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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE VERNON CROSS ROOM, ELY MUSEUM, MARKET STREET, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY, 29TH AUGUST 2017**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson, Clerk

The Mayor, Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr J Pearson

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr J Yates

*2 parishioners*

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr E Every

*County Cllr A Bailey*

Cllr D Warman

Cllr P Moakes

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr M Lansell

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Austen and Cllr A Whelan.

**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 31ST JULY 2017 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 31st July 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1598, 1599, 1600, 1601, & 1602 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1598, item 5 – The Clerk informed members she had contacted the developers, regarding a presentation at a Full Council meeting, but had received no response from either of these. She will chase them again. Page 1598, item 6 – The Mayor informed members that the meeting at Fairfax Court had now been rearranged and would be undertaken the following week.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reminded members of the councillor seminar on 2nd September; his Civic Service on the 15th October and the councillor Christmas meal on the 4th December.

**6. QUESTION TIME**

Mrs Holden, a parishioner asked if the Council had planned to get involved with the County Council's accessibility checker. She informed them there was a meeting on the 19th September at the Larkfield Resource Centre between 10.30-11.30. The Mayor felt that this was something the Council would like to be involved in and it was agreed Cllr Arnold would attend this meeting on behalf of the Council.

*One parishioner left the meeting at 7.10 pm.*

## **7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Bailey, in her capacity as a County Councillor updated members on various issues relating to the County Council. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

The Mayor wanted to recognise the work of Cllr Every, Mr Philip Eden and Mr Gareth Hughes, who without their help and expertise they would not have been able to move forward with the new Ely City Service No 15 bus route. The Mayor also congratulated Cllr Every on her new appointment as an 'Area Champion'. A new role for the Community and Partnership Committee at the County Council.

Cllr Rouse, in his capacity as a District Councillor, informed members that it was very busy at the moment, with regards to planning applications being considered. They will be considering the application for the first phase off of Cam Drive, Ely at the Planning Committee meeting on the 31st August.

The Mayor, reported that the new sports centre had now been officially named as 'The Hive'.

## **8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT**

The Mayor had attended the theatre production of The Dreaming by Viva Arts and Community Group and the award presentation evening for Ely in Bloom. He started the Ely Triathlons Monster Race. He had also met with Mr A Cobb, from the Highways Department and Cllr Every.

## **9. PLANNING**

A report of the Planning Committee meeting, immediately prior to this meeting was received.

## **10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received: -

Notification of Tree work:- Vera James House, Chapel Street, Ely; 23 Douglas Court, Ely; 9 Houghton Gardens, Ely; St Davids, 19A Egremont Street, Ely; 25 Cam Drive, Ely

Notification of street naming and numbering:- 1 additional assisted living dwelling, 1A Rosyln Court, Lisle Lane, Ely

Notification of road closures:- Ely Station LC, Station Road, Ely – between 00.30 hrs – 08.30 hrs on 10.9.17 and 23.59 hrs on the 7.10.17 and 08.30 hrs on 8.10.17; Ely Southern Bypass footpaths – extension of closure until 4.3.18; Bohemond Street, Ely – 23-27.10.17; Ely Road LC, Queen Adelaide, Ely – between 23.30 hrs on the 18.9.17 and 06.00 hrs on 19.9.17

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE –The Mayor presented a report of meeting held on the 14th August, which was approved. Members unanimously approved the recommendation that the Council's general reserve be set at £210,000. This being six months of Council expenditure. This would be reviewed on an annual basis. Members unanimously agreed the re-appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2017/2018. The updating of Financial Regulation 11B and Standing Order No 23, with 11.1H of the NALC model Financial Regulations in order to incorporate reference to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the tender threshold requirements of £25,000 was unanimously approved. The Mayor then signed the amended version of these. The recommendation to continue to pay the annual revenue grant of £37,897 to Ely Museum, whilst they were closed to the public for refurbishment was unanimously agreed. It was also agreed that Ely Museum would continue to apply for additional funding for other projects through the annual grant application process. Although members had previously discussed a reduction in the selling charges for the shared equity housing scheme and agreed not to reduce the 0.5% charge, the Deputy Clerk had provided a report requesting this be re-considered again. After a short discussion, it was unanimously agreed to set a fixed charge of £600 plus VAT or 0.5% of the selling price, whichever is the lesser amount at the time of selling the property. This will be reviewed on an annual basis.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Arnold informed members that the winners of the Ely in Bloom trophy, Fairfax Court, would be having a piece about them winning this in the next Sanctuary Newsletter.

