

**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON
23RD FEBRUARY 2015**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr I Lindsay
Cllr E Griffin-Singh
Cllr A Arnold
1 parishioner

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr N Clarke
Cllr B Ashton
Cllr G Barber

Cllr A Whelan
Cllr S Pittock
Cllr R Hobbs
Cllr J Yates

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Rouse.

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 declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (HELD ON THE 15TH DECEMBER 2014) & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on the 15th December 2014, were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages PFG 8, 9 and 10 refer.

There were no matters.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated the 19th February 2015. There were no significant variances. Cllr Ashton proposed the Council investigate the costs a new accounting system. This was seconded by Cllr Hobbs and unanimously approved. The Clerk will look at the systems available and the cost of having a third party input this on the Council's systems. The Clerk had also produced a summary of the Council's available funds, which was noted.

5. REPORT OF DECISIONS REGARDING THE LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE 2015/2016

The Clerk informed members the Council's bid for a new pathway linking Morley Drive and Meadow Way had been unsuccessful. Cllr Arnold tabled a suggested scheme to undertake this work by using volunteers. Members thanked her for this, but felt this was not a suitable solution. Cllr Ashton proposed the Chairman write to John Hill, Chief Executive of ECDC requesting that this Council still wished to see a resolution to this problem, funded through Section 106. This was seconded by Cllr Yates and unanimously approved.

6. POSSIBLE SECTION 106 APPLICATIONS:-

There were no possible Section 106 applications suggested. The Chairman informed members there would be one last Section 106 meeting, in the old format. This will then wind up the current process and will kick start a new process, which will be more forward planning with regards to CIL monies.

7. SHARED EQUITY SCHEME ISSUES

Members unanimously agreed the annual increase in the shared equity scheme's rent and administration charges. This is the RPI at the end of January, which was 1.1%

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
23rd March 2015

8. COMMUNICATIONS/PR

The Chairman informed members the website specification was on Source Cambridgeshire. The deadline for tender submissions was the 9th March.

Members agreed the Chairman should arrange a drop-in before the elections in May. This will be held in Sessions House, with tours of the building also being offered.

The Council’s Neighbourhood Panel meeting will be held on 13th April.

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues to report.

10. MALTINGS COTTAGE

Members noted the report from Cheffins on the possible rental of the Maltings Cottage. Members agreed that Cllrs Yates and Clarke should obtain a clearer estimate on the costs of renovating the Cottage, as to the approved planning permission.

Due to the confidential nature of items 11 and 12 these were discussed in committee at the end of the meeting.

The parishioner left the meeting.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk informed members she had received a request from the City of Ely Allotments Association for the transfer of the funds held by the City of Ely Council on their behalf. Members unanimously agreed this money could be given to them to manage.

Cllr Griffin-Singh raised her concerns regarding the Council boards and pictures that had been placed in the court room. She felt this was not the appropriate place for these. She also raised her concerns regarding whether the court room was an ideal location for the Council’s meetings. The Chairman suggested that all Councillors put in writing where the Council’s boards and pictures should be positioned. They should also make suggestions regarding the meetings and the logistics of these to the Clerk, before the next Full Council.

Cllr Hobbs raised an item under any other business that was discussed in committee at the end of the meeting.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on the 23rd March 2015.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
23rd March 2015