



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
SESSIONS HOUSE
LYNN ROAD
ELY CB7 4EG

Tel: 01353 661016 Fax: 01353 667057
E-mail: info@cityofelycouncil.org.uk

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 29TH JULY 2019**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Rouse, Mayor

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr R Denness

Cllr K Wilkins

County Cllr A Bailey

Cllr S Austen

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr C Whelan

3 members of the public

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr E Every

Mrs T Harding

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Warman and Cllr Downey.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllrs Every and Denness declared a personal interest in item 11 (ii), due to the fact that they are both on the Governing Body of Ely St John's Primary School. They took no part in the discussion of the minor highway bids. They signed pages 228 and 229 respectively, of the Register of Members Interest Book.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST JULY 2019 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 1st July 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767 and 1768 refer.

Matters arising - page 1762, item 5 – Cllr Lindsay asked the Mayor if he had confirmed the location of his Civic Service on the 20th October. The Mayor informed members this would be held at St Mary's Church.

Page 1764, item 11 (iii) – Cllr Lindsay asked if the cemetery open day could be part of the Heritage Weekend, 13-15 September, as Sessions House will not be able to be open, due the decoration of the courtroom in September.

Members agreed this should be included as part of that weekend, especially as Ely Museum will also be closed.

Page 1764, item 11 (v) – The Mayor confirmed a meeting had been arranged with ECDC with regard to the Maltings Cottage.

Page 1766, item 18 – The Mayor informed members he would be formally informing the organisations of their award.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had been requested by the Clerk, to instruct all members to respond to emails and calls when requested to do so. This will ensure the smooth running of the Council. The Mayor also informed members dates were being sought for the seminar, which would probably be held in October. Cllr Every requested her concerns be recorded that the Council's Business Plan was no longer valid and this needed to be addressed as soon as possible.

6. QUESTION TIME

A parishioner, on behalf of the East Cambs Access Group was appalled to read of the abuse Cllr Phillips had suffered via email before the elections. The Access Group fully supported any statement of inclusion which the Council wished to make. They value and embrace diversity and want all sections of the community to be included.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Members noted the report from Cllr Bailey in her capacity as a County Councillor. A copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the report from Cllr Every, in her capacity as a County Councillor and District Councillor. A copy of which is attached to these minutes. Cllr Every urged members to respond to ECDC's consultation on a Youth Strategy. There will be a number of stages to this and parishes will be contacted to confirm what is available in their parish regarding youth provision. She thanked members that had attended the Bus Steering Group meeting, which she felt had been a very positive meeting.

Cllr A Whelan in her capacity as a District Councillor reported on the recent Finance and Assets Committee meeting.

County Cllr Bailey left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had met with Fritha Love regarding the Pride Day on the 10 August; attended the Plan Surv 10th birthday celebrations; Ely Hero Awards; Ely College Ofsted report announcement; Pizza Express with Highfield Academy; had meeting regarding retail in Ely; Samovar Tea House, independent shops walkabout; Talking Freely; attended the opening of Spring Meadow and St Mary's School Fayre; cut the ribbon at Prickwillow Drainage Museum for new porch; attended KD Theatre Sister Act at the Maltings; opened Aquafest and presented prizes; attended Mayfield Close 70th birthday party; 56 Chinese visitors at Sessions House; launch party at 68 Market Street restaurant; A night at the movies concert at Ely Cathedral; Folk Festival Parade; A night at the opera at Hayward Theatre; met with Fleur Patten re Ely rocks; was a speaker at Witchford Village College's Stage 3 graduation; 40 Chinese visitors at Sessions House; attended Robert Arkenstall School at Haddenham Lion King; private viewing of summer exhibition at the Babylon Gallery; Eco Fair, Ely Swish in support of Prospect's Trust at the Lighthouse Centre; Ely Rock High Street event with Fleur Patten at 3 at 3; opened the Thor Labs summer party at Ely College; attended the Royal Anglian Regiment Association Cambridgeshire Service and Parade; 20 Chinese visitors at Sessions House; presented certificates to Porta School Italian students; 45 Chinese at Sessions House; attended RAF Mildenhall Chairs & Mayors Barbeque and Boogie Nights at the Maltings. The Mayor wanted to acknowledge all the hard work that the Isle of Ely Folk Festival undertake to provide such a wonderful community event. It was agreed he would write to them and other organisations that arrange these annual community events and thank them for all their hard work.