**11. Committee Reports continued .....**

- (iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Phillips gave an update on the vandalism to the cemetery chapels.
- (iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met.
- (v) ASSETS & ACQUISTIONS – No report as Committee had not met.
- (vi) ELY/RIBE – Not met. The Mayor reported that a choir from Ribe would be visiting the City in November and the Ribe Association would be hosting this. They will undertake a performance with the Choral Society.
- (vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as had not met, next meeting 18th September.

*County Cllr Bailey left the meeting at 7.45 pm.*

**12. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS**

There was nothing to report.

**13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

Ely Museum Executive Review Group – notes of a meeting held on the 7th August were noted. Cllr Every informed members the Ely Museum’s application for a 2017 Marsh Award for Museum Learning on behalf of Ely Museum’s Learning Team of Volunteers had been successful. The judges were particularly impressed by the number and quality of the applications this year, so congratulations were given to the team for winning the 2016 regional award for the East of the England.

The Mayor informed members he would be presenting the prizes at the City of Ely Allotments Association AGM on the 4th September.

*The remaining parishioner left the meeting at 7.45 pm.*

**14. TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Every summarised the recommendations for the Minor Highways bids. The proposed options were traffic calming at the entrance to Prickwillow and an intermittent 20 mph sign outside Highfield School on Downham Road. Another possible scheme would be traffic calming down towards the bottom of Forehill. There could also be a stop sign, with a change of priorities for traffic, but this would require a TRO. It was agreed Cllr Every would investigate the costs of these proposals, which would then be considered again at the next Full Council meetings, for submission by the 21st October. Cllr Moakes asked if ECDC’s CIL money could be used to fund some of this. The Mayor agreed this was a conversation that needed to be had with ECDC.

The Mayor said that under the new process, community evidence for proposed schemes had to be provided. Therefore, he proposed the Council purchase a mobile speed unit at a cost of £3500. This was seconded by Cllr Moakes and unanimously approved. The Mayor will liaise with Mr Cobb from Highways, as he had agreed to assist him in purchasing this.

**15. TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE CITY**

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding agenda item 15, that this be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Arnold and agreed to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.

## 16. FINANCE

Members approved the following payments:-

### *Direct debit payments*

Vodafone	68.01	paid by direct debit
ECDC	415.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	261.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	1166.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	862.00	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	654.39	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	2989.85	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	109.29	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	26.90	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	28.56	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	104.40	paid by direct debit
Worldpay (UK) Ltd	177.44	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	293.78	paid by direct debit
ESPO	12.98	paid by direct debit
ESPO	121.89	paid by direct debit
LEX Autolease	243.27	paid by direct debit
Siemens Financial Services Ltd	469.71	paid by direct debit
Shire Leasing Plc	242.70	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	127.99	paid by direct debit

*The following invoices had already been paid prior to the Full Council, due to due date of payment with the approval of the Chairman*

Anglian Water	592.51	111298
Ely Fudge Company	144.00	111300
Newmarket Hampers	2850.00	111301
Newmarket Hampers	30.00	111302
RGP Security Services Ltd	105.30	111303
S Bradley	200.00	111305

*The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting*

CCTV Volunteer	5.40	111306
CCTV Volunteer	27.90	111307
CCTV Volunteer	5.40	111308
City Cycle Centre	14.76	111309
Churches Fire	809.10	111310
Ensign Solutions	27.60	111311
Deeping Direct Deliveries	115.20	111312
Ely Museum	7579.00	111313
CD Clowe Electrical Services Ltd	1512.00	111314
ESPO	41.81	111315
Cooleraid Ltd	14.22	111316
Littleport Band	200.00	111317
Manea Silver Band	200.00	111318
Infiniti Graphics LLP	60.00	111319
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	630.00	111320
Mrs A Arnold	39.72	111321
Total Gas & Power	11.87	111322
Nisbets	27.54	111323
G & J Peck Ltd	35.00	111324
Trade UK	67.78	111325

