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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 MONDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY 2018**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson, Clerk to the Council

The Mayor, Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr J Pearson

*2 parishioners*

*1 additional parishioner arrived later in the meeting*

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr J Yates

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr S Austen

Cllr D Warman

Cllr P Moakes

Cllr E Every

Cllr M Lansell

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Lindsay.

### **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 8TH JANUARY 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING AND MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 22ND JANUARY 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 8th January 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638 and 1639 refer. Matters arising – Page 1637, item 14 – the Clerk informed members BT had been contacted regarding the telephone box on Cambridge Road. They had confirmed that this was on the national list for removal and was hoped to be undertaken by September. The parishioner who raised this issue had been informed of this timescale. Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 22nd January 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1640 and 1641 refer. There were no matters arising.

### **5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced that Cllr Every and himself had attended the East Cambridgeshire Local Highway Improvements Panel meeting, where they presented the Council's two bids. He thanked Cllr Every for all the work she had put in to these. He also reported that following the ceasing of the process for the Maltings Cottage, the applicants had been informed and understood why this had happened. Three councillors will be selected to form a Working Group with the Deputy Clerk, to move this forward. These councillors will be chosen at the next Asset & Acquisitions Committee meeting.

### **6. QUESTION TIME**

A parishioner raised their concerns regarding the scruffiness of the City Centre. She said that as they had walked around with regards to the 'A' Boards, they had noticed how filthy it was; eg: cigarette butts, chewing gum, litter and the poor state of a lot of the rubbish bins. She requested help from the City of Ely Council to help improve this.

## **6. Question Time continued .....**

The Mayor confirmed they would be discussing this issue at the next Environment Committee meeting on the 12th February and agreed the cleanliness needed to be improved. The other parishioner present thanked the Clerk for her prompt action regarding the condition of the footpath on Cambridge Road. She will be meeting up with Cllr Bailey to discuss the issues with her, when the weather improves. She also asked for an update on the lift project at Sessions House and whether it will meet British Standard 8300:2009. The Clerk reported the drawings had now been completed for the steel within the lift shaft and these were currently being checked by the lift manufacturer. The Clerk reported verbal confirmation had been obtained only and agreed to obtain written confirmation from Purcell Miller Tritton that it would meet this standard.

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

Cllr Every, in her capacity as a County Councillor, informed members of the Queen Adelaide traffic survey. The results of which will be considered at County's Economy & Environment Committee on the 8th February. She was currently gaining information from all those affected in the immediate and surrounding areas, as she would be speaking on this at the meeting. She requested a response from the City of Ely Council, to add to her report. Members discussed possible wording for a response and agreed the following. "The City of Ely Council at their Full Council meeting on the 5th February 2018, passed a resolution to not support any proposals in relation to the proposed Queen Adelaide crossing closures that would damage or blight the lives of our residents in Queen Adelaide, Prickwillow and the City of Ely. There must not be any economic or social impact on these parishioners. The Council strongly supports a road solution to overcome this issue and would strongly urge for options 7 or 8 to be the proposed options. Could you please ensure this Council is kept update with any matters relating to this issue."

Cllr Rouse, in his capacity as a District Councillor, informed members there would be an additional Planning Committee meeting on the 19th February to consider plans for the first stage development of the Highflyer land near Thistle Corner.

Cllr Friend-Smith asked why graffiti was not being removed immediately by ECDC. Cllr Austen explained that it was only removed immediately if it was offensive.

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

The Mayor had attended the opening of the newly refurbished Santander Bank; the Prickwillow Village Council AGM; Speedwatch meeting; British Legion WW1 centenary celebration meeting; the Air Cadets Award evening; the opening of the new Ely Food Station at Ely Station and the opening of 11A Cocktail Bar. He had also attended the Ely Beer Festival at the Maltings; a further meeting of British Legion WW1 meeting; undertook Speedwatch training and attended the Cambs Acre village hall award for Little Downham.