The Deputy Mayor had attended a bingo evening at Prickwillow and the City of Ely College Presentation evening.

9. PLANNING

A report of the Planning Committee meeting, immediately prior to this meeting was received. Cllr Lindsay informed members he had received an offer from ECDC's Planning Manager and Conservation Officer to attend a Full Council meeting to talk to members about how this Council comments on the planning applications. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would arrange a meeting for them to attend.

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- rear of 27 Sycamore Lane, Ely; Powchers Hall, The College, Ely

Notification of road closures:- Back Lane, Ely – 3-5.10.19

Street Numbering and Naming:- new dwelling, 197B Lynn Road, Ely

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) **PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE** – No report as Committee had not met. The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding this item, 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 Austen and agreed to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.

(ii) **ENVIRONMENT** – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of the meeting held the 22nd July 2019 which was approved. No quotes for the planting, watering and maintenance of the floral displays in Ely had been received, therefore quotes will be obtained for the supply and maintenance of the plants. The practicalities of undertaking the watering ‘in-house’ will be discussed further. Cllr Lindsay proposed the recommendation from this Committee to submit a minor highway bid for 2020 for traffic calming around Ely St John’s Primary School. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously approved. Last year’s successful bid for the three mobile speed devices, is now moving forward and proposed locations for the use of these devices are been confirmed. Cllr Lindsay will be raising with Stuntney Village Council the suggestion of using their Rural Communities Grant for the moving of the 30 mph sign in Stuntney. Cllr Bellow confirmed Prickwillow Village Council had applied for a £2000 grant from the War Memorial Trust to help contribute towards the cost of the refurbishment of the war memorial in Prickwillow. The Council will need to secure a new energy provider for its street lights as the County Council is ending its current energy arrangements.

(iii) **RECREATION & CEMETERY** – No report as Committee had not met.

(iv) **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS** – No report as Committee had not met.

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

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

(vii) **YOUTH FORUM** – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 20th August.

(viii) **TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE** – No report as Committee had not met.

12. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

Nothing to report.

13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Prickwillow Village Council – notes of a meeting held on the 20th May 2019 were noted.

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – notes of a meeting held on the 19th June 2019 were noted. The Clerk informed members a meeting had been arranged with the Chairman of the Allotments and Gardens Association, Cllr Wilkins, ECDC Planning Officer and Hopkins Homes to discuss the issues with regard to the management plan for the new allotments in the North of Ely.

14. TO DISCUSS REPORT FROM THE TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE MANAGER REGARDING THE OPTIONS FOR THE EEL FESTIVAL WEEKEND FOR 2020

The Mayor informed members of the resignation of the Tourism and Town Centre Manager. He thanked her and wished her well in her new role.

The Tourism and Town Centre Manager briefed members on the report she had produced regarding the options for the Eel Festival Weekend for 2020. After a lengthy discussion the Mayor proposed that option 2 be accepted, with the Festival being moved to the following weekend, 7-10 May 2020, because of the change in the bank holiday due to the VE 75th Anniversary celebrations. This was seconded by Cllr Lindsay and unanimously approved. This will revert to the usual May bank holiday weekend in 2021. The Mayor said a Working Group could be set up to help with arrangements for the weekend.

The Tourism and Town Centre Manager left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

15. TO CONSIDER A MOTION FROM CLLR PHILLIPS REGARDING INCLUSIVENESS

The Mayor requested members inform him of any abuse or hate mail that they may receive. He knew that this was very rare, but he asked that if it happens that they come and talk to him about it.

Cllr Phillips proposed the following motion:-

“That the City of Ely Council while affirming the local community's history of openness and inclusiveness notes with concern the published data on increases in hate crime and proposes that all people irrespective of age, race, gender or gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, disability, religion or belief are welcome in this chamber and in this City and are entitled to be treated with respect, dignity and in an equal manner.

