



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2016 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT:

The Mayor – Cllr E Every

Cllr S Austen

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr M Lansell

Cllr P Moakes

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr R Hobbs *arrived 6.45pm*

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Pittock and Lindsay.

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.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12th October 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages AA07 and AA08 refer. There were no matters arising.

4. SESSIONS HOUSE

The Deputy Clerk reported that Purcell Miller Tritton had submitted pre-application advice, to ECDC on the Council's behalf, regarding the installation of a lift in Sessions House. This will enable disabled access to the first floor of the building. A response to this had been received from the Conservation Officer, which had been circulated to members of the working party. Comments are still awaited from English Heritage. The Estates Team are currently in the process of decorating the hallway and Judges room. Some bookings have been received for meetings held in the Judges room, during office hours. Hirers will be requested, to manage people arriving for these, so as not to disrupt the office staff from their work. Members agreed that a board should be purchased, on which information for delegates can be detailed.

In order to hire the venue out at times, which are not office hours, a Duty Manager would need to be employed. This service will have to be factored into the hire cost, per hour.

The Mayor reported that the Isle of Ely Art Festival had secured a grant of £300 to put on a performance, which could possibly be held in the courtroom. However, there will be implications regarding licensing, which will need to be considered.

5. THE MALTINGS – DECISION ON FEEDBACK REQUIREMENTS

The Mayor reported that she had been to visit The Maltings Venue Manager. The venue is becoming very busy with bookings and she and the new Assistant Venue Manager are concentrating on marketing.

Members were asked what information they would like to receive back from the Venue Manager. After discussion it was agreed this should include; the frequency and type of bookings, the fees received for these, the cost of providing the venue for each booking and whether or not a bar was provided for each event. The Mayor and Cllr A Whelan will visit the Venue Manager to discuss with her what is required.

The Venue Manager will be required to present this information to the next meeting and thereafter provide a report for each Assets and Acquisitions meeting.

6. MALTINGS COTTAGE

The Mayor reported that the Council had placed an advertisement in the press, inviting applicants to register an interest in a lease on this property on two separate occasions. There had been one positive proposal received, which was circulated to members. This was from a local educational provider. After much discussion, members thought this to be an extremely worthwhile proposal and that endeavours should be made to have the rent reduced. They agreed under no circumstances should the Council profit from the rental, should the proposal put forward, go ahead. It was agreed that the Mayor, Cllr Moakes and the Deputy Clerk will meet with the organisation to discuss the next steps in order to move this forward. It was agreed it would be necessary to speak to the Council's neighbouring tenant regarding the ideas that have been discussed.

7. FUTURE PROJECTS

There are no other future projects.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business to discuss.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 25th April 2016 at 6.30pm