## **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:- 6 Three Cups Walk, Ely; 12 Silver Street, Ely; The Oaks, 56 Ely Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely; 6 Silver Street, Ely

Notification of street naming and numbering:- The Hive, 15 Ely Leisure Village, Downham Road, Ely

Notification of bus service changes:- Minor alteration to bus service 12

Notification of road closures:- Public footpath 31, rear of 4 and 26 Forehill, Ely – 5-9.2.18 and 30.7-3.8.18; Mile End level crossing – 9-10.4.18; footpath closures on West flood embankment footpath from A142 Stuntney Causeway to Little Thetford and East flood embankment footpath from A142 Stuntney Causeway to near Barway – three occasions during the period 9.3-5.10.18

Setting up of new direct debit, to replace previous one for new coffee machine at the Maltings with Liquidline Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2016/17

Letter from Ely LGBT+ regarding their grant from this Council and how they will use this to help fund the PRIDE in Ely event on the 11th August, which was tabled.

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 22nd January, which was approved. They would be discussed further under agenda item 14. Cllr Phillips informed members that at the next meeting of this Committee he wished to have an agenda item to discuss whether a review was needed on the way the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are appointed. The recommendations from this would then be discussed at a future Full Council meeting. He requested members shared any thoughts on this with him before the next meeting. He felt there should be a much more transparent, democratic and involved process. Cllr Rouse also raised his wish to look at the structure of the Council’s current committees and how well these work with all the new services that have been taken on.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 12th February.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Phillips informed members a restorative justice meeting with the juveniles, who had caused the damage to the chapel windows would be held on the 12th February at the cemetery.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 28th January, which was approved. The carry forwards from the budgets will be required to be used to invest in infrastructure. All electrical equipment will need to be PAT tested. The Deputy Clerk will look at arranging a PAT testing course for Estates staff. This will enable them to undertake this testing and PAT testing for all departments of the Council. As usual there will be a visit to the annual spring fair at Birmingham to purchase lighting features for this year’s display.

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

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

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

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

City Centre Forum Working Party – Cllr Every informed members this group had met recently. It included Tracey Harding - ECDC, Ely Cathedral, Ely Museum, Traders Association etc. It gave feedback from all parties on what progress was being made in preparation for the funding from Market Towns.

City of Ely Allotment Association – Cllr Warman reported on the recent meeting of the Association where the proposals for the new allotments within the North of Ely were discussed.

## **13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

Ely Museum – Cllr Every reported the Curator will be attending the Full Council meeting in March to give an update on the HLF application.

Cllr Arnold confirmed the Mayor had written a letter to Cambs County Council regarding ‘A’ boards and street clutter within the City Centre, asking them to enforce legislation with regards to this.

## **14. TO APPROVE THE SETTING OF THE BUDGET FOR 2018/2019**

Members discussed the minutes of the Personnel, Finance & Governance Committee of the 22nd January and the proposed budget of £498,431. The Clerk informed members that although the salaries for all staff had been calculated with the proposed annual pay increase included, it now appeared that it was being proposed to increase the lower scales on a sliding scale ranging from 9.191%-3.734.%. This would have an impact on the proposed budget. Cllr Moakes proposed the Clerk recalculate the precept with these additional rises and that this precept figure would be accepted for 2018/2019. This was seconded by Cllr Friend-Smith and a vote undertaken. There were 12 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. An email would be sent to all councillors tomorrow (6.2.18), informing them of the new precept figure, which was expected to be approximately £15,000 more. Cllr Every proposed that a three-year budget plan is put in place from next year, based on the Council’s three-year business plan. This was seconded by Cllr Moakes and approved.

*One parishioner left the meeting and another one joined.*

## **15. NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2018/2019**

The nomination of Cllr Mike Rouse for Mayor, proposed by Cllr R Hobbs and seconded by Cllr A Arnold was approved. The nomination of Cllr Alison Arnold for Deputy Mayor, proposed by Cllr M Rouse and seconded by Cllr R Hobbs was approved with 8 votes in favour and 5 abstentions. Cllr Rouse thanked members for his nomination.

