.

11. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Stuntney Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 9th July were noted.

Ely Ribe Association AGM – minutes of a meeting held on the 18th September 2013 were noted.

Prickwillow Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 1st September were noted.

Cllr Phillips informed members he would be attending the AGM of the Rural Cambs Citizens Advice Bureau and will report back to the next Full Council meeting.

12. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

Members noted the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2014 had been signed off by the External Auditor. On the basis of their review, it was their opinion, the information contained in the Annual Return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention, giving concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. They drew the attention of the Council to two items, which will be noted for the next financial year. The notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return will be displayed.

The parishioners left the meeting at 8.50 pm.

13. 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 Yates and unanimously agreed. *Due to the confidential nature of this item, this was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.*

14. 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
FuelGenie	333.42	paid by direct debit
ESPO	40.92	paid by direct debit
City Cycle Centre	2.54	109632
Greg Blunt Decorators Ltd	9606.00	109624
L P Scaffolding Ltd	402.00	109625
Isle Interactive Ltd	95.00	109633
ECS Power & Control Ltd	600.00	109634
Cooleraid Ltd	9.48	109635
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.60	109636
P R Baxter	71.00	109637
Konica Minolta Business Sols Ltd	86.83	109640
Konica Minolta Business Sols Ltd	238.72	109641
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	109642
ECDC	97.50	109626
ECDC	210.00	109627
ECDC	46.00	109629
Miss S Talbot	35.66	109628
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	300.00	109643
Anglian Water	42.96	109645
Ely Tyre Services	72.00	109644
Southern Electric	73.73	109646
Hall Ennion & Young	1132.00	109652
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	17.63	109660
Zurich Municipal	1776.56	109662
Zurich Municipal	378.37	109647
PKF Littljohn LLP	1200.00	109648
Gordon Harrison	57.17	109649
Smiths Gore	251.50	109650
G & J Peck Ltd	102.89	109651
Bacon (Specialist Services) Ltd	130.80	109653
Rural Cambs Citizens Advice Bureau	2700.00	109659
One Stop Promotions Ltd	145.80	109654
K Ellis	3230.00	109655
Anglian Water	22.89	109656
S Jay	29.95	109657
Wider Plan Ltd	112.54	109658
ECDC	320.00	109630
Ely Locksmiths	210.00	109661
Well Heeled	29.95	109631
RBS Ltd	208.80	109638
G & J Peck Ltd	7.10	109639

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 28th July 2014

Salaries and wages	£17074.87
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£4148.43
Pension fund payments	£6216.17

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