



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST 2015 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT:

Cllr I Lindsay

Mr M Chinery-Colyer

Cllr A Arnold

Mr J Dennick

Cllr M Lansell

Mr I Newstead

Cllr S Pittock

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from The Mayor - Cllr Ely Every, Cllrs Hobbs, Friend-Smith and Miss J Sindall.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests, from Councillors as per standing order 83 b

No interests were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on the 22nd June 2015, were agreed and signed as a true record. CL 124 & 125 refer.

There were no matters arising.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget dated 25th August 2015. There were no significant variances. Mr Chinery-Colyer advised it will be necessary to purchase new ladders. The Deputy Clerk advised members, the annual anchor point testing will be carried out on 6th October 2015.

5. TO DISCUSS PLANNING APPLICATION FOR CONTAINERS

The Deputy Clerk reported that ECDC's Planning Officer had advised she would not be able to recommend permanent planning permission for the storage containers to be placed at the recycling area. However she was agreeable to recommending temporary permission for 3 years. Members agreed this would be acceptable, until a more permanent solution can be found.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer reported there will be enough volunteers, but may need the assistance of the Council's IPAF trained staff to help with the vehicles. He advised there are enough strings of lights, but will check the number of features, as it may be necessary to purchase a few of these. There will be no strings of lights on Forehill. More lights will be added to guttering where possible. He advised that he and Cllr Pittock would look at the possibility of purchasing solar lights, as he thinks this idea could work. The Deputy Clerk advised that a quote for these, including delivery, must be obtained prior to an order being placed.

Cllr Arnold suggested that Thorlabs should be contacted as they had expressed an interest last year in sponsoring a feature.

Cllr Pittock advised he had written a computer programme that could be used to design advent pictures to be displayed on the ping-pong feature. After discussion it was decided to invite the 4 junior schools in Ely to submit 6 designs to be displayed on the feature. Cllr Pittock and Arnold will contact the schools.

7. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM SWITCH ON GROUP

The Deputy Clerk reported that the ticket sales for the Magic show will be subject to VAT. In light of this information Mr Newstead advised he would be cancelling the show.

Mr Newstead updated members on the sponsorship pledges he had received and the various acts planned for the night. There will be 30 stalls available to hire.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Deputy Clerk reported ECDC's Conservation Officer had no objections to erecting lights on Sessions House, provided they are tied on. The lighting for the Cloisters will be hired to the Cloisters Management committee as in previous years and they arrange for these to be erected independently.

The Deputy Clerk will order the Christmas tree and Mr Chinery-Colyer will check the arrangements for collecting and erecting this.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 9th November 2015 @ 6.30pm & Monday 1st February 2016 @ 6.30pm. Additional meetings will be arranged if they are required.