Furthermore, acknowledging its duty under the Equality Act 2010, the Council commits to going beyond this to work to place inclusiveness at the heart both of its policies and the life of the local community. In doing this the Council will (1) establish communication with groups representing the diversity of Ely and seek to ensure that these groups feel included in decisions made. (2) Engage with external bodies to encourage their working toward the same inclusivity standards. (3) Inaugurate a process of reviewing the Council's actions and policies to ensure that they seek to include all people and (4) publish annually with its Annual Report the success of these same actions and policies in including all the people of Ely.”

This was seconded by Cllr A Whelan and unanimously approved.

It was also agreed that members would ensure the points within the motion are actually undertaken, which would be achieved by forming a small Working Group.

16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL’S CONSULTATION REGARDING BACK HILL/BROAD STREET, ELY – SAFETY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Some members raised their concerns regarding the proposals for this scheme. It was unanimously agreed that as there were differing opinions on the scheme, that members should respond as individuals directly to Cambs County Council.

17. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Members agreed to respond as individuals to this consultation.

3 parishioners left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

18. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE REMOVAL OF PUBLIC PAYPHONE AT NEW BARNS AVENUE, ELY

Members fully supported the proposed removal of the public payphone at New Barns Avenue, Ely.

19. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC’S CONSULTATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A YOUTH STRATEGY FOR EAST CAMBS

Members agreed to respond as individuals to ECDC’s consultation on the development of a youth strategy for East Cambs. Cllr C Whelan informed members she had raised her concerns with ECDC, regarding the timing of the consultation, as it was over the summer holiday period. Cllr Every confirmed that this was the first stage of this consultation. They want to raise awareness and will then concentrate on the results of the survey.

20. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON LGSS PENSIONS SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS FOR DISPANDING THE POOL

The Clerk gave background information on this item and Cllr Lindsay then gave further information. Members unanimously agreed that they believed the pool should be continued and not disbanded. Members also agreed that once the projected figures were received, further consultation would be considered by the Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee.

21. FINANCE

Members approved the following payments:-

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

ECDC	908.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	491.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	933.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	275.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1733.00	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	48.49	Paid by direct debit
EE	99.34	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	61.37	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	108.70	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	123.64	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	81.17	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	141.28	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	317.94	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	74.21	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	180.10	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	128.06	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	3148.46	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	38.20	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	143.51	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	166.24	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	134.66	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	120.61	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	82.71	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	39.63	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	336.31	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	211.20	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	257.55	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	570.19	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	2789.44	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	186.90	Paid by BACS
Virgin Media	186.90	Paid by BACS
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
S Blake	682.00	Paid by BACS
S Blake	200.00	Paid by BACS

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

Pen & Sword Books Ltd	168.87	112650
T Harding	95.40	112654
S Blake	484.00	112653
ECDC	1635.35	112652
H Kemp	100.00	112651
Gordon Harrison	362.06	112649
Securitas Security Services Ltd	54.62	112656
Iliffe Media Publishing Ltd	762.00	112657
Solitech Sound Lighting & AV Services Ltd	222.00	112658
Visit Cambridge & Beyond	489.60	112659
Eden Farm Hulley's	217.44	112660
Clarity Heating	2110.56	112661

1773

.....
MAYOR
27th August 2019

21. FINANCE CONTINUED

BFS Group Ltd	591.84	112662
Trade UK	46.34	112663
RGP Security Services Ltd	234.00	112664
E Gardener	266.00	112665
Shefs	1956.00	112666
Archant Community Media Ltd	340.50	112668
Anglian Water	64.92	112669
Anglian Water	20.30	112670
S Bradley	580.00	112671

