



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN VERNON CROSS ROOM,
ELY MUSEUM, MARKET STREET, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2015**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr M Rouse
Cllr D Warman
2 parishioners

Deputy Mayor, Cllr I Lindsay
Cllr C Whelan
Cllr P Moakes
Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr S Friend-Smith
Cllr M Lansell
Cllr A Whelan

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Austen, Pearson and Pittock.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest, as per Standing Order 83b.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST SEPTEMBER AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 21st September were agreed and signed as a true record after the deletion of 'no' in item 3 and the correction of the date in item 4. Cllr Hobbs requested that it be recorded that Page 1458, item 14 did not reflect the decision which was made by Council and that it should have read 'there was a consensus of opinion that the Council would find funding to resolve the parking issue within Dovehouse Close, Ely. The Mayor also stated that this was also agreed for Cambridge Road'. Pages 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459, 1460 and 1461 refer.

There were no matters arising.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members there were a number of councillor seminars coming up. These will allow members to be acquainted with what is going on. 27 October – ECDC Design Code for the North of Ely; 2 November – Budget seminar; 23 November – meeting with Mr J Hill, ECDC giving an update on the plans for ECDC and how this will impact on the City of Ely Council. Following this meeting there will be the next session regarding the Council's Business Plans.

6. QUESTION TIME

Cllr Rouse in his capacity as a County Councillor advised members the new Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council; Gillian Beasley had now commenced this role. This will be a joint role with Peterborough City Council. The County Council is currently looking at all its devolution options. He is a member of the Highways Infrastructure Committee, which recently discussed the relocation of the archives. It will be recommended to the General Purpose Committee that only the archives be moved to Ely. The Cambridgeshire Collection, which is stored at Cambridge Library, will remain there. The Ely Registry Office will not move there either.

6. Question Time continued

Cllr Hobbs in his capacity as District Councillor reported that ECDC's leisure village will be moved forward to the next stage and then to completion, which should be by 2017. He also informed members, Allison Conder, Principal Community and Leisure Services Officer, would be leaving the District Council shortly. Members agreed the Mayor should send her a personal letter, wishing her good luck for the future and thanking her for working in partnership with this Council.

Mrs Holden raised her concerns regarding the temporary implementation of crossings at the new school, which had been submitted through the planning application. She had noticed the City of Ely Council had not made any comment regarding the fact that the footpath will cross where the construction traffic comes in and out of the site. The Access Group were concerned these large lorries would be crossing this school route. Cllr Hobbs said there would normally be a clause within the planning approval to prevent them delivering during school start and finish times.

Members agreed to make a comment regarding this concern to the Planning Officer.

7. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended a meeting with Highfield School regarding social enterprise; course on apprenticeships and traineeships; an event at the Old Hall extension at Stuntney; full Governors meeting at Ely St John's School; Ely Choral Society concert; New Connexions Church 7th Anniversary; Apprentice Ambassadors' meeting; Ely St John's School Teaching Alliance; heritage lighting tour of the City; supported Littleport Rotary Race Night; welcome address to Ely Standard Business Awards; attended the new Countess Free Community Room; Prickwillow Ploughing Competition; Sanctuary Housing/Travis Perkins Community Project at Fairfax House and had a meeting regarding the Southern Bypass. She had also attended a meeting with the Dean; Ely Chamber of Commerce meeting; skills agenda meeting with LEP; Beatles tribute act at the Maltings; Potato Race; City of Ely Civic Service; opening Babylon Arts; Ely St John's Resources Governors' Meeting; VCAEC AGM; meet with Soham Town Council regarding CCTV; meeting re Skills Fayre in aid of Papworth; Apple Festival; Short Story Writers' Awards; ESCAT meeting and meeting with Highfield School re social enterprise.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the High Sheriff's Service for the Judiciary at Ely Cathedral; James Bowman Lecture at King's School; City of Ely Civic Service and the opening of Babylon Arts.

8. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 5th October 2015 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- rear of 8 Forehill, Ely; 4 Nutholt Lane, Ely; 16 Henley Way, Ely; 12 Silver Street, Ely; 9 Wheatsheaf Close, Ely; 4 Barton Square, Ely; 2 The Vineyards, Ely; 15B Silver Street, Ely; 73A Lynn Road, Ely; Douglas Court, Ely; 3 West Fen Road, Ely;

Street Naming and Numbering:- new office building, Lancaster Way Business Park, Ely; Hope House, Wilford Drive, Ely

Thank you letters received regarding the grants issued:- Parkinsons Ely Support Group; Royal British Legion; Relate Cambridge; Pos+Ability; Fenprobe; East Cambs Neighbourhood Watch Association; Revitalise; City of Ely Netball Club; Ely Museum; City of Ely Cricket Club; City of Ely & District Horticultural Society

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – No report as Committee had not met. Members noted the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2015 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. The notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return will be displayed.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT –No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Arnold informed members the Ely in Bloom Working Group had met to discuss the required budget and planting schemes for next year.

(iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 21st October.

10. Committee Reports continued

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Arnold informed members the erection of the Christmas lights would commence on the 21st October.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th October, which was approved. It was agreed budget headings with regard to the Council’s buildings would be discussed at these meetings in future. The Asset Register would also be reported to this meeting. The Mayor had given an update on the Maltings and the progress the Venue Manager had made. The Council will discuss the future of the Maltings in order to be able to move it forward. Quotes are being sought for the refurbishment of the Maltings Cottage to a satisfactory shell. The Mayor had advised the final use of the cottage should enhance the Riverside. A decision on the future of the building should be made quickly. Cllr Hobbs raised his concerns regarding the suitability of the Vernon Cross Room for Full Council’s when ECDC’s Chamber was not available. It was agreed to look at the options on these occasions.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – The Group had meet on the 9th October to discuss the Association’s social programme for the coming year.

