



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM
ON TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2015

PRESENT;

Cllr A Arnold Cllr I Lindsay Cllr C Phillips Cllr J Yates
Cllr N Clarke The Mayor, Cllr E Every

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr J Pearson and Cllr G Barber.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – *to receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests from Councillors, as set out in Standing Order 83b.*

There were no declarations received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH OCTOBER 2014 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV5 and 6 refer.

Matters arising: - Page 5, Item 3 – Matters Arising. The ‘Welcome to Ely’ signs have now been erected on the riverside. Cllr Yates has not had the opportunity to raise the issue of problem parking on the High Street yet as his meeting with Inspector Marcia Nichols was cancelled. The repair work to the crumbling path on Lisle Lane has been carried out.

Page 5, Item 7 – the dog waste bin at the entrance to the County Park has been repaired, so a replacement is not necessary.

Page 6, Item 8 – the historic plaque has not been purchased yet. There appears to be a discrepancy with the suggested date that should appear on the plaque. This will be checked.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget, dated 17th February 2015. It was also noted that the invoice for the cost of the erection of the ‘Welcome to Ely’ signs on the riverside has been allocated to the Ely in Bloom budget. This will be corrected immediately and allocated to the New Works budget.

5. TRAFFIC FLOW REPORT

Cllr Clarke reported that a meeting had been held with representatives from Ely Police Station, Cambridgeshire County Council and County Councillors. The discussion was predominantly about King’s Avenue and the main issue being that the road has not been adopted by the County Council. County Councillors have agreed to try and progress this. Cllr Clarke reported that Mr Alexander of County Highways has identified £16,000 of funding that could be used in this area. Cllr Clarke recommended that a meeting should be arranged to identify potential costs and to draw up a list of priorities. Cllr Yates suggested that a letter should be sent to the County Council.

Cllr Whelan had agreed to try and recruit volunteers to run a community speedwatch scheme in the King’s Avenue area, but as yet, no volunteers have come forward.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

8TH JUNE 2015

6. KING'S AVENUE TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP - UPDATE

This was discussed under item 5.

7. ELY IN BLOOM

The tubs have been planted with winter and spring flowering bulbs. With permission from County Highways, a wooden tub has been moved from the Market Place to Forehill. A volunteer has kindly offered to water and weed when necessary. One of the tubs on the Buttermarket is going to be moved to the island in front of the Ely Weekly News office. The Ely in Bloom Working Group are looking to expand the floral displays at the Maltings. There are currently 10 brackets for hanging baskets and space for 2 tubs, either side of the front doors. They are also looking into curtain style planting for the railings at Sessions House. Cllr Every reported that Helping Hands would like to do some planting for us, however, they would need to be paid. Cllr Arnold and Cllr Yates agreed to visit the team at the Volunteer Bureau.

At 7.35pm Cllr Yates left the meeting.

8. ON-STREET PARKING PRIORITY LIST - UPDATE

Cllr Lindsay suggested that the spreadsheet should be updated and tasks that have been carried out, removed. Cllr Arnold felt that the group needs to meet more regularly in order to maintain momentum and not lose sight of the work to be done.

9. COMMUNITY PAYBACK TEAM

The previous Chair of this Committee, Cllr Griffin-Singh had investigated the possibility of using the Community Service Payback Team to carry out various tasks in Ely. At the time, the team did not have an organised structure and had very irregular work patterns, which made engaging their services extremely difficult. This service has now been transferred to another provider and it seems that there have been improvements made to the scheme. In light of this, the City of Ely Council will attempt to establish regular use of the team. Cllrs Every, Arnold and Clarke agreed to meet to draw up a schedule of work to be done.

10. MAYOR'S ELY CLEAN UP

Cllr Every reported that an idea to 'Spring Clean' Ely was born out of a meeting of the City Centre Forum working party. A litter pick has been arranged for 29th March 2015 between 9.00am and 12.00pm. It is hoped that many volunteers will turn out to help. ECDC will provide the necessary equipment.

11. ECDC'S ANTI DOG FOULING STICKERS

The District Council are working to raise awareness of the problems caused by dog fouling. Warning stickers have been produced that can be purchased by the City of Ely Council if required.

12. A.O.B.

A local resident has contacted Cllr Arnold with concerns about car parking issues on Northwold. Cllr Arnold is going to raise this with the local Police.

Cllr Every has received a request for a dog waste bin for Alexander Chase. It has also been noticed by a District Councillor that one of the bins on Murfitt Close, off Morley Drive, is situated behind a closed gate. Cllr Arnold agreed to check this and also to check the current dog waste provision for the area.

A request for further yellow lines for Cardinal's Way, has been forwarded to the City of Ely Council from County Highways. Members agreed that we need to establish whether this road has been adopted or not before the Council can consider supporting an application.

13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been arranged for 8th June 2015.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

8TH JUNE 2015