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	112677
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	59.12	112678
Verve Digital Ltd	120.00	112679
ATS Heritage	300.00	112680
Ely Central Heating	195.00	112681
Cooleraid Ltd	71.28	112683
Guildford Business College Ltd	330.00	112684
City Cycle Centre	8.33	112685
Jewson Ltd	34.31	112686
ECDC	349.56	112687
Ensign Solutions Ltd	101.96	112688
Pen & Sword Books Ltd	168.87	112689
Chatteris Town Band	200.00	112690
John Lewis Partnership	120.00	112691
Littleport Band	200.00	112692
Breckland Brass Band	200.00	112693
Westair Reproductions Ltd	772.80	112694
Iliff Media Publishing Ltd	48.00	112695
GTW Media Ltd	180.00	112696
Witham Oil & Paint Ltd	55.01	112692
CSD Brass	200.00	112698
March Brass 2000	200.00	112706
We Are Blushed Ltd	168.00	112699
Total Gas & Power	9.52	112700
Gordon Harrison	425.32	112701
Trade UK	114.45	112702
ESPO	14.72	112703
G & J Peck Ltd	55.39	112704
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	89.91	112705
Minerva Publications	358.80	112707
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	2311.50	Paid by direct debit
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	141.60	112708
Shire Leasing PLC	242.70	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	255.20	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	180.00	112709
Aztek Services Ltd	187.20	112676
Trade UK	27.49	112702
CCTV Volunteer	5.40	112675
British Telecommunications	4.28	paid by direct debit
Trade UK	4.99	112702
RGP Security Services Ltd	189.00	112674
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	598.77	Paid by direct debit
Cambs Chambers of Commerce	240.00	112673
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	932.00	112672

21. FINANCE CONTINUED

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 1st July 2019

Salaries and wages	£28,878.19
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£7,294.30
Pension fund payments	£12,593.04

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th June 2019.

Cambridgeshire County Council Update - City of Ely Council 29th July 2019

Funding of Public Services in Cambridgeshire

The unfairness of Cambridgeshire County Council's funding from central Government is relatively well understood by the public. What is perhaps not so well known is the innovative and successful way in which the County Council continues to handle its finances - Cambridgeshire continues to out-perform many of its statistical neighbours regardless of the fact that its funding is among the very lowest of any upper tier authority in the country.

Funding for healthcare in Cambridgeshire is under unprecedented pressure. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group has an annual budget of £1.3b, but the NHS in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has a total system deficit of almost £200m and must make significant savings. To address this, the CCG has recently released details of a range of services and grants it is looking to change or cease. Thankfully, this doesn't include the Princess of Wales MIU, but my message to residents is to please use it where you can - it can treat minor illnesses and injuries such as sprains and strains, broken bones, minor burns and scalds, minor head and eye injuries, cuts, bites and stings and more - further information can be found here:

<https://www.cpft.nhs.uk/services/minor-injury-units.htm>. Worryingly, the CCG is cutting grants to charities and voluntary organisations that run really important local services that help to support people with their health issues and also to prevent deterioration. The NHS in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, like our Councils, is underfunded compared with other areas - the NHS in West Norfolk has £350 per head of population more than us, which, with a population size of around 800,000 in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough adds up - £280m!

The challenges of schools' funding in Cambridgeshire are also significant. The level of funding for schools in Cambridgeshire places us at 142nd out of 149 authorities and the emerging pressures on schools are significant. The County Council has recently collected information from schools on how these pressures are affecting children and particularly the work they do with those pupils with special educational needs. It is our intention to write to MPs to share this feedback but also outline the wider challenges we have had with the 2019/20 schools funding settlement.

Coupled with documented unfair funding to the Police, the cumulative impact of this situation is unsustainable and we are running a continued significant campaign to raise awareness and lobby MPs and Government for a fairer settlement in the Comprehensive Spending Review and Fair Funding Review.

Cambridgeshire Funding to Tackle Knife Crime

In some brighter news, Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite has confirmed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will get almost £400,000 to support young people and prevent them from getting involved in knife crime. The Home Office is making up to £22 million available through its Early Intervention Youth Fund over 12 months to Police and Crime Commissioners across the country to prevent and tackle serious youth violence and child exploitation.

Connecting Cambridgeshire - Broadband Progress Update

The Connecting Cambridgeshire superfast broadband rollout has now reached over 126,000 homes and businesses, and is aiming to cover over 99% of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in the next two years. Remaining premises (estimated to be less than 4,000 across the county) will have a range of options to secure fast internet access including the Government's Gigabit Vouchers and Better Broadband Schemes, and Openreach's Community Fibre Partnerships.