**16. Finance continued.....**

Barclays	119.50	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	26.16	paid by direct debit
C D Clowe	191.64	111326
NVCS Ltd	117.00	111327
Purcell Miller Tritton	1765.01	111328
RGP Security Services Ltd	93.60	111329
Clearview Communications Ltd	4500.00	111330
Shefs	351.00	111331
Newmarket Hampers	2708.00	111332
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	220.80	111333

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 31st July 2017**

Salaries and wages	£16454.43
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£4807.06
Pension fund payments	£8444.73

**Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st July 2017**

## City of Ely Council 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 - Cambridgeshire County Council Update

### The Budget

Since 2011, the Council has saved £215m cumulatively. We need to save a further £90m by 2022, with £37m of that coming into the 2018/19 financial year. Committees will begin looking at proposals in October, but this is a continuous process that goes on throughout the year and proposals are already well underway and business cases being worked up - many proposals require up-front investment to deliver a long-lasting return and permanent change. This always raises questions and debate - one person's "cut" is another person's "transformation". For me, with change comes the opportunity for innovation and better outcomes and that is always what I look for when assessing proposals.

Example - independent travel for people with learning disabilities.

### Children Centres Consultation

Children's Centres are currently under review and the public consultation runs until 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 and can be accessed here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-centres/children-s-centres-consultation>. The service as a whole is looking to take out £1m of running costs - I emphasise, this is about spending less on buildings and running costs, not about cutting frontline provision. It is important to remember that Children's Centres are the tip of the iceberg in terms of provision for vulnerable families, with the vast majority of the work being done on a one-to-one basis, away from the public eye. I met with staff at Ely's Children's Centre on 7<sup>th</sup> August to understand more of the detail about the proposals and their impact. I have particularly looked in detail at the proposals for Ely and Sutton. I also attended the Ely Children's Centre Annual Open Day on 16<sup>th</sup> August where I was able to speak with families and get their views. Ely's Centre has high usage and is in an area of high need, and the proposal here is to retain the Centre as it is and to also provide outreach sessions in Ely Library, providing greater access for more people. Sutton has lower usage and there is an identified need (and a desire from the community) for increased nursery school provision. The opportunity exists for that to run from the Children's Centre building, which would help with the running costs of the building and would enable existing Children's Centre sessions to continue to be based from within the building, but also for additional outreach sessions to be run in other areas, Haddenham being identified as a location that needs local provision.

### The Future of Libraries

The library service has reduced its budget by some 48% since 2009, with no library closures. The service is now looking to the future and far from being a service in retreat, and with seven new library openings planned for the next five years, big opportunities exist for exciting re-development of the ways that communities use their library services in the digital age. One such example is "Open Plus", an initiative already in tried and tested use elsewhere, where library card holders are given 24/7 access to library buildings. A series of meetings is taking place in libraries throughout the county.

### Princess of Wales Hospital Update

I am meeting with CCG staff regularly in relation to the Minor Injuries Unit pilot work and met with Matthew Smith on 16<sup>th</sup> August for an update. The pilot is progressing well and the CCG is happy that things are currently on track - attendances are up by 9% compared with 2016. There is a national move, which I wholeheartedly support, to get rid of the confusing array of terms for local hospital provision by 2019, e.g. Walk in Centres, Minor Injury Units, Urgent Care Centres etc and to standardise them into one brand known as "Local Urgent Treatment Centres". So, the Minor Injuries Unit will not become a Local Urgent Care Service, but is proposed to become a Local Urgent Treatment Centre. The Centre will be required to be open from 8.00am to 8.00pm, which is challenging locally, particularly in terms of recruitment, but this will be a requirement for the Princess of Wales. Work is ongoing with 111 and the first set of new "dispositions" has been "switched on" meaning that people in additional situations are now being referred. Further dispositions will be added soon. Ambulance crews that used to go to A&E on a 50/50 call will now be speaking to the hub GP to take that decision instead and nurses are now also sending

patients to the hub GP where necessary, so it is truly becoming a one stop shop. A further communication to the public is planned for late September and I remain optimistic about the future of this vital local provision.

I attended a stakeholder event on 19<sup>th</sup> July regarding the redevelopment of the Princess of Wales site. A new member of staff from Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust has taken over, Alison Manton, who has done many other hospital redevelopments and she is getting on with it! In the autumn an outline business case will be presented and the aim is to have an operational hospital by January 2021, without disruption to existing services running out of the current buildings. The options for the new buildings are all at least double the footprint of the existing site. The intention is that the site will also be the location for increased GP provision for Ely.

