



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
72 MARKET STREET
ELY CB7 4LS**

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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY, 11TH APRIL 2011**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr B Ashton	Cllr S Friend-Smith	Cllr J Pearson
Cllr A Winchester	Cllr P Eden	Cllr R Hobbs
Cllr J Yates	Cllr S Overall	Cllr J Chaplin
Cllr W Burton	Cllr N Covell	Cllr E Griffin-Singh
Cllr M Rouse	Cllr R Bradney	Cllr J Moakes

4 representatives of voluntary organisations 1 parishioner

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH APRIL 2010

Minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on the 12th April 2010 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 120, 121, 122, 123 and 124 refer.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked those in attendance as it is important that the Council is accountable and available to the community. He explained voluntary organisations had not been invited to give reports this year, due to the close proximity to his recent "Celebration of Volunteering" Service. The Council was also already familiar with most of these organisations functions.

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**THE MAYOR
30TH APRIL 2012**

4. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

The Committee Chairmen spoke about their Annual Reports, which had been issued with agendas and answered questions raised.

(i) Administration & Other Responsibilities

The Mayor reported the Council continued to manage within the budget and he thanked the Clerk for her diligence of the finances by keeping everything on track. He also thanked the other staff for their support.

No questions.

(ii) Recreation and Cemetery

Cllr Bradney thanked the office staff and cemetery staff for all their hard work. Members agreed the cemetery looked very good.

No questions.

(iii) Street Furniture

Mr Rolfe asked if it would be possible for notice boards to be installed in the city centre, possibly on the Market Place. Members agreed to raise this request at the next Street Furniture Committee meeting.

(iv) Ely in Bloom

Mrs Adams raised her concerns regarding the Rooks in the trees at Annesdale. She asked if anything could be done about these as they keep messing on passersby. Cllr Overall said that there were restrictions due to nesting in the trees. Volunteers would be required to help fill the hanging baskets. A date will be fixed shortly. The planting at the corner of Broad Street and Back Hill was now looking very nice. Members also agreed that the flowerbed at St Mary's Street in front of the church was also looking extremely good. Ely in Bloom enables the whole community to become involved.

(v) Christmas Lights

Cllr Hobbs thanked the councillors who give up their time for the Christmas Lights and all the other volunteers. These volunteers will also be putting up the bunting for the Royal Wedding celebrations.

No questions.

(vi) Youth Council

Cllr Friend-Smith thanked Cllrs Yates, Rouse and Moakes for supporting the Youth Council.

No questions.

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(vii) Ely/Ribe Association

The Chairman, Mr G Hughes again raised the Association's concerns regarding the Ribe Tapestry displayed at the Maltings. He hoped the Council would ensure the tapestry will be on view to the public in the future. The Mayor thanked those members of the Association who successfully maintain the link to Ribe.

No questions.

(viii) Allotments

The Mayor thanked the Association and their members for providing such a high standard of allotments. This Council appreciates how popular allotments have become. Cllr Rouse confirmed that future plans for the development of Ely will include allotment areas as these will be needed even more in the future, as it is an important part of developing the community.

No questions.

5. GENERAL FORUM

No matters were raised.

6. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Mayor extended a tremendous level of thanks from the Council to all the volunteers within the community. Without their efforts there would be so many things that would not occur. He felt it was very important to recognise the effort that they put in. Volunteering is usually fun for those that do it and was sure that it would become more popular in the future. He felt it was sad that very few parishioners were present at this Annual Parish meeting. In future the Council will need to look out how to stimulate more communication with the community on Council matters, to ensure the Council is responding to the local needs of the populace.

The Mayor was grateful to have had the opportunity this year to sit in the Mayoral chair. Cllr Rouse thanked the Mayor for his emphasis on volunteers and how it makes a strong community.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm.

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30TH APRIL 2012