The new Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme will help eligible business and residents in some of the hardest-to-reach rural areas get additional funding towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband as part of a group project. Rural premises with broadband speeds of less than 30Mbps can pool vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), and up to £1,500 per residential premise to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections – via a local supplier.

Use the [postcode search \(https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/rural/\)](https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/rural/) to check if you are eligible, and choose from a list of local suppliers who can guide you through the process.

Retrofit energy efficiency project for Village College

An energy efficiency retrofit project at Soham Village College, has saved the school £32,148 on their energy costs and saved 176 tonnes of CO2 emissions over the last year. The Council has invested £481,700 upgrading Soham Village College with solar panels, LED lighting, replacement boilers, heating system insulation and automation of heating controls. Before this upgrade the College consumed 2.4 million kWh of energy per annum costing more than £100,000 per year owing to old and inefficient energy systems. This is an example of 55 similar projects throughout the county amounting to over £8.5m investment in our schools and saving over 3000 carbon tonnes per annum.

Cambridgeshire Outdoors Centres

A bold new vision will be set out for Cambridgeshire Outdoors three centres to ensure that they offer affordable, high quality outdoor and environmental education, contributing to our ambition to give all Cambridgeshire children the best start in life. Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) has three outdoor learning centres; Grafham Water, Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service (CEES) at Stibbington and Burwell House; which offer day and residential visits, adventurous and curriculum-based activity courses, outreach services and conference facilities. The core delivery of the Service is focused on children and young people, ensuring everyone has an amazing experience whilst developing personal resilience and making memories that last a lifetime.

Cambs 2020 and Think Communities

The County Council's move out of Shire Hall (Cambs 2020) is part of a much more radical vision for pushing services and resources out to our communities, encapsulated in the Think Communities strategy which is gaining national recognition.

The Council's future operating model and staff presence in the community is starting to take shape, based on the emerging NHS 21 Primary Care Networks identified as part of the CCG reorganisation of GP coverage. Staff will increasingly become part of the community and services will be more responsive to local need and working across organisational boundaries.

Libraries

As previously reported, Civic is successfully engaging with external funders who are keen to support our innovative approach and promote us as an example to other authorities. Engagement with members and communities in the pilot areas is underway. The BBC is on board and local radio is already planning their involvement. The future of libraries is safe in Cambridgeshire and libraries will increasingly be offering a wider range of opportunities, as well as delivering more of our services through the Think Communities approach.

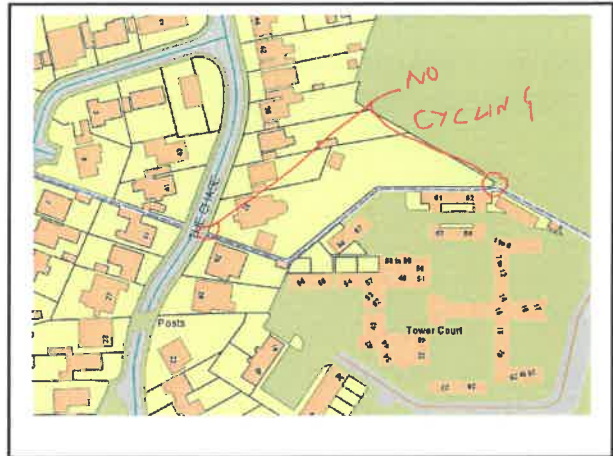
Highfield Academy Development

Highfield Academy special school in Ely, which is part of The Active Learning Trust, is the first school in the county to provide specialist and dedicated support and facilities for students with special educational needs aged from 2 through to 25.

Work on site has begun to build a new dedicated wing for younger children, improved facilities for staff and a new hydrotherapy pool, sports hall and fitness suite. The facilities are expected to be completed during the summer term of 2020, ready for use in September 2020.

The Chase to Tower Road Footpath Improvement

Following a request by the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for The Chase, Ely, to improve pedestrian safety on the cut through footpath between The Chase and Tower Road, I am pleased to say that the County Council will be painting "No Cycling" signs on the tarmac at either end.



Bridge Fen Allotments - Access and Safety Issues

Myself and Cllr Kevin Wilkins met with Bridge Fen Allotments Association in early July to discuss a number of concerns relating to access and safety issues around their site, following the opening of Ely Bypass. We identified a number of things for action as below which I am pursuing with County officers.