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

11. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

CCTV – the Mayor gave a verbal report on the CCTV and informed members she had issued a press release confirming the cameras were recording in both Ely and Soham.

Sessions House Stage II Working Group – Cllr Lindsay informed members proposed plans had now been received from Purcell Miller Tritton. It was felt these may need a few minor amendments as they do not provide ideal access for the disabled toilet. He will discuss these with Mrs Holden. The commercial use of Sessions House was also discussed and further work is being undertaken to ascertain correct rental rates for rooms.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

East Cambridgeshire Museums Group – notes of a meeting held on the 29th September were noted.

Cambridgeshire County Forum – notes of a meeting held on the 10th June were noted.

City of Ely Allotment Association – Cllr Hobbs, as the Council’s representative on this group, reported the Association had met with a County Council representative regarding the proposed Bypass. They discussed the plans and were quite content with the proposals. The area affected on the Bridge Fen site will be pegged out by the County Council to allow the Association to see how this may affect them.

13. TRAFFIC ISSUES WITHIN PARISH

There were no current issues to report.

14. LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME 2016/17

Members considered three bids for the Local Highway Improvement Scheme 2016/17. The Mayor reported the Traffic Working Party met on several occasions, where possible bids were discussed. One of these meetings was with Highways Officer, Mr Steve Alexander.

1 parishioner left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

After a lengthy discussion Cllr Hobbs proposed the Council submit an application for speed reduction on Lynn Road, Ely. This was seconded by Cllr Moakes and unanimously approved. The Clerk informed members that as the 15/16 bid had been unsuccessful; the money which had been budgeted for this could be used towards the contribution for this bid for 16/17. Members unanimously agreed the applicant’s contribution would be increased to £1900.

Cllr Hobbs proposed the bid for Dovehouse Close be funded entirely by the Council, from the existing CIL money, which totals £5070. Cllr Phillips seconded this proposal and members unanimously agreed. This will be discussed further at the next Full Council meeting with regards to costings and that it would meet the criteria for use of the CIL money.

14. Local Highway Improvement Scheme 2016/17 continued

The third bid for a crossing on Cambridge Road was considered to be a worthy application, but as the Council had already agreed to submit Lynn Road, it could not be a bid from the Council, but a bid from an external group. However, Cllr Hobbs proposed the Council supports this bid financially and agreed to fund the applicant's contribution of £5000 from next year's budget. This was seconded by Cllr Warman. A vote was undertaken with 8 in favour and 4 abstentions. The Clerk raised her concerns regarding the agreement to fund this third party bid. The Council had not started the process of setting the precept for next year and until this was underway the rise would not be known. Therefore, this could have a detrimental impact on the Council's existing services and costs.

1 parishioner left the meeting at 8.40 pm.

Cllr Lindsay also raised his concerns regarding the setting of the precept as the implications of the costs for next year had not been discussed yet.

15. 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
Armourstore Self Storage Ltd	207.60	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	355.40	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	155.62	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	329.50	paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	243.27	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	2344.42	paid by direct debit
Barclays	28.66	paid by direct debit
ESPO	7.87	paid by direct debit
ESPO	62.41	paid by direct debit
ESPO	109.34	paid by direct debit
Vodafone	137.05	paid by direct debit
Epos Now	2499.97	paid by BACS
Wicken Coronation Band	200.00	110206
Lunchbox	81.00	110207
Infiniti Graphics	25.00	110208
RGP Security Services Ltd	156.00	110210
Wider Plan Ltd	112.53	110211
Blushed Studios	120.00	110212
Barry Collings Entertainments	750.00	110213
Anglian Water	174.96	110217
Anglian Water	23.53	110215
Anglian Water	68.23	110216
Ben Baxter	20.00	110218
Ultimate Beatles	1000.00	110219 (cancelled as made out to wrong name)
City Cycle Centre	88.26	110220
Savills (UK) Ltd Client Receipts Acc	251.50	110221
ECDC	4823.66	110222
CamAlarms Ltd	168.00	110223
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	110224
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	34.66	110225
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	67.20	110226
Geze UK Ltd	156.00	110227
Millennium Pest Control ltd	66.00	110228

15. Finance continued

Ben Baxter	136.00	110229
Sunflowers Catering	798.00	110230
Ely Tool Hire Ltd	24.00	110231
Jewson Ltd	20.23	110232
K Ellis	1531.00	110233
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	18.70	110234
G & J Peck Ltd	252.98	110235
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	81.38	110236
Cooleraid Ltd	9.48	110237
ESPO	23.64	110241
British Telecommunications	31.93	paid by direct debit
PRS for Music	3167.28	110238
ESPO	72.46	paid by direct debit
ESPO	30.00	110241
Festive Lights	469.20	110239
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	1000.00	110240
Jewson Ltd	34.26	110232
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	110024
Cambridgeshire County Council	1650.00	110242
Ely Tyre Services	456.00	110243
Barclaycard	489.83	paid by direct debit
InfinitiGraphics	25.00	110244
Max Wurr	1000.00	110245

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 21st September 2015

Salaries and wages	£12492.56
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£3328.36
Pension fund payments	£5643.26

Members noted and approve the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th September 2015