I have also had a positive response on a request from the community to ensure a new area for The Haven, which was an area in the existing building (recently lost) for quiet reflection for staff, patients and visitors and was gifted through charitable donations raised by the Inner Wheel. Alison Manton will be looking to re-provide this in the new hospital including retention of the stained glass window.

### **Ely Bypass**

Due to issues with power cables, the timetable for delivery has slipped by a potential 3 months, which will mean the new road will open in the summer of 2018 rather than the spring. The contractor is doing everything it can to manage this down as close as possible to the original timescale.

### **A10 Campaign Update**

Much of the work arising from my motion of May 2016 is now complete, and we will have the final report by the end of this calendar year - this will detail route options for an upgraded A10, a recommended option, and the necessary business case which will enable funding bids to be made. Importantly, this will include short term immediate improvements, such as the Cambridge Road roundabout to the BP roundabout section. The case will then be taken forward by the new Combined Authority.

### **Cambridge Road Resurfacing**

Cambridge Road has now been resurfaced following the new electrical connection to Lancaster Way, using the same grade tarmac. As previously reported, it is hugely regrettable that it had to be done again, but it has been done at no cost to the tax payer and the vital electrical connection is now in place and I would like to place on record my thanks to Grovemere for their helpful attitude to this.

### **Darwin Close Road Adoption**

Although it has not been without its trials, the work on Darwin Close by Persimmon is nearing completion which will then be inspected by the County Council to ensure it is up to standard before being adopted. Thanks to residents who have put up with the impact of the work being done, but whom I know are pleased that their road should now finally be adopted.

### **Streetlights - West Fen Road**

I am seeking ways to try to secure street lighting for the West Fen Road junction with the A10. The main aim for this is to improve the situation for cyclists and pedestrians using the recently upgraded crossing point to cross West Fen Road to get to and from the new Leisure Village and Primary School etc; usage will only continue to increase. If I can get better lighting for the A10 road users at the same time I will try my best!

### **Bus Services**

I have been working with Lis and Richard and two local expert residents, who have long and vast experience of commissioning and timetabling bus services, to see if it is possible to make better use of the subsidy that goes into the north of East Cambs to get a better and more sustainable bus service for a larger number of people by making better use of resources, namely, the buses, the drivers and the subsidies. After a number of meetings and a lot of hard work we now have some proposals to put to the Council for further investigation. As ever, with changes to

bus services, there are likely to be some compromises but we hope to be able to deliver a better service to more people and particularly to get back to something closer to the old No 15 route in Ely.

The next stage is to ask officers to look into the proposals, to understand the feasibility of making contract changes to facilitate the changes and to understand any financial implications at which point we will know what is possible.

### **Future Governance of the Fire Authority**

There is a proposal by the Police and Crime Commissioner, under the new legislation, for the Governance of the Fire Authority to come within the remit of the Police and Crime Commissioner in the future. The County Council voted unanimously against these proposals at its last meeting, and instead backed the stance of the Fire Authority which is promoting the option of closer back office working. The public consultation closes on 4<sup>th</sup> September and can be accessed here: <http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/fire-governance-consultation>

### **Neighbourhood Cares**

The two pilot areas, St Ives and Soham, have now completed their recruitment and are fully staffed. I am looking forward to meeting the St Ives team on 18<sup>th</sup> September. I also had a request from the NHS to meet with their Neighbourhood Teams manager which is due to take place today - this is an encouraging development from the point of view of wanting, ultimately, to work as fully integrated teams in the future.

### **Bidding Opportunities**

The fund is now open for the latest round of bids to the Local Highways Improvements scheme. A new website has been set up to help with the process and includes helpful information about costs of different highways solutions: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway>. This year, bidders will have the opportunity to refine their initial bid after working it up with officers.

The Innovate and Cultivate fund (previously known as Cambridgeshire Communities Innovations Fund) is also open for bids. It is a £1m fund which aims to help strengthen communities through schemes which help to support the corporate aims of the Council - there are two elements of the scheme: “cultivate” for small grants of £2,000 to £10,000 and “innovate” for schemes of up to £50,000. There will be a workshop for applicants on 27<sup>th</sup> September. More information, including details of how to book onto the workshop can be found here: <https://www.cambscf.org.uk/home.html>.

Anna Bailey, Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Ely South