**16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS WITHIN THE HOPKINS HOMES DEVELOPMENT AT PARCEL A, ORCHARDS GREEN, ELY**

The recommendations made by the City of Ely Allotment Association would be submitted as points the Council wished to be incorporated into the plans for these allotments. These were; 1. There is no secure fencing shown between the allotments and the rear gardens on the Orchard Estate. 2. Must ensure that the car parking is only used by allotment holders, this may mean that these areas are fenced off from the estate. 3. The number of water tanks is excessive and should be decreased, the cost saving could be used for other items. 4. The plots next to the parking areas to have hard standing/paths for easy access, so that these could be allocated to plot holders with limited mobility, raised beds could be added later.

*Two parishioners left the meeting at 8.10 pm.*

**17. TO CONSIDER WHETHER THIS COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT ANY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION ON ECDC'S CIL REGULATION 123 LIST**

Members agreed they were not able to put any suggestions forward at this time as they needed to review the City of Ely Council's current Business Plan, in conjunction with how this Council would spend future CIL money. A member seminar would be arranged to discuss these.

**18. FINANCE**

Members approved the following payments:-

*Direct debit payments*

LEX Autolease	243.27	paid by direct debit
Barclays	213.64	paid by direct debit
EE Ltd	91.20	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	328.56	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	57.84	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	27.36	paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	579.19	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	602.23	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	423.05	paid by direct debit
ESPO	145.03	paid by direct debit
ESPO	394.16	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	72.57	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	37.98	paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	3032.60	paid by direct debit
Siemens	569.40	paid by direct debit
Siemens	114.00	paid by direct debit
ESPO	2356.44	paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	263.70	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*

Eden Farm Hulley's	129.50	111560
Impress Express Signs & Graphics	84.00	111561
Newmarket Hampers	1080.00	111562

**18. Finance continued .....***The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting*

Total Gas & Power	9.23	111563
Caterfix	828.00	111564
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.17	111565
Deeping Direct Deliveries	115.20	111566
CCTV Volunteer	5.40	111567
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	111568
PPL	165.97	111569
Cambs Police & Crime Commissioner	194.00	111570
Fen Farm Supplies	9.58	111571
Warren Access	832.50	111572
ESES Ltd	180.60	111573
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	89.28	111574
BFS Ltd	596.84	111575
Tea for Two	191.00	111576
Balfour Beatty	540.36	111577
Speedy Asset Services Ltd	153.84	111578
ESPO	383.00	111579
Anglian Water Business Ltd	447.67	111580
Anglian Water Business Ltd	21.19	111580
Anglian Water Business Ltd	250.04	111580
Nisbetts	220.91	111581
Trade UK	79.94	111582
G & J Peck Ltd	287.64	111583
Jewson Ltd	275.72	111584
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	111585
Anglia Stairlifts Ltd	1507.94	111586
Mr M Chinery-Colyer	28.80	111587
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	150.00	paid by direct debit
G & J Peck Ltd	11.63	111583
G & J Peck Ltd	61.82	111583
ECDC	60.00	111588
Worldpay (UK) Ltd	283.60	paid by direct debit
Safe & Sound Playgrounds	375.60	111589
Red Splash Consultancy Ltd (SSP)	227.02	111590
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	25.06	111591
British Telecommunications	109.44	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	184.73	paid by direct debit
M Rogerson Ltd	750.00	111592
Stoke Ferry Timber Ltd	112.80	111593
Liquidline Ltd	146.89	111594
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	22.46	111595
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	12.00	111596
R Hobbs	167.00	111597

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 8th January 2018**

Salaries and wages	£19924.67
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£4535.05
Pension fund payments	£7806.51

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