1) The highway verges have been cut which has made exiting the vehicle entrance much easier. The roundabout grass will be cut shortly and will receive a greater number of cuts than normal to ensure visibility of cars coming round the roundabout for pedestrians.

2) We are awaiting details of the road signage and road markings package around the allotment site. 4 schemes have so far been considered and rejected by road safety audit and based on this feedback and input from users of the area a new design is awaited.

3) I have asked for some Warning Pedestrians Crossing signs at the roundabout and nearby.

4) Pedestrian access to the site is difficult, because of the lack of footpath on their side of the A142. This has been exacerbated by the fact that traffic is now free flowing and going fast. Coming from the Ely direction, it feels like the safest route to get round the roundabout on foot is to be on the Queen Adelaide Way side of the road and then to cross the two arms of the roundabout going round it anti-clockwise using the island refuges (starting at red arrow below). Many people are then short cutting by accessing the Allotment site at the green arrow, which is not ideal as it means scrabbling down the bypass bank and navigating the new fence, (and of course it is an unauthorised route) although frankly I would go that way as it feels much safer, as you are away from the traffic. The Allotment Association is keen to encourage people to instead continue along the A142 to access the site - they would like people to be able to access at the old vehicle access at the blue arrow below. This would mean some minor improvements of the grass verge on the A142 to the old site entrance - just filling the holes and roughness in the grass verge and evening it out a bit would suffice and reopening the old gap in the hedge and clearing the slope down to the site. This means people can get off the road more quickly, rather than having to continue to the new vehicle entrance. This is being investigated.

5) Lots of people are asking allotment holders how to get to the Bypass walkway and I have asked for some footpath markers to be put up to help people.

Anna Bailey, Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Ely South

E: annabailey@hotmail.co.uk

Lis Every, Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Ely North

E: Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**City of Ely Council– Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District
Update – 29 July 2019**

Cambridgeshire County Council

Cllr Lis Every, Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Ely North

I attended my first Combined Authority Skills Committee as the representative for East Cambridgeshire. The plans for the new Peterborough University are well underway. The CA is working on a process where those large companies who have not been able to spend their Apprenticeship Levy will allow part of this fund to be centralised so that SME's are able to benefit and recruit apprentices which they might not have done without this move. A real emphasis now on recruitment to the health and social care sector where there are a large number of vacancies, from carers through to social workers and nurses – all of whom can now access apprenticeship schemes. Recruitment and retention for teachers in the area has improved through the marketing and training support funded by the Opportunities Fund working on East Cambridgeshire and Fenland. An apprenticeship is also a route into teaching now. The Children and Young People's Committee was held in the ECDC Chamber on 9 July which is part of its plan to hold meetings across the County to provide greater public access. The full annual service reports on Education and Children and Safeguarding were discussed. They are very detailed providing all elements of performance. All these reports are available on the County's website.

As part of the Participation Programme for our children in care or leaving care an Away Day was held locally for the young people and their foster carers. As always this is a 'fun' day for all but we learn much from information interaction with the young people and networking with carers which helps to inform our Corporate Parenting services.

Ely Rocks in attendance .

The proposed new Social Media Policy was referred back to Committee for further consultation. A meaningful and 'fit for purpose' policy is proving more challenging than first thought.

East Cambridgeshire District Council – Ely East

Work continues on the Youth Strategy and the consultation process is in place. We have it as an agenda item today. There will be a number of stages to this which will also incorporate research into what is already happening in each parish and their own objectives/strategy, eg what is available in terms of youth club provision here in Ely, which I am sure the Youth Forum will be well based to provide.

A local transport seminar was held at District by the CA for councillors. The Ely Bus Steering Group followed this up with its own seminar at the Sessions House on 23rd. This was an invitation event for all Ely District and City of Ely Councillors and we had quite a reasonable response in terms of attendance. The purpose was to raise awareness of what has happened already and what the forward plans are, requesting volunteers to undertake specific tasks. A second meeting will be held end August/early September to take this forward.

A short ECDC Council took place on 18 July reporting on the Finance and Assets Committee, the Polling District review and the Combined Authority reports.

