



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
RECREATION & CEMETERY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD
AT 6.30PM ON MONDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2018**

PRESENT:

Mrs S Jay – Deputy Clerk to the Council

The Mayor, Cllr M Rouse

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr J Yates

Cllr Arnold

Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr D Warman

3 representatives from 'Action for Swifts'

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lindsay and Every.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. PRESENTATION FROM 'ACTION FOR SWIFTS'

'Action for Swifts' delivered a very informative presentation on Swifts and their progressive decline over the last 20 years. In order to encourage this population to increase, they would like to install swift boxes on the belfry of the Cemetery Chapel. The group has worked with many organisations including churches and would need to see if it would be possible to install the boxes at the Cemetery. Cllr Phillips thanked 'Action for Swifts' for taking the time to present to the committee. *The 3 representatives left the meeting at 7.50pm.*

Members unanimously agreed to explore the possibility of the installation of Swift Boxes, after consultation with the Estates Manager.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 23RD JULY 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd July 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Page RC 084 and RC 085 refer.

Matters Arising – Page 085, item 8 – The Deputy Clerk will forward by email to Councillors, Sally Bonnett's response to the timescale for the phasing of the new Country Park and this Council's request to be involved in the new play area designs.

5. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 3rd October 2018. There were no significant variances.

The Deputy Clerk reported the Estates Manger had requested a notice board for the Cemetery in order to keep visitors informed of important information regarding the Cemetery. The Deputy Clerk had obtained 3 quotations for double sided notice boards. It was unanimously agreed to purchase a notice board at a cost of £2050.10. This will be paid for from the site improvements budget heading. She also requested the purchase of a laptop, in order to enable volunteers from the 'Friends of Ely Cemetery' to input historical records onto the Council's Cemetery software package. Members unanimously agreed to purchase 2 laptops if possible, up to the value of £500.00. This would enable more than one volunteer to input information at a time. These will be paid for from the memorial budget heading. Members unanimously agreed to the proposed budget heading figures for 2019. This includes the purchase of a new commercial mower at a cost of £6350, after the trade in of 2 older mowers. The new mower will be more fuel efficient and is able to cut and collect wet grass in one go.

6. RECREATION

To receive update on High Barns and St Johns Road recreation area projects

The Deputy Clerk reported orders have been placed for the upgrading of equipment for High Barns and also, the outdoor fitness equipment for St Johns Road recreation area. Installation dates are awaited.

7. CEMETERY

7.1 To receive an update on the meeting of the 'Friends of Ely Cemetery'

Cllr Phillips reported a meeting of the 'Friends of Ely Cemetery' had taken place on the 10th October 2018 at Sessions House. This had been a very well attended meeting, with many members volunteering for various working groups. These consisted of helping with friendless graves at the Cemetery, to the inputting of historical records at Sessions House. Cllr Philips thanked Mrs Jay and Mrs Pickering for attending the meeting.

7.2 To receive an update on extension to storage

The Deputy Clerk reported the ground work for the storage shed will commence shortly.

7.3 To approve quotation for a notice board

This matter was discussed under item 4 of the agenda.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Philips asked Cllr Friend-Smith what is required with regards to the information required from Committees by the CIL Working Group. Cllr Friend-Smith advised any projects Committees have, that require CIL funding in conjunction with the Council's Business Plan, should be put forward to the CIL Working Group for consideration and possible recommendation to Full Council.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the equipment at Prickwillow Play area needs replacing.

As the City of Ely Council does not own or lease this land it may be an idea if Prickwillow Village Hall be requested to investigate any avenues of funding that are available to them for the purchase of new equipment. There is an historical agreement that the Council clean and maintain the play equipment, but no reference in the records held but the Council, refers to future replacement. The Deputy Clerk will write to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 21st January 2019 @ 6.30pm, Monday 18th March @ 6.30pm and Monday 17th June @ 6.30pm. Additional meetings will be arranged as required.