



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN ECDC'S COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2015

PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor, Cllr I Lindsay	Cllr C Phillips	Cllr S Pittock
Cllr A Arnold	Cllr C Whelan	Cllr S Friend-Smith
Cllr J Pearson	Cllr P Moakes	Cllr M Lansell
Cllr D Warman	Cllr R Hobbs	Cllr A Whelan
Cllr M Rouse (arrived 7.03 pm)	Cllr S Austen (arrived 7.06 pm)	

1 parishioner

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Mayor, Cllr E Every. In her absence the Deputy Mayor, Cllr I Lindsay, chaired the meeting.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH NOVEMBER AND MATERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 16th November were agreed, subject to the correction of two letters transposed in 'November' on item 4 and signed as a true record. Pages 1469, 1470, 1471, 1472 and 1473 refer. Matters arising:- Page 1472, item 18 – The Deputy Mayor informed members the Traffic Working Group meeting had been arranged for the 5th January 2016. Page 1472, item 15 – Cllr Arnold informed members she was still looking into this matter.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

6. QUESTION TIME

Cllr Rouse in his capacity as a County Councillor advised members the Highways Committee was still struggling with its budgets, but it was hoped they would be able to save the mobile libraries. Residents have been raising their issues regarding the replacement streetlights with Balfour Beatty. The County Council has been talking to lots of people regarding devolution. He was not sure however, where they wanted to end up. He felt at some point one layer of local government would have to go, but was not sure which one. Cambridge and Peterborough could combine, but he thought government would like a larger partnership. Could be Cambridge, Norfolk and Suffolk or Cambridge could share services with Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Oxfordshire. He felt this was a challenge as the whole structure of local government needed to be streamlined to become more cost effective.

Cllr Hobbs in his capacity as a District Councillor informed members the earth has now been moved for the new cinema. There is an archaeological dig currently being undertaken, which had not unearthed anything yet. It was still on schedule, with the foundations being poured in January. He also reported that Stuntney and Prickwillow had gained a Small Village Grant from ECDC to enable work within the villages. Stuntney will be using this to make improvements to the entrance of the village.

6. Question time continued

Mrs Holden gave congratulations on the Christmas lights. She said they looked very pretty, especially Sessions House. The Deputy Mayor agreed and said thanks would be passed on to the Committee and volunteers from the public.

7. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor's engagements would be reported at the next meeting.

The Deputy Mayor had attended Yuletide Reception at USAF Mildenhall and the City of Ely Military Band concert. Cllr Friend-Smith requested a letter of thanks be sent to the Band for inviting councillors to this performance. The Deputy Mayor agreed to do this on behalf of all the councillors that had attended the concert.

8. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 16th November 2015 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- 50A Prickwillow Road, Ely; 52 West End, Ely; Vera James House, Chapel Street, Ely
Street Naming and Numbering:- 2A to 2J Merlin Court, Lancaster Way Business Park, Ely

Changes to bus services regarding Stagecoach 9

ECDC's Community Facilities Audit

LCR

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 30th November, which was approved. Cllr Alison Whelan declared that she did not accept the word 'savings' in the minutes of item 4, regarding the budget. The Deputy Mayor said that this should be raised at the next Personnel, Finance & Governance Committee meeting as to their accuracy. This would be down to those members present to decide, as Cllr Alison Whelan was not actually present at the meeting. Cllr Christine Whelan said she had said 'difference'. The Clerk did not agree, as she had said 'savings'. Cllr Hobbs also confirmed that Cllr Christine Whelan had said savings and that the minutes were a correct record. Members unanimously approved the re-appointment of the internal auditor, Michael Williamson for the financial year 2015/2016. Members unanimously agreed the criteria for a potential purchaser for the Council's shared equity houses would be lifted after the two month nomination period for the Council. This was due to the difficulties that had arisen over the past couple of years regarding the availability of mortgages for these houses. The Section 106 agreement would be amended, with the agreement of ECDC and the Church Commissioners. The Clerk informed members the Venue Manager for the Maltings wished to employ another bar staff member on a zero-hour contract. Cllr Hobbs proposed that a blanket approval would be given for the appointment of zero-hour staff for the Maltings. This was seconded by the Deputy Mayor and unanimously approved.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met.

(iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – No report as had not met.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as had not met.

11. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

Nothing to report.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Prickwillow Village Council – notes of a meeting held on the 10th November were noted.

Ely Trinity Dole - Cllr Phillips reported he had attended a meeting of Ely Trinity Dole on the 3rd December. He explained the charity supports the poor, needy and education. He requested that members pass on details of people to him that may be able to benefit from the charity.

Needham’s Foundation – Cllr Friend-Smith informed members she represented the Council on this charity, which also supported education.

The Deputy Mayor confirmed that all councillors, representing the Council on outside bodies, should give a verbal report at Full Council on any meetings they have attended in relation to these bodies.

City of Ely Allotment Association – Cllr Hobbs gave a brief history on the Deacons Lane allotment site and the proposal for the City of Ely Council, in association with the City of Ely Allotments Association, to take over the lease for this site. He had attended a meeting with the Clerk and representatives of the Association, to consider the proposed lease with the Church Commissioners. Unfortunately, the Association were now of the opinion that they could not proceed with this, due to a lower demand for allotments and the conditions within the lease. The Association were having a formal meeting on the 16th December, where this would be discussed and a decision made as to whether they wished to proceed with this. This will be discussed again at the next Full Council meeting, when a decision has been received.

13. TO APPOINT REBECCA HARPER AS THE ASSISTANT VENUE MANAGER AT THE MALTINGS

The Clerk informed members, following advertising of the vacancy for Assistant Venue Manager at the Maltings on the internet, interviews had been undertaken. The most suitable candidate was Rebecca Harper. Cllr Pittock recommended she be appointed. This was seconded by Cllr Arnold and unanimously approved.

14. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Members noted the recommendations regarding the creation of separate wards for the village communities of Chettisham, Stuntney and Prickwillow, which was not supported by the Council. It was agreed the villages should remain within the geographical wards and current representation. Members agreed Cllrs Phillips and Lansell would compose a response to this consultation on behalf of the Council.

15. RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE SECTION 106 SLIPWAY PROJECT

The Clerk started to inform members of the current situation regarding the Section 106 Slipway project at the riverside. However, Cllr Hobbs said that if he had been aware of the content of the matter to be discussed he would have declared an interest due to him being an ECDC councillor and the Chairman of the Commercial Services Committee. He therefore left the meeting at 7.54 pm whilst this item was discussed. The Clerk reported that ECDC had obtained three tenders for the work to the slipway, which ranged from £39,341.28 to £87,005.63. These were much higher than the original estimate of £9,750. Members agreed the Council could not fund this from the Section 106 funds and agreed Cllr Rouse, on behalf of the Council, would liaise with ECDC to try and find a way forward for this project. On Cllr Hobbs’ return he completed and signed page 126 of the Register of Members Interest Book.

16. CONSULTATION ON AN INTEGRATED ADVOCACY SERVICE

It was agreed member would respond as individuals to this consultation.

17. TO DISCUSS LETTER FROM CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDING FOR SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

Cllr Moakes suggested the Council should consider funding this. Cllr Hobbs felt the service could be volunteer based. Cllr Rouse said parents could donate to cover the cost. The Deputy Mayor felt it could be a topic for the next Community Panel. Members agreed the Council was not in a position to commit to financing this. The Mayor and Cllr Rouse would meet up with the heads of the schools at High Barns to discuss this matter and how it could be financed by the community/PTFA/schools. A letter will also be sent to the County Council objecting to these cuts. Cllrs Arnold and Pearson will also bring this issue up at the next High & New Barns Steering Group meeting.

18. STATUTORY RESOLUTION UNDER REGULATION B1(5)

Cllr Pittock proposed the Council pass a resolution from the 1st January 2016, that Eva-Maria Marin Garcia be specified as a pensionable employee under Regulation B1(5) of the Local Government Regulations 1986 (as amended). This was seconded by Cllr Arnold and unanimously approved. However, Cllr Hobbs requested the Clerk seek confirmation that she was entitled, as a zero hour contract employee, to enter the scheme. The Clerk confirmed that she was certain, but would check to ensure. He also requested the Council look into the options of providing pensions for Council employees and whether they have to be entered into the Local Government Pension Scheme.

19. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON APPLICATION TO RENEW LICENCE TO PLACE TABLES AND CHAIRS OUTSIDE AT COSTA COFFEE, 10 MARKET STREET, ELY

Members considered the application for renewal of the tables and chairs licence at Costa Coffee, 10 Market Street, Ely. They unanimously agreed to support this application subject to the area having barriers to define this. Concerns were raised that visually impaired people find it difficult when there are tables and chairs in the highway. If a barrier is in place, this aids their movement and prevents them from bumping into the table and chairs.

The parishioner left the meeting at 8.20 pm.

20. FINANCE

Members approved the following for payment:

Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	887.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	250.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	384.00	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	311.01	paid by direct debit
British Gas	6640.47	paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	243.27	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	162.00	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	100.00	paid by direct debit
Shire Leasing Plc	242.70	paid by direct debit
Vodafone	68.01	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	668.68	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	35.16	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	25.33	paid by direct debit
Barclays	150.22	paid by direct debit
ECDC	3451.00	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	961.41	paid by direct debit
DNA Kids Ltd	254.00	110293
Sunflowers Catering	481.80	110294
Warren Access	1077.90	110295
Isle of Ely Arts Festival	250.00	110296
Sovereign Design Play Systems Ltd	8194.21	110297
Monster Group (UK)	779.90	110298
Wider Plan Ltd	112.53	110299
Fulbourn Parish Council	28.00	110300
Production Print & Design	85.00	110301
D Jones	76.54	110302
Argos Business Solutions Ltd	13.71	110303
ECDC	1040.06	110304
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	46.80	110305
Blushed Studios	222.00	110306
Infiniti Graphics	50.00	110307
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	110308

20. Finance continued

BI Catering Equipment Services	811.20	110309
The Elyi Magazine	495.00	110310
CamAlarms Ltd	174.00	110311
Lunchbox	92.40	110312
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	110313
Festive Lights	87.98	110314
Gordon Harrison	33.12	110315
SLCC	260.00	110316
ECDC	1331.11	110317
Halls of Cambridge Ltd	2556.00	110318
Purcell Miller Tritton	290.92	110319
Mr M Chinery-Colyer	10.00	110320
Cambs Police & Crime Commissioner	264.34	110321
Sun Traffic Ltd	1428.00	110323
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	36.75	110324
City Cycle Centre	21.60	110325
Nisbets	122.23	110326
Ely Museum	3527.50	110327
B Baxter	68.00	110328
Bidvest Foodservice	3829.11	110329
G & J Peck Ltd	121.56	110330
W Ludbrooke	216.00	110331
Shefs	1520.00	110362
ESPO	64.63	110333
Greene King Brewing&Retailing Ltd	504.00	110335
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	36.49	110336
Cambridgeshire Turf Nurseries	96.00	110337
Cooleraid Ltd	9.48	110338
Escape Mobility Company Ltd	1500.00	110339
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.90	110340
Konica Minolta Business Sols Ltd	101.09	110341
C4 Digital Group Ltd	39.00	110342
RGP Security Services Ltd	202.80	110334
Speedy Asset Services Ltd	177.90	110361
Southern Electric	2320.58	paid by direct debit
CCTV Volunteer	27.00	110357
CCTV Volunteer	25.00	110344
JezO's Events Ltd	3408.00	110346
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	22.40	110347
British Telecommunications	72.00	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	66.60	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	120.60	paid by direct debit
ECDC	60.00	110348
Benjo Bags Ltd	88.20	110349
Nisbets	91.09	110350
British Telecommunications	29.04	paid by direct debit
RGP Security Services Ltd	202.80	110360
Screwfix	37.93	110351
Bradley's Discos	810.00	110369
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	118.50	110353
Shefs	3313.80	110354
ECDC	190.91	110355
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	34.90	110356

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 16th November 2015

Salaries and wages	£14020.95
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£3268.88
Pension fund payments	£5543.28